
Die Deutsche Gefe

The German Corner: # 24

Cranberry Prairie

David A. Hoying

Römer Brüder

A large number of people, from Oldenburg and Hannover, followed upon the heels of Franz Joseph Stallo, spurred by his propaganda. A goodly number were from Stallo's hometown of Damme, and amongst these was the Römer family. In early 1836, Mrs. Römer and her 9 children set sail from Bremen and landed in Baltimore, and made their way to Cincinnati. Like most of the immigrants, the Römer family was of the **Heuerleute** ("renting people" – not owning land of their own). Of this family, four of the Römer brothers: Jn. Heinrich, Jn. Bernard, Franz, and Jn. Joseph were most enterprising and entered into land speculation. Already in March, Jn. Heinrich and Jn. Bernard, purchased land in Shelby County just to the south of Minster, and in October the brothers purchased most of Section 21 of Granville Township in Mercer County. Several other compatriots from Damme also purchased vast tracts of land, such as Decker and Wieners. On 7 July, Franz sold 80 acres (E½ NW¼; W½ NE¼) to his brother Jn. Heinrich, which was to be the site of the village of Saint Henry. The tract was surveyed on 7 July, the town was platted on 13 July, and the plat was recorded on 15 July, the feast of St. Henry. Jn. Heinrich advertised the new town that fall in the **Wahrheitsfreund** of Cincinnati. However, it was not until mid-1838 that the town had inhabitants. The Römer brothers maintained a general store in St. Henry and traveled often between there and Cincinnati, where the rest of the family resided. The Cholera plague in the summer of 1849 threw Cincinnati into turmoil, and many people fled north including Mrs. Römer. Coming by canalboat to Minster, Maria Agnes took sick and quickly died, though probably not of the Cholera. She was buried in St. Augustine Cemetery, and she was buried with gold coins she had sewn into her dress, but of which no one was aware at that moment.

HERMAN HEINRICH RÖMER

- * 20 October 1776 Damme, Oldenburg
- p- Herman Heinrich Römer & Elisabetha Kramer
- † 27 October 1835 Damme, Oldenburg
- ∞ 4 October 1803 Saint Victor Church Damme, Oldenburg

MARIA AGNES MACKE

- * 24 May 1781 Damme, Oldenburg
- p- Franz Macke & Maria Hüninghake
- † 7 July 1849 Minster, Ohio = St. Augustine Cemetery, Minster, Ohio

children:

1) JOHANN HEINRICH RÖMER

- * 30 August 1805 Damme, Oldenburg † 23 May 1874 Saint Henry, Ohio
- ∞ Maria Elisabetha Agnes Sunderhues widow Austing

2) JOHANN BERNARD HEINRICH RÖMER

- * 7 May 1809 Damme, Oldenburg † 19 September 1879 Saint Henry, Ohio
- ∞ Maria Agnes Grevenkamp

3) FRANZ RÖMER

- * 27 October 1811 Damme, Oldenburg † 4 July 1850 Cincinnati, Ohio
- ∞ Gertrud Beckmann

4) JOHANN JOSEPH RÖMER

- * 11 January 1815 Damme, Oldenburg † 17 January 1889 Saint Henry, Ohio
- ∞ Anna Maria Elisabetha kleine-Trimpe

5) HERMAN HEINRICH JOSEPH RÖMER

- * 19 September 1817 Damme, Oldenburg †
- ∞ Maria Agnes Trimpe

6) ANNA MARIA ELISABETHA RÖMER

- * 3 May 1820 Damme, Oldenburg †

7) MARIA AGNES RÖMER

- * 5 August 1821 Damme, Oldenburg † 29 April 1905 Cincinnati, Ohio
- ∞ Herman Heinrich Hemmelgarn

8) JOHANN FRIEDRICH RÖMER

- * 26 May 1824 Damme, Oldenburg †

9) FERDINAND RÖMER

- * 7 August 1827 Damme, Oldenburg †

The following woman is of some relation to the above family, but the exact relationship is uncertain:

?) MARIA CATHARINA RÖMER

- * 1804 Damme, Oldenburg † 30 December 1876 Saint Anthony, Ohio
 - ∞ Johann Heinrich Wichelmann
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