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THE BAKE FAMILY

The Bake Family is another family that came to America early in our history. Most people feel that the family was either German, or more likely, from the German part of Switzerland.

Christian or Christopher Bake came to New Jersey in the early 1700s. After the Revolution, the family moved to Pennsylvania and then westward to Ohio and Indiana. Daisy Bake married Arthur Jones in 1894. They were an important line on my wife's maternal side. This history begins with the first of our Bakes that came to America, Christian Bake.

I do have one quick *aside* before starting. One researcher has told me that perhaps the original Germanic spelling was *BACH* as the pronunciation of either came out the same. The name may have been *anglicized* to the current Bake spelling early on. The German composer, Johann Sebastian Bach, was married about 1710 and had some twenty children, one of the eldest sons was Christian Bach born in the same time period as our Christian Bake. Who knows, maybe we have a celebrity in our lineage.

CHRISTIAN BAKE

There is a certain amount of confusion as to the real first name of our ancestor. Even in his estate papers filed in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, the name is used both as Christian and Christopher even in the very same document. At any rate, Christian Bake was born in 1713, probably in Switzerland.

Several early county histories state that Christian was Swiss and one even refers to him as German. We have no records of exactly where he came from, but Joan Bake Brubaker, who has done years of family research, has found numerous Bake families in England. Other early Bake folks that came to America, and especially to Virginia, were all of English descent. On the other hand, other Bake families in early Pennsylvania settled in Lancaster County, which had a strong Germanic population at the time. At this time I have no idea where exactly that he came from.

Christian Bake most likely arrived by ship in Philadelphia with his parents. They settled in Hunterdon County, New Jersey which is just northwest of Trenton and across the Delaware River from Bucks County, Pennsylvania. This area was one that was settled early in our history.

According to later histories, most noteworthy the 1919 book MEMOIRS OF THE MIAMI VALLEY, Christian was born in 1713 and came to America in 1727. If this was the case, he was only a lad of fourteen at the time and must have accompanied his parents. I find no record of other older Bakes in the immediate area, but records in the early 1700s were not well maintained. There were other Bake families at the time across the Delaware in eastern Pennsylvania. Perhaps the family spread out in the mid 1700s, with only Christian remaining in New Jersey.

Actually, I know really nothing about Christian or his wife. I assume they spent their lives farming in the area. He would have been in his mid sixties during the Revolution, so was too old to have taken part, though his sons did. Christian was alive in December of 1790 when he purchased forty-four acres of land from John and Patience Jones in Amwell township of

Hunterdon County. He had passed away by September of 1791, when his estate papers were entered into the records at the Hunterdon County Clerk's office. I would assume he died near the end of the summer in 1791. The administration papers are recorded in Will Book 32 on page 376. His wife had passed away before Christian, as no mentions of her are to be found in the court records.

I have a little better information on his children, however. The children that are mentioned in the estate files as being his heirs are: George Bake, John Bake, Henry Bake, Peter Bake, Rebecca Bake and Mary Bake who had married Henry Baker.

John Bake

John Bake was the eldest child, being born in 1748. John is our line and his life is covered in the next section.

George Bake

George Bake was born on August 17, 1754 in Amwell, Hunterdon County. He bought the forty four acre farm from the other heirs on October 12, 1803 and seems to have remained in the area. He married Martha Matthews in Hunterdon County. There was a George Bake living in Paradise township of York County, Pennsylvania during the Revolution. He served under the command of Captain Andrew Bolly in the 6th Company, 5th Battalion of the York County Militia in September of 1781. If this was the same George, then he must have moved west shortly after his marriage.

They had four children:

PIERSON BAKE who married Hannah Eccle.
HEZIKIAH BAKE who married Cornelius Smith.
KETURAH BAKE who married Peter Hagaan.
MARY BAKE who married Timothy Titus.

Mary Bake

Mary Bake was born about 1756 and had married Henry Baker by the time her father's estate was settled in 1791. They also remained in New Jersey. His will was filed in Hunterdon County in Will Book 1 page 27. Their children were:

JOHN H. BAKER
ELIZABETH BAKER
JOSEPH BAKER
ROSANNA BAKER
CHRISTOPHER BAKER
HENRY BAKER JR.

Rebecca Bake

Rebecca was born about 1758. She married John J. Pittenger. I have no other information.

Peter Bake

Peter Bake was born about 1752. He married a widow, Phoebe Titus Stout. He then went to Northumberland County in Pennsylvania with his brothers, John and Henry and then probably went to Butler County, Ohio.

Henry Bake

Henry Bake was born about 1750. He later went to Pennsylvania. On December 21, 1802 he was living Challerhame Township of Montgomery County and sold some 15 odd acres that he owned back in Amwell township, Hunterdon County, New Jersey to Cornelius Prall. Mrs. Brubaker feels that he eventually went to Ohio.

JOHN BAKE, SR.

John Bake was the eldest child of Christian Bake and was born in March 14, 1748 in Hunterdon County, New Jersey. According to records in the New Jersey Archives, he married Elleanor Slack there on December 15, 1772. Now there is some confusion as to Elleanor's last name. Several sources report it as *Slaught*, but there did not seem to be any Slaught families in the area, but there were Slack families. Hence, I am going with Slack.

John was called into service during the Revolution and served in the New Jersey Militia fighting at the Battle of Germantown and crossed the Delaware with General Washington. He served as a Private under Captain Phillips in Colonel Chamberlain's Company. He served a total of 1 year, 10 months and 8 days from 1778 to 1778. His service record in the National Archives is number 531538. The DAR number is 397875.

John remained in Hunterdon County until the late 1700s. All the children were born there. Both John and his son, John junior, were listed in the 1800 census of York County, Pennsylvania as living in Paradise Township. His brother George was also living there.

Very shortly afterwards, the family moved to Northumberland County in central Pennsylvania. They purchased 160 acres in Augusta Township from Edward Burd on May 5, 1801 with a six year mortgage. The lands were paid for and the mortgage released on May 25, 1807. They sold these lands on August 4, 1807 to Moses Richey and went to Ohio. They probably took the water routes leading to the Ohio River to Cincinnati and then went north to Butler County.

The family remained in Butler County, Ohio until the early 1820s. John then moved to Richland Township, Fountain County in Indiana near the Illinois border. On June 9, 1824 he was listed as a resident of Fountain County when he made a land purchase back in Ohio. John remained in Indiana for the remainder of his life. He died in October of 1838 and was buried in the Baptist Cemetery near Newtown in Richland Township, Franklin County. His wife, Eleanor, probably died there as well, but I have no record of her death.

They had at least four and possibly five children, all born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey: John Jr., Christopher, Rebecca, Henry and Jacob. Henry is the tricky one. The following is what I know of these children.

John Bake, Jr.

John was born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, probably in around 1780. He moved with the family to Pennsylvania. While in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, he married Hannah Weidner in about 1804. Their first child, Jacob, was born there in 1805. They moved with the family to Butler County, Ohio in 1807 and remained there all their lives. The remaining four children, all daughters, were born in Butler County. John died sometime around 1814 or 1815. His tombstone reads September 28, 181? (1815?). It also states his age was thirty-six years. Hannah, who was born in 1782, lived much longer and died on September 11, 1846. She was buried at the Elk Creek Cemetery in Madison Township of Butler County.

They had five children:

JACOB BAKE was born July 26, 1805 and died October 9, 1895. Jacob married Margaret Garrison on January 11, 1827. They spent their lives in Butler County. Margaret died August 28, 1850, and Jacob later married Mary Emerick. He had 18 children, the last three by Mary.

MARIA BAKE was born June 28, 1808 and she married Leonard Garrison on July 13, 1826.

ELIZABETH or **ELIZA BAKE** was born on October 17, 1810. She married George Pittman.

ELEANORE BAKE was born on January 8, 1813 and died on May 25, 1836. She married William Duckwell in Butler County on July 8, 1834.

CATHERINE BAKE was born on September 17, 1815 and she married Aaron Ford Pitman on April 24, 1829.

Christopher Bake

Christopher was born in New Jersey on August 6, 1786. After arriving in Butler County, Ohio, he married Elizabeth Stoa, a daughter of Michael Stoa and Mary Morgan, on October 1, 1812. In 1824, he and his family moved to Fountain County, Indiana.

Christopher died in Richland Township of Franklin County on October 26, 1865 at the age of 79 years, 2 months and 20 days. This record places his birth at August 6, 1786. He was buried at the old Baptist Cemetery. It appears that Elizabeth had died some years earlier. Their children were:

MARY (POLLY) BAKE who married James Dove. She and Joseph were twins.

WILLIAM BAKE who married Elizabeth Brubaker.

JOSEPH BAKE who married Julia Clark.

JOANNA BAKE who married Moses Clawson.

NANCY BAKE who married Reison Wilkinson.

ASHER BAKE who married Polly Ann Taylor.

JOHN BAKE who married Susan Voliva or Walloway.

Rebecca Bake

Rebecca Bake was born about 1789. She married Albert Campbell on April 13, 1809 in Butler County.

Henry Bake

There were possibly two Henry Bakes. One had a wife named Rhoda. I am not certain if this was a son or a brother of John Bake senior. Good luck!

Jacob Bake

Jacob is our lineage. His life is covered in the next section.

JACOB BAKE

Jacob is our ancestor. I am not positive, however, that he is a son of John Bake Senior. There is no doubt that he is a grandson of Christopher Bake, but his father may have been one of John's brothers. The reason that I am relatively certain that John was his father is that he named his second eldest son John. The eldest was William, probably named after Catherine's father. This custom was highly common in those days.

He was born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey on July 17, 1773. He married Catherine Reppert in New Jersey (possibly in Pennsylvania) in 1795. Catherine was born in New Jersey on February 6, 1779.

They went to Pennsylvania. He is listed there in Northumberland County in the 1800 and 1810 Census. Their first four children were born in Northumberland County and the rest in Union County, Indiana. They had eleven children all together.

In 1805, Jacob and his family traveled with other Bakes to Butler County, Ohio. The family spent the Winter of 1805 there while Jacob traveled into Indiana where he had entered land in Indian Creek, which is now in Union township, Union County, Indiana, just across the border from Butler County, Ohio. In the spring of 1806, he moved his family to their new home. He established a grist mill on Indian Creek. It was the first in the county. His farm and mill were some four miles west of Oxford, Ohio. He remained for the rest of his life. He also served as

justice of the peace in Union County. He was also one of the few men from Union County to serve in the War of 1812. He was a highly respected farmer.

Jacob died in Union County on October 3, 1849. Catherine died two years later on January 18, 1851. Both are buried in the Crawford Cemetery in Union County, Indiana.

They had a total of eleven children, the following is what I know of them.

William Edgar Bake

William was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania on October 5, 1797. He married Mary Thurston on October 19, 1820 in Brookville, Franklin County, Indiana. Mary was born, also in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, on January 22, 1805. She was the daughter of Samuel and Hannah (Kelly) Thurston.

For a while, William worked in his father's grist mill, but later opened a distillery near the Ohio border. For `moral' reasons, he later gave this up. He returned to farming for the remainder of his life. William died on January 15, 1852 and Mary died on July 13, 1888.

They had fourteen children:

ELIZABETH BAKE born January 15, 1822, died January 15, 1894. She married a Farr.

JOHN BAKE born October 4, 1823 and died August 22, 1903.

SAMUEL BAKE born March 13, 1825.

PERRY HARRISON BAKE born June 28, 1827 and died May 15, 1899.

JACOB BAKE born April 2, 1829.

HENRY BAKE born October 21, 1830.

CLARISSA BAKE born October 21, 1832 and died May 5, 1901. She married a Jones.

ANDREW JACKSON BAKE born September 19, 1834 and died June 8, 1837.

JULIA ANN BAKE born September 29, 1836.

CATHARINE BAKE born November 25, 1838 and died February 25, 1879. She married a Kimball.

JEREMIAH BAKE born November 2, 1840 and died July 6, 1842.

SARAH ANN BAKE born December 30, 1842.

JAMES POLK BAKE born January 2, 1845 and died March 17, 1920. He married Cynthia Elizabeth Schultz on October 3, 1867.

PHEBE JANE BAKE born November 18, 1846 and died May 28, 1866.

Elizabeth Bake

Elizabeth was born in Pennsylvania on January 22, 1800. She married Benjamin Flint on May 29, 1824 in Brookville, Franklin County, Indiana. Benjamin was a native of Maryland, born in 1795. They moved to Clark County, Illinois where he died on October 27, 1849 and she on June 14, 1878.

John Bake

John was born on January 30, 1802 in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania. On October 28, 1824, he married Jane Telfar. They were married in Brookville in Franklin County, Indiana, but returned to Butler County, Ohio. He died there on February 8, 1872. Jane had died two months earlier in December of 1871. Their children were:

LOUISA BAKE born July 11, 1826, and died in Andrew County, Missouri January 24, 1888. She married John Bailey Stephens August 15, 1847 in Preble County, Ohio.

MALINDA BAKE born about 1827. She married Christopher Gertin in about 1848. They had two daughters, Melissa and Laura Gertin.

NANCY BAKE born about 1831.

MARY ANN BAKE born about 1833. She married James D. Woods.

WILLIAM H. BAKE born in June 1837 and died in Preble County July 7, 1888.

SARAH BAKE born about 1839.

JOSEPH BAKE born about 1847.

Peter Bake

Peter was the last child born in Pennsylvania. He was born on February 11, 1804. He married Tabitha Phenis. This is our lineage, and his life is covered in the next section.

Rebecca Bake

Rebecca was born in Bath Township, Franklin County, Indiana on April 25, 1808. She married Stephen Doty in Franklin County on September 25, 1825. Rebecca died on July 6, 1885, and Stephen died on June 2, 1874.

Eli Bake

Eli was born on June 23, 1813. He married Catherine Risley of New Jersey on December 24, 1834. They moved to Decatur County, Indiana where both died. Eli on January 9, 1899, and Catherine on March 7, 1904.

Samuel Bake

Samuel was born on September 8, 1815 in Bath Township, Franklin County, Indiana. He married Eliza Starnes on September 8, 1838 in Union Township, Franklin County, Indiana. It is a shame to have to celebrate your birthday and anniversary the same day. They remained in Franklin County and Samuel died there March 2, 1898.

They had two children:

WILLIAM BAKE

EMILY BAKE

Christian Bake

Christian was born in Bath Township of Franklin County in about 1818. He married Sarah Ann Wheeler on May 19, 1836 in Brookville, Franklin County. I have no more information, I assume he moved further west.

Anna Bake

Anna was born in 1821. She married Joshua Leach in Liberty, Union County, Indiana on September 8, 1838. Again, no other information on this family. They were in Union County in the 1850 census.

Sarah Bake

Sarah was born about 1823. She married Bluford Davis in Liberty, Union County on November 9, 1835. She died before 1849.

Franklin Bake

Franklin was born on October 9, 1825 in Bath, Franklin County. He died in Union County, Indiana at age nineteen on February 8, 1844.

PETER BAKE

Peter Bake was born in Franklin County, now Union County, Indiana on February 11, 1804. He studied at the local or 'common' schools and went into farming. He also operated a distillery and sold whiskey in the area.

On September 2, 1827, he married Tabitha Phenis in Brookville, Franklin County. Tabitha was born in Georgia in February 1800. Her grandfather, Christopher Phenis, was a German who was conscripted by the British to fight America in the Revolution. He was one of the Hessian troops used by Britain. After the War, he was given the opportunity to return home to Germany. Christopher decided to remain in America. He traveled to Georgia, where he married and had three sons. Two of the sons married Hammond girls in Georgia and then moved with their families to Indiana. George Phenis married Hannah Hammond and Tabitha was one of their children.

Peter maintained the distillery and his other businesses in Union County all his life. He died there September 4, 1868. Tabitha lived another twenty years and died on July 20, 1888. Both are buried in the Universalist Cemetery near Bath in Union County, Indiana.

They had five children. The following is what I know of these children.

William Bake

William Bake was born on July 20, 1828. He ran a sawmill in the area. He married A. E. Davidson. He died on August 29, 1914, she died in 1926. I have no information on children.

Elizabeth Bake

Eliza was born on October 29, 1829. She married a cousin, John Hammond. The family moved to Des Moines, Iowa, where they spent the rest of their lives.

Franklin Bake

Franklin was born on November 16, 1835. He remained in the area and was a farmer all his life. I have no other information.

Lorinda M. Bake

Lorinda was born in November of 1839. She married William Murphy and died at age twenty six on August 6, 1866. She is buried with her parents in the Universalist Cemetery in Bath, Indiana.

Henry L. Bake

Henry was the last child born. This is our line, and his life is covered in the next section.

HENRY LOUIS BAKE

Henry Bake was born on July 8, 1847. He went to school and remained at home until 1868 when he went to work for his uncle, John Bake, at his general store in Contreras, Indiana.

On October 26, 1870, he married Sarah Ann (Sallie) Rudenour. Sallie was born in Preble County, Ohio. For more on her family, see the RUDENOUR FAMILY HISTORY, which follows.

In 1873, he moved to College Corner, Union County, Indiana where he built his own general store. He formed a partnership with Aaron Rudenour, an uncle of his wife. Later he was in partnership with H. F. Hanna, and then finally owned the store outright. He remained in this business until he retired in 1924.

In 1895, he was instrumental in forming the Farmers State Bank of College Corner. He was to go on and become its president.

Henry and Sallie had four children, two of which died as infants. The other two were Murray and Daisy. Sallie died on May 9, 1917. Louis retired in 1924 at age seventy-seven. He had been suffering from asthma and was quite depressed over it when, in May 22, 1926, he took his life by hanging himself. He was seventy-nine at the time.

The following were the two children of Henry and Sarah Bake.

Murray Bake

Murray was born in College Corner on May 4, 1880. He graduated from the local high school and went right into his father's business where he remained until the business closed. He married Grace L. Earhart.

They had a daughter and a son:

NEVA BAKE

LOUIS BAKE, who presently lives outside Washington, DC in Kensington Heights, Maryland.

Daisy C. Bake

Daisy was born in December of 1871. She married Arthur Jones and they had two children:

HARRY LEROY JONES

NELLE ELIZABETH JONES

Daisy died in an accident on April 22, 1908. The story of this family has been told in the main body of the **JONES FAMILY HISTORY**.