Henry Wolfgang Braeutigam

Henry Braeutigam ---------- March 9, 1874 to October 26, 1946

Married: December 3, 1895

Clara Gold ---------- April 12, 1874 to December 24, 1963

Children:

Hortense C. ------ September 25, 1896 to

Egon H. ---------- January 8, 1898 to

Ollie E. ---------- August 1, 1901 to

Viola A. ---------- May 20, 1903 to

Edwin W. ---------- November 16, 1905 to

Raymond H. ---------- June 2, 1913 to

Harold J. ---------- July 18, 1915 to

Henry W. Braeutigam

Henry W. Braeutigam
Born: March 9, 1874
Died: October 26, 1946
Married: December 3, 1895
To: Clara Gold
Born: April 12, 1874
Died: December 24, 1963

A. Hortense C.
Born: September 25, 1896
Died:
Married: October 22, 1922
To: Edward J. Foy
Born: July 21, 1891
Died: January 10, 1947

1. Edward James Foy, Jr.
Born: September 6, 1923
Died:
Married: August , 1946
To: Emily Herrin
Born: January 16, ____
Died:

a. Leslie Ann Foy
Born: October 1, 1958
Died:

b. Kathryn Foy
Born: October 17, 1962
Died:

2. John Henry Foy
Born: December 18, 1928
Died:
Married: January 28, 1956
To: Betty Sue Swann
Born: November 17, 1930
Died:

a. Jami Sue Foy
Born: February 24, 1958
Died:

b. Jack Elliot Foy
Born: October 13, 1959
Died:

B. Egon H.
Born: January 8, 1898
Died:
Married: June 16, 1937
To: Mayme Damiana
Born: December 6, 1905
Died:

1. Dennis Egon Braeutigam
Born: September 17, 1942
Died:
Married: May 23, 1964
To: Mary Irene Berge
Born: October 19, 1943
Died:

Henry W. Braeutigam.

a. Richard Egon Braeutigam
Born: February 15, 1965
Died:

b. Beth Ann Braeutigam
Born: March 16, 1969
Died:

C. Ollie E.
Born: August 1, 1901
Died:
Married: June 21, 1930
To: Francis H. Nichols
Born: November 24, 1903
Died:

1. Carolyn Elizabeth Nichols
Born: February 23, 1931
Died:
Married: May 28, 1950
To: Donald Morgan
Born: October 2, 1929
Died:

a. Rodney Blake Morgan
Born: February 20, 1951
Died:

b. Larry Grant Morgan
Born: May 1, 1954
Died:

c. Lance Avery Morgan
Born: May 31, 1963
Died:

D. Viola A.
Born: May 20, 1903
Died:
Married: February 24, 1939
To: Robert F. Krueger
Born: December 1, 1900
Died:

1. Carolyn Christine Krueger
Born: August 5, 1936
Died:
Married: December 15, 1953
To: David F. Rice
Born: November 5, 1936

a. Robert David Rice
Born: July 20, 1954
Died:

b. James Allen Rice
Born: July 15, 1955
Died:

c. Franklin David Rice
Born: August 19, 1956
Died:

d. Christine Marie Rice
Born: May 16, 1958
Died:

e. Cynthia Kay Rice
Born: October 12, 1959
Died:

f. Sharon Kaye Rice
Born: May 22, 1963
Died:

E. Edwin W.
Born: November 16, 1905
Died:
Married: February 22, 1939
To: Lillie Crenwelge
Born: January 15, 1919
Died:

1. June Evon Braeutigam
Born: June 24, 1942
Died:
Married: April 27, 1963
To: Delbert Oehler
Born: July 11, 1942
Died:

a. David Dean Oehler
Born: July 28, 1966
Died:

b. Bryan Thomas Oehler
Born: July 23, 1970
Died:

2. Don Edwin Braeutigam
Born: December 26, 1947
Died:

F. Raymond H.
Born: June 2, 1913
Died:
Married: November 12, 1941
To: Irene Baag
Born: August 23, 1916
Died:

1. Raynette Irene Braeutigam
Born: October 5, 1944
Died:
Married: December 29, 1963
To: Charles Lee Kuenemann
Born: January 11, 1941

a. Karl Keith Kuenemann
Born: October 14, 1967
Died:

G. Harold J.
Born: July 18, 1915
Died:
Married: July 14, 1940
To: Olivia Denman
Born: October 11, 1918
Died:

1. Peggy Jean Braeutigam
Born: September 2, 1948
Died:

History of Henry Wolfgang Braeutigam

Henry Wolfgang Braeutigam was born March 9, 1874, a short distance east of Fredericksburg, better known as an abandoned United States Army Post, Fort Martin Scott. His parents were John Wolfgang Braeutigam and Christine Kensing Braeutigam who had acquired this property and converted part of the Post into a store, saloon and amusement center. It was called "Braeutigam's Garten" and it was at this site that the first County Fair in the state was held. Henry was the youngest of eleven children.

Tragedy struck the family when Henry was only ten years old. His father being alone in his place of business, was approached by one of four men who came in for drinks. As he started to serve them, one of the men pulled a gun and asked for the money which was kept under the counter. John W. Braeutigam being a very brave man reached for his gun, but the robber was too fast and shot him instead. Henry was the first person to come upon the scene and what a sight it must have been to see his father lying in a pool of blood.

Mrs. Braeutigam and family carried on the business for a while after this terrible tragedy, later leased it to others, however it was discontinued after the children married and acquired their own places.

The mother, Mrs. Christine Braeutigam, made her home with Henry who became the owner of this part of the estate. On December 3, 1895 he married Miss Clara Gold, daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Gold of the Rheingold Community in Gillespie County. The mother continued to make her home with her son and daughter-in-law for twenty-seven years.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry W. Braeutigam were blessed with seven children, three daughters and four sons.

Henry Braeutigam was a prominent stock farmer; he loved all livestock. He was especially fond of horses and the best were not too good for him. Several carriage and saddle horses were maintained all the time. At one time he was the owner of a beautiful sorrel horse. This horse ran and won a Gillespie County race and later sold as a polo horse. As the children became of school age and living a few miles from the public school in Fredericksburg, a good saddle horse and later a trotting horse and buggy were provided for their transportation.

More land was put in cultivation and crops consisted of cotton, corn and several varieties of small grain. One of the first orchards was put in by Mr. and Mrs. Braeutigam. In later years, Mr. Braeutigam acquired a 1,029 acre ranch, part of which lay in Gillespie County and part in Kerr County. This was stocked with sheep, goats and cattle. Due to the distance and inconvenience, it being about twenty-five miles from his home, this property was sold several years after he had acquired it.

As a younger man, Mr. Braeutigam hauled freight from Comfort and Waring, Texas, for the Fredericksburg merchants. This called for a good wagon and from four to six horses. Roads were rough and especially so in the winter time when they were covered with mud,

sleet and snow. Many times he had to walk with the horses to keep them going and himself warm.

Aside from farming and ranching he loved to hunt and fish and very few seasons went by without getting his quota of deer and turkey. His family looked forward to his return from hunting trips as venison and turkey were good eating and no one was a better cook in preparing food than Mrs. Braeutigam, whose goal in life was not only to be a good cook, but a good homemaker. She also assisted with many chores on the farm. Chickens and turkeys were raised and turkeys especially were a great asset financially. A herd of Jersey cows added greatly to the income of the farm by supplying cream and milk to the local dairies.

Both Henry and Clara Braeutigam were members of Bethany Lutheran Church, both being baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran Church. Mr. Braeutigam was an active member of the Fredericksburg Casino Club, a local social club which was later discontinued. He was also a member of the Woodmen of the World Lodge. He enjoyed good music and singing and did a good job playing the piano and accordian by ear. Very often he entertained his family by playing the harmonica.

After Mr. Braeutigam passed away October 26, 1946, Mrs. Braeutigam remained living on the home place with her son Raymond and family until she sold it to the city of Fredericksburg in July of 1959. She then lived with her daughter Hortense B. Foy in San Antonio for several years. After a lingering illness she passed away in Fredericksburg at the age of 89 years. She was born April 12, 1874 and died December 24, 1963.

Hortense Cora Braeutigam Foy

Hortense C. Braeutigam, the first child of Henry W. and Clara Gold Braeutigam, was born September 25, 1896, a few miles east of Fredericksburg, Texas, on the site known as Fort Martin Scott which the grandparents John Wolfgang and Christine Kensing Braeutigam had bought from the U. S. Government in 1870. Hortense has many pleasant memories while living at the home place. There were lots of activities, always many visitors and the first place everybody wanted to go was the Barons Creek, a beautiful stream with clear running water and beautiful sandy beach directly in back of the house.

Hortense attended the first year of school in Rheingold, Texas, where she lived with her grandparents, the late Jacob and Elizabeth Habenicht Gold. She walked through the woods dressed in red and carried her lunch in a small tin pail. The following year her grandparents moved to Fredericksburg and she attended public school in town. The following several years she and her brother Egon had the pleasure of riding horseback to school. Later she attended St. Anthony's Business College. Attended Sunday School and church and was confirmed in Bethany Lutheran Church.

During the latter part of World War I, she came to San Antonio and was employed as a Civil Service employee at Ft. Sam Houston. She held this position until her marriage to Edward James Foy October 22, 1922, in Bethany Lutheran Church in Fredericksburg. He was born July 21, 1891, in Cleveland, Ohio. He was employed by the Southern Pacific Railroad for 33 years where he served in numerous capacities until his assignment as Assistant Cashier, a position he held until his death in 1947.

Two sons were born to this union, Edward James, Jr. born September 6, 1923 and John Henry born December 18, 1928.

A few years after her husband's death, she was employed as personal shopper and cashier in the shopper's service department of Joske's of Texas. She remained in this position until she retired in 1958.

She is an active member of Highland Park Lutheran Church, Women of the Church, Lutheran Hospital Auxiliary, Highland Park Garden Study Group and San Antonio Charter Member of the Auxiliary of Admiral Nimitz Memorial Museum of Fredericksburg. She makes her home at 318 East Drexel Avenue, San Antonio.

Edward James, Jr., attended Highland Park Elementary School and graduated from Brackenridge High School in San Antonio. He was confirmed in Highland Park Lutheran Church. He entered A & M College for a brief period only when Uncle Sam called him into service in World War II. He served in the European Theater for 3 years and won 4 battle stars. After he returned to the states he attended the University of Texas and received his B. A. degree, his major being Economics. He was very active on the campus and received many honors. He was chosen a member of the Friars, the Economics Club, a member of the Students Grievance Committee, Student Regent Liaison Committee and others. In August 1948, he was married to Miss Emily Herrin of Ft. Worth. They have two daughters, Leslie Ann, born October 1, 1958 and Kathryn Elizabeth born October 17, 1962. They maintain a home in Springfield, Virginia. Edward is with the Department of State and at this time he is doing Foreign Service and he and his family live in Nairobe, Africa.

John Henry also attended Highland Park Elementary School and graduated from Brackenridge High School. He was confirmed in Highland Park Lutheran Church. He attended San Antonio College and

later the University of Texas for a brief period. He joined the Marine Corps and after a few months training was sent to Korea where he served 2 years. After his return to the states he returned to the University of Texas and received his B. A. degree, majoring in Education and Sociology. He married Betty Sue Swann in Austin, Texas in 1956. The couple has two children, a daughter Jami Sue born February 24, 1958 and a son Jack Elliot, born October 13, 1959. They make their home in Bryan, Texas where John is a Field Representative for Social Security Administration. Both John and Sue are active in church and civic affairs, leaders in scouting and active members in the Parent and Teachers association.

Egon H. Braeutigam

Egon H. Braeutigam was born January 8, 1898 the son of Henry W. and Clara Gold Braeutigam - the second oldest of seven children. His place of birth was at the former site of Ft. Martin Scott on the banks of the beautiful Barons Creek, which winds its way through the eastern portion of the farm and ranch. The creek with its white sand and small fish was the fun place of all the children and friends. Now that was long before pollution set in due to inadequate sewerage system. He also likes to boast about one of the oldest live oak trees which measures seventeen feet in circumference in the front of their old home.

His education started in Rheingold, Texas in a one room school house. He and his sister Hortense stayed with their grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Gold. After several months the grandparents sold their farm and moved to Fredericksburg and both Egon and Hortense attended school in the Fredericksburg public School, riding horseback two and one half miles every day rain or shine. As years went by more sisters and brothers became of school age and Dad provided them with a good horse and buggy. Later he attended and graduated from St. Anthony's Business College in 1917. After graduation, He accepted a job with Gold and Rhodius General Merchandise Store, which also included the post office in Converse, Texas, just a short distance from the now famous Randolph Air Field.

World War One was on and help on the farms was hard to get. Egon decided to help his father with his farm and ranch work during the summer. In December, 1919 Mr. F. J. Maier at the Daylight Store asked him to help out in the grocery store during the Christmas season. After Christmas Mr. Maier was in need of a bookkeeper in his dry goods store, which was call The Daylight Store. Egon accepted the position as bookkeeper and assisted as salesman in his spare time. He worked for Mr. Maier until he sold out and retired.

The bank of Fredericksburg knew of Mr. Maier's plans and persuaded Egon to start work with them. Mr. Temple D. Smith, Mr. Adolph Gold and Mr. Albert Koennecke were the executives. Wages were low and cotton prices were up to 30¢ perpound and after several months of banking he left the bank to help his father with duties to raise cotton on the farm and help look after his interests on the ranch. All this looked good at the beginning but before cotton was picked the price dropped to 12¢ per pound. This was a blow to the farmers after paying high wages for bringing the crop to maturity.

As luck would have it, a man by the name of Fred W. Geyer came up from San Antonio to hunt deer and after knowing his qualifications,

Egon H. Braeutigam

asked him to come and do his bookkeeping and other office duties. He served in this capacity for several years when an opening presented itself with Kolmeier and Klier, a prominent hardware store in Fredericksburg where he served for several years as bookkeeper and assistant salesman.

In 1927 Egon's good friends Mr. and Mrs. George Kott of California, who made their summer visit to Texas persuaded him to come to California with them. He had just purchased a new 1927 Model T Ford Roadster and after a week long trip arrived in San Diego. Then on to Los Angeles where he stayed with the Kotts. After being in California for several days, he applied for a job as bookkeeper with The New York Life Insurance Company on August 1, 1927 and continued with that job for a year then was transferred to premium collections as teller.

He married Mayme Damiana in 1937 and they have one son, Dennis, who lives in San Gabriel, California. They are members of Christ Lutheran Church in Monterey Park, California.

The New York Life Business grew by leaps and bounds to the extent that the office was divided and he asked for a transfer to the new Arcadia office close to the Santa Anita Race Track. He served there in various capacities until he retired in January of 1963. Their home is in Alhambra, California.

Ollie E. Braeutigam

Ollie E. Braeutigam, the third child of Henry and Clara Gold Braeutigam, was born August 1, 1901, at the home of her parents on a stock farm a few miles east of Fredericksburg. She attended the Fredericksburg Public School and later the Alamo City Business College in San Antonio. After completing her courses she was employed by the Sommers Drug Stores Company in their general office in down-town San Antonio and remained with this company until her marriage to Francis Nichols in 1930. A native of Alexandria, Virginia, he was a sales representative for the United States Rubber Company for the state of Texas. They are the parents of one daughter, Carolyn Elizabeth, born February 23, 1931 in San Antonio, Texas.

During World War II, the family moved to Fredericksburg where Carolyn attended school and ollie was the local librarian, the library and museum then located in the Vereins Kirche. After two years as librarian, the opportunity presented itself for an office position with Blum Warehouse and Storage Company and she remained with this company until Carolyn finished high school and the family moved back to San Antonio. Shortly after moving to San Antonio, Ollie again went to work for the Sommers Drug Stores Company which had expanded considerably and held the position as assistant credit manager for fourteen years. In 1962 she was employed as office manager in the van Hardeveld Uniform Center until her retirement in 1968. They now make their home in Fredericksburg.

After high school and secretarial training, Carolyn soon became a career girl in Austin, Texas with positions in insurance and law offices. For the last four years she has been an employee in the Regional office of Internal Revenue. She married Donald Morgan, store manager in a leading Austin men's store, in 1950. Three sons were born to this union. Rodney Blake, born February 20, 1951; Larry Grant, born May 1, 1954 and Lance Avery, born May 31 1963.

Rodney is a graduate of Travis High School and is a first year student in the University of Texas. Larry is a sophomore in Travis High and Lance a first grader in Travis Heights Elementary.

Viola A. Braeutigam

Viola A. Braeutigam, third daughter of Henry and Clara Gold Braeutigam, was born May 20, 1903, a few miles east of Fredericksburg, Texas. She received her education in the Fredericksburg Public School and graduated from high school in 1922. After acquiring a teacher's diploma she taught in the Crabapple Community for two years. This was quite an experience for a young girl being away from home for any length of time and although the distance was only twenty miles it was not always possible to come home every weekend. Roads were not graveled nor paved and many times were impassable.

After two years of teaching, Viola decided to continue her education by attending the Alamo City Business College in San Antonio, Upon completion of her courses she was employed as a secretary in the general office of the Alamo Iron Works in San Antonio.

She spent her first vacation in Los Angeles, California. The climate, the business opportunities, beautiful parks and many places of interest appealed to her no end and it wasn't too long before she found employment in the office of the Seaside Oil Company. She remained with this company until her marriage to Robert F. Krueger of Houston, Texas in 1939. Mr. Krueger is a native of Fayetteville, Texas and until retirement in 1967, was comptroller in the Houston Bank and Trust in the city of Houston. They are now making their home in Fredericksburg. Their only daughter Carolyn Christine, born August 5, 1936 is married to David Rice, a postal employee in the Bellaire Station, Houston, Texas. Six children were born to this union; namely, Robert David born July 20, 1954; James Allen born July 15, 1955; Franklin David born August 19, 1956; Christine Marie born May 16, 1958; Cynthia Kay born October 12, 1959; and Sharon Kaye born May 22, 1963. All are attending public schools in Houston, Texas.

Edwin W. Braeutigam

Edwin W. Braeutigam, son of Henry and Clara Gold Braeutigam, was born near Fredericksburg, Texas, November 16, 1905. He received his education in the Fredericksburg Public School, graduating from high school in 1924. He then attended Draughans Business College from which he graduated in 1927. In 1928 he started working in the accounting department of the New York Life Insurance Company in the South Pacific Clearing Office in Los Angeles, California. In 1932 he became disabled due to an incomplete atrophy in the left optic nerve and shortly thereafter he came back to Fredericksburg to continue medical treatment. In 1933 he started the Braeutigam-Frantzen Insurance Agency with the Southwestern Life and Travelers Commercial Union.

In 1939, Edwin was married to Lillie Crenwelge. He terminated his connection with the insurance company and moved to Doss, Texas where he engaged in ranching. He remained active in this capacity until he was stricken with asthma and emphysema about fifteen years ago. Lilly has been very interested in ranch work and did a wonderful job of helping to continue the ranching in the family. In December of 1969 he lost his vision in the right eye. They are the parents of two children, a daughter June Evon, born June 24, 1942 and a son, Don Edwin, born December 26, 1947.

June received her education in the Harper High School, then attended Southwest Texas University in San Marcos. Being interested in secretarial work she attended Nixon Clay College in Austin and later was employed as an executive secretary in an Austin law office. She married Delbert Dean Oehler, who had been a Harper High School classmate, in 1963. Delbert received his degree in chemistry from the University of Texas and is now employed by the United States Department of Agriculture in Kerrville, Texas. They have two sons; David Dean, Born July 27, 1966 and Bryan Thomas born July 23, 1970.

Don Edwin attended Harper High School and graduated in 1966. He attended Tarleton College in Stephenville for two years and presently is enrolled in the A. & M. University, College Station, Texas where he is working toward his degree in Mechanical Engineering.

They now have made their home in Fredericksburg, where Lilly is helping to nurse and cheer up old people, a job that is giving great satisfaction to her.

Raymond H. Braeutigam

Raymond H. Braeutigam, better known as "Ray" to his co-workers and intimate friends, was born June 2, 1913, the sixth child of Henry W. and Clara Gold Braeutigam. He was baptized and confirmed in Bethany Lutheran Church. He attended the Fredericksburg Public School and graduated in 1931. For several years he assisted his father in operating the family's stock farm. In 1931 he went to San Antonio to attend Draughon's Business College from which he graduated in 1934. This was the time of the "depression" and after working in San Antonio for a while he ventured to California with his brother Egon who was an employee of the New York Life Insurance

Company in Los Angeles. Jobs out there too were scarce and after visiting and sight seeing he returned to the hill country of Texas where he again took up farming and ranching and for many years operated the Braeutigam farm.

In 1941, Raymond married Irene Baag, the only child of Frank and Ida Schmidt Baag. They made their home in the old Ft. Martin Scott Officers' Quarters building or better known as the Henry Braeutigam home. Their only child, a daughter named Raynette Irene was born to this union October 5, 1944. She was baptized and confirmed in the Lutheran faith. She attended Meusebach Creek School, starting before she was six years old. After consolidation of the community school she attended the Fredericksburg Public School from which she graduated in 1962. The same year she enrolled in the Nixon Clay Business College in Austin and after completing her secretarial course she accepted a position with the Secretary of State. After her marriage to Charles Lee Kuenemann in 1963 they made their home at College Station where Charles was attending A & M University and Raynette was employed by the Department of Agriculture, a position she held for several years. After Charles received his B.S. and M.S. degrees, the couple moved to Ft. Knox, Kentucky where Charles entered military training. Here their little son Karl Keith was born October 14, 1967. Charles was one of many boys sent to Vietnam and was fortunate to return home after one year of service with the rank of Captain. They are now stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama.

After Raymond's father died in 1946, he took over full management of the family farm and was known as a diversified farmer stockman. He also bought and sold livestock of all kinds just as his father had done in years gone by. In 1959, the farm was sold to the City of Fredericksburg and a new life began for the family, beginning with the purchase of a home in Fredericksburg. He immediately went to work for Wm. Cameron & Co. (since 1965 known as N. B. C., one of the largest lumber concerns in the state of Texas). He worked first as a driver, later as office assistant and salesman and presently as yard foreman.

Irene not only washandy to run errands or drive the tractor, she was very capable in assisting with all chores on the farm such as dairy work, raising chickens and turkeys. A productive garden and orchard kept her busy canning and preserving for later use. In the summer of 1956 she went to work for the Central Drug Store as clerk and bookkeeper. After ten years of employment she is very happy to be a good homemaker, keeping a pretty yeard, small garden and loves to sew. She is very active in the Holy Ghost Lutheran Church. Both spend a lot of time at the Baag farm where they raise peaches and grow small grain.

Harold J. Braeutigam

Harold J. Braeutigam, son of Henry W. and Clara Gold Braeutigam was born July 18, 1915 on the home place a few miles east of Fredericksburg. The youngest of seven children he had the privilege of being his mother's "little helper!" Not only outdoors, but indoors as well. Harvest time meant cooking and serving extra help, canning and preserving during the fruit and vegetable season, poultry raising and last but not least assisting in a small dairy. Harold was a good scholar, he attended the Fredericksburg Public School and graduated from high School in 1933. Living a few miles from school his father provided him and some of the older children with a horse and buggy, later on he and his brother Raymond had the pleasure of riding horseback and still later they were the proud owners of a Ford Coupe. Transportation meant different experiences some pleasant some unpleasant and one especially is worth mentioning here. On their way home from school driving their car east on Main Street a man driving in front of them decided to make a left turn without giving a signal, consequently, the boys had no choice but to hit him and in so doing they turned over. Fortunately no personal injuries were sustained, but major damages to car were collected through legal action.

After high school Harold attended Draughan's Business College in San Antonio and after graduating in 1934, he accepted employment with the National Biscuit Company in San Antonio. On July 14, 1940, he and Martha Olivia Denman were united in marriage in the First Baptist Church of Gonzales, Texas. Martha Olivia, better known as Olivia, is a native of Gonzales. She attended school in Gonzales, Baylor College in Waco and Draughan's Business College in San Antonio and for several years was employed by the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Federal Building, in San Antonio.

Harold's career was interrupted by World War II. He enlisted in the Air Corps, Brooks Field, San Antonio, October 28, 1942, where he was assigned to Administrative work in the Medical Detachment. He served in the European Theatre of Operations in England, France and Berlin, Germany with Headquarters Command, Office of Military Government. He received his honorable discharge as Master Sergeant on January 25, 1946. Upon return to the states he resumed his duties with the National Biscuit Company as Office Manager. In July 1952 he transferred into sales with the company and became a salesman with headquarters in Seguin, Texas where the family now resides. Harold and Olivia are the parents of a daughter Peggy Jean, born September 2, 1948 in San Antonio. She received her education in Seguin and Baylor University. She holds a B. A. Degree in Business Administration. On April 25, 1970 Peggy and Clyde Collom Dollens, Jr. were united in marriage in the First Baptist Church of Seguin, Texas.

Harold and Olivia are active members of the Baptist church, he has served in many capacities including chairman of the Board of Deacons. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge. As a hobby he raises Hereford cattle on a farm and ranch they have acquired between Ottine and Gonzales.

Old Homes of Fredericksburg
Fredericksburg Standard
Wednesday, November 16, 1955

Fort Martin Scott

Braeutigam Home Part Of Old Army Fort

A sweet gray-haired little lady of 82 has her bedroom in an old jail. Sounds strange, doesn't it? But that is exactly what Mrs. Henry W. Braeutigam's bedroom was used for when Fort Martin Scott was occupied by U. S. Soldiers over 100 years ago and later by Confederate troops.

Though few people realize it, the greater part of the Braeutigam house is a large rock building that once was the jail, or guardhouse, and officers' quarters of historic old Fort Martin Scott. This oblong building is about sixty feet long and twenty one feet wide. It was the first of a series of frontier forts erected by the U.S. as the first line of defense of the frontier.

Originally there were three rooms in this building, one the large jail or guardhouse and two smaller officers' rooms. The jail is the portion at the south end, and has been divided by a wood partition to provide a large cozy bedroom for Mrs. Braeutigam, while the inner half of the room became a hall and bedroom. There is a small window in each of the outside bedroom walls. Outside entrance to this portion is in the hall through a huge door, like which there are two others.

There is a small opening in the ceiling in this hall through which the "boden" or attic space can be viewed. It is remarkable to note the heavy beams used for cross pieces which reveal the crude axe marks; and some of the boards upon which the original shingles were nailed are fourteen inches broad.

Original Guardhouse.

Next to these rooms which were the original guardhouse, you step down into one of the two officers' rooms which is now the bedroom of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Braeutigam who share this house with his mother.

The largest of the three doors is in this room, and was the original front entrance, but now leads into the dining room which the Henry Braeutigam's added after they moved here. The third large door was the front entrance to the bedroom at the north end which their daughter, Raynette now occupies.

These doors are remarkable for several reasons. First of all, they are the original doors put up when the fort was built, and they are the largest and heaviest we've seen in all of our 'old home' interviews. The one in the center bedroom is three and one-half feet wide and seven feet and seven inches high. Even the construction is different, in that the two outside panels run the entire length of the door.

There is a door between these two bedrooms now but in the days of the fort, there was a huge double fireplace in this wall, with an

open hearth facing into each room. The flu was four feet across and extended four feet above the roof, however, the fireplace smoked so badly that it was removed, making way for the door.

Raynette's bedroom at the north end also has one window in the north wall and one in the east wall. The deep recessed window sills are ideal spots for potted plants which add a note of cheer during the winter months.

Solid Rock Walls

The walls of this part of the house are constructed of solid rock, most of which is eighteen inches thick. The foundation is even wider, as reflected in the offset on the outside.

The three other rooms of the house are of frame construction and were added by the Henry Braeutigams after they moved here. The kitchen adjoins the bedroom at the north end. Next toit is the large dining room which opens onto a comfortable screened porch. To the west of this, forming an "L" is the large living room which also opens onto the porch that runs along the south side of these two rooms.

Now that we've taken our readers through the house, let's turn the pages of time back to the days when Texas was a Republic, and trace the history of this house. Although it is located almost three miles out of Fredericksburg on Highway 290 that was the San Antonio Road in the early days, but is now known as the Austin Highway, the past of this house is so interwoven with that of the community, that it can be included in the series on old homes of Fredericksburg.

Dollar An Acre

It is part of a 640 acre survey which was patented by the Republic of Texas to Nathaniel Townsend as Assignee of M. O. Merriwether on December 6, 1845. Townsend sold the 640 acres for one dollar an acre to John Twohig on February 2, 1852. John Twohig sold an undivided one-half interest in the survey to J.J.B. Wright who was a doctor in the United States Army. Perhaps he was once stationed at the Fort.

Although Fort Martin Scott was established on December 5, 1848, there is nothing on record to indicate that the U.S. Government ever owned the land. It can only be surmised that they leased it. Twohig was one of the largest landholders in the state, making San Antonio his home and headquarters.

The records in the county clerk's office do disclose an interesting transaction in which the Fort is mentioned. On December 27, 1853, apparently after the Fort was abandoned, John Twohig and Charles Christian Frischmeyer entered into a lease agreement which reads in part as shown by quotes: "The said John Twohig rents leases and conveys for the term of one year, two houses and lots which I will point out to him (Frischmeyer) at Fort Martin Scott...with the fields and gardens at and about the same, as also the kitchens and stables on said lots...." Frischmeyer to - "have the right and privilege to cut all needful timber from my adjoining lands for the purposes of repairs upon the said house, or the fences or other building upon the premises and for firewood." He paid $50 cash for the year's lease. Frischmeyer- 'further agrees and binds himself to

preserve and protect the buildings, doors, windows rail and picket fences, stables, gates, etc. in and about the place and premises known as Fort Martin Scott."

All of which makes you just that much more curious to know just what these buildings were that comprised this historic old fort. Fragments of information gathered here and there can be pieced together to answer one's questions in part, but a good deal must be left to one's imagination.

In the "Fest Ausgabe" (Festival Edition) compiled by Robert Penniger in May, 1896, to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Fredericksburg, there are several references to Fort Martin Scott in accounts written by early settlers who had first-hand information.

Soldiers Arrive

Julius Splittgerber relates that in November 1848 the first United States soldiers arrived here and founded Fort Martin Scott. The marker erected by the State of Texas establishes the date of founding of the fort as being December 5, 1848. It is possible that Splittgerber had reference to a mounted infantry company under Captain Eastmanwhich B. Blum says in the same book to have the first detachment of U.S. soldiers ever sent here. They encamped in the vicinity of the present Fair Park. Soon thereafter Blum says, a calvary company arrived under the command of Major Merrill, and erected the permanent quarters of Fort Martin Scott.

Both accounts emphasize that the arrival of the soldiers not only gave the colonists a feeling of security in so far as their personal safety was concerned, but here was an opportunity to sell some of their farm and garden produce for cash, as well as a place to work as carpenters, stone masons and lay laborers. Also those who had teams found employment in hauling wood, hay and stones.

Mormon Timbers

While many of the colonists were engaged in helping erect the buildings, some of them soon found themselves being replaced by the Mormons from the Zodiac settlement on the Pedernales who it seemed worked for lower wages. It is highly probable that many of the heavy timbers used in the buildings were sawed at their sawmill on the banks of the river.

That part of the fort which is now the Braeutigam home is nearest the creek. To the north are numerous rock foundations of buildings, the nature of which one can only guess. The nearest is the largest, and is thought to have been the commissary. It is known that there were several kitchens, a bakery, a blacksmith shop, stables, and barns, a powder house, as well as quarters for the soldiers which consisted of houses in a row that extended towards the highway.

The main stables for the post were located in a huge building in a southerly direction from the residence. While plowing in the little field near here, not too long ago, Mr. Braeutigam came across

the rock foundation of another small house. To the north of the buildings was the main field for the [illegible] which now lies adjacent to the city disposal plant.

Drill Ground

Across Baron's Creek east of the house was their drill ground which later served as a race track during the first Gillespie County Fairs which were held here and at Fourth of July celebrations.

When the frontier moved westward the need for soldiers here lessened and the fort was occupied only intermittently after 1852. The Confederates held it from 1861 to 1865 and it was permanently abandoned in December, 1866.

On March 5, 1870, John Wolfgang Braeutigam became the owner of this land, buying it from John Twohig, and Dr. J. J. B. Wright for 1800 gold dollars. It has been in this family since then.

The Braeutigams moved here from their farm near Luckenbach, and their two youngest children were born here. John (Johann) Wolfgang Braeutigam and his wife, Christine, had eight children who grew up here. They were August, Anna, Mrs. Chas. C. Schuchard, Richard, Emma, Mrs. Hardin Runnels, Otto, Emil, Christine, Mrs. W. W. Corby and Henry W. Braeutigam.

Fairs - Dances

They made their home in the sturdy old fort building. Up near the road he built a saloon and small store, and between it and the residence he constructed a large frame building said to have been the first dance hall in the county. This became known as "Braeutigam Garten," an entertainment spot for the community. The dug well was nearest the saloon, and is presently marked by a heap of stones topped with a huge "Schwellen stein" a large stone that formed the threshold of one of the fort buildings.

The oldest county fair in the state, the first Gillespie County Fair, was held at Braeutigam's Garten in 1881. Here was ample space to display the livestock, a dance hall for amusement and race tracks across the creek for the sport that was popular here even then.

Fourth of July celebrations were the outstanding community celebrations. Dancing started at two o'clock in the afternoon and the Braeutigam would serve supper for a small charge in their home, after which dancing continued in the hall all night long. Celebrations in those days were few and far between, but lasted long enough to make up for that.

Braeutigam Murdered

Soon tragedy struck the family, however, for John Wolfgang Braeutigam was murdered on September 3, 1884, by one man of a gang of four who came to his saloon for drinks. As he started to serve them, one man whipped out his revolver and asked for the money in his till. Instead, Braeutigam started to reach for his musket that stood in the corner, only to be shot by the robber. Since the house

was some distance away, the robbers took their time taking the small amount of money, and then took off. The man who committed the murder was never apprehended, however, one of the gang was shot by a ranger in the southern part of the state during a fracas, one was shot several years later in Mason and the third burned to death while in the local jail.

After his death, several others took over the business, however it was soon discontinued. The children grew up, married and settled on places of their own. Henry W. Braeutigam became the owner of this part of the estate, with his mother making their home with him and Mrs. Braeutigam for 27 years after their marriage which took place in 1895.

Once more the old fort re-echoed with the happy laughter of children, as the Henry W. Braeutigams had seven: Hortense, Egon, Ollie Viola, Edwin, Raymon and Harold.

Henry Braeutigam tore down the old dance hall and with the lumber erected a large and spacious barn to the north of the residence on part of the fort foundations. One of the large doors in the barn is off the huge fort stables, and has two iron hinges which are almost three feet long, indicating the size of the door.

Great changes have taken place out here since the early days of the founding of our city and the establishment of the fort. Sheep now browse contently on the grass that is growing among the old foundations; aflicker shrills loudly in one of the immense oak trees on the creek bank, a tufted titmouse sings in a mesquite tree in the warm sunshine, on a nippy November morning and the tinkle of the cowbell in the distance is a marked contrast to the whir and roar of high powered automobiles and diesel engined trucks as they traverse the cross country highway.

Were these travelers to stop for a moment and read the inscription on the marker erected by the State of Texas near the gate next to the highway these words on the marker might stir in their imagination a picture of long ago.

"Site of Fort Martin Scott
Established by the U. S. Army December 5, 1848 as a protection
As a protection to travelers and settlers against Indian attack
Named in honor of Major Martin Scott,
Brevet Lt. Col., 5th U. S. Infantry
Killed at Molina Del Rey September 8, 1847
Its garrison particapated in many Indian skirmishes
Occupied intermittently after 1852
Held by Confederates 1861 - 1865
Permanently abandoned in December 1866."

Then as now.....
ANNUAL FAIR WAS OUTSTANDING COMMUNITY EVENT

The following article was written by G. C. Callan, now of Washington D. C., who spent his early life in Gillespie County and below relates his recollections of early Fairs.

The first Gillespie County Fair was held in 1881 and it together with other early Fairs, was held at the old Braeutigam place, some 2 1/2 miles below town on the Austin road. The place itself was remarkable as an example of what may be accomplished by a lone man with the will and the ability to build something out of the ordinary.

The fair grounds were inclosed at the front with an artistic picket fence and at the sides a nd back with a wire fence. Those were the glorious "horse and buggy" days and as one turned off the main road one drove into a spacious lot where there was ample room to park all kinds of buggies, carriages, spring wagons, covered wagons, etc. Pedestrians entered through a wide gate in the picket fence and found themselves immediately under an immense arbor or "Laube". These arbors in themselves were peculiar to Gillespie County and every farm had such a "Laube".

The Braeutigam arbor extended from the bar on the right of the entrance to the large pavilion on the left and back to the cattle inclosures covering at least half an acre of ground. Many tables were scattered around under the arbors where those who had made a tour of the grounds rested their weary feet, while sipping delicious "Pabst" or "St. Louis or Schlitz" beer. On the pavilion were arranged all kinds of exhibits of handy work of men and women.

Tailors exhibited suits of clothes, boots and shoemakers exhibited fancy boots, and solid enduring shoes, saddlers and harness makers competed with one another for prizes in their arts and housewives exhibited the products of their own arts - cakes, bread, preserves, jellies, etc. and much fancy work, quilts, embroidered table covers, lace-work, etc.

In the cattle pens were exhibited some fine animals, the finer breeds in those early days being limited to shorthorns or Durhams. Herfords and Jerseys had not yet made their appearance. Berkshire, Poland-China, and Chester-White hogs were shown, some of them of enormous size. In the poultry yards "Plymouth Rocks" had just begun to make an appearance.

Fine horses and mules were shown. The first "Perchons" had just been introduced into the county. No thoroughbreds were shown until after the Morris Ranch was established. Even without thoroughbreds there was good racing nearly every day of the fair. The races were held to the rear of the old Braeutigam place, which was almost the site of Old Fort Martin Scott, on a straight-way stretch across Baron's Creek. Most of the races were usually held here in the form of match races at a distance of 200 yards to a quarter of a mile. The betting was heavy but was governed more by sentiment than by judgement.

Many fast horses were shown on that old q uarter of a mile stretch. For several years the racing was dominated by a beautiful sorrel from the Squaw Creek neighborhood, known as Mundt's Sorrel. Later John Klearner brought a beautiful dark brown horse, trained by a Willow

Creek celebrity, Jeff Brashears. For a season or two this horse was unbeatable. Later he was taken into camp but not at the Fair grounds, by Carl Feller's bay mare from Tivydale. This race was run at the Morris Ranch track and was very exciting.

The horses, both cold bloods, finished almost heads apart, the mare winning in 24 1/2 seconds. Both were in the hands of fine trainers, the Feller mare being trained by Ben Locksley of Brady, and ridden by one of his sons, a boy weighing no more than sixty-five pounds and eleven years old.

Somewhat later came the "County" Free-for Alls" in which any pony raised in the county, and not a thoroughbred, could compete. It was one of these races that was witnessed by John A. Morris the founder and owner of Morris Ranch, and as to which he remarked after five horses had finished heads apart, "The boy who rode the winner would have won on any horse in the race." The boy who rode the winner was Max Hirsch and the winning horse was a cold blooded pony raised by his uncle Henry Neffendorf. That race was the beginning of Maxie's brilliant career as a jockey. After the racing was finished that afternoon, John A. Morris called on Maxie's father and when he left Maxie had been engaged to ride for the Morris Stables for five years at a pitfully small salary. Of course, Maxie was not yet a finished jockey but he learned fast and during his third year had ridden the highest percentage of winning mounts in the U. S. Morris, was a multi-millionaire, President of the Louisiana Lottery, owner of a breeding farm in England and another in Maryland, near Frederick, and owner of large acreage near New York City, known as Morris Park, that has since been incorporated into the city. Maxie, with increasing age and weight became too heavy to ride and drifted from rider to trainer and his success in the latter field has become legend.

The only other sport seen at the Fair in those days was an occasional footrace. These races were usually matched and differed greatly from track events as we know them today. Most of them were between semi-pros who would travel from Fair to Fair and make side bets on the outcome. Usually the race would be held over a distance from 100 to 150 paces and judges with a cord, as today, would catch the winner at the end. The starts were really something to write about. The Starter and the ones who ran would line up yards behind the starting line and then all three would start running with joined hands. When they reached the starting line the starter would yell, "Go," and release the runners.

Another sporting event of the Fair was the target shooting. The Gillespie County Mounted Rifles, guns of 56 calibre, single shots, were used. The cartridges were long and carried a rather powerful charge of powder. Shooting distance was 200 to 300 yards and great fun was had when the rookie tried shooting the latter distances from a sq uatting position and was kicked head over heals. No prizes were given but a score of 60 out of a 100 entitled one to a Marksman's badge, 70, to Sharpshooters Badge, and it was designated as an extra High scorer in those days when Thiele boys from Klein Frankreichand Sylvester.

On the final afternoon of the fair the big pavilion was cleared of exhibits and dancing began which lasted until the early hours of the next day.

Mr. Braeutigam was a grand and efficient host, deservingly popular. The whole county was shocked and filled with grief and

indignation when he was murdered by a neighboring bunch of outlaws, all of whom were finally brought to justice by a Ranger, Charlie Baird.

"I doubt not" Callan stated concluding his sketch of the early Fairs, "that the fairs of today are far more magnificent than they were in the beginning" . They are bigger and better fairs in a way but I do not believe that the young people of today have more fun at their fairs than we had as youngsters of the middle eighties.

FRONTIER TIMES
Killing of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Kensing
By Leonard Passmore

It is a well conceded fact that Texas has never had a better class of immigrants than the Germans. For generations in their own land they had been compelled to get their living from the soil, thereby acquiring habits of thrift and perseverance. From the days of Frederick on, they had practiced most rigid economy, by which they had arisen from a petty kingdom to one of the five Great Powers of Europe. But Germany had been crowded and many of her people longed to go to some place where there were greater possibilities of building up homes, supplied with the necessities of life for themselves and posterity. From the time stern old Frederick had sent General Washington a sword with the inscription, "From the oldest general in the world to the bravest," they had looked with hopes and desires to America. From the time that a strong appeal was sent to the Powers of Europe, asking for an interference in the cruel warfare waged by the Mexicans after the virtual close of the Texas Revolution, the Germans began to see the possibilities awaiting them in the broad and unsettled domain of Texas.

In about 1846, a body of those honest sons of toil bade adien to the scenes of their childhood, and with their wives and children came to seek new homes in the wilds of Texas. They were led hither by one Baron Von Meusebach, a man well educated and withal well suited to be a leader of men. In fact, all in the little company possessed a fair knowledge of the elementary branches of learning, due to the excellent system of compulsory education in the Fatherland. Such a class of people could not fail to build up the resources and increase the wealth of our Lone Star.

Landing near Indianola, the immigrants procured ox wagons which they loaded with the supplies and implements they had taken with them on their voyage, and slowly wended their way toward the interior of our fair state. All who saw the spinning wheels high perched upon the plunder and saw the knitting-needles of the worthy old dames being plied so deftly as the women journeyed along, could not well refrain from extending a welcome; for the five virtues of this people - industry, perseverance, economy, order and patience were exactly what were needed to be suspended from the five points of our star as mottoes of success to our own worthy sons.

Most of the immigrants settled at Fredericksburg. At first they suffered many severe hardships, the worst being a lack of bread. Many times their sufferings were almost equal to that of the Puritans when they dealt out the five kernels of corn. When wagons arrived with meal it was divided among the immigrants, each using his part as sparingly as he could in order that it might not be exhausted before the arrival of some more. "At one time," said Henry Mueller, member of That memorable party, "we were entirely out of bread. Some soldiers were stationed at Fort Martin Scott. They allowed us to pick up some grains of corn about their "Encampment." But these hardships did not last. Prosperity began to smile upon the humble toilers and the circle of its magnitude has been widening ever since. With prosperity came satisfaction. The friends and loved ones across the sea were written to and told of the wonderful opportunities awaiting them in the far West.

There was not much at that time to be feared from the Indians. They had shown no signs of hostility. The Germans had sat with them

in council, and with them had smoked "the pipe of peace." When the lands were being surveyed, the Germans took with them Indian guides who proved themselves harmless and faithful.

Other immigrants continued to come. The old round church was built, and in it were sung the songs which before had echoed from "Die Kirchen im Faderland." Regardless of hardships these pioneers were happy and did not wish to return. They desired to stay, take the oath of allegiance and help build up Texas. They would become American citizens. The tongue trained to sing, "Die Wacht am Rhine," they would accustom to sing "The Star Spangled Banner."

In the course of a few years some made their homes a little farther west. Among these were two brothers, Charles and Henry Kensing. The former settled on Squaw Creek, at that time a beautiful bold-flowing, little stream, which wended its way through the hills uniting with Threadgill Creek, the two forming Beaver Creek. There lived near him Conrad Mund, H. Welge Sr., and his aged father, also John Dietz and a few others. From the peculiar shape of a little mount on the east side of the creek, this was called the "Platt Kopf" or "Flat Head Settlement." A little lower down was another, which by the pious people composing it, was called "Canaan." There lived in this community, Philip Buchmeyer, Fritz Winkel and a few others. Still lower down on Beaver Creek was another settlement, composed of William Geistweidt, Rev. Pluennecke and others. It was among these that Henry Kensing made his home, on what is now known as the Apel place. He was a blacksmith by trade and he and Fritz Kneese ran a blacksmith shop together.

The Indians, which were at first so docile, at last became furious. The settlers were in constant danger. They were afraid to leave home lest they find their families butchered on their return.

One Sunday morning, Henry Kensing and his wife went to visit his brother at "Platt Kopf." It was dangerous to do so, they knew. They feared mostly for their children whom they left alone, but they were living near Mr. Geistweidt and others, and did not deem the danger so great. The trip was a business one, and necessitated their going. Mr. Kensing had that morning borrowed fifty dollars from Mr. Geistweidt. If my information is correct, telling him of his financial circumstances, and the business directly calling him away.

Some say that on his way to his brother's, Kensing and his wife stopped at Canaan and that he and the pious people there had a little prayer-meeting; but from the fact that Rev. Pluennecke was the only minister in this country, of the Methodist order, and was away at the time, makes it appear this is a mistake. The distance from "Canaan" to "Platt Kopf," was about five miles, through a rough, picturesque country. On the way no signs of Indians were seen. It was a beautiful day in spring, in the year 1863. The valley was full of fragrance and freshness. How like some they could recall which they had spent together in their old home across the sea.

But the time of parting had come. Before the two brothers were hardly aware, the sun was low in the western horizon. Calling his wife to make preparation for returning home, Henry in the meantime hitched up the team. Soon all was in readiness, and "Goodbye" - the last good-bye - was said. Right quickly the aged couple sped along the road which led around the little mount, Platt Kopf and down the

slant beyond. Suddenly they found themselves confronted by a band of Indians. Putting the whip to his horses the man endeavored to get away. With nostril's extended and a look of terror in their eyes, the horses sped down the hard slant; for they were frightened at such vigorous strokes of the lash and the sound of other hoof beats beside their own in their rear - made by the ponies of the Indians' who were in close pursuit.

At last the wagon was brought to a halt, and a desperate struggle for life ensued on the part of those within. The exact circumstances of it all, we have no definite way of knowing. From indications it is said to have appeared that in the struggle, the man and wife became separated - probably torn asunder by the overpowering savages. The husband was killed in a most brutal manner and scalped. The woman was dragged away some distance, and treated too shameful to be told of in these pages, after which she was shot with an arrow, scalped and left, no doubt, for dead. But she rallied to an extent sufficient to regain consciousness. She did not, however, possess enough strength to stand on her feet.

After leaving the woman's body the savages proceeded to the wagon, and cutting the harness to pieces, took such parts as suited their fancy, and departed to the draws beyond. Whether they were ever seen any more in the settlement at that time I do not know. This much, however is certain, with the two gory scalps dangling from their girdles, they pressed on to other parts where they could gratify their blood-thirsty natures upon other innocent victims.

Think of what a scene that was! There lay in the little vale near "Platt Kopf" a husband in the cold embrace of death, while near him was his bosom companion, faint, bleeding and only sufficiently conscious to realize the fearful tragedy and to utter a prayer for her children in the little home in Beaver Creek, who were at that moment unconscious of the fact that they were left a little bunch of orphans in an unfriendly world. But such are the uncertainties of mortal existence. At a time when one feels that life is sweet, he may be made suddenly aware that his skies are darkened.

In some way or another, the settlers around Platt Kopf became aware that some calamity had befallen their friends and a party went out to search. Following the wagon tracks they soon arrived at the scene of the tragedy. Seeing the wagon, they were apprehensive that their friends had been murdered. Soon the body of the man was found, in the condition before described. Then a diligent search was made for the woman, but she was not at that time discovered. It was thought that she was taken into captivity. Taking up the body of the man, the party returned, and made preparations for its burial. Before doing so, however, it was decided to return to the scene of the tragedy and make further search for the woman's body.

Looking about in the thick brush which was near, the party at last noticed something that appeared to be waving back and forth, much like the fluttering of a handkerchief in the breeze. Going nearer the men discovered that it was a handkerchief in the woman's hand, and had been shaken for the purpose of searing away the flies, which were endeavoring to settle upon the gory head. It appears that it had been in the pocket of her dress during her struggles, and though faint as the poor woman was, she thought of it, and took it out for the purpose mentioned.

Approaching and looking into the pitiful eyes of the sufferer, one of the men said in her own familiar tongue, "Is that you, Mrs. Kensing?" Faintly and with much effort she replied "Where is Henry?"

"He is all right," they said, "but not able to come to you." Thus they tried to evade telling her of his awful fate.

The poor, mangled creature was taken to the home of Charles Kensing and tenderly cared for in the best way possible under the existing circumstances. In the meantime Mr. Theodore Wiedmann, who was working for H. Welge at the time, was dispatched with all possible haste to inform the children and neighbors of the unfortunate couple, of the fearful tragedy. The poor little orphans were frantic with grief. Their pitiful cries could be heard for a long distance, and they wrung their feeble hands in agony.

Some of the neighbors - I did not learn who - took the children over to their uncle's, that they might take a last look at their father before his burial, and that they might view their mother in her suffering condition, and by their presence cheer her in the hour of death. It was plainly seen that the good woman could not live. Just what the mother said when the little ones approached, I do not know; but knowing the deep feeling of a mother's love, I am prompted to say that she pressed their soft hands, and stroked their innocent foreheads and pronounced upon them an undying benediction of love.

Not far away from the scene of the tragedy, a grave was dug, and in it was consigned the remains of the dead man, his wife being made to believe all the time that he was still living. Quite a crowd assembled to administer the last sad rites, and many were the tears shed on the Occasion. Each one felt, as the clods fell upon the coffin, that it was a matter of but few days till the same sad duties must be administered to the dead man's companion, and so it was.

The next day it was reported by those who had been so carefully administering to Mrs. Kensing, that the woman was worse and could live but a few hours. That evening, I think it was, she died and was taken away and buried beside her husband. Long had they been in life together and now were they put side by side in the land of silence. Today two lonely graves near the base of "Platt Kopf" is all there is to tell the people of that region of the horrors of frontier life. The birds in springtime pour out their music and melody over the same little vale that once resounded with the echoes of weeping and despair.

The surviving brother, Charlie Kensing, later moved to Threadgill Creek in Gillespie county. There he bought a ranch and accumulated a nice little fortune which he and his dame enjoyed to a ripe old age. Often has the writer heard him say in his quiet manner of speaking, "Those early days were days of suffering on the frontier. People now do not know what hardships are."

Evangelisch-Lutherische
ST. NICOLAI*KIRCHE
BAKEDE

3251 BAKEDE, den 2.7.1969
Fernruf: Bad Münder 05042
4265

Tgb. No. 62

Herrn
Wilburn P. Kensing, P.O Drawer C
Orange Grove, Texas 78372

und Frau
Alice Sauer, Doss, Texas 78618

Sehr verehrte Frau Sauer, Sehr geehrter Herr Kensing!

Da Sie beide die gleichen Daten und Angaben suchen, erlaube ich mir Ihnen in gleicher Weise zu antworten:

Die Eltern sind
Georg Christian David Kensing, geb. 6.6. und

Henriette Bremeier, geb. 2.5. und det. 6.5.1792.

Beide wurdeng getraut am 10. 11. 1816 in Beber.

Sie hatten folgende Kinder:

Heinrich Friedrich Ludwig K.,geb.6.6 und get . 16.6. 1820;

Johan Friedrich K., geb. 11.11. und get. 17.11.1822;

Dorothea Friedrich K.,geb.11.11

Heinrich Friedrich Karl K.,geb. 30.7. und get. 10. 8. 18 28;

Justine Louise Charlotte K, geb.26.11 und get. 2.12. 1831.

Die Eltern wohnten in Hamelspringe. Dort sind such ihre Kinder geboren. Der Vater war Schmied und Anbauer, das heist: er arbeitete in der Landwirtschaft.

Uber die Vorfahren der Eltern war in unseren Kirchenbüchern nichts zu finden.

DasNachsuchen in den alten Kirchenbuchern nichts zu finden. Handschriften nicht leicht. Darum bekommen Sie die Antwort auf Ihre Anfrage auch erst jetzt. Bitte, haben Sie dafür Verständnis

Mit herzlichen Grüszen aus der Neimat Ihrer Vorfahren bin ich

Ihr

Wilhelm Sprengel

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Solms-Braunfels Archives

NOTES OF INTEREST

In den Kirchenbuchern finde ich folgende Eintragungen:

1. Valentin Johann Brautigam geb.26.1.1791 in Kalntenlengsfeld verheiratete sich am 31.1.1815 mit Marie Elisabeth Pfeifer geb. 16.12.1795 in Kalntenlengsfeld
2. Der Sohn Johann Wolfgang Brautigam ist am 16.3.1829 geboren in Kaltenlengsfeld, getauft am 17.3.1829.

Mrs. Chester W. Geue states "Re Braeutigam and Bräutigam: these are the same, for this reason: In German the name is written with an umlaut - the ä is the same in English as ae. Other umlauts are ue for u; oe for o. Braeutigam is the English form, and Brautigam is the German form."

Terry G. Jordan, Ph. D. contributed this: Kaltennordheim and Kaltenlengsfeld are about 2 miles apart. The former is a town, and the latter is a small farm village. Both lie today in Communist East Germany, only a few miles from the Iron Curtain. They are in the province traditionally known as Thuringia (German Thuringen), and in 1845 (at the time of emigration of your ancestors) they were both in the small independent state of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach. Only in a very general sense can this be referred to as Saxony. Thuringia is more correct. Bavaria lay only a few miles away (beyond what is now the Iron Curtain).

SUPPLEMENT

Under Anna Elise Braeutigam Mr. Hugo E. Schuchard, 309 Fawn Drive, Shavano Park, San Antonio, Texas, died Friday, November 27, 1970, in a San Antonio Hospital at the age of 87 years.

Under Christine Elise Braeutigam Mr. Charlie Corby passed away December 12, 1970 and Mrs. John William Corby died on August 15, 1970.

Under Otto Henry Braeutigam Miss Annie Braeutigam passed on on November 7, 1970. She was laid to rest in the Fredericksburg City Cemetery. Betty Jean Minton Luckenbach passed away on December 5, 1970.