

### THE SPARGUR FAMILY

The Spargurs probably have more descendants in Highland Co. than any other family, rivaling in number the Roush descendants. They originated with John Wolfenspargur, who was naturalized in Lancaster, Pa., Apr. 11, 1744. He died in 1761, his wife, Margaret, born in Sept., 1697, died Dec. 1, 1775. The name has been found on records as Wolfesberger, Wolfesbarger, Wolfensparier, Wolfenspargur, Wolfeberger, etc. The name translated means literally, "The Hill of the Wolves." The children of John and Margaret, the immigrants, were Peter, Fredrick, John, Phillipp, Catharine (Mrs. Jacob Frey), and Anna Maria (Mrs. Martin Heffelfinger).

The Frey family originated with Peter Frey, born in Wingen, Alsace, in Sept., 1689, and his wife, Barbara, 1696-1768. They were the parents of 12 children: a son, John Valentine Frey, born in 1721, died in North Carolina in 1798. He married Anna Marie Barbara, daughter of Peter Binckele. She was born Mar. 4th, 1704, at Guckensberg Canon, Berne, Switzerland. The Freys came to America in 1734, about the same time as the Wolfenspargurs. Jacob Frey, son of Peter, was naturalized in 1744, at the same time as his brother-in-law, John Wolfenspargur.

John Wolfenberger, son of John, and grandson of the immigrant John, who was born in Pa., Aug. 17, 1754, married Christina, daughter of John Valentine Frey. Records show that John Wolfenbarger, Sr., and John, Jr. owned a number of acres of land and often traded in slaves. Several members of the family were wheelwrights or "makers of wagons and carts."

John Wolfenbarger, Sr. was the father of eight children: Peter, Fredrick, Phillipp, Hannah (Mrs. George Woods), Mary (Mrs. Martin Miller), Joseph, John, and Benjamin Wolfenspargur, who died in 1812. The third in age of these children, Philip, was a soldier of the Revolution. He emigrated to Ohio and in 1840 was still living in Pike Co., at the age of 96. He was interred in the Beaver Cemetery in Pike Co. His first wife was Catharine Pennewitt and his second was Catharine Cooper. There were no children born of the first marriage and a record can be found of only one daughter, Elizabeth, born of the second union. She became the wife of Abraham Taylor, who was the son of the pioneer Abraham Taylor, 1767-1834, and his wife, Eleanor, 1766-1833.

John and Christina (Frey) Wolfenspargur, founders of the vast number of Spargurs in Ohio, have descendants scattered all over the world. Records show that deeds, grants, wills, etc., were signed "John Wolfvansparger" as late as 1802. After that date, the shortened form of W. Sparger and W. Spargur was used most frequently on legal documents. The children of this worthy pioneer couple were Reuben, John W., Joseph W., Philip W., Henry W., William W., Hannah W. (Deatheridge) and Nancy W. (Jackson). Reuben, Joseph, Philip and Henry Spargur came to Highland Co. William W. married Nance Bryson and was killed by robbers near Fayetteville, N. C., when less than 40 years old. John W. married Sarah Lyon and they were the parents of 9 children born and reared in North Carolina.

Joseph W. Spargur, born Mar. 1, 1781, near Mount Airy, N. C., married

Rachel, daughter of Bowater and Phebe (Sumner) Burrows. In 1804, Joseph W., his wife, Rachel, and their small children, accompanied by his brother, Reuben, and her Uncle Borter Sumner, set out for the "western frontier." They settled in a log cabin on Fall Creek, near the present site of New Petersburg, in Highland Co. They cleared several acres of land and established a mill near their home. Reuben, who never married, made several trips back home. In 1815, while visiting his parents near Mt. Airy, he became fatally ill and was buried near his home.

It would be impossible in one edition to give all the data available on the Spargur families, even those in Highland Co. Philip W., next to the youngest of John W. and Christina Spargur's children, joined his brothers in Ohio in 1809. He reared a family of 10 children, Joseph W., was the father of 18 children and Henry W. had 12 children. Thus, with a total of 40 sons and daughters of the original emigrants, it is understandable that only the highlights of the family history (which is fabulous) can be given. Some time between 1830 and 1833, Christina (Frey) Spargur passed away and was the first burial in "God's Acre," a small Moravian Cemetery overlooking the family home near Mount Airy in North Carolina.

In 1833, when Henry W. Spargur, youngest son of John W., decided to go to Ohio, the 79-year old father, accompanied his son's family all the way to Ohio on horseback, where he lived until his death, Nov. 17, 1840, at the age of 86. He was buried in the old Hicksite Cemetery, near Stringtown, in Paint Twp.

Joseph W., eldest of the Spargur sons in Ohio, married Rachel Sumner, born Dec. 12, 1785, she died Oct. 4, 1823. They were the parents of 10 children. In order to designate one from another, because the same name appears so frequently, they will be given numbers. They were:

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|---------------|--------------|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1- John W.    | 3. Henry W.  | 5. Phebe W.           | 7- Allen W.   |
| 2- Bowater W. | 4. Joseph W. | 6. Christina W.       | 8- Rebecca W. |
|               | 9- Eliza W.  | 10- Philip W. Spargur |               |

The second wife of Joseph W. Spargur was Abigail Moore, Jan. 5, 1807-Jan. 3, 1886. Joseph W. died Mar. 6, 1845, thus she survived him by 41 years. They were interred in the Quaker Cemetery at Stringtown. Joseph W. and Abigail Spargur were the parents of

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|---------------|----------------|-------------|---------------|
| 11- Rachel W. | 13- William W. | 15- Lydia   | 17- Sarah W.  |
| 12- James W.  | 14- Margaret   | 16- Mary W. | 18- Reuben W. |

One John W. Spargur, born in North Carolina, Feb. 13, 1803, died in Highland Co., Apr. 5, 1865. His wife was Marya, daughter of the pioneer Anthony Franklin of Marshall Twp. She was the grand-niece of Benjamin Franklin of Revolutionary War fame. Born in 1807, she died Aug. 14, 1870, and was laid beside her husband in the Methodist Cemetery at Marshall.

Their children were 10 in number. They were:

- (1) Anthony, 1827-1868, who married Incinda Weaver and had the following children: Anna (Mrs. Hamin Reno), Vista (Mrs. Thomas Reno), Judith, unmarried; John, Jr. (who married Daisy Higgins), Samuel, and Henry Spargur whose wife was Olive Reno.