

# A Bitter Journey to a New Land

Family of  
Arnold and Mary (Neigh) Bitters  
250 Years

by

The Arnold Bitters Research Group

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Descendant of Sarah Jane (Bitters) Bower

Marilyn Shoemaker

Whose Children are descendants of Emma Elizabeth (Bitters) Shoemaker

Janet Thomas

Descendant of of Natalie Ashton (Bitters) Wauters

Barbara Bogart

Descendant of of Hetty Louisa (Bitters) Morris



Through this project we have become much more than distant cousins, sharing personal struggles, illness, tragedies, success and new births. We have forged a family, and our lives are better for it.

We wish to thank all those who have been sharing information and attempting to puzzle together the past, by sharing information, photos, family letters, thoughts, encouragement and an unbelievable amount of time in research to contribute to the completion of this project.

Robin Carr Morcombe Descendant of Sarah Jane (Bitters) Bower  
Yvonne Osmun Descendant of Helen W. (Bitters) Skinner  
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Robert Earl Boyer and his daughter Judy Descendant of Arminta (Bitters) Boyer  
Steven Talbot Descendant of Flora Etta (Bitters) Gast  
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Kenton Gast Descendant of Flora Etta (Bitters) Gast  
Steve Gast Descendant of Flora Etta (Bitters) Gast  
Albert C. Doane Descendant of Rebecca (Bitters) Doane  
Randy Shoemaker Descendant of Lemuel Bitters  
Alice Parr Major Family Genealogist

Bruce E. Burgoyne, author of "Enemy Views, The American Revolutionary War as recorded by the Hessian Participants" deserves special thanks for allowing us to quote his book. If you are interested in learning more about the Hessian Soldiers through their diaries, his book is available from Heritage Books.

We must not forget that this book was made possible by the willingness of early Bitters family members to write and publish stories of their family. Every attempt has been made to document the information found here. However, We are sure that inaccuracies will be found and apologize in advance for those.

This legacy of publishing was started by Arnold's grandson Thomas Major Bitters and continued with his son Albert, and daughter Marguerite Lillian Bitters Miller who were Editors of the Rochester Union Spy in Rochester, Indiana for many Years. Arnold's grandson Andrew Tully Bitters was Editor and Publisher of the Rochester Sentinel

Wendell and Jean Tombaugh published excerpts of the early Fulton County Newspapers beginning with 1858, making the frequent mention of the Bitters family in the newspapers of their time available to us today.

Marie Gast Talbot contributed a very detailed and delightful history of "Early Akron" that included the Gast and Bitters Family to the Fulton County Indiana Historical Society that was published in 1974 in "Fulton County Folks, Volume One. Marie passed away in Eugene, Oregon, on September 16, 2001 at the age of 100 Years.

Margaret Bitters Dillon also contributed to the Fulton County Folks, Volume One, with "The Albert Bitters Family". It was from this story that many of the early birth dates were obtained.

We hope that future generations find our humble efforts useful



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