

# Buracker & Boraker

Family History Research Newsletters

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## The Migration from Virginia to Ohio

Newsletter Number 33 said **Daniel and Elizabeth Burricker/Buracker** had 13 children who were named as heirs in the land record, *DB V pp. 675-678, 27 May 1815*. There may have been another son named Jacob. The 13 children are as follows:

1. Eve who married Adam Printz/Prince. \*
2. Christena who married William Griffith.
3. Polly who married Charles Tressler ("Drusler")
4. Martin who married 1) Eleanor Griffith, 2) Mary Wemord/Comer \*
5. Susannah who married Christian Harshbarger II
6. Adam who married Elizabeth Pence. \*
7. Michael who married Barbara Comer/Gander
8. Henry who married Mary Ann Barton. \*
9. Joshua who married Susannah Koontz
10. John who married Elizabeth Nichols/Nicholson
11. Philip
12. Elizabeth
13. Joseph

They lived in the Shenandoah/Page county of Virginia. Enticed by the fertile and cheap land in Ohio, some of those Burricker/Buracker children began to migrate to Ohio as early as 1808. Travel in those days wasn't

easy. Some used packhorse trains or Conestoga covered wagons pulled by oxen or horses on Indian trails or primitive roads. Others used flatboats to float down the rivers.

Merle C. Rummel describes the various roads and waterways the Virginia settlers used in his article, *Brethren Migrations* on the Internet. From that information, we can determine the most direct route to Champaign County in Ohio where the Buracker/Burokers settled.

Maps of Page County on the Internet show a "Buracker Hollow" near the town of Ida on the Hawksbill. That is probably where Daniel and Elizabeth Burricker had their land. Their son Michael later owned land in Luray itself. The Hawksbill flows into the Shenandoah River and goes north up the valley through Maryland and into Pennsylvania. Primitive roads such as the Indian Road and "Great Road" along the river went to Winchester (the old Frederick Town) and on to Hagerstown, Maryland. From there the route went west on the Braddock Road to Cumberland and then to Grantsville in Maryland.

The route then went into Pennsylvania toward Uniontown and past Fort Necessity where Colonel Washington had escaped with his troops after surrendering to the French. After Uniontown is Fort Redstone at Brownsville where George Wolfe and

his sons built flatboats for migration down the Ohio River, a good route to southern Ohio. But for those going to central and northern Ohio, the direct route was to go west into Washington County south of Pittsburgh and on to Fort Henry located where Wheeling, West Virginia is today.

The Old National Road opened in 1837 and basically followed the route of U.S. 40 from Wheeling across Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. From Springfield, Ohio the Burackers could travel north toward Urbana in Champaign County. And who were the Buracker families who migrated to Ohio? Beginning with Newsletter Number 9, we extract the following information:

**1. Susanna BUROCKER** – Christian Harshbarger II married Susanna Burocker on 10 July 1803 in Shenandoah County, Virginia where they had two children, Michael and Barbara Harshbarger. Christian, his wife Susanna and their young children then migrated to Champaign, County, Ohio in 1808 where the rest of their children were born (*Our Harshbarger Family*, by Ralph R. & Wilma R. Harshbarger, p. 13).

**2. Eve BURRICKER/BUROKER** – Two books document details about Eve because of her marriage to Adam PRINCE (PRINTZ) on 2 September 1802 (Shenandoah Marriages, 1772-1853). One book is, *History of Shenandoah County* by John W. Wayland (page 628). The other is *History of Champaign County, Ohio* compiled by Beers that can be seen on the website: [heritagepursuit.com](http://heritagepursuit.com).

#### **Children of Adam and Eve (Buroker) Prince:**

Elizabeth Mary PRINCE married 1) Isaac SMITH, 2) James CRABILL.

Mary PRINCE married Adam PENCE Sr. Capt. William PRINCE married Sarah NAUMAN/NORMAN. Their children are given in Newsletter No. 10. Nancy PRINCE married David Colville VANCE.

A son of Capt. William and Sarah Prince was Benjamin Franklin who had a notable career. Dr. Benjamin F. Prince, A.M. became a distinguished Professor of Greek and History in Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio where he became Vice-President. After his death in 1933, the Prince family gave their home to the University, where it became the home of the President. Professor Prince was the author of a two-volume history of Clark County, Ohio, as well as a history of Wittenberg. See his biography in Beer's *History of Champaign County* for more details about his successful life. Also see Chart No. 11.

From various sources, Jane Jones wrote the following biography:

#### ***THE ADAM AND EVE (BUROKER) PRINCE FAMILY***

Adam Prince was born May 6, 1781, in the Massanutten area of Shenandoah County, Virginia. He was one of the three children of Godlove ("Cutlip") and Magdalene (Crum) Printz. His paternal grandfather, Johan Philip Printz, immigrated to Philadelphia from Germany in 1751, eventually settling in the area of the Massanutten dubbed "Printz Town." Sometime in the years following their immigration, the Printz family changed the German spelling of its name to the more English spelling, *Prince*.

Eve Buroker, born in 1776, the same year as the United States, was also of German ancestry. She was a

daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth Buracker, who were neighbors of the Printzes in Shenandoah County. Her paternal grandparents were Michael and Eve Buracker, who, like Adam's family were German immigrants. Like the spelling of the name *Prince*, the spelling of *Buracker* went through several evolutions, eventually ending up as *Buroker* in Ohio.

Adam and Eve were married September 2, 1802, in Shenandoah County, with Philip Prince serving as bondsman for his brother. Adam was twenty-one and Eve, twenty-six, five years older than her husband. In 1805, three years after their marriage, they emigrated to Bourbon County, Kentucky, birthplace of three of their four known children.

In 1809, the family was on the move again, this time settling in Champaign County, Ohio, where they remained the rest of their lives. Soon after the family arrived in Champaign County, Adam located land with a fine spring in Mad River Township on which he wished to settle. He soon discovered, however, that another settler also had eyes on the same land and was already enroute to the land office in Cincinnati to enter a claim on it. By riding all night, Adam was able to beat his neighbor there. In fact, while he was enroute "home" to his new claim, he met this same neighbor still plodding along towards Cincinnati. No doubt with a deep sense of satisfaction, he informed him the land in question was no longer available. The deed Adam Prince finally received was signed by the President James Madison.

The Prince tract originally was covered by a magnificent growth of hard timber that was gradually cleared away to make a tillable farm. For at

least one hundred twenty years after their death, the farm remained in the ownership of Adam and Eve's descendants. Whether or not the family still retains control of the land is unknown, as current ownership of the farm has not yet been determined

A veteran, who served for six months during the War of 1812 as a private in Captain Phillip Kiser's Company, Adam Prince was not only a good farmer but also a noted mechanic, lock, and barrelsmith. His wooden locks, in fact, were well known in Champaign County and much in demand by his pioneer neighbors because of their ingenious design. The family belonged to the Lutheran church and reared their children in that faith. The Princes had four children: three daughters and a son. Eve Prince died October 1, 1827, at age 51. Adam survived her by twenty-two years, passing away November 1, 1849. They are both buried in Myrtle Tree Cemetery in Champaign County's Mad River Township.

*Prepared by Jane Osborne Jones, great-great-great-great granddaughter of the Princes, June 2004 update*

[Editor's Note: Additional Footnotes have been deleted to save space, but can be sent to those interested.]

**3. Adam BURACKER**, born 1787 in Virginia and died on 18 Sep. 1851 in Mad River Township, Champaign County, Ohio. He married Elizabeth PENCE on 13 June 1812 in Shenandoah Co. VA. After Adam's mother Elizabeth died in 1815 he sold his land and migrated to Champaign County, Ohio where he appears in the 1820 census. His sister Eve (Buracker) PRINCE was already there. The 1830 census shows Adam and Elizabeth as having three boys and three girls.

One daughter was Susannah who married George W. MINNICK, a blacksmith in Westville, Ohio. According to *History of Champaign County, Ohio* by Beers (p. 720), their marriage date was 28 August 1834 and they had eight children, three of whom were Israel, Sylvester and Noah. Susannah died in 1848.

Sadly, the marriage of Adam and Elizabeth was not a successful one. According to the court case in October 1823, Adam Buroker brought a suit against Lewis Pence, his father-in-law, regarding 80 acres of land in Mad River Township that Pence owned, but was used and developed by Adam with the hope that he would become the owner.

After making considerable improvements on the land, Adam paid for a survey and Pence instructed the surveyor to make out the survey of the plat in the name of Buroker.

Later, Lewis Pence became angry with Adam Buroker and refused to give him a deed or pay for the improvements. He further ordered Adam to quit the premises. When Adam took the matter to court, he asked for a deed for the property or payment for his expenses and labor. In his defense, Pence said there was no written agreement for the disposition of the land and although his daughter Elizabeth was legally married to Buroker, “much to his deep regret and mortification matters have turned due to Buroker’s ingovernable temper and cruel disposition towards her.”

It therefore appears that the land dispute between the two men was due to Adam’s treatment of his wife Elizabeth. The court case continued with several more sessions until March 1825 when Adam Buroker was only awarded twelve dollars from Lewis

Pence (*Public Records of Champaign County, Ohio; Court of Common Pleas*, Record Book 8, Pages 437-439; Filed 16 October 1823 as Adam Buroker Vs Lewis Pence).

The marriage of Adam and Elizabeth Buroker ended in a divorce that was filed on 26 April, 1848. According to the record, they had been married 38 or 39 years. On 12 April 1848 Adam drove Elizabeth out of the house and she went to the house of a married son. She was between 50 and 60 years of age at the time. **Joseph Buroker, JP**, son of Elizabeth Buroker, swore that her petition was true on 20 April 1848 and stated that he had been appointed as her trustee (Champaign Co., OH, Chancery Record Book 23, p. 114).

**Joseph Buroker** was the son of Adam and Elizabeth (Pence) Buroker who married Catherine SNAPP, daughter of John Snapp. They were married on 2 March 1843 in Champaign County, Ohio and remained there until after the 1900 census. They had 11 children. Beer’s *History of Champaign County, Ohio* recorded Joseph’s interesting biography as follows:

JOSEPH BUROKER, attorney and farmer; P.O. St. Paris; another of the pioneers of Champaign co., was born in Virginia June 12, 1818, and came with his parents to Ohio when but an infant. They settled in Mad River Township, Champaign Co. where the father and mother both passed away. Joseph grew to majority on his father’s farm, and nobly assisted in opening it out. His primary education was acquired in the common log-hut schools; but, through his own exertions, he has since greatly improved it. In that early day, the windows in the schoolhouses were greased paper, pasted over openings to admit the light, while today we have glass, clear as crystal.

Joseph's boyhood days were often spent in company with the Indians, frequently seeing wild animals of different kinds, but both Indians and animals have long since disappeared from these parts. About 1838, Joseph commenced teaching school, and in March, two years later, he married Catherine Snapp. Afterward he settled on his farm in Johnson Township, which he cultivated in connection with the duties of his office of Justice of the Peace; thus he continued until the erection of the Columbus, Piqua & Indiana Railroad, the construction of which he was greatly interested in.

Shortly before the road was finished, he, in company with his father-in-law, John Snapp, erected the first warehouse at St. Paris. They were the first grain buyers and shippers of that place. In connection with this, Joseph was appointed as ticket, freight and express agent. This position he filled several years, meanwhile turning some attention to law. Then he opened an office in St. Paris, devoting his time totally to the profession a number of years. In the meantime, he purchased his present farm, Sec. 15, and, for the purpose of raising his sons to farm's life, located on it in 1873. Five years later he moved his office to his residence, and is still enjoying a reasonable patronage in the practice of law (p. 748).

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**4. Henry Daniel BOROKER** – Henry married Mary Ann BARTON on 10 January 1814 at Woodstock, VA. After only eight months of marriage, Henry left his new bride to take part in the War of 1812. His military pension file was recorded in Newsletter No. 11. Their first son Daniel was born in Virginia in 1816. Later William H. Boroker was born in Ohio in 1817. Seven more children were born in Ohio from 1819 to 1834. Henry appears in the Ohio census for 1820

along with his brother Adam. He and his family migrated to Indiana before 1840.

Henry and Mary Ann's children were: Daniel, William, Eve (**Harshbarger**), R'Nelly/Ellen (**Albertson**), Polly (**Ross**), Sarah Ann (**DeWitt**), Lydia (**Harshbarger**), Mary A. (**Mount**) and Elizabeth (**Mingus**).

#### **5. Martin Burricker/Buracker** –

Martin must have been one of the prominent members of Daniel and Elizabeth's family since the records pertaining to him are so extensive. He was born about 1780 in Shenandoah County, Virginia and married his first wife, Eleanor or "Nelly" GRIFFITH on 4 April 1802. After having many children (as many as 16 in some records), Martin migrated to Champaign County, Ohio in 1834 with his second wife, Mary ("Molly") WEMORD/COMER. Martin died in 1855 and was buried in the Prince Cemetery.

Martin and Eleanor's son **Joshua** married Catherine PENCE and they were in Champaign County, Ohio as early as 1833. They remained there until after 1844.

Since Joshua married into the PENCE family, he is featured on page 87 in *The Pence Family* by Beatrice Carson, Washington, D.C., 1967 (unpublished). See Chart 11 in order to see the relationship between the Buroker and Pence families.

Martin and Eleanor's son **David** was born in Shenandoah Valley, Page County, Virginia in 1818. He lived there until 1834 when he, at the age of sixteen, and his father with possibly several other of the Buroker family, moved to Champaign County, Ohio. In Ohio he met and soon married Miss

Sarah **Jinkins/Jenkins**. Seven children were born to this union. Two years after his father's death in 1855, he moved to Montgomery County, Missouri. From there he later went to Iowa, Oregon and finally to Walla Walla County, Washington (*Some N.W. Pioneer Families* by Larry H. Henry, p. 110).

Martin and Eleanor's son **Joseph** was in Ohio by 1834 when he married Courtna Ann **Nunn**. Four children were born in Ohio before they migrated to Indiana around 1852.

Martin and Eleanor's son **John** married Malinda KITE, daughter of William KITE and Sally Sarah FRISINGER They were married in Champaign County, Ohio on 23 February 1839. John appears in the 1850 census for Champaign County as a farmer in Mad River Township. In the census for 1860 and 1870 he is said to be a farmer in Jackson Township.

John's second marriage was to Mary Elizabeth BEATY/SOURS in 1867. They migrated to Walla Walla County, Washington in 1884 where John died in 1888 and was buried in the Dixie Cemetery. His brothers Joseph and David also migrated to the state of Washington. More about that migration will be covered in a future newsletter. Next: *The Migration from Ohio to Indiana*.

## ***Congratulations Dema!***

Not many people live more than 95 years of age. So we wish to congratulate Dema (Holman) Boraker for reaching her 99<sup>th</sup> birthday on May 10<sup>th</sup> this year. A special BBQ party was held in her honor on June 25<sup>th</sup> at her home in Ferndale, WA. Among the guests were her three children: Everett, Charlotte and Donna Lee Portrey.

Dema Belle Holman married Jewell E. Boraker who was the son of Charles Theodore and Ella May (Crawford) Boraker. They lived on Highway 99 near Ferndale, Washington for many years where they had a small farm and business, the "Jewell Motor Company." Jewell died in 1969.

Jewell's brothers and sisters were: Ruth Irene Southland, Mildred Bernice Butterworth, Hilda M. Olson, Eldon Boraker and Dorothy Fern Finlay.



