

# HISTORY

OF THE

## Hottenstein Family

GIVING A COMPLETE LINE OF DESCENT

IN

### EUROPE AND AMERICA.

COMPILED BY WILLIAM HOTTENSTEIN.

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## PART I.

### The Hottensteins in Europe.

The Hottenstein family is recorded in the Vienna collection of names of noble families, as belonging to the nobility of the Frankish Knighthood. Their origin is traced back to the so-called Forest of the Spessard (*Spessard Wald*), not far from Aschaffenburg, in Germany.

In this forest lived already A. D. 380 the Frankish Province Count,

#### RIEBOLD VON HOTTENSTEIN.

The name is derived from a hill in the said Spessard Forest, where Riebald resided, and signifies, in the old German language, a stone or rock. This origin of the name is attributed to the fact that Riebald held annually the great, solemn court upon a rock, under a powerful oak tree. His coat-of-arms contained two fields, one white and the other red, signifying wisdom, impartiality and strict justice. In the red field, as well as upon the helmet, was fixed a white falcon, indicating courage and eagerness for battle. Besides this a count's crown. Thus originated the coat-of-arms of the family which has remained unchanged to the present day. His wife was

#### ILSSEBODA,

daughter of a Westphalian count. Riebald died A. D. 415, in great honors. About a hundred years thereafter the records bear the name of one

#### ALFRIED VON HOTTENSTEIN,

was the only representative of that family. He was converted and received into the Christian church by Archbishop Pancratius, of the city of Trier. In the year 506, King Clovis confirmed his title of Provincial Count (*Gaugraf*), and coat-of-arms. The document

announcing this confirmation is one of the oldest of its kind in existence. It was issued in the city of Mayence, signed by King Clovis himself, and sealed with the seal attached to the head of his sword. It is still preserved in the archives of the Imperial court (*Reichsherolden-Gericht*) at Vienna. His wife was

#### ANNA VON HERHOLDSECKE,

from the province of Alsace. Alfried was killed in a battle with Frisian warriors, A. D. 538. He had two sons,

#### SUENO AND PERCIVAL VON HOTTENSTEIN.

Percival became a monk and died in the monastery at Fulda. Sueno was noted as a brave warrior. Upon the hill where his ancestors resided he erected a strong castle, which he called Hottenstein. He was married to

#### HIRLANDA VON BREMHORST.

In the reign of Emperor Clotaire I., two brothers,

#### THEOBALD AND ANSGAR VON HOTTENSTEIN,

resided in the castle above alluded to. Theobald remained single, but Ansgar was married to

#### WALDINE VON ELMFURT.

King Clovis appointed him to the office of Master of Ceremonies (*Truchsess*), one of the most important offices of that time, and since that event they assumed the title of *Truchgessen von Hottenstein*. Ansgar died, far advanced in years, A. D. 887, leaving a son,

#### FILBERT VON HOTTENSTEIN.

The descendants of Filbert still flourished during the crusades. History tells us that about the year 1204, five Knights von Hottenstein took part in one of the crusades, but perished on account of a ship-wreck on the coasts of Dalmatia. In consequence we find at the termination of the crusades, A. D. 1283, only one representative of this family; by the name of

#### GISELBERT VON HOTTENSTEIN.

lived in the castle of his ancestors and was married to

#### KUNNIGUNDE VON VELLERES,

of the French province Poitou. The Emperor of Germany, A. D.



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1282, renewed, indentured and confirmed his titles, nobility and coat-of-arms, and, besides this, appointed him to the office of Imperial Marshal. The document containing the act is still preserved in the archives at Vienna. Giselbert died A. D. 1317, and is buried at Anspach. He left three sons.

**HERMAN, CARL AND HARTUNG.**

But only Hartung's family flourished, as the other two brothers died without progeny. Hartung in consequence became sole heir of the family castle and possessions belonging thereto. He was married to

**LEA VON DANNENBURG.**

His descendants increased but slowly. A. D. 1524 the castle of his ancestors was destroyed and completely demolished by the peasants during the so-called Peasant War (*Bauernkrieg*). Only

**KUNO VON HOTTENSTEIN,**

who was at the time in the army of the German emperor, Charles V., and captain of a company of soldiers, survived. His command was then in Italy. In 1527 he assisted, under the command of Generals Bourbon and Philibert of Orania, to subdue and pillage the city of Rome. A considerable amount of the booty he brought home to Germany. After his return, he was appointed by the independent city of Esslingen their city commander and protector. In the latter city he was married to

**LOUISA VON BERG,**

the daughter of a nobleman. He died A. D. 1563. His two sons were

**NICHOLAS AND ERNST VON HOTTENSTEIN.**

Nicholas was also in the service of the emperor of Germany. His descendants still flourish among the nobility of Austria. Ernst remained at Esslingen, where he became Mayor. He died A. D. 1618. He left three sons of whom no records remain.

*Could this Ernst who died in 1618 been the father of Jacob who was born in Europe in 1697? See p. 10 - Hanni Achenbach Benson descendant of Catherine Hottensheim Bright dau. of Jacob's son William, June 24-1940.*

**PART II.**

**The Hottensteins in America.**

Though there are no records of the three sons of Ernst von Hottenstein in Europe, yet their history is not unknown. We find them on American soil, whither they had emigrated from Esslingen.

Three brothers crossed the ocean and arrived at Philadelphia, but the exact date of their arrival in this country has not as yet been ascertained. One of them died at Philadelphia, the other removed to Lancaster, where his decendants still flourish, whilst the third, Jacob Hottenstein, settled in Oley towanship, Philadelphia county (now Berks). This Jacob Hottenstein was the ancestor of the large family of Hottensteins in this part of the country.

**JACOB HOTTENSTEIN.**

We are not informed as to the exact length of time he resided in Oley, but the records show that he removed to Maxatawny township, Philadelphia county (now Berks), A. D. 1729. He first leased a tract of land, containing 116 acres, of a man named Caspar Wistar, for the term of one year. During the same year, the 18th day of November, he purchased the above mentioned tract of land, of the proprietor Wistar, for the sum of forty pounds and twelve shillings sterling. We append here the two documents by which the above transactions were effected. The writers of the documents, not being conversant with the German language, corrupted the name into "Huddlestone." The originals, which are written on parchment, are well preserved and in possession of the compiler of this little work. They read as follows, verbatim et literatim:

PLEASE.

THIS INDENTURE made the seventeenth Day of November In the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred and twenty nine Between Caspar Wistar of the City of Philadelphia Brass-button-maker & Catharine his Wife of the one Part and Jacob Huddlestone of Maxatawny in the County of Philadelphia Yeoman of the other part Witnesseth That the said Caspar Wistar & Catharine his Wife For the consideration of Five Shillings lawful

money to them - pd by the sd. Jacob Huddlestone HAVE bargained and sold And by these Presents do bargain and sell unto the said Jacob Huddlestone A Certain piece or Tract of Land situate in Maxbetawny aforesaid Beginning at a Post at a Corner of Caspar Wistar's other Land Thence extending by that & vacant Land South ten Degrees East Two hundred perches to a black Oak Sapling Thence by vacant Land South eighty Degrees West ninety-three perches To a Post Thence by Lands of Peter Andrews North ten Degrees West Two hundred Perches to a Post Thence by lands of Nicholas Coult north eighty Degrees East ninety three perches to the Place of Beginning Containing One hundred & sixteen acres Together also with all and singular the Ways Woods Water Courses Rights Liberties Privileges, Improvements Hereditaments & appurtenances therunto belonging and the Reversions and Remainders thereof to HAVE & TO HOLD the sd. one hundred & sixteen Acres of Land, Hereditaments & Premises hereby granted or mentioned to be granted With the appurtenances Unto the said Jacob Huddlestone his Executors Administrators & Assigns From the Day of the date hereof for and during and unto the full Term of One Year thence next ensuing. IN WITNESS whereof the said Parties to these Presents have interchangeably set their Hands and Seals herunto Dated the Day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered }  
In the Presence of us }  
CONRAT REIF,  
WILLIAM PARSONS.

CASPAR WISTAR, [L. S.]  
CATHARINE WISTAR [L. S.]

## RELEASE AND DEED.

THIS INDENTURE made the Eighteenth Day of November in the Year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & twenty nine Between Caspar Wistar of the City of Philadelphia Bras-button maker and Catharine his Wife of the One Part and Jacob Huddlestone of Maxbetawny in the County of Philadelphia Of the other part Witnesseth That the said Caspar Wistar and Catharine his Wife For the Consideration of Forty Pounds twelve shilling lawful money of Pennsylvania to them paid by the said Jacob Huddlestone have granted bargained sold released and confirmed And by these Presents for them and their Heirs do grant bargain sell release and confirm Unto the said Jacob Huddlestone (In his actual Seizin now being by Virtue of a Bargain and Sale unto him made by the said Caspar Wistar & Catharine his Wife For the Term of one Year by Indenture bearing Date the Day next before the Day of the Date hereof made between the same Parties as these Presents and to his Heirs and Assigns A Certain Piece or Tract of Land situate in Maxbetawny aforesaid Beginning at a Post at a Corner of Caspar Wistar's other Land Thence extending by that and vacant Land South ten Degrees East Two hundred Perches to a black Oak Sapling Thence by vacant Land South eighty Degrees West ninety three Perches to a Post Thence by Land of Peter Andrews North ten Degrees West Two Hundred Perches to a Post Thence by lands of Nicholas Coult North eighty Degrees East ninety three Perches to the Place of Beginning Containing One hundred and Sixteen Acres (It being part of the fourth described of several Tracts, which by Patent of the first day of September last past Under the Hands of the Proprietary Commission-ers and Great Seal of the said Province were granted unto the said Caspar Wistar In Fee Entered of Record at Philadelphia Book A Vol. 6. Page 146) Together also with all and singular the Ways Woods Waters Water Courses Rights Liberties Privileges Improvements Hereditaments and Appurtenances whatsoever unto the hereby granted Premises belonging And the Reversions and remainders thereby To have & to hold the said One hundred and 16 Acres of Land Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted or mentioned to be granted With the Appurtenances Unto the said Jacob Huddlestone and his Heirs To the Use and behoof of him the said Jacob Huddlestone his Heirs and Assigns forever Under the proportionable part of the Proprietary Quit rent in the said recited Patent mentioned as hereafter yearly accruing And the said Caspar Wistar doth Covenant for him and his Heirs the said Land and Premises hereby granted with the Appurtenances Unto the said Jacob Huddlestone his

Heirs and Assigns against him the said Caspar Wistar and his Heirs and all Persons claiming under him or them shall and will Warrant and forever defend by these Presents And the said Caspar Wistar for himself his Heirs Executors and Administrators doth Covenant promise and grant to and with the said Jacob Huddlestone his Heirs & Assigns by these Presents That the said Caspar Wistar and his Heirs and all and every other Person or Persons lawfully claiming or to claim any Estate Right Title or Interest of in or to the Premises or any Part or Parcel thereof by from or under him or them or any of them shall & will, at any Time within the Space of fourteen Years next ensuing the Date hereof, at the reasonable Request and Charges in Law of the said Jacob Huddlestone his Heirs or Assigns make execute and acknowledge or cause to be all and every such further or other Act and Acts Deed or Deeds Device or Devices in law for the further and better Assurance and Confirmation of the one hundred and sixteen Acres of Land Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted or mentioned to be granted with the Appurtenances unto the said Jacob Huddlestone his Heirs and Assigns as by him or them Or by his or their Council learned in the Law shall be reasonably devised advised or required So as such Assurance contain no further or other Warrant or Covenant than these Presents. In Witness whereof the said Parties to these Presents have interchangeably set their Hands and Seals herunto Dated the Day & Year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered }  
In the Presence of us }  
CONRAT REIF,  
WILLIAM PARSONS.

CASPAR WISTAR, [L. S.]  
CATHARINA WISTAR, [L. S.]



Entered in the Office for Recording of Deeds for the City and County of Philada. in Book F Vol. 6 Page 335 &c. The fourteenth Day of Aug. A. D. One thousand seven hundred and thirty four Witness my Hand and Seal of my Office aforesaid.

C. BROCKDEN, Recorder.

At the time of Jacob's arrival in this country, civilization had not made much progress yet in this part of Pennsylvania. The pioneer's ax had just commenced to clear the fertile valleys of the thick forests, whilst the Indians still roamed through the country, and frequently terrified the settlements. When Jacob crossed the South Mountain there were no roads, and his party were compelled to carry their baggage or convey it on horse, moving forward in the trails of the Indians. During their whole journey they were surrounded by nothing but forest, Indians and wild beasts.

It need hardly be mentioned that in those times schools and churches were few and far between, and neighbors very distant. For a number of years Jacob Hottenstein had only two neighbors, whose property adjoined his, viz: Peter Andrews and Nicholas Kutz. All the other adjoining lands were either vacant or belonged to the so-called "proprietors' lands.

He was married to Dorothea Rober, and had four sons, viz: Jacob, William, David and Henry; and two daughters named Dorothea and Maïda. It appears that even during that time, when preachers of the gospel were so scarce, he did not neglect to give his children a good religious training. Rev. Father Muhlenberg, that venerable



Lutheran Minister, residing at Philadelphia, frequently came to his house on his missionary travels, for the purpose of giving his children catechetical instruction.

It may be proper to state here that the original farm of 116 acres, together with 327 additional acres which Jacob acquired afterwards, is still in the possession of his decendants, the compiler of this work occupying the original farm.

Jacob Hottenstein died on the 23d day of March, A. D. 1753, aged 56 years, 1 month, and 5 days: His remains are interred on the family grave-yard, which is still preserved on the old homestead. His tomb-stone (a rough sand-stone) bears the following inscription:

Jacob Hottenstein wurde geboren in Europa, auf den 18. Februar 1697.  
Gestorben den 23. März 1753. Stammvater der ganzen Hottenstein  
Familie. Alt worden 56 Jahre, 1 Monat und 5 Tage.

#### JACOB HOTTENSTEIN, JR.

As already stated, the oldest son of Jacob Hottenstein received the name of his father, Jacob. After he had become of age, he married and settled in Richmond trwnship. He had four daughters, viz: Catharine, Maria, Blondine and Susanna. They were married to Abraham Biehl, Abraham Deysheer, Caspar Merkel and Samuel Ely, respectively.

#### WILLIAM HOTTENSTEIN

bought a farm in Cumru township, near Reading. His issue consisted of five sons, viz: Samuel, William, Henry, Solomon and David, and of four daughters.

#### DAVID HOTTENSTEIN

lived in Maxatawny township, residing on the farm of his father. This farm had been transferred by Jacob Hottenstein to his sons David and Henry. Afterwards David bought his brother's share and so became sole proprietor of the original farm. His issue consisted of three sons and two daughters, viz: Jacob, David, Daniel, Catharine and Dorothea. Catharine was married to Jacob Grim, of Macungie, Lehigh county, and bore him eleven children—eight sons and three daughters. Dorothea died young.

#### HENRY HOTTENSTEIN,

youngest son of Jacob, studied Medicine, and afterwards removed to Lancaster, Pa., where he practiced Medicine. His issue consisted of but one child, which died in early age.

### William Hottenstein's Progeny.

#### SAMUEL HOTTENSTEIN,

eldest son of William, settled in the so-called Forest, below Reading. His father having died intestate, he was under the law (of England, of which country Pennsylvania was then yet a colony) entitled to two shares of inheritance, as the first-born son of the family. His issue consisted of two sons and one daughter.

#### WILLIAM HOTTENSTEIN,

the second son, removed to Mount Pleasant, near Germantown, and had two sons and one daughter.

#### HENRY HOTTENSTEIN

bought a farm in Maidenreck township, Berks county. His issue consisted of nine sons and four daughters.

#### SOLOMON HOTTENSTEIN

lived in Lehigh county, and had five sons and seven daughters. His oldest son was father of twenty-four children with three wives.

#### DANIEL HOTTENSTEIN,

the youngest son, also resided in Maidenreck township, having five sons and four daughters.

*4 daugh<sup>r</sup> of William Sen<sup>r</sup> Mrs. High-Hagle - his Bright<sup>est</sup>  
Mrs. Biedler and Mrs. Bartlett  
David Hottenstein's Progeny.*

#### JACOB HOTTENSTEIN,

the eldest son, died when about 20 years of age

#### DAVID HOTTENSTEIN

studied medicine with Dr. Joseph Hirsch, and attended the lectures at the medical institute, at Philadelphia. After obtaining his diploma, he commenced practicing medicine in the upper portion of Berks county and resided on the homestead in Maxatawny township. He was married to Elizabeth Laine, a daughter of Richard Kline, of Montgomery county. He died in the year 1818, aged 82 years, 4 months and 25 days. His issue consisted of six sons and two daughters, viz: David, Jacob, Daniel, William (compiler of this little work), Isaac, Henry, Catharine and

### His Grand Children.

His son David died young; also Henry.