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The Gushwa Family - revisions 1995, Larry Lawson

(Substitute for pages 1-10 of the 1988 book. Other corrections on p. R15)

Author's comments: Since the original publication of this book in June 1988, the author has become aware of new information and some serious errors concerning the original Cushwa ancestors who immigrated from Germany and who settled first in southeastern Pennsylvania and then in Washington Co., Maryland. A year after the book was published, a Mr. John Beck of Bloomington, Indiana, informed me that a researcher in Dannstadt, Germany, had found that Isaiah Cushwa (son of Isaac Couschoua and Elizabeth Katherine Hoffman) of Mutterstadt, Germany, immigrated unmarried to the U.S. in 1732 at age 18 and that he was our likely immigrant ancestor, rather than the John and Catherine Cushwa mentioned on page 1. Since then, the author (who knows German) has visited Mutterstadt, Germany, and its historical museum and there obtained a history book of Mutterstadt which tells a few things about the Cushwa family in the 1600s and earlier. Also, much new information and evidence has been found in the microfilms of German and Pennsylvania records in the Salt Lake City LDS Family History Library, the world's largest genealogy library.

A major problem in correctly establishing the C/Gushwa ancestry has been that of identifying the father of ancestor John Cushwa who settled in Washington County, Maryland in the late 1700s. There have been some prior undocumented secondary publications which have stated that it was a John and Catherine Cushwa who had supposedly immigrated from the Alsace-Lorraine area of France, but the author has not been able to find any documents that support this idea. On the contrary, there is considerable circumstantial evidence that his father is Isaiah, the 1732 immigrant from Mutterstadt, Germany. It is important to note that because birth or baptism records were not consistently kept in early American history, there is no known record which positively states the names of his parents. Hence, we are dependent on using multiple circumstantial evidences in establishing relationships. Therefore, this revision is not infallible, but will present the best attempt at describing our Cushwa ancestry based on the records currently available or known.

Cushwa/Gushwa Origins

The history of Mutterstadt, Germany^a (a town of 10,000 located in the Palatinate [Pfalz] section of Germany, not far from France, near the Rhine river and the large cities of Ludwigshafen and Mannheim), states that the Cuswar/Cussay/Coussuay/Cussal/Kussal (many spellings) family were Huguenots (French Protestants) from the Wallonia section of France (present day French Belgium) who fled to Mutterstadt about 1655 to avoid heavy religious persecution. There was more religious tolerance in nearby Palatinate, Germany at this time. Eventually, however, persecution against these French-speaking Huguenots by the German Catholic Palatinates also became severe, causing many of them to flee to the eastern German states (Brandenburg, Prussia, Uckermark) in 1691, taking their church records with them. Why our Cushwa family did not also flee further east is unknown, but they did speak German. Furthermore, the spelling of the family name became Germanized to Guschwa to avoid being detected by French soldiers who occasionally invaded the Mutterstadt area to hunt for Huguenot refugees. Later, when fears of persecution subsided, some went back to the "C" spelling (however, the 1991 telephone book listed six Guschwa families and none with a "C"). The Cushwas who fled to Mutterstadt were Francina Cussal and her grown son Pierre Coussuay in 1655. Other mentioned names in Mutterstadt at about the same time are Jacob Cussay and Johann Kussal, who may be brothers of Pierre. Which of these is our direct ancestor is unknown. Other small towns very near to Mutterstadt where Cushwas were also found are Dannstadt and Ruchheim. In fact, the very first recorded birth by the reformed church in Ruchheim was for a Johannes Cousway, born May 8, 1670 to Peter and Anna.^b

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Our earliest known Cushwa ancestor was Isaac Couschoua/Gousoy/Coschois who was born about 1680 (assuming age 25 at marriage). On September 15, 1705 he married Elisabeth Katherina Hoffman in Mutterstadt.^d Elisabeth was the daughter of Jacob Hoffman of nearby Weidenthal; she died April 21, 1729 at age 54.^k

To Isaac and Elisabeth Katherina Cushwa were born seven children in Mutterstadt:^c

1. Balthasar, born 29 May 1706 (died as an infant).
2. Balthasar, born 22 June 1707 (may have also died as an infant - no further records on him could be found and only 14 months until next birth).
3. Anna Klara, born 26 Aug 1708.
4. **Johannes**, born 24 Nov 1709, md.^c Anna Margaretha Wentzel of Weidenthal (daughter of Phillipp), 14 Feb 1730. They had five children:^e

(1) Anna Margaretha b. 19 Feb 1731 - she or her mother was a sponsor to the baptism of Anna Margaretha Suml in Swatara Twp., Penn. in 1751^f

(2) Anna Elizabeth b. 28 June 1739

(3) Johann Daniel b. 27 Oct 1741, prob. died as an infant - next child same name

(4) Daniel b. 20 July 1744, died Aug 1744

(5) Johann Conrad b. 19 April 1746, died 23 Jan 1747

Only 2 of these children lived beyond infancy, Anna Margaretha and Anna Elisabeth. The family immigrated with two children to Penn. in 1750 and lived very near to Isaiah.^l They appear to have had no additional children born in the U.S. since baptism records of the 1750's show them several times as sponsors but never as parents.^{f,m}

5. Hans Jacob, born 15 Sep 1711.

6. **Esaias/Isaiah**, born 19 June 1714, immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1732 on the ship Johnson and later married Anna Christina Becker, also an immigrant, of Dannstadt, Germany. See p. R5 for more information on this direct ancestor.

7. Louisa, born 1 Mar 1717, md. Johann Adam Wentzel^e of Weidenthal. Known children:^e Maria Elizabeth (b. Aug 1739, died Sep 1739), Georg Nicolaus (b. Aug 1744), Conrad (b. Dec 1747).

At least three members of this family immigrated to Pennsylvania, a very common place in America for German immigrants. **Isaiah** arrived in September 1732 with cousins (Schueys) and family friends (Renners). His older brother, **Johannes**, also received permission to immigrate from Weidenthal (near Mutterstadt) in 1750 with his wife and two children.^l No land or tax records of this Johannes in Pennsylvania have ever been found (Penn. Archives, etc.), but he and his wife, Anna Margaretha, have been found as sponsors at baptisms of the Suml family at Swatara and Tulpehocken Twps. in Berks Co., Pennsylvania in 1751 (only Anna Margaretha), 1753, and 1754.^{f,m} Because Johannes and Margaretha appear to have had no sons who survived infancy, they would have no C/Gushwa descendants.

It also appears likely that the father, Isaac, immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1738. Evidence for this comes from the Mutterstadt land records which state that his property in Mutterstadt was sold in Dec. 1738 because he had moved to Pennsylvania.^{g,h}

In America, the spelling of Cushwa or Gushwa vacillated for several generations (see p. R4). Although records of Isaiah, the 1732 immigrant, almost always used C, records of his children used both spellings. However, ever since our ancestor Fred-

eric (born 1824), who fought and died in the civil war, the name Gushwa has always been used. Throughout this book the spelling used most commonly by each person will be used.

All of the Cushwas found in the census records of the entire U.S., 1790 (1-MD), 1800 (2-MD), 1810 (1-MD), 1820 (2-MD, 1-VA, 2-MI), 1830 (5-MD, 1-VA), 1840 (7-MD, 2-VA, 1-OH), and 1850 (8-MD, 2-VA, 2-IN) appear to be descendants of Isaiah Sr. and Anna Christina. A Gabriel Cushway¹ Sr. and Jr., found in Wayne Co., MI, in 1820, may be the parental line for three Cushways found in the Michigan census of 1880. Likewise, all the Gushwas in the U.S., 1790 (1-PA), 1800 (2-PA), 1810 (4-PA), 1820 (1-PA, 1-OH), 1830 (0) 1840 (1-PA, 3-IN, 2-OH, 1-IA), 1850 (8-IN, 2-OH), and 1860 (35-IN, 2-OH) appear to be known descendants of Isalah. No Gushwas were in Michigan before 1881.

Today, most of the Cushwas are found in Maryland, and most of the Gushwas are found in northern Indiana and Sturgis, Michigan. The largest Gushwa settlement was in Tippecanoe Co., IN, near Lafayette, and was founded by Peter Gushwa a few years after his marriage in 1818 in Montgomery Co., OH, to Magdalena Gibbhart/Gebhart. They settled on bounty lands he received for serving in the War of 1812. They had two sons, John and David Gushwa. Peter was the son of Isaiah Gushwa Jr. (sometimes called Josiah), and grandson of Isalah the immigrant. By 1860, 32 of the 35 Gushwa families in Indiana were in Tippecanoe Co., in the townships of Perry and Fairfield.

NOTES: Cushwa/Gushwa Origins

^a "Mutterstadt im Vergangenheit und Gegenwart" by Heinrich Eyslein (1967), Südwestdeutsche Verlagsanstalt, Mannheim, Germany (pages 180-182, 192-193).

^b "Evangelish-Reformed Church of Ruchheim, Churchbook, 1670-1798" LDS microfilm # 1258166, p.1.

^c "Evangelish-Reformed Church of Mutterstadt, Churchbook 1676-1865" Microfilm # 193064 (baptisms).

^d "Evangelish Church of Mutterstadt, Churchbook 1676-1799" Microfilm # 488541 (marriages).

^e "Evangelish-Reformed Church of Weidenthal, Churchbook 1724-1939" Microfilm # 1457590 (births, deaths, marriages)

^f "Early Lutheran baptisms and marriages in Southeastern Pennsylvania - the records of Rev. John Casper Stoeber from 1730 to 1779." Genealogical Pub. Co., Baltimore, 1982, p.42 (Library of Congress # 82-083232).

^g "Early Pennsylvania Pioneers from Mutterstadt in the Palatinate." by Annette K. Burgert, 1983, Salt Lake Family History Library # 974.8 A1#154.

^h Some have thought this record about Isaac's immigration to Penn. was referring to his son, Isalah, because occasionally the names Isaac and Isalah became confused with each other, but this record could not have been referring to Isalah who was only 17 when he immigrated, much too young to own property. Also, no death record of Isaac has ever been found in the Mutterstadt area even though the churches kept excellent records. Furthermore, the Writs Returnable records of Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania (card catalog # 974.815 H25I, vols. 1, 4, 6) for the years of 1742-45 lists both an Isaac Cushwa and an Isalah Cushwa, three times each. No land records for Isaac have been found in the U.S., but this may be due to his living with his son or his Schuey relatives.

ⁱ The Penn. Mag. of History and Biographies, Vol. 34, p. 109, note f, lists a Gabriel

Gosshaw who became a servant to John Inglis on September 20, 1771, in Philadelphia.

^k Church books of Mutterstadt, Germany, as recorded by Friedrich Binder, Hauptstrasse 40, 6701 Dannstadt-Schauernheim, Germany, in a 1981 letter to John Beck of Bloomington, Indiana. Elisabeth's age at death: Pfalzische Familien und Wappenkunde, volume 6, booklet 5, p. 165.

^l "Palatine Emigrants of the 18th Century" by Krebs, p. 9. No ship record of their immigration is known to exist.

^m "Trinity Tulpehocken Church record, Jackson Twp., Lebanon Co." Vol.1 1748-1864, pp. 3-4 (LDS film # 20348 item 4/5). Jackson Twp. (created 1813) was formerly the western portion of Tulpehocken Twp. of Berks Co. and is adjacent to Bethel Twp.

Descendancy Line from Isaac and Elisabeth Katherina Cushwa to
Rascelus Gushwa (direct ancestors in bold and listed first)

1. **Isaac Cushwa** (see p. R2)
b. about 1680 in Mutterstadt, Palatinate, Germany
md. Elisabeth Katherina Hoffman (1675-1729) 15 Sep 1705 in Mutterstadt
2. ch. of **Isaac**: **Isaiah Cushwa**, Balthasar (2), Anna, Johannes, Hans Jacob, Louisa
b. June 1714 in Mutterstadt (Immigrated to Penn. in 1732)
md. Anna Christina Becker (b. Dec 1719) in Penn. abt 1737-1740
3. ch. of **Isaiah**: **John Cushwa Sr.**, Catherine Elizabeth, Anna Margaret, Esther, Anna Catherine, Isaiah Jr.,
b. about 1743, Lancaster Co. PA
md. Cath. Elizabeth
4. ch. of **John Sr.**: **Jacob Gushwa Sr.**, Catherine, John Jr., Jonathan, Capt. David, Margaret, Christina, Benjamin, Elizabeth, Sarah
b. 1771 in Bethel Twp, Lancaster Co. PA
md. Elizabeth Phillips
5. ch. of **Jacob Sr.**: **Jacob Cushwa Jr.**, Elizabeth, Philip, Katherine, Sarah, Margaret, David, George
b. 1798 in Millford Twp, Somerset Co. PA
md. Elizabeth Sythe
6. ch. of **Jacob Jr.**: **Frederic Gushwa**, Daniel, Christina, William, Catharine, Joseph, Sarah
b. 1824 in Holmes Co., OH d. 1865 NC in the Civil war
md. Eliza Jane Solomon
7. ch. of **Frederic**: **Rascelus Gushwa**, John, Mary, Charlotte, Susannah, Joseph, Cynthia
b. 1854 in Hancock Co., OH d. 1928 in LaGrange, IN
md. Phoebe Ellen Wells (granddau. of **Philip Gushwa** - see #5)
children: Elsba, Carrie, Mertie, Charles, Mabel, Jessie

Isalah Cushwa Sr. and Anna Christina Becker
- Our Immigrant ancestors

Isalah and Christina are the immigrant ancestors of most, if not all, of the Cushwa/Gushwa families in the United States. Isalah was born in June 1714 (baptized June 19) as Esalas, the sixth child of Isaac C/Gouschois and Elisabeth Hoffman in Mutterstadt, Palatinate, Germany.^a At age 17 he began his immigration to Pennsylvania along with about 110 other Palatinates, arriving in Philadelphia on September 18, 1732 at age 18 on the ship Pink Johnson.^b This difficult six-month journey normally began in early May and involved a 4-5 week trip (due to all the toll houses) down the Rhine river to Rotterdam, Holland where the people were detained an additional 5-6 weeks before sailing to London where there was another 2-3 week delay, finally followed by the very strenuous trip across the Atlantic to Philadelphia.^b The trip across the Atlantic was one of very crowded conditions, poor food, unclean water, diseases such as scurvy, dysentery, smallpox, and storms at sea that would last 2-3 days without interruption and which would cause the passengers to think that they were all going to drown. Sickness claimed the lives of many on each trip, especially children. Isalah made this trip along with two other families from Dannstadt (5 miles from Mutterstadt): the Daniel and Maria Schuey/Schew/Joy family, the mother of which was his first cousin; and the Renner family (friends that would later marry into his future wife's family).

While little is known about the next several years of Isalah's life, it is possible that he lived with the Schuey family. Within a few years he married Anna Christina Becker, who had also immigrated from his home area and whom he may well have previously known. While no record of their marriage is known, the first record which includes both of their names was a June 1740 baptism of an Anna Christina Heyl, her niece, at the Swatara Reformed church near Bethel Twp., Berks Co. Penn. in which Isalah and wife Anna Christina are named as sponsors.^g

Anna Christina Becker (usually called Christina) was born in late 1719 (baptized Dec. 9, 1719) in Dannstadt, Germany as the daughter of Johannes Becker and Anna Wessa.^d She appears to have immigrated to Pennsylvania in 1737 at age 17 with her sister Verona who had married Konrad Renner the previous year. Another sister, Maria Werina Becker, also immigrated to Pennsylvania with her husband Johannes Heyl/Hell. In spite of the great difficulty of such a trip, Isalah and Christina returned briefly to Germany in 1748 to sell some inherited land in Dannstadt,^d and more importantly to relate a very sad tale: the death of her two sisters and their husbands in Lancaster Co., Penn., which left 5 orphaned children.^c Newspapers of the time tell that many settlers were being killed by Indians in this part of Pennsylvania.

The first of many land records of Isalah was recorded in March 1750 when Isalah had 500 acres of land surveyed in Lancaster Co. (Penn. Archives, Ser.3, Vol.24, p.385). In Feb. of 1755 he bought 96 acres of land in Berks Co., Penn. (formed from Lancaster Co. in 1752) from Thomas Penn, Esquire, the son of William Penn the founder of Pennsylvania.^h Isalah and Christina remained in Bethel Twp. of Berks Co. for the remainder of their lives. On October 30, 1751 a traveling minister stayed overnight with them and wrote in his diary, "Rode 36 miles to Calfmans Mills on the Blue Mountain and wandered along until 8 at night, the Lord brought me to Isa. Gushwa's."

In Feb. of 1788 Isaiah prepared a will^e in which he gives the names of his children and the names of his daughters' husbands. His will was proved on June 12th 1788, indicating that he died in early June. The absence of his wife's name in the will indicates that she had died before him. Isaiah was a very Christian man, as shown by these words from his will: "I Isaiah Cushwa Senior ... recommend my soul into the hands of God who gave it, hoping through the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ to receive remission of all my sins and an happy admission into the regions of bliss and immortality..."

Children of Isaiah Sr. and Anna Christina Cushwa

(All assumed to be born where parents were living: Bethel Twp., Berks Co., PA.
Birth order shown for the daughters is the same as in Isaiah's will.^e)

1. John Cushwa. No record stating his date of birth has been found, but his father's will^e says he is "my eldest son" and that he was to receive no additional inheritance "because I have given him his full portion in my lifetime." Since it is unsure if John or Catherine were born first, John's date of birth appears to be about 1741-1745 since the third child (Margaret) of the family was born April 1747 and since John's first child (Catherine) was born in Dec. 1767. See page R8 for more information.
2. Catherine (Catherine Elizabeth^h) Cushwa. No record of her birth date is known. She married Conrad Wolf.^e Their known children are Maria Salome (born 26 Apr 1776 to "Conrad Wolf and Catherine Elizabeth, sponsor Anna Catherine Guschwa") and Catherine Margaret (born 20 Jan 1779 to "Conrad Wolf and Elizabeth, sponsors John Guschwa and Catherine Elizabeth").^h
3. Margaret (Anna Margaretta) Cushwa. She was born in April 1747^k and died in April 1820^k. On May 15, 1769^{k,m} she married John (Johannes) Hain, born 21 Jan. 1747 son of John Adam Hain and Anna Magdalena Heckert.^{e,k} They had at least three children: Adam Hain (b. 18 June 1770, md. Anna Maria Ruth), Elizabeth (b. 8 April 1776, md. Peter Schiltz), and Rosina (b. 14 April 1778, md. John Fisher).^k
4. Esther/Easter Cushwa. She was born 2 Feb 1751^k and died in July 1820.^k She also married a John Hain^{e,k,m} (son of Peter Hain and Barbara Weiss, a miller by trade and a cousin of her sister Margaret's husband) on Oct. 25, 1768. They moved to Paxton Twp., Dauphin Co. Penn. and had 8 children: Christina (b. 1770), Margaret (1774), John (1778), Adam (1780), Elizabeth (1782), Mary (1784), Daniel (1786), and Catherine (1791).^k
5. Anna (Anna Catherine^h) Cushwa. She was born 8 Feb. 1756^h in Bethel Twp., Lebanon/Berks Co. Penn. She was married to Conrad Shirman at the time of her father's death,^e but little else is known about her. They had two known children: Catherine (born 17 Oct 1782 to "Conrad Schürman and Catherine, sponsor Catherine Schürman" - probably Conrad's mother) and Salome (born 11 Mar 1785 to the same, sponsors Isaiah Guschwa and wife).^h In her father's will she is simply called Anna - probably to avoid confusion with her oldest sister, Catherine.
6. Isaiah Cushwa Jr. In his father's will he is called "my youngest son." He was born in 1762-63 in Bethel Twp., Berks Co., Penn. and died in Montgomery Co. Ohio in 1823 at age 60y 4m 16d.ⁿ He made two land purchases in 1780 and 1781 in Bethel

Twp., Berks Co. No known marriage record exists for him, but his wife's name was Maria/Mary Margaret (possibly Selbert) as indicated by baptism records of the Christ Lutheran church of Tulpehocken (1782,1784,1786) where they were named as sponsors.⁹ Margaret was born 1 Jan. 1764 in Tulpehock[en] Twp., Berks Co. Penn. and died 18 Oct 1822, at age 58y 9m 17d.ⁿ Known children⁹ of Isalah Jr. and Margaret include Peter (b. 1789, md. Magdalena Gebhart 7 May 1818 in Montgomery Co. Ohio and settled in Tippecanoe Co., Indiana), Christina (md. Leonard Mining), David (b.1796, md. Catharine Harkrader on 6 Aug 1818 in Montgomery Co. Ohio), Mary Margaret (b. 1799, md. John Regal), John (b. 1801), and Lydia (b. 1805); however, they probably also had two older daughters since the 1790 census of Berks Co. says 3 females were in their family at that time. Isalah Jr. left a will, which was recorded in Nov. 1822 in Miami Co. Ohio and he died by the following May.ⁱ

NOTES: Isalah Sr. and Christina Cushwa and their children

^a "Evangelish-Reformed Church of Mutterstadt, Churchbook 1676-1865" Microfilm # 193064 (baptisms).

^b "Pennsylvania German Pioneers, A Publication of the Original Lists of Arrivals in the Port of Philadelphia from 1727 to 1808." by R.B. Strassburger and W.J. Hinke, 1966, Vol.1, Genealogical Pub. Co. Baltimore (SLC cat. no. 9974.8 F2)

^c Orphan's Court records of Lancaster Co. Penn. as found in Lancaster Legacy vol 4 #2, p.10, Salt Lake cat. no. 974.815 H25I.

^d Church books of Dannstadt, Germany as recorded by Friedrich Binder, Hauptsrasse 40, 6701 Dannstadt-Schauernhelm, Germany in a 1981 letter to John Beck of Bloomington, Indiana.

^e "Berks County, Pennsylvania Probate Records (will of Isalah Cushwa Sr., 7 Feb 1788)" pp. B218-219 (microfilm # 20724). "... to my eldest son John ... my youngest son Isalah ... my four daughters to wit, Catharine wife of Conrad Wolf, Margaret wife of John Hain of Adam, Easter wife of John Hain miller [his trade] and Anna wife of Conrad Shirman." The author (230 East 200 South, Orem, Utah 84058) has prepared a typed version of the will for any who would like a copy.

^f "History of St. John's (Hain's) Reformed Church of Lower Heidelberg Twp., Berks Co. Penn." pub. by Perry Historians, Box 73 Newport, PA 17074.

^g Research of John V. Beck, 906D Maxwell Terrace, Bloomington IN 47401 - a descendant of Isalah Cushwa Jr.

^h "Land Deeds of Berks Co. Penn." vol A2, pp. 194-198. Microfilm # 20763.

ⁱ "Register of Marriages & Baptisms performed by Rev. John Cuthbertson 1751-1791" by S. Helen Fields, 1934, p.101, cat. # 974.8 K2II.

^j "Miami Valley (Ohio) Will Abstracts 1803-1850" for "Josiah Gushwagh, dated Nov. 7, 1822, received May 19, 1823 ... youngest son John Gushwagh to pay to the heirs.."

^k "History of the Hain Family. Descendants of George and Veronica Hain" Reading Eagle Press, Reading PA 1941, pp. 24,40 (Book # 929.273 H127h, film # 1321201). The marriages of Esther and Anna Margaretta are also found in Penn. Archives, ser.6, vol.6, p.224, records of Rev. John Waldschmidt, p.147+)

^l "Church Records of St. Paul's or Klopp's Church, Bethel Twp., Lebanon Co., Penn. 1755-1858" by William J. Hincke 1921, pp. 1-9 (LDS film # 20345 item 10). Note: no records for 1757-1769.

^m Pennsylvania Archives, Series 6, Vol. 6, p. 224.

ⁿ "Cemetery Records of German and Jackson Townships (Montgomery Co. Ohio) Old Lutheran Cemetery. Recorded 1983 by L. J. Davidson and V. A. Stoltz.

-Settlers of Clearspring Twp., Washington Co. Maryland
and Soldier in the American Revolution

John Cushwa Sr. was our first Cushwa ancestor to be born in America. He was born about 1741-1745 (see page R6) as the oldest son of Isalah Sr.^a and Anna Christina Cushwa while his parents were living in Lancaster Co. (a section that became Berks Co. in 1752) Pennsylvania. Being born to German parents, his birth name was Johannes, which is the name he signed in his land purchases and will, although in tax and land records he is addressed as John. The spelling of the family name was inconsistent, being Gushwa in his tax and military transactions, but Cushwa in his land transactions, church record, and will.

The first record we have of John is in September 1763 when he was a sponsor to a baptism in Tulpehocken, Berks Co. PA.^b About 1766^c he married a Catherine Elizabeth (she usually went by Elizabeth or Cath. Elizabeth)^d and their first of ten children, Catherine, was born in December 1767.^e Unfortunately, no maiden name or birth/baptism record has been found for Elizabeth.

John and Cath. Elizabeth lived in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA. until at least 1782, as shown by the tax lists of 1770-1782.^g In 1782 he served in the American Revolution as a 3rd class soldier in the 3rd company of the 2nd battalion of the Lancaster Co. militia, along with three Shuey cousins.^{h,a4} About 1785, John and Cath. Elizabeth moved 120 miles southwest to Clearspring Twp., Washington Co., Maryland, as one of the first settlers of this area and where they established their final home. John made his first land purchase here near Dry Run on June 17, 1785.ⁱ By 1791 he had purchased more land and on May 15, 1795 he obtained a land patent for his large property of 558 acres which became legally designated as Cushwa's Establishment.^j His youngest son, Benjamin, inherited the property. Some of this property is still owned today by one of his descendants (Wm. David Cushwa, son of Leon and Hilda Cushwa). In 1805, John left a will which named his ten children.^k He died in October 1805 as his will was proved on Oct. 29. His wife died before him since she is not mentioned in his will.

**See comments about this revision on page R10.

NOTES

^a Evidence that John Cushwa Sr. is the son of Isalah Cushwa Sr. the Mutterstadt, Germany immigrant who settled in Berks Co. Penn. and not the son of a John and Catherine Cushwa who supposedly immigrated to Penn. in 1680 (see p. R10):

1. Isalah's will of 1788 says that his oldest son is John (see p. R6 under John).
2. They lived within 10 miles of each other. Land & tax records show that Isalah lived in Bethel Twp, Berks Co. Penn (1750-1788) while John lived in Bethel Twp, Lancaster Co. (1770-1782). Bethel Twp was divided in half in 1752 when Berks Co. was formed from Lancaster Co. A 1761 land record (Lancaster Co. deeds, K,53) of Heidelberg Twp. says that a John & Catharina Kuister (Cushwa??) and Isalah had adjoining property.

3. Only two John C/Gushwa have ever been found in Penn. in the 1700s - John Sr. who left Bethel Twp. Penn. for Washington Co. MD in 1785; and John (Johannes, born 1709) the brother of Isalah Sr. who immigrated with his wife and 2 children in 1750. This John could not be the father of John Sr. because the 2 children were both daughters and they had no sons who lived beyond infancy (see p. R2). Also, this John was married to Anna Margaretta, not to a Catherine.

4. The 1782 record of John's military service shows that he served in a local (prob. only Bethel Twp.) Lancaster Co. PA company of 42 men, three of whom (Ludwick, Christian, and Martin Shuey) were sons or grandsons of Daniel Schuey who was the 1st cousin of Isalah with whom Isalah came to America in 1732.

5. The John of Bethel Twp. Penn and John the settler of Washington Co. MD are the same person. This is shown by the fact that the baptism record of his 3rd son Jonathon in Tulpehocken Twp. PA (next to Bethel Twp and probably the closest church) and the cemetery record of Jonathan who left MD to live in nearby Berkeley Co. West Va. give the exact same birthdate of Nov. 19, 1774.

^b "Christ Lutheran Church Records, Tulpehocken, Berks Co., Penn." Microfilm # 0385061 p.49. The September 22, 1763 baptism of Maria Barbara, daughter of Frederick Schlosser and Anna Ottolia, sponsored by John Guschwa and Maria Barbara Schlosser.

^c Year of marriage estimated from birthdate of first child.

^d "Christ Lutheran Church Records" microfilm # 0385060 p. 53. This record of baptism states "Jonáthan, son of Johanf Cuschwa and Cath. Elizabeth" was born Nov. 19, 1774 and was baptized Nov. 30. A land purchase in Washington Co. MD in 1792 also gives her name as Elizabeth (microfilm #14604 p.850).

^e Cemetery records of York Co., PA, Prospect Hill cemetery.

^f Her maiden name has been proposed to be Bowman, but no record indicating this has ever been found.

^g Lancaster Co. PA tax lists of 1770, 1771, 1772, 1773, 1779, 1782.

^h Pennsylvania Archives, series 5, vol.7, pp. 170-171. A typed version of this 1795 land patent may be obtained from Larry Lawson, 230 East 200 South, Orem, Utah 84058.

ⁱ Washington County, MD land records, microfilm # 0014601, pp. 588-594. This deed was signed as "Johannes Cushwa." The author has prepared a typed version.

^j Maryland land patents. Microfilm # 0013125, item 2 (vol.140) pp. 674-676.

^k John's will: see note (a) under Children of John and Cath. Elizabeth (p. R12).

This revision includes some major differences from the original version of this book (p.5), particularly with respect to the parents of John Sr. as well as the dates of his & Elizabeths' births and when he purchased and patented land in Washington Co. MD. The errors in the previous edition stem from the book "History of Western Maryland, 1882" (note f on p.5) and from the "Washington Co. Maryland Cemetery Records, 1945" (note a on p.5) in which a memorial plaque, not a tombstone, is used as the cemetery record. Both of these sources appear to have obtained their information from Victor Cushwa (b. 1833 to Mary Ann Cushwa), a great-grandson of John Sr. who was raised by John's son, Capt. David. In 1889, he wrote "A Brief Biography of the Cushwa Family" in which he states that his great grandfather John and his brother Esau are sons of John and Catherine Cushwa who immigrated from Alsace-Lorraine (an area of France which borders Germany) to America about 1670 or 1680 and that they first settled in Berks Co. PA before moving to Washington Co. MD "early in the 17th [18th] century." He says that John Sr. and his wife Elizabeth are buried on the Cushwa Establishment, but that their burial place is "grown up with trees, bushes and briars, without even a simple stone to mark their last resting place on earth." In 1900 Victor erected a nice wall around their gravesite including a nice metal plaque on the wall which reads "John Cushwa and wife Elizabeth, born in Berks, Co., Penn 1731 and 1733, removed to and patented this homestead, Cushwas' Establishment, 1756. A pioneer here - Dry Run, MD, a revolutionary patriot, assisted in formation of Washington Co. 1776. This tribute by surviving relatives 1900." In spite of his very thoughtful efforts, it is very obvious that he made serious errors in his dates and other comments. As no original tombstone was found, he obtained his information orally: "This is about all the data I could find from a most reliable source of relatives and friends, which I think is about correct."

Major problems with Victor's Cushwa biography and Cushwa plaque include: 1) It would not have been possible for John and Catherine to immigrate to America in 1680 as a married couple and have their son be born in 1731; another generation must be missing. 2) Many tax records show John Sr. was living in Penn. until 1782, not 1756. 3) Military records of 1782 show that he served for Lancaster Co. Penn, not Maryland. 4) Maryland land records show that his first land purchase in Maryland was 1785 and that his land was patented in 1795, not 1756. 5) If Elizabeth had been born in 1733, she would have been 60 when her last child was born; a birthyear of about 1746 would be more likely since her first child was born in 1767. 6) John also could not have been born in 1731 since his mother (Anna Christina) was born Dec. 1719. Therefore, unfortunately, it must be concluded that any information from Victor Cushwa concerning John Cushwa Sr. and his ancestry is not reliable.

1. Catherine Cushwa was born December 6, 1767,^c in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA as the first of ten children to John Sr. and Elizabeth.^d She married Daniel Elchelberger^e and by 1800 moved to nearby York County, Pennsylvania,^f where she raised at least four children and lived the rest of her life until she died at age 81 on October 18, 1849.^c Known names of her children are Elizabeth,^g born May 31, 1795; Daniel,^c born May 26, 1794, died January 20, 1853; and Michael,^c born Sept. 15, 1797, died Nov. 29, 1842.

2. John Cushwa Jr. was born August 17, 1769,^g in Bethel Twp. Lancaster Co. PA.^d About 1791,^h he married Catherine Selbert,ⁱ daughter of Jacob. Catherine was born Dec. 22, 1772,^g in Washington Co., MD.^d They lived in Washington Co., MD, all their lives^j where they raised at least five known children: Maria,^g born Dec. 26, 1791, died 1805; George,^g born Jan. 19, 1796, died 1822; Elizabeth,^g born March 26, 1802; David,^g born Sept. 10, 1804, died 1831; and John Selbert Cushwa,^g born Feb. 13, 1813, died 1854. John died March 22, 1845, and Catherine on Dec. 28, 1849. Nearly all the family, including 11 unreadable stones, are in a family cemetery in Wilson district, near Clearspring, MD.

3. Jacob Cushwa/Gushwa was born about 1771,^k in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA.^d He moved to Somerset Co., Pennsylvania, where he married Elizabeth Phillips (Phillippi) and began using the "G" spelling. Jacob and Elizabeth had eight children: an unnamed son, Jacob Jr., Elizabeth, Phillip, Katherine, Sarah, Margaret, and David. They finally settled in Holmes Co., Ohio. A more complete account of this direct ancestor is given hereafter.

4. Jonathan Cushwa was born Nov. 19, 1774,^z in Bethel Twp. Lancaster Co. PA^d and was baptized Nov. 30 in Tulpehocken Twp. (next to Bethel Twp.) at the Christ Lutheran church.^z On March 27, 1798, he married Catherine Musselman (b. 6 Oct 1777,^l d. 29 June 1851^l) in Hagerstown, Washington Co. MD^m. In 1805 they bought 342 acres of land in and permanently moved to neighboring Berkeley Co., W. Virginia.ⁿ He died 2 Aug 1833 and they are both buried in the Tuscorora Cemetery in Berkeley Co. They had eight children:ⁿ

- (1) Elizabeth, born Aug 1799, died Jan 1877, md. March 1820 George Selbert.^y
- (2) David, born Mar 1802, died Nov 1838, md. Jan. 1832 Mary Noll.
- (3) Margaret, born 20 Feb 1804, md. 1st 1822 George Emmert who died a year later and 2nd in May 1832 to Joseph Withron.
- (4) Catherine, born 28 June 1808, md. in March 1830 John Middlekoff.
- (5) John D., born Nov. 1810, died Apr 1879, md. Apr. 1834 Susan Selbert.
- (6) Barnet, born Oct 1814, died Aug 1880, md. Feb 1837 Catherine Gehr.
- (7) William H., born Aug 1819, died Apr 1892, md. Mar 1842 Elizabeth Stoever.
- (8) Mary, birthdate unknown, died July 1839, md. March 1826 Jacob Small.

5. David Cushwa (Capt.) was born August 10, 1777 as John David,^g in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA.^d On April 28, 1801, he married Catherine Resley,^o daughter of George Resley,^p in Washington Co., MD. Catherine was born in MD on Jan. 20, 1783.^g David was a captain for the Maryland Militia in the War of 1812, in which he was wounded in the Battle of Baltimore on Sept. 14, 1814.^q After the war he became prominent in western Maryland affairs. David died March 8, 1849, and Catharina died

Aug. 27, 1861.⁹ They and son George are buried at the St. Paul's Lutheran Reformed Church on Highway 40 near Clearspring, MD. They had nine children:

(1) Benjamin, born 12 Apr 1801,¹ married Sophia Angle in 1826,⁸ died April 1871, OH.⁵

(2) Capt. John, born 10 Sep 1802⁸ and md. Elizabeth Brewer 1827 in Mercersburg, Franklin Co. PA,⁸ died Feb. 1886, Mercersburg PA.⁸

(3) George, born 10 Jan 1804¹ and died Sep 1857, MD.⁸

(4) Elizabeth, born 20 Jan. 1806¹ md. David Samuel Troup in May 1823,⁸ died Feb 1864.⁸ (5) John David Jr., b. 1 Feb 1808¹ md. Susanna Zook abt 1838,⁸ died March 1888, MD.⁸

(6) William, born 22 Oct 1810¹ md. Ann Elizabeth Prather Nov 1845,⁸ died Dec 1890.⁸

(7) Marianna (Mary Ann), b. 8 March 1813¹ md. Stewart T. Herbert 1843,⁸ d. Jan 1894.⁸

(8) Catharina, born 21 March 1815¹ md. Henry McLaughlin in Oct 1835, died Aug 1898. (9) James Risley, born 13 Sep 1819ⁿ md. Sarah Jane Kroh in Jan 1854, died 1903, MO.

6. Margaret "Peggy" Cushwa was born Jan. 10, 1780,⁹ in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA.^d On August 22, 1809, she married John Gelwicks.^{o,r} John was born May 6, 1786,⁹ and died April 13, 1836.⁹ Neither John nor Margaret appear in the census records until 1850, where Margaret is found living in Washington Co., MD. Living with her is a daughter age 35, Margaret Bear, who was born in Virginia. Margaret died July 30, 1860. She and John are buried in Boonsboro, Washington Co., MD.⁹

7. Christina Cushwa was born as Eva Christina on Oct. 9, 1782,¹ in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA.^d On Nov. 21, 1807, she married Peter Speck in Washington Co.^o Peter was born Feb. 21, 1779.¹ Peter and Christina lived their entire married lives in neighboring Berkeley Co., West Virginia (1810-1850 censuses). According to the census records, they had seven children, but only the names of three (1850 census) are known: Benjamin, born 1812, David, born 1815, and Sarah, born 1821. Christina's name is engraved as Eve Christina on her tombstone, but most other records use only Christina. She died July 26, 1856, and Peter died April 20, 1830. Both are buried in the Falling Waters cemetery in Berkeley Co.¹

8. Benjamin Cushwa, the youngest son of John Sr. and Elizabeth, was born in 1785⁹ in either Clearspring Twp., Washington Co., MD or Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. PA.^d On Nov. 25, 1808, he married Maria Berry^o (Birg) in Washington Co., MD. Maria was born Feb. 22, 1790.⁹ Benjamin inherited the home built by his father, where he and Maria raised at least five children: Benjamin Jr., born about 1809 (1830 census); Isaac B., born Sept. 21, 1811;¹ Sarah, born Nov. 10, 1812; Maria, born April 3, 1815;¹ and Ann Elizabeth.^u Benjamin died March 27, 1848, and was buried next to his parents on the Cushwa homestead in Clearspring Twp.⁹ Maria died 28 years later on June 18, 1874, and was buried at the St. Paul's Lutheran Reformed Church near Clearspring Twp.⁹

9. Elizabeth "Betsy" Cushwa was born about 1787-1791^v in Clearspring Twp., Washington Co., MD.^d On March 23, 1814, she married^w Henry Rickenbaugh,^o son of Martin Rickenbaugh,^x in Washington Co.

10. Sarah "Sally" Cushwa was born about 1789-1794^v in Clearspring Twp., Washington Co., MD.^d On Feb. 25, 1808, she married John Biers/Byers.^o In 1820 (census),

they were still in Washington Co., but no further records have been found, even for nearby counties.

NOTES: children of John Sr. and Cath. Elizabeth Cushwa

^a Washington Co., MD, will of John Sr. (Book B, p. 106), signed April 26, 1805 as "Johannes Cushwa," proved October 29, 1805, lists the names of sons and daughters separately: Benjamin "receives present dwelling," John, Jacob, Jonathan, David, Peggy, Christina, Katherine, Betsy and Sally "the last two being under 18" and that the daughters were listed as "oldest first."

^b Distribution of Estate Accounts of Washington Co., MD, vol. 2, p. 2, by D.W. and D.J. Morrow, 1982 gives the married names of John's children as of October 20, 1808: Catherine Eichelberger, John, Jacob, Jonathan, David, Margaret, Christina Speck, Sarah Bear, Elizabeth, Benjamin.

^c Cemetery records of York Co., PA, Prospect Hill cemetery.

^d Place of birth is assumed to be where the parents were living at time of birth. Some confusion exists in the county name because Bethel Twp. was divided in half in 1752 when Berks Co. was formed from Lancaster Co.; hence there are two Bethel Twps. The tax records of 1770-1782 state that the family was living in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co., which was probably only 1-10 miles from where Isalah Cushwa Sr. was living in Bethel Twp. of Berks Co. About 1785, the family moved to Washington Co. MD.

^e Catherine and Daniel are listed as the parents of a daughter, Elizabeth, in the St. Paul's Church records of Washington Co., MD.

^f Census records, 1820-1840.

^g (1) Washington County, Maryland Cemetery Records, S.W. Pipers, 1945. (2) Klopp's church records (see ref. I on p. R7) gives the birth of John David Cushwa. (3) The births of the children of Jonathan are also in the records of St. Paul's Lutheran Reformed Church near Clearspring Twp. Washington Co. MD and agree with the cemetery records except that Maria's birthyear is given as 1792 rather than 1791, George's name is given as John George, and John Seipert's birthdate is given as Feb. 25, 1813.

^h Estimated from birthdate of first child.

ⁱ Note b, page 10.

^j Census records, 1800-1840.

^k Date of birth is estimated from his birth order. No birth or age record is known.

^l Cemetery Readings in Berkeley Co., West Virginia, vol. 2, 1940. Christina's birth record is also found in the Klopp's church records - see ref. I on p. R7.

^m Maryland Records, Colonial, Revolutionary, County & Church, vol. 2, p. 523, by G.M. Brumbaugh, 1915.

ⁿ (1) 1820-1850 census records. (2) "The Berkeley Journal" 1975, Issue 4, pp. 25-31, publ by The Berkeley County [W. Virginia] Historical Society, Box 679 Martinsburg WV.

^o Washington Co., Maryland Marriages 1799-1860, by D.W. and D.J. Morrow, 1982. It is correct that they were not married until the baptism day of their first child, since there was no minister in the area to marry them earlier - a common occurrence on the frontier.

^p Same as b, vol. 4, p. 12.

^q History of Western Maryland, vol. 2, p. 1245, by Scharf.

^r It was originally thought that Margaret married a Jacob Knebel since record of the St. Paul's Reformed Church of Clearspring, MD, lists the birth of a child in 1789 to a Peggy Cushwa and Jacob Knebel. However, in the distribution of her father's estate in 1808^b she is not yet married and her birth order is between David, born 1777, and Christina, born 1782. The Peggy Cushwa who had a child in 1789 is much older and may well be the sister of John Sr.

^s Research records of Gwenlyn Decker, 41269 C.R. G, Mancos, Colorado 81328.

^t Records of St. Paul's Lutheran Reformed Church, Clearspring, MD (MD Historical Society, Baltimore, Filing Case A). The birth record for Benjamin (b. 12 Apr, bapt. 28 Apr 1801) is from the "Reformed Church of Hagerstown, MD, Church records of the 18th century," p. 116, 1988 by Family Line Publications. See also footnote o.

^u Will of Benjamin on March 2, 1848, Washington Co., MD, D-699, lists only Isaac, Sarah and Ann. Perhaps Benjamin Jr. and Maria died before 1848.

^v She is under 18 in her father's will of 1805.

^w The St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Clearspring lists the birth of a baby in March 1808 to a John Oberdorfer and Elizabeth Cushwa; however, this could not be Elizabeth, daughter of John and Cath. Elizabeth since she is not listed as married in the October 1808 distribution of John's estate (see Note b). Furthermore, no known marriage record of John Oberdorfer and Elizabeth exists.

^x Note b, vol. 1, p. 7.

^y Berkely Co., W.Va. Marriages 1781-1854, by G. L. Keesecker, 1969.

^z "Christ Lutheran Church Records" microfilm # 0385060 p. 53. This record of baptism states "Jonathan, son of Johann Cuschwa and Cath. Elizabeth" was born Nov. 19, 1774 and was baptized Nov. 30.

Jacob Gushwa Sr. and Elizabeth Philips **
(Great-grandparents of Rascalus Gushwa)

Jacob Gushwa Sr.^a (always used G after he left home) was born in 1771^b in Bethel Twp., Lancaster Co. Pennsylvania,^c as one of ten^d children to John Sr. and Cath. Elizabeth Cushwa. Sometime between 1794 and 1795^d he married Elizabeth Philips.^e Elizabeth was born in Somerset Co., Pennsylvania,^c in 1775^f as the fifth of seven children^g to Immigrant Francis (Jorg Frantz) and Mary Elizabeth Phillippi. Unlike most of the rest of his brothers and sisters, who remained in Washington Co., MD, Jacob moved 70 miles west to Milford Twp., Somerset Co., Pennsylvania, where he was recorded in the 1796 tax list. Ten years later,^g he moved their family west one county to Westmoreland Co., PA, where the family remained until 1825, when they moved to their final home in Holmes Co., Ohio.^g In 1830, Jacob and Elizabeth lived next door to their son, Jacob Jr. Jacob may have died before 1840 since he could not be found in the 1840 census.

^{**} Revision includes changing the birthplace of Jacob Sr. and evidences of his parents.

NOTES:

^a Evidence that Jacob Sr. is the son of John & Elizabeth:

1) John's will of 1805 lists Jacob as his second son.

2) Only one Jacob G/Cushwa can be found in all the U.S. census records for 1800 and 1820 (he was missed in 1810).

- 3) No Jacob is in any MD census, but his brothers are. Jacob left Maryland about 1795 and is in the 1820 census of Westmoreland Co. PA.
- 4) The 1830 census of Holmes Co. OH says he was born between 1770 and 1780 which fits well with Jacob, the son of John Sr., who was born about 1771 (see note a).
- 5) The 1816 sale of land in Washington Co. MD from Jacob Gushwa to David Gushwa (also a son of John & Eliz.) says that Jacob is "of Westmoreland Co. PA." Interestingly, there is no record that Jacob bought the land he sold to David, indicating that it was probably an inheritance from his father, as mentioned in John Sr.'s will:
- ^b Estimated from birth order in the 1805 will (see note a p. R13) of father, John Gushwa Sr., and known birthdates of his next oldest and next youngest siblings.
- ^c Place of birth assumed to be where parents were living at time of birth.
- ^d Marriage date is estimated from the 1800 census of Milford Twp., Somerset Co., PA, which states that Jacob and Elizabeth had two boys and a girl under age 10.
- ^e Probate record, Orphan's court, Somerset Co., Pennsylvania, September 18, 1800. This record lists the names and order of birth and names of daughters' husbands for the children of Francis Phillippl. Completely typed in Supplement #3, p. 11, by James Abbott, Box 401, Johnstown, Ohio 43031.
- ^f She was born between her brothers David (March 1773) and Christian (March 1777).
- ^g "History of DeKalb Co., Indiana," p. 570.

Other corrections to the 1988 GUSHWA FAMILY book.

(This list does not include the numerous changes in living families.)

1. p. viii, under Samuel Wells (b. 1729) - change death from 1799 to 1804
2. p. viii - The parents of Samuel Wells (b. 1729) now appear to be Samuel Wells (a Joyner by trade, b. 1698 to Noah Wells and Mary White) and a Rebecca _____. (not Martha Chapin).
3. p. ix, oldest three Gushwa generations - see changes on p. R4
4. pp. 1-10 - many changes and additions, revised in pp. R1-R16
5. p. 1., line 3 - change Elizabeth to Catherine (typing error)
6. p. 16, child 5, line 3 (William G/Gushwa) - change Nov. 3 to Nov. 13
7. p. 16, child 7 (Joseph G/Gushwa) - add: He married again on March 20, 1873 in Sarcoxie, Missouri to Dicca Ann Motley and they had 3 children - George Gushwa (b. 1876), William Jefferson Gushwa (b. 1880), and Ruth Gushwa (b. 1884). Joseph died about 1903 and is buried west of Sarcoxie. (Informant: Betty Dale of 3072 S. Zenobia St., Denver 80236, granddaughter of William Jefferson).
8. p. 25, line 3 (Frederic Gushwa) - change 1928 to 1828
9. p. 28, child 7 (Cynthia), last line - change Aug. 31, 1835 to July 17, 1921
10. p. 33, line 4 - parents of Samuel (b. 1729) - see correction on p. viii
11. p. 35, child 1 (Samuel Wells Jr.) - add: Buried 1825 in Eric, Penn.
12. p. 35, child 7, Philotheta - add: She married Truman Waters (source - Town Meeting Records of Milton, VT).
13. p. 37 (Ezekiel Wells), last para., first line - change age 60 to age 70
14. p. 38, line 5 - change ceesus to census
15. p. 43 (Nancy Jane Milbourn), line 13 - change Vermont to Virginia
16. p. 47, child 2 (Emma) - change 1952 to 1852
17. p. 113, middle - change Devin Hart to Kevin Hart
18. p. 175, children 2 & 3 (Tiffany Dodge and Andrew Dodge) - change birthdate from February 28 to 29. They were the first recorded twins born on a leap day in Michigan.

**END OF
ITEM**

20