

Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the tenth letter in a series dated in 1946-47.

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Plymouth, Wisconsin  
April 7, 1947

Mr. George Frantz  
Ladoga, Indiana

Dear Cousins:

I have important news for you. I am just in receipt of documented evidence which removes from further speculation the matter of our relationship. We are definitely related. The Court Commissioner of Botetourt Co., Va. in his final statement of settlement of our Great Great Grandfather's estate lists money paid to the "heirs" of Christian (IV), your Great Grandfather. The names of the "heirs" are as follows: Jacob Frantz, Mathies Frantz, Henry Frantz and Michael Frantz husband of Ann Frantz. The "missing link" was found, and words fail to express it as to how elated I am.

Sincerely yours  
A. D. Frantz

P.S. Above statement was submitted to the November 1841 court.  
P.S. Jacob Frantz was the father of Henry Frantz father of the late Governor Frantz.

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the eleventh letter in a series dated in 1946-47.

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Plymouth, Wisconsin  
April 28, 1947

Dear Cousins:

It may be of interest to you folks to know that I have now also in my possession a certified copy of statement and settlement of accounts of Michael Frantz and John Houtz administrators of Christian Frantz, dec'd, and John Myers as Guardian of Mathies Frantz one of the heirs of said Christian Frantz. The document is dated Mar 19, 1824 and it shows Mathies's share to be one-fourth or \$1038.00 and with interest and all it totaled \$1368.00—a small fortune those days. If nothing else, we now know that John Myer was Mathies Guardian—further proof that Mathies was the youngest of the children of Christian (IV) and Magdalene Houtz Frantz.

Best regards to all  
Alvin D. Frantz

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin. This fits (time wise) between the eleventh & twelfth letters in a series dated in 1946-47. It was not in an envelope with a number on it. (Transcriber [LFE] does not know who numbered the envelopes.)

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Plymouth, Wisconsin  
May 14, 1947

Dear Cousin William:

You can put down as another newly-found cousin, Miss Ella Wingert, Crawfordsville Indiana. Ella's Grandmother was Magdalena Frantz, a daughter of Michael Frantz of Virginia, oldest son of Christian Frantz (III) who migrated from Berks Co. Penna, to Botetourt Co. Va. in 1795. Christian (IV) your Great Great Grandfather, was the second oldest son of Christian (III). Mathies, who remained in Penna., was the third oldest son and who, of course, was my Great Grandfather. Miss Wingert or Winger has additional data re family and I expect to have it shortly. Two of Michael's daughters married Wingerts—two brothers, Henry and Martin, Wingert. Henry was the Grandfather of Ella.

Truly Yours  
A. D. Frantz

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. William Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the twelfth letter in a series dated in 1946-47.

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Plymouth, Wisconsin  
June 24, 1947

Mr. William Frantz  
Ladoga, Indiana

Dear Mr. Frantz:

Our first American ancestor Christian Frantz (I) came to America August 11, 1732, and settled in Cocalico Township Lancaster County Penna. In 1745 his sons Christian (II) Michael and John moved from the above township in Lancaster County to Tulpehocken Township, Berks County, a short distance North of Cocalico, and were instrumental in establishing the Little Swatara Church (Dunkard) there and Christian's (II) farm or plantation (acquired from the Penns in 1760) was located not far from the Swatara Creek, and was in the family name up to forty years ago. Christian (III) inherited this farm from his father, and in 1794 sold it to a man named Moyer (Myer) and in 1795 migrated to Virginia with his entire family except Mathies, my Great Grandfather. The names of Christian's (III) sons are as follows, starting with the oldest, Michael, Christian (IV) (your great grandfather), Mathies (my great grandfather), John and Henry. Michael died

in Virginia, so did John and Christian (IV). Mathies, of course, remained in Penna., and is buried in the Frantz graveyard on the northwest corner of the Frantz farm which he bought back in 1800, and rebuilt the home—a large brick structure and which is still standing. Henry, the youngest moved to Ohio in 1828 near Dayton and I am in touch with his descendants. Michael the oldest had [illegible] daughters that were married to two Wingert or Winger brothers (Henry and Martin). Their descendants live in Indiana. One of the brothers (Martin) was Rev. Otho Winger's great grandfather. Ella Wingert of Crawfordsville is a descendant of Henry Wingert. I am corresponding with her also. I hear quite frequently from Mrs. Lula Frantz Whitson, a daughter of Henry—the Henry your folks visited in Ill. Mrs. Whitson, also was in the dark as to who her great grandfather was and feels very grateful to me for solving what appeared a mystery to all of us up to two years ago. All I had to work on myself was the family tradition in Penna. that "they went to Virginia." Where? Nobody knew.

Best regards

A. D. Frantz

P.S. I may think of other interesting things re our family from time to time, and I will set them down for you. There were five daughters in Christian's (III) family. So far I have not gone into that phase of it. One was married to a "Basehour" and if you know of any Bashours in Indiana, where they located years ago, let me know please. ADF

"Bashor" "Basehore" "Bashour"—all one and the same name.

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the thirteenth letter in a series dated in 1946-47.
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Plymouth, Wisconsin  
June 28, 1947

Mr. George Frantz  
Ladoga, Indiana

Dear Mr. Frantz:

I have had several letters from a Miss Paula Frantz of Houston, Texas, and she is most desirous of learning who her ancestors were. She could give me very little of her background, but after repeatedly urgings to give me just a bit more I received the following which she recently obtained from an old Uncle in **Mushogee (?)** Oklahoma: ***“Your grandfather’s full name was Daniel Frantz. He was born July 30, 1854 in Penn (?) but I do not know where. He died June 22, 1911 at Siloam Springs, Arkansas. He had several brothers and sisters. Their names were Ben, Eli, Joe, Lincoln, William and Elizabeth and another sister but I can’t think of her name. Your Great Grandfather’s name was William Frantz. No middle names. Then were Penn-Dutch. I heard my father talk a lot about his people and knew one Aunt and all the Uncles but William who was the oldest. My father corresponded with the brother of the Governor of Oklahoma, who was a Lumberman at Enid Okla., and I heard him say that the best they could tell they were 3<sup>rd</sup> cousins.”*** You will observe reference made to being third cousins to the Governor etc. This started me thinking of your line inasmuch as your Great Grandfather, Mathies, had a son named “William” who may or may not be the Great Grandfather of Paula. In view of this I wish you would ask your father if he ever heard of an Uncle named William and what became of him.

Thanking you in advance  
Sincerely yours  
A.D. Frantz

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the fourteenth letter in a series dated in 1946-47.
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August 27, 1947

Dear Cousins:

I am returning herewith the clippings which you so kindly loaned me and am going to try to locate these people. *[Clippings were not in the envelope.]* Nothing further has been uncovered relating to our family, and despite all we have discovered much remains to be done. For instance, the daughters of our Great Great Grandfather have not been touched, and which I may add, will be the most difficult to unravel. Their married names were: Basehore, Gaiby, Wertz, Harshbarger and an unmarried one at the time of Christian's (III) death. We know definitely that Michael the oldest, died in Virginia, about 1831 (Ella Wingert of Crawfordsville Ind. Is a descendant of Michael, so was Rev. Otho Winger). Christian your G.G. Grandfather, also died in Virginia prior to the death of his father. John apparently had passed away when Christian's (III) estate was settled. Mathies, my Great Grandfather, of course remained in Penna., near to old homestead in Berks Co. Henry moved from Va., to Ohio, near Dayton, in 1825. He drove a four-horse team with his personal belongings and his wife and a horse and they were enroute three weeks. I hear from Mrs. Lula Whitson, of the Illinois relatives quite frequently. Also her sister Mrs. Varey. I also had a letter from Frank Frantz, Jr., the late Governor's son, early this year. We were delighted with the discovery of their remote ancestors, and this also was a source of much satisfaction to yours truly, inasmuch as our branch in Penna. had lost all trace of our G.G. Grandfather for over one hundred and forty years. All I had to go on, at the inception of this search for the "lost tribe" was that "they had gone to Virginia in 1795" and the *[illegible]* lead that someone had visited some cousins in Ohio, near Dayton, many years ago. Not much, I assure you, but sufficient to give me a fair start in what has proved to be the most interesting and most fascinating work I ever engaged in. To make a long story short it was one thrill after another and in closing permit me to say that the most vital information was obtained from unexpected sources—accidentally as it were.

Your cousin  
Alvin D. Frantz

P.S. It might be of interest to you folks to know that all the Frantzs in Roanoke Va. are descendants of Jacob, a brother of your "Mathies."

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing a letter from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is the fifteenth letter in a series dated in 1946-47. Marked 15th on the envelope but an envelope, not numbered, that predates this one.

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Alvin D. Frantz , Sr.  
Majestic Building  
Plymouth, Wisconsin  
Dec. 2, 1947

Mr. George Frantz  
Ladoga, Indiana

Dear Cousins:

I just learned that you have in your midst a distant relative in the person of Mrs. **Reo(?)** Jehnson or Jensen, wife of the minister (Dunkard) at Ladoga. Her maiden name was Brightbill, a granddaughter of Mrs. David Frantz Brightbill of Lebanon Penna. a first cousin of mine. Strange things happen and this is one of them. To all intents and purpose the Penna. Frantzes and the Virginia Frantzes were dead, as to one another, for over one hundred and forty years and now all of a sudden, us descendants are getting together again—strange indeed.

Truly yours  
A. D. Frantz

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Lorraine Frantz Edwards here transcribing information in an envelope from Mr. Alvin D. Frantz of Plymouth, Wisconsin, to Mr. George Frantz, Ladoga, Indiana. This is one in a series dated in 1946-47. The handwriting is not that of Alvin D. Frantz. The writer does not identify herself but research regarding the families should reveal her identity. The envelope is dated Nov. 5, 1947.

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This is the family of Henry Frantz, who my father visited in Roanoke Ill. 79 yrs ago. As written to my father in a letter by Henry's widow Jennie Frantz Feb. 25, 1913 who at that time lived in Enid, Oklahoma 412 W. Elm Ave. Henry died in 1897.

**William**, eldest son, was 54 yrs old in 1913. Had three sons Joe, Will & Harry.

**Edmund** next oldest son has two children Maurine & Douglas.

**Lula** was next -- married Sumner Whitson of Penn. who died 1901 in Wichita, Kan. Leaving 2 girls Ruth & Virginia. Lived in Enid, Oklahoma.

**Minnie**, who died in 1898 in Pasadena Cal. leaving 3 children Faith Frantz & Rexford. Her husband's name was Robert Hieronymus.

**Mamie** who has 8 children—Paul, Dorothy, Helen, Lucy, Frantz, Sarah, Geneva & Nellie. Didn't give her husbands name. Lived in Enid, Okla.

Next is **Frank** who lived at Bartlesville Oklahoma & had 4 children—Frank Louise Jim & Marti. Jim died of lockjaw from running a splinter in his foot, when he was 8 yrs old.

**Walter** married Miss Foy Moore of San Antonio. Lived in San Antonio Tex. & had 1 child Walter Moore Frantz.

**Orville** lived in San Antonio & had no children then. Orvilles wife was Miss Louise Edwards.

**Montgomery J.** youngest son lived in Enid Oklahoma. Had 3 girls Janet Margaret & Bettie. Called him Mont for short.

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Note: under a line, drawn across the sheet of paper, the following information:

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This Jennie Frantz had a brother John Gish who was a minister in the Dunkard Brethren Church. Her father was Christian Gish. Everone called him Christly.

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Note: under another line, drawn across the sheet of paper, the following information:

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My father's father was Frank Frantz who married Elizabeth Myers whose mother's maiden name was Lydia Harshbarger daughter of Jacob and Salome Harshbarger. Lydia was born Oct 14, 1816 & died in 1892. (See **Note** below.)

My grandfather Frank Frantz was the son of Matthias Frantz who was born Sept. 3, 1808 & died July 1, 1898. He married Sallie Graybill who was born Dec. 12 1812 & died June 23, 1894.

**Note:** There is an absence of punctuation throughout the material. However, there may be an oversize period after Oct in the birth date of Lydia. Therefore, her birth date may be Oct. 4, 1816. I make that comment, and observation, because the writer has a period after Sept., and Dec. (above).