

Addendum to the Pinter Family History Book

*Heinrich and Elisabeth Immigrate to the
United States of America*

by Ken Pinter
June 2010
Updated March 2024

Note: There are two Addendums about Heinrich and Elisabeth prior to 1850:

- 1) Heinrich and Elisabeth's Life in Switzerland and Germany
- 2) Heinrich and Elisabeth Immigrate to the United States of America (this one)

It is recommended you read them in the order shown. Note that some information is intentionally or unintentionally repeated between these Addendums.

Introduction and Review

Much has been learned about Heinrich Pünter and his wife Elisabeth Hohenbrunner. However, when and where they arrived in the United States continues to be elusive. We do know that:

1. Heinrich Pünter was born in village of Stäfa which is in the Canton of Zurich in Switzerland on about 15 or 17 August 1810 and then migrated to Germany in April 1817 with his parents and brothers and sisters.
2. He lived in Bavaria for about 30 years, long enough to have a job as a Wegmacher (one who maintains roads) along with his father.
3. Elisabeth Hohenbrunner was Heinrich's wife and was born in the village of Aitersteinerling which is or was part of the municipality of Forstinning, in the Munich region, which is in the district of Ebersberg, which is in the administrative region of Upper Bavaria (Oberbayern) which is in the German state of Bavaria, on 3 August 1813. However, a marriage record for this couple has not been found so far in German or American records.

Note: the region of Upper Bavaria is so named, not because of its physical location, but rather because its average elevation is higher than other regions of Bavaria.

4. They first appeared in a US census in 1850 under the name of Henry and Elisabeth Painter in Bureau County, Illinois. There are no identifiable census records of them in the US in 1840.
5. It was reported in the newspaper article concerning the 50th anniversary of Jacob and Justina Pinter that Heinrich arrived in the US from Germany in 1848. We can probably assume that this piece of information came from Jacob, Heinrich's second son.
6. Henry and Elisabeth had two sons born after their arrival, the first of which was born on 20 May 1852 in Bureau County, IL.

Unfortunately, there is no data found so far that shows when and where they entered the United States except to say it was after about 1 May 1848, and before 8 October 1850, the date of the 1850 census.

On that census date, they were living in a dwelling in Bureau County along with John and Anna Landerer. This dwelling was likely a house on a tract of farmland.

The Research Results for Heinrich Pünter

It is not known if Heinrich and Elisabeth traveled to the US at the same time or separately. It cannot be determined if they married in Germany or in the US or if they married at all. No marriage record can be found so far.

A search of the various ship records and immigration records noted above produced no identifiable results for Henry or Heinrich Pünter/Puenter/Painter/Pinter.

However, two passengers named H. Bender were found that fit the search criteria and are presented here for thoroughness. Here is no way to prove if these people are/are not our Henry.

H. Bender, age 40, Arrived New Orleans on 2 Jan 1850 from Bremen on ship Ohio
Family number 303844, NARA series #M259-32

Henry Bender, Arrived 1850 in Illinois
Perm entry #1109915, Source pub code 8368 page 10

The Research Results for Elisabeth Hohenbrunner

Here are also no ship passenger lists that show the arrival of Elisabeth. The best search result for Elisabeth Hohenbrunner is an entry in Friedrich Blendinger's list of Bavarian emigrants who traveled to North America between 1846 and 1852. This is reference #4 listed at the end of this Addendum.

That record of her arrival was also found on ancestry.com and in a German web site where the contents of Blendinger's list have been placed online. In addition, the Mormon Church Library in

Utah supplied copies of page 467 of the Blending document. Elisabeth is listed there but Heinrich is not. Here are the contents of Elisabeth's record:

Elisabeth Hohenbrunner

She arrived in New York in 1848

She was Catholic

She was from Aitersteinerling, Forstinning, Ebersberg, Upper Bavaria, Bavaria, Germany

She was traveling with money in the amount of 250 florians, equivalent to the Gulden.

These are the units of currency in effect in that time frame in Germany.

(the range of money amounts carried by emigrants was from 150 to 5000 Fl).

Record is on page 467 of Volume 27 as mentioned in reference #4 above.

She may have traveled with others from Aitersteinerling with the surnames

Weissenberger, Hull, and Schmelzl as deduced from the Blending report.

Note: Here is how to read where she was from:

The village of Aitersteinerling.....

Which is in the municipality of Forstinning.....

Which is in the District of Ebersberg.....

Which is in the administrative region of Upper Bavaria.....

Which is in the State of Bavaria.....

Which is in the Country of Germany.

In addition, a Notice of Intent to Emigrate was found for Elisabeth. This was required of all German citizens planning to emigrate. It is shown at the end of this Addendum in the Images section.

The finding of her arrival in New York in 1848 is most likely correct. This is further supported by information found in the Catholic Church Archives in Munich, Germany, that says she went to America in 1848.

Why are there no Identifiable Records for Heinrich?

Once Heinrich and Elisabeth arrived in Bureau County, it was fairly easy to track their life as farmers in the community until their deaths in 1900 and 1865 respectively. The data available for them in this time frame is solid.

Further, the data about Heinrich's family and his own ancestors in Switzerland is also solid.

Little is known about their lives between 1817 and about 1838. A little more is known about their life between 1838 and 1848 when they emigrated.

Here are some of the possible reasons why we cannot find emigration data for Heinrich:

1. It is feasible that ship records for Heinrich's journey to the US were destroyed or lost.
2. Ship records for Heinrich produce only hits for the names Binder and Bender. These are alternate names that have been associated with him in Bureau County, but they are not his given surname according to Stäfa records. There are no quality search results for the names Pünter, Pinter, Puentner, or Painter.
3. Perhaps Heinrich traveled under a different name. Perhaps he slipped into the country undocumented. But why?

Heinrich and Elisabeth's Early years in Europe – a Possible Scenario

The facts surrounding Heinrich and Elisabeth's migration to the US are limited at best.

The following embellished story depicts a "possible scenario" of Heinrich and Elisabeth's early life and, later, their immigration to Bureau County. It includes some speculation mixed in with known facts:

Heinrich and his parents and siblings arrived in Bavaria in April 1817 from Switzerland. Heinrich was 7 years old. Their trip was long and hard. They covered around 400-500 KM (250 to 310 miles) in a horse drawn wagon in about two weeks. Or maybe, they had two wagons since the family was comprised of 5 people. Nevertheless, they arrived in Bavaria and settled in or near the village of Feldkirchen. Here, Hans Jacob took a job as a Wegmacher. He was assigned a piece of a road named Rosenheimerstrasse. The road ran northwest from the town of Rosenheim to Munich.

The family acquired housing and set up a new life in Germany. Prospects for a good life in Germany improved as time went on. Life in Switzerland for the Pünters had been hard. Food and employment were scarce.

Hans Jacob's job was to keep Rosenheimerstrasse, a dirt road, passable, to repair ruts and holes and to keep the surrounding land in good order.

Heinrich grew up here and soon was old enough to get a job of his own. He also became employed as a Wegmacher, perhaps with his dad, perhaps on a different road. Since young men of this time often went to work around the age of 15, Heinrich may have begun working about 1825.

The period of time between 1825 when Heinrich was 15, and 1838 when he was about 28 and Elisabeth was about 25, is a time we may never fully know about. This is a period of some 13 years.

But, it might be interesting to speculate on what happened in these 13 years.

One possibility is that Heinrich or Elisabeth or both had previous marriages that ended in the death of their spouses and that their marriage to each other was the second or third for both. This is possible because people, especially women, sometimes died at an early age in this era. This is a possible scenario to explain the 13-year gap mentioned above.

Another possibility is that Heinrich was a member of the German military.

More is known about their life after 1838. In 1839, Elisabeth bore Heinrich's son Anton. Anton died in infancy. Six years later, she gave birth to another son, also named Anton. This Anton also died in infancy. These births are documented in church records so we can conclude that in the period of about 1838 to 1845, Heinrich and Elisabeth were together but possibly not married.

The Journey to America – a Possible Scenario

Preliminary note: We have no written documentation concerning Heinrich and Elisabeth's trip to America. However, we do have translated records of others who made the trip in the same time frame. This section is based on various letters written by travelers and translated by Reinhard Hofer and Andreas Hofer of Munich and found on their web site: www.bavarian-roots.net.

The following is a hypothetical story about what might have happened as Heinrich and Elisabeth embarked on their journey to America:

When Heinrich and Elisabeth decided to go to America after the death of their second child, they knew it would be a difficult journey. But they also knew that they had friends already there waiting for them including the Weisenburger families from Elisabeth's hometown of Aitersteinerling, and the Hasslers from Switzerland.

Their first task was to get from Bavaria to a coastal port, Bremen, or possibly La Havre in France since these were major points of departure for ships going to America (for this story, I will assume La Havre). There were other points of embarkation, but this is the most likely place.

Getting to La Havre was no small task. As the crow flies, La Havre was around 750 miles from Munich. Heinrich and Elisabeth may have traveled from their home to Wurzburg by wagon and horseback. In Wurzburg, they probably took a boat on the Rhein River and traveled to Rotterdam, Holland. This route was much easier than overland travel through France.

In Rotterdam, they boarded another boat with maybe 300 passengers and traveled down along the coast of Holland and France to the port town of La Havre, France. This portion of the trip may have taken as many as 2 to 3 days to complete.

Ships did not leave La Havre regularly, so in La Have Heinrich and Elisabeth waited up to two weeks for the next ship. Finally, sailing day came and they boarded a massive three mast sailing ship (most likely steam powered also) bound for New York. The transatlantic trip would take about 35-40 days. Heinrich and Elisabeth's port of entry was probably New York. (George and Eva Weisenburger landed in NYC while the John Hassler family from Switzerland landed in New Orleans and traveled to Bureau County).

Sketches of ships like the one that Heinrich and Elisabeth travelled on can be found at the end of this addendum. They were found on the web site www.theshipslist.com.

The transatlantic portion of the trip was exciting and dangerous and boring and joyous all rolled into one. Sometimes the weather was perfect, sometimes stormy, sometimes foggy, but always cold. Icebergs plagued the voyage. Storms could last all day. The ship was tossed and sometimes damaged by these storms. Passengers were frequently sick. A few passengers, usually children or older people, died along the way and were buried at sea. Often the captain allowed singing and dancing on the top deck.

But the passengers endured because they knew that a better life awaited them in the US. People left Germany in this time frame for many economic and sociological reasons, among them:

1. German farmers were faced with ever dwindling acreage as they followed the strict German inheritance laws. They saw the potential for larger rich and fertile farms in the US (10 acres in Germany versus 100s of acres in the US).

2. The larger eastern German farms were casting off their hired hands as mechanization began to take over farming. This left many farmers without work.
3. German marriage laws were complex and restrictive.
4. Remarriage was complex and restrictive.

The level of anticipation rose as the ship neared New York. Sometimes, steamers would be seen going the other direction towards Europe. As the ship neared New York, residents came out to meet it in small boats.

Heinrich and Elisabeth's ship docked in New York harbor where they disembarked into a strange new world. Here they found a room to stay in for a few nights as they sought food and a way west to Illinois. Finally, that was arranged, and they departed.

The trip to Illinois was slow and involved mostly train travel. There was also some boat travel on various canals. The boats on these canals were pulled by horses and the travel was all day and all night as was the train. Soon, Heinrich and Elisabeth were in Chicago after maybe 2 weeks of travel from New York.

The trains did not go south from Chicago in 1848 so Heinrich and Elisabeth found their way to Bureau County by way of wagon and horseback or by way of a recently opened canal. They each carried two bundles of their worldly possessions, some money, and nothing more.

When they arrived in Bureau County, they met people that they had known in Germany. In particular, they found John and Anna Landerer (or maybe they traveled together since both were granted permission to leave Germany at the same time) and the four moved into a boarding house or farmhouse. It was here that they were living in 1850 when the census was taken.

(Note: it is possible that Heinrich and Elisabeth and the Landerers traveled together to Bureau County. A Johann Landerer was found in Reference 3, the same reference where Elisabeth Hohenbrunner was found. Johann was from an area near Aitersteinerling in Bavaria. If this is the case, then perhaps the four of them found a farm to rent or work on as hired hands upon their arrival. It is clear in the 1850 census that the four were living in one structure on a farm, with no one else. This farm may well have been the property just north of the Church on the Hill.

They worked this farm for some years after their arrival. Two sons, Henry and Jacob, were born to Heinrich and Elisabeth in 1852 and 1855. But, the fate of the Landerers is unknown. By 1860 the Landerers were no longer in Bureau County.

Heinrich and Elisabeth had met their goal to start a new life in America.

Additional Accounts of the Trip to America

I present here a presumably real day-by-day diary of a Prussian family who left Germany and traveled to America in 1848. A few paragraphs, not relevant to their immigration story, have been omitted. It is very possible that this story is similar to the story of Heinrich and Elisabeth with of course the exception of names and places. Try to imagine Heinrich and Elisabeth as your read this diary:

The document was found on the Internet at:

<http://www.ingenweb.org/infranklin/pages/tier2/radke1848.html>

The Immigration Diary of Michael Friedrich Radke, 1848

During my lifetime I had to fight through severe trials. I worked day and night and walked in many places, spent many a sleepless night, and the money I earned there was scarcely enough to feed my family. At the same time, I saw thousands emigrate to different parts of the world, to America and Australia. When thinking about it more closely, I realized that all of these emigrations were nothing more than the fault of the poverty that progressed with gigantic steps. And so within me, too, rose the thought to emigrate!

It was my desire to bring my children, while they were still with me and not in different places, to a place where they could find work and bread, as long as they would work hard and be frugal, where each of them could prepare for a happy and calm future. In Germany the poor man compared to the rich man is like a despised creature, or like a scarcely noticed creeping worm, who must slither and creep along in the dust in order not to be stepped on to death. So it is that the poor man must adjust himself and bend himself under the rich, who nevertheless scarcely seem to notice him! The poor man slaves for the rich one, but once the poor man has completed his day's work, what did he earn for his sour sweat? Only 7 1/2 to 10 silver groschen--which is 20 cents in American money--and on that the poor man is supposed to live with his family, pay his rent and pay his royal taxes. If he doesn't pay punctually, all that he owns is taken away from him by officials of the law, so that gentlemen who already have enough will get what is theirs. If one appears before a court of law, or an official, or a police officer, he must always appear in a bent position and with a bare head.

What will become of the poor children? How many of them have to beg for their daily bread in front of people's doors? Parents who are still able to send their children to school have to pay the school, up until the children are 14 years old, money for books, clothing, food and drink. And after school is over, what is one to do with the children? They have learned professions where they are treated like dogs, to suffer hunger and thirst, and if they survive the difficult and miserable years of apprenticeship, what do they have? Then they become journeymen and they go to beg their bread in strange places before the doors of other people. And even if they get work, what do they earn as journeymen? The highest income per week is 1 Thaler--62 cents in American money. Or are the children to go into service and work for an entire year for nothing more than 6, 12 or 16 Thaler?

Speaking particularly of the boys, once they reach their 20th year, and are healthy, they must become soldiers and serve for 3 years. Now suffering starts, for during exercises and maneuvers they must endure hunger and thirst and cold. To keep them alive, every 5 days they receive one black loaf of bread, and every 10 days they receive 25 silver groschen. After 3 years of service a soldier is released from his regiment, and up to his 32nd year he is among the first to be called to the Landwehr [*like the national guard*]. Annually, 2 Sundays he must go for sharpshooting. For 2 and 3 Sundays he must go for meetings of his regiment. Every 2 years he must go for 14 days to 4 weeks for exercises and maneuvers. Then from his 32nd year on up to his 40th, he is with the 2nd regiment or 2nd level of troops. Even after his 40th year he continues to be a member of the Landsturm [*like the civil defense*].

During times of war, the Landwehr are the first troops to go to battle with the regiments that have just been drafted. The 2nd level of troops and the Landsturm must man the battlements. And so one is a soldier as long as one lives, and a tortured creature.

I was tired of this life, and therefore I decided to leave Germany with my wife to look for a better life in another part of the world, namely America. So, on the 23rd of February, 1848, we traveled the 1/2 mile from Charlottenburg to Berlin. Our last residence was with a farmer, Ziehe, at Krume Strasse No. 13, in Charlottenburg.

Leaving was painful. I left there my youngest sister, Friederike, 21 years old and unmarried. The 26th of February, 1848, we traveled by railway from Berlin to Bremen, 54 German miles. In Bremen we stayed at the inn called Three Lions. Then on the 1st of March we traveled from Bremen to Bremerhaven, 7 German miles distance, where we boarded the 3-mast sailship called *Johanis*. In France a revolution had broken out, but in Germany everything was calm.

On the 5th of March, 1848, we left German soil. We were 226 emigrants. With God's help, and under the leadership of Captain von Fritzen of the *Johanis*, we sailed into the North Sea. It was about 75 German miles to the English Channel. We had a good wind and at 8 o'clock in the morning we saw the towers and the chalk cliffs of England. But then the wind blew in the wrong direction and drove

us back again into the sea, where from the 8th until the 13th we had to fight against storm, thunder, lightning, hail and rain. The waves towered like high mountains before us, and deep abysses opened between them. During this time my wife, my oldest son, and several others on the ship became seasick, while my other children and I stayed healthy.

Early in the morning on the 13th, we again had a good wind and we came again to the coast of England, where once again we saw the towers and the chalk cliffs. This time we sailed into the German Canal between England and France, which leads into the Atlantic Ocean. On our right side we saw England and the city of Dover and several other villages, and on our left in the far distance we saw France and the city of Galle. On the 14th we saw big whales--the sailors thought this meant a strong wind or storm ahead.

15th [*of March, 1848*]: Not good wind, stormy and rainy weather.

16th: We got into the ocean, good wind and sunshine. 1,000 German miles until we will reach Baltimore.

17th: Almost completely calm.

18th: Calm and warm sunshine.

19th: Weak but good wind, and warm sunshine.

20th: Stormy and bad wind--waves frequently break over our ship.

21st: Not good wind, and the sky was cloudy. In the afternoon we saw several big fish near our ship.

22nd: Not good wind, the sky light and clear.

23rd: Strong bad winds and rain.

24: In the morning almost completely calm. In the evening good winds and nice weather.

25: Rather good wind and warm sunshine.

26: Good wind, overcast weather. Several swine fish [*porpoises*] followed us, length 3 to 4 feet. Their heads looked like those of pigs.

27: Strong good wind, also sunshine. Last night the winds were so strong that the waves frequently splashed over our ship.

28: Stormy but good wind. The waves frequently blew over our ship. Sometimes it rained. I fell down on deck and so had to stay in bed all day.

29: Strong good wind with sunshine.

30: Strong good wind, very warm sunshine. We saw birds, sometimes white, sometimes black, and as big as pigeons.

31: Weak but good wind, also pleasant warmth without sunshine. We saw a ship nearby which turned out to be an American ship.

1st [*of April, 1848*]: Weak good winds, somewhat overcast but very warm.

2nd: Somewhat stronger good winds, and occasional warm weather.

3rd: Weak good wind, very warm sunshine. A very great fish was seen near our ship.

4: Very stormy rainy weather.

5: Stormy but rather favorable weather, sometimes sunshine, otherwise overcast. We saw sea swallows and other sea birds, and also flying fish which can fly and swim. We also saw a kind of fish called dolphin. They follow those flying fish in the water so that the flying fish found they had to fly out of the water.

6: Very weak favorable wind, warm sunshine.

7: Pure calm, great heat. We were so far south that we were at the 27th degree of the Tropic of Cancer.

8: Rather favorable wind and warm sunshine. A fish was caught by the sailors--a dolphin.

9: Almost completely calm.

10: Complete calm. Great swarms of fish--dolphins--were near our ship, and also sea swallows.

11: In the morning a violent storm started, which became stronger and stronger during the day. It seems as if all of us will perish. Raining weather, many flying fish and a kind of sea gull.

12: Rather favorable wind and sunshine. Great swarms of flying fish.

13: Completely calm. In the evening we saw a ship in the far distance.

14: Not very favorable wind, warm sunshine.

15: Pure calm, warm sunshine.

16: Rather favorable wind and warm sunshine.

17: Rather favorable wind and strong rain.

18: Favorably wind but very stormy, so the waves often splashed over our ship.

19: Pure calm, very warm sunshine. Towards evening we saw great whales near our ship. At night at 11 o'clock a severe storm arose, so that all sails had to be capped.

20: During the day the storm grew stronger and stronger, so that we saw around us high mountainous waves and deep abysses. And sometimes our ship is beaten by strong waves and we give up hope of surviving the furious, foaming, wildly raging sea. We wait and expect with longing our new fatherland. This trip! This trip! The long far trip.

21: Good Friday. With morning the stormy weather calmed a little bit. During the day we had rather favorable winds. During the day we saw in our neighborhood 4 ships sailing to Europe. One that came from the West Indies, then to North America--some of its men came on board of our ship and purchased food from our captain.

22: Pure calm. In the far distance two ships.

23: First day of Easter. Very good favorable winds. In the far distance we could see one ship.

24: Unfavorable winds. We are now in the gulf stream. Whales, pig fish, many sea swallows and sea gulls. We saw 3 ships, and in a small distance we saw a thunderstorm.

25: In the morning at 1 o'clock we passed through the gulf stream. It was very cold but we had a good favorable wind. When the daylight came we saw one ship. One great great fish, and whole swarms of birds. At 9:30 in the far distance we saw a ship with its flag pulled up, and we did the same. At 10 o'clock a pilot came on board our ship, and he took over the command of the ship. After that we saw one other ship. In the afternoon at 3 o'clock, in the far distance we saw American land, what a joy! Towards evening we got into the bay, a great wide stream which leads to Baltimore. On our left side we had the coast of America with thick forests.

26: Completely calm. Dark rainy weather. On our left side we have the state of Virginia with thick forests, some houses and lighthouses. On our right side in the

far distance we saw individual groups of trees. We saw entire swarms of big fish, a lot of sea and water birds, as well as geese and ducks. The rising and setting of the sun was charming to see.

27: It was almost completely calm. Big fish, many ducks and many herons. On our left side we saw a beautiful, charming mountain range with trees and bushes. During the night it was completely calm, and we put out our anchor.

28: Rather favorable wind, warm sunshine. On our left side we saw the city of Annapolis, and individual houses, also small windmills, beautiful green fields and blossoming fruit trees. Towards evening we saw the city of Baltimore in the distance. During the night we had to be put on anchor.

29: Early in the morning at 4 o'clock, everybody had to be washed and dressed. Afterwards we floated for a small distance in front of the city of Baltimore. There we had to be in quarantine. At quarter past 9 the ship's officers and a doctor came who looked us over so nobody would be sick. Then since they had nothing to object to, the anchor was raised, the sails were put up, and we approached the city of Baltimore. When we landed a new official came and checked all of the things we had brought along, to see whether there was anything that was taxable. Afterwards we went to the Darmstaetter Gasthoff [*that is, the Darmstaet Inn*] in the Peint, where we stayed until the first of May.

1st [*of May, 1848*]: To my horror and astonishment I learned in Baltimore from the newspaper, that all over Germany a revolution had broken out. In Berlin such terrible things happened on the 18th and 19th of March, 1848, that many thousands of people lost their lives. I said, God be thanked that I'm not there.

2nd: Early in the morning, I and several people from Baltimore [*this group apparently included the whole Radke family*] went by train to Columbi [*Columbia, Pennsylvania*], then we went into a big canal boat which was pulled by horses. During this trip from Baltimore to Columbi, we saw many settlements, high rocky mountains with marble chalk and rocks, and different kinds of woods. All the trees and bushes were in most beautiful blossom.

3rd: Our trip continued on the canal boat. On both sides of the canal we saw rocky mountains which thrust up to the skies. They were all overgrown with trees and bushes, and we passed through several settlements.

7th: We arrived in Harrisburg.

8th: At Harrisburg our boat was taken on a train. We had to travel over 5 high mountain ranges, sometimes also underneath them, through them. It was very hot during this time of day, then at night it was cold and rainy. We usually had thunderstorms each day. When we went through the rocky mountains we passed

through tunnels approximately 5 to 6 thousand feet in length and we didn't see any daylight.

10: We came to Schanston, and again into a canal. During the night we didn't move.

11: From Schanston we continued on the canal. On both sides are high rocky mountains, all kinds of squirrels and different pretty birds. Rainy weather.

12: Our canal again leads through a high mountain, approximately 5 to 6 thousand feet of tunnel, and again we saw no daylight. After that a stream went under our canal, approximately 50 to 60 feet lower than we, and the water of this river was navigable for steamships. It is rainy weather.

13: In the morning there was a strong frost. During the day the sky was clear. On both sides we had rocky mountains, salt factories, and several settlements far distant from each other. Towards noon we came to Friburg. During the night the canal bridge had burned down, and we had to wait there until the 17th of May. It was very hot during the day, while during the night it was cold and frosty.

17: We left our canal boat and went into a steamship which was also called Stimmboth [*steamboat*], and on the same afternoon we arrived in Pittsburgh.

I immediately rented an apartment and bought the necessary furniture, but I didn't have any work until the 3rd of July. Then I got work at the Schoeneberg Steelmill where I earned \$4.50 per week. But it was heavy hard work, work such as I had never done before. Every month I had to pay \$4.50 rent. I worked in the Schoeneberg Steelmill until the 15th of November, 1849 [*more than one year*], but with my daily work and earnings I was unable to save anything because both rent and food cost too much.

On the 8th of May, 1849, to our joy, a son was born to us, who in holy baptism received the names August Ludwig Franz.

And since I couldn't make any progress in Pittsburgh, I decided to choose something else, and that is farming. So on the 15th of November, 1849, I traveled from Pittsburgh to the state of Indiana, near Jasper, Dubois County, a distance of 930 miles. There I rented land, and there I lived after all better and made better progress.

End of Travel Account

The Research of Friedrich Blendinger

As of this writing, no record of Heinrich and Elisabeth's emigration to the USA can be found. No ship passenger list has been found containing their names. While there are hundreds of ship manifests online in various databases, theirs has so far not been found.

Many ship records recorded and stored in Bremen were destroyed. Some were destroyed in bombing raids during WWII. Some were destroyed because storage space was limited. Still, it is curious that no records can be found of these voyages because ship masters were required to file a passenger list upon arrival in the US.

A collection of passengers have been found with surnames such as Binder and Bender. This is of interest because at various times in the lives of Heinrich and his two sons, they were recorded in various documents with the surname Binder or Bender. But there is no way to prove at this time if any of these people are in fact Heinrich Pünter.

The same can be said for Elisabeth Hohenbrunner. She has not been found in any ship manifest.

However, one other document shows that Elisabeth immigrated to the US in 1848. There is a document called the Zeitschrift für bayerische Landesgeschichte. This is actually a publication of many volumes. The translation is Journal of Bavarian Regional History. It was published in 1964. In volume 27 of this series, there is a (partial) compilation of Bavarian residents who migrated to America. The document was prepared by Friedrich Blendinger and is titled:

Die Auswanderung nach Nordamerika aus dem Regierungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846 – 1852

This translates to:

Emigration to North America from the government district of Upper Bavaria, 1846 – 1852

Elisabeth Hohenbrunner is found in this list as one of 1144 total emigrants. Specifically, the following data was included about her:

- She came from Landkreis Ebersberg, geminde Forstinning, village of Aitersteinerling
- She was Catholic
- She emigrated in 1848, bound for New York
- She carried money in the amount of 250 florians (or guildens) – Germany's currency between 1754 and 1873.

Blendinger obtained this information from the Hauptstaatsarchiv in Munich (Munich State Archives).

If Heinrich and Elisabeth migrated together, one would think that he would also be listed in this list. He is not, however. Since it is thought he remained a Swiss citizen, perhaps the Blendinger list only listed German citizens.

Blendinger compiled a list of everyone who left Bavaria between 1846 and 1852. The list contains 1144 people and seems to cover all the districts within Bavaria. Elisabeth plus many who ended up in Bureau County are on the list.

Here are some possible reasons why Heinrich is not on this list:

1. He migrated to America before 1846 or from a different German state.
2. He traveled under an assumed name for whatever reason.
3. He returned to Switzerland and then migrated from there.
4. He went to another country first and then to America.
5. Blendingers' list is not complete.

All of these are plausible reasons why he cannot be found.

Looking from another angle, neither he nor Elisabeth have been found so far in ship manifests. Some reason for this might be:

1. Not all passenger lists have been digitized.
2. The lists for their ship(s) were destroyed, have not been found, etc.
3. They were on ships which records were destroyed by Germany in WWII.
4. Their names were spelled incorrectly or they traveled under assumed names.

Someday, we may learn more about the details of their migration. For now, however, what we know is detailed in these Addendums and will have to suffice.

Other Family Entries in Blendingers Book– a side note

The Blendinger book and the German online list of its contents (Resource #4 below) also include the following families recognized in Bureau County history. This data was taken specifically from Volume 27 of the Journal of Bavarian History. Here, I present these families and short discussion if the family can be traced to Bureau County:

Weienburger, Georg and Family

Arrived New Orleans (NO) 8 Nov 1847

From: Weissenfeld, Parsdorf, Ebersberg
Evangelical Lutheran

Family members: Georg (farmer)
 Eva wife
 Eva
 Jorg
 Katharina
 Konrad
 Ludwig
 Valentin

Discussion: in 1850, Georg (age 44) and Aphor (40) Weisenberger were found living in Putnam County. Their children were Conrad (16), Catherine (15), Aphor (14), George (11), Valentin (9), Ludwig (6) all born in Germany, and John (1 month) born in Illinois. In 1860, George (age 55) and Eva (42) Weisenburger and children George (20), Valentin (18), Lewis (16) and John (10) were found living in Bureau County. The ages and children names

match up to the immigration record. The one mystery is that the wife's name is recorded as Aphor in 1850 and Eva in 1860. The village of Weissenfeld is about 15 miles from Aitersteining.

Wiesenburger, Leonhard and Family

Arrived New Orleans (NO) on 8 November 1847 from La Havre, France, on ship

Taglioni

From: Aitersteining, Forstinning, Ebersberg

Family members:

Leonhard (farmer)

Elisabeth wife

Elisabeth

Georg

Katharina

Valentin

Discussion: I have been unsuccessful in tracking this family anywhere in the US using census data.

Weisenburger, Elisabeth (servant or maid)

Arrived NO in 1847

Catholic

Weisenburger, Katharina

Arrived NO 8 Nov 1847

From Baldham, Parsdorf, Ebersberg

Johann Landerer (son of a farmer) and wife Anna Kirchmeyer

Johann was from Balham, Parsdorf, Ebersberg

Anna was from

Arrived NY 1848

Catholic

Discussion: Johann Landerer is included because, in 1850, census data show that Heinrich and Elisabeth were living in the same dwelling as John and Anna Landerer. Perhaps this individual is John Landerer.

Doll, Phillip and family

Arrived NY 1847

From: Neufarn, Parsdorf, Ebersberg

Evangelical Lutheran

Family members: Phillip (farmer)

Katharine wife

Barbara
Cecilie
Elisabetha
Jakob
Philipp
Phillippine

Discussion: Phillip (age 51) and Katharine (42) Doll and children Michael (17), Elisabeth (16), Jacob (14), and Phillip (11) are found living in Bureau County, unknown township, in 1850. All children were born in Germany. In 1860, Phillip (age 60) and Katharine (52) Doll and children Phillip (20) and Barbara (7) are found in Selby Township. His occupation was listed as saloon keeper in 1860. It is assumed these are the same family because the sequence of children's names match up to some extent. Neufarn is about 10 miles from Aitersteiner.

Croisant, Phillip, family

Arrived Illinois 1846

From Ottersberg, Pliening, Ebersberg

Catholic

Family members: Phillip (farmer)
 Katharina wife
 Anna
 Joseph
 Michael
 Phillip
 Stephan

Gottlieb Hahn (farmer)

Arrived NO 8 Nov 1847

From Weissenfeld, Parsdorf, Ebersberg

Evangelical Lutheran

Discussion: A Gottlieb Hahn and family were found in Westfield Township of Bureau County in 1860: Gottlieb (age 32), a farmer, and wife Elisabeth (38 or 39), children Conrad (7), William (5) and Emily (1). Gottlieb and Elisabeth were born in Germany, but all the children were born in the US. There is not a record of a Gottlieb Hahn in Bureau County in 1850. However, there is a Gottlieb Hahn in Pennsylvania in 1850, age 23.

Rachael Hahn from same village as Gottlieb Hahn above

Arrived IL 1846

Evangelical Lutheran

Miscellaneous Images regarding Heinrich and Elisabeth's
Emigration

878.

E. N. 4151.

Bekanntmachung.

Auswanderung nach Nordamerika betr.

Die Kaiserbauerstochter Elisabetha Hohenbrunner, von Aitersteinerling, will nach Nordamerika auswandern, und ihr Vermögen dorthin ziehen.

Es werden daher alle jene, welche aus was immer für einem Titel Ansprüche an sie zu machen haben, aufgefordert, dieselben

binnen 14 Tagen a dato
geltend zu machen, als sonst mit der Instruktion des
Auswanderungs-Gesuches weiter fortgeföhren würde.

Ebersberg den 31. März 1848.

Königl. Bayer. Landgericht Ebersberg.
(L. S.) Liebl, Landrichter.

Literal Translation by Google Translate

Notice

Concerning emigration to North America.

The (Emperor) farmer daughter Elisabetha Hohenbrunner of Aitersteinerling wants to emigrate to North America and withdraw their assets there.

Consequently, all those who have made always to do something for a title claims to them, be required to provide the same within 14 days of a previously argued, as was otherwise proceed with the Instruction of Auswanderunge-request further.

Ebersberg the 31 March 1848

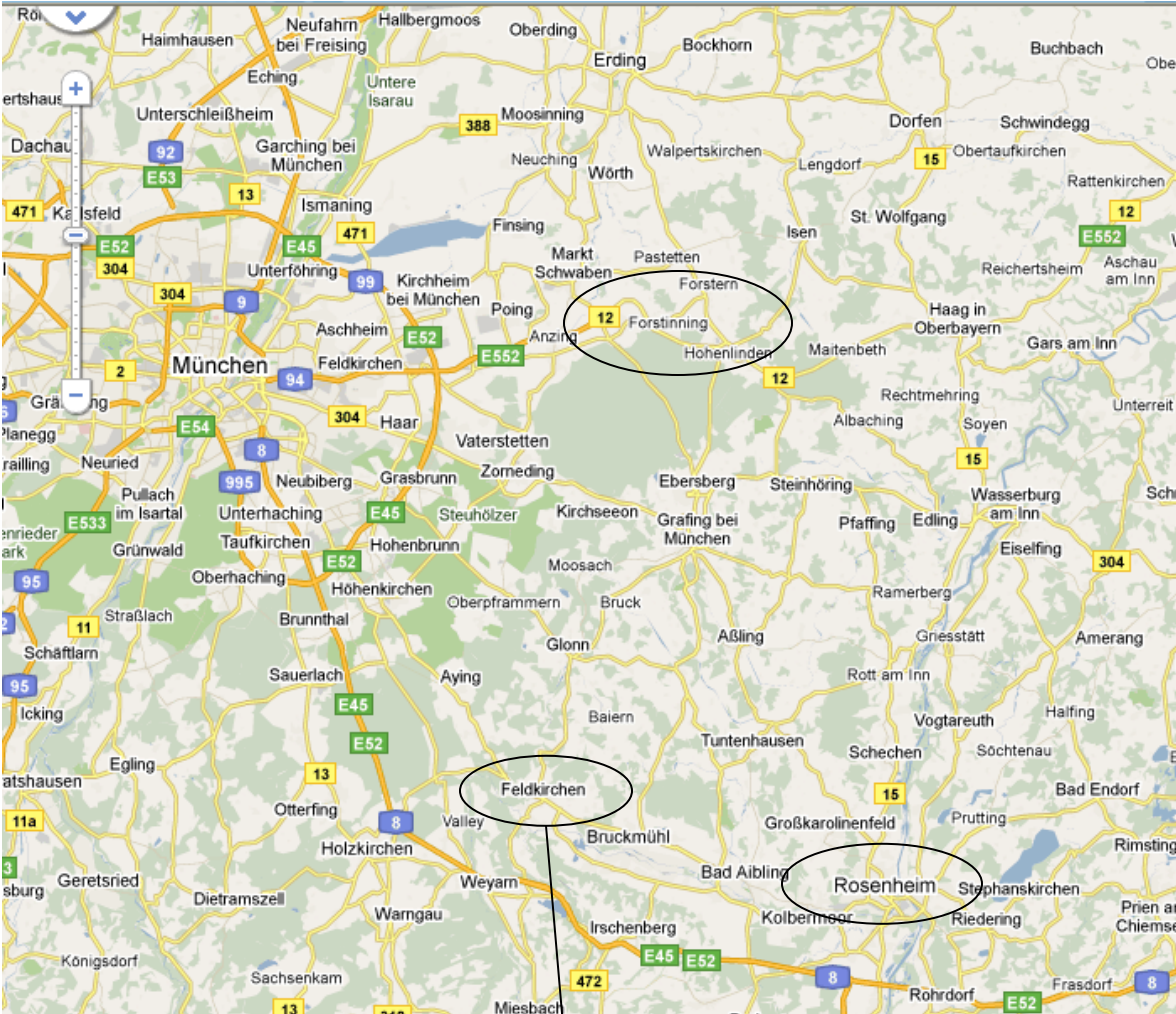
Ronigl Baber District Court Ebersberg

(In other words, Elisabeth was informing the country and all her acquaintances that she was intending to emigrate and that if anyone had claims against her, they had 14 days to respond.)

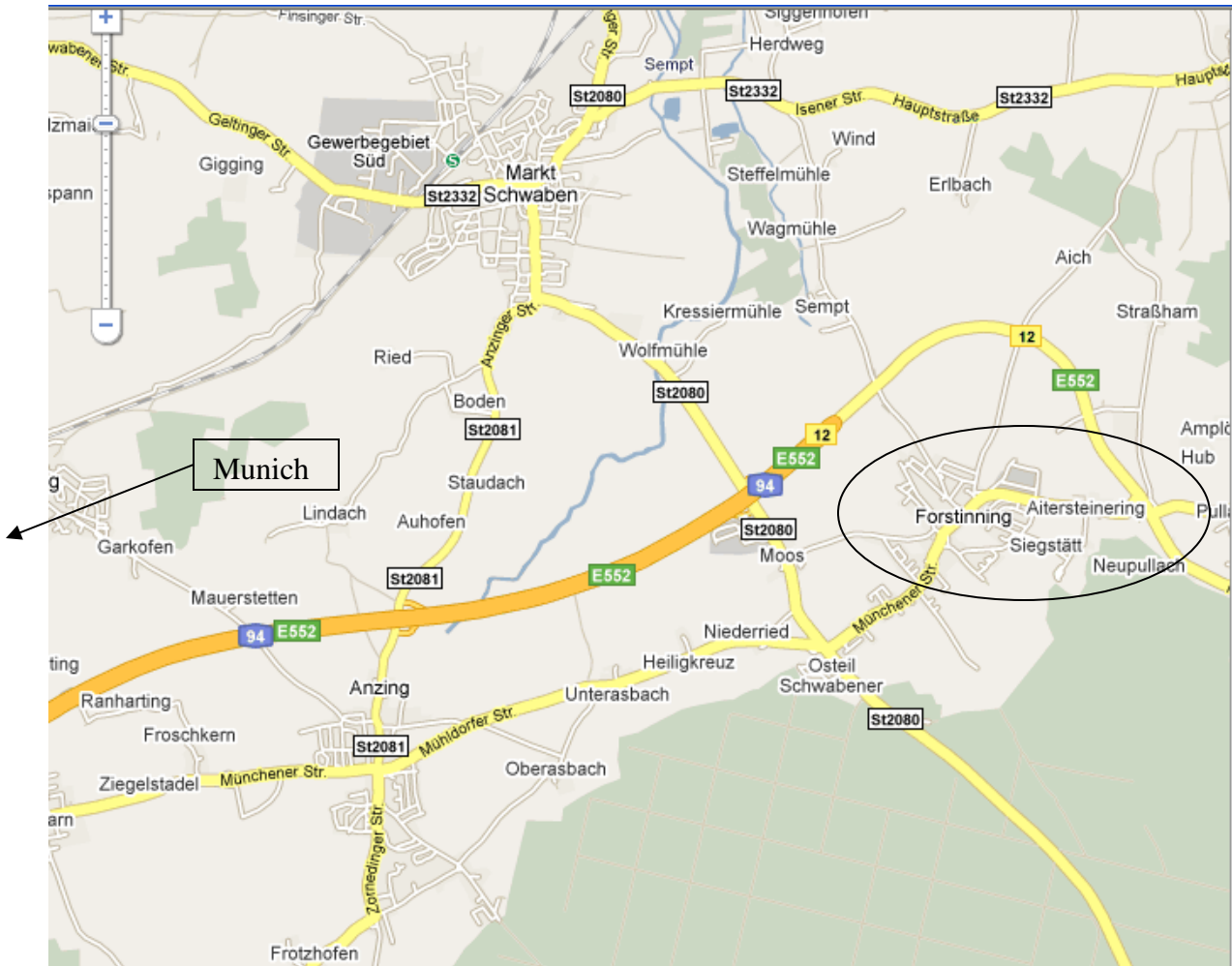
Der Ausgewanderten						
No	Namen	Alter	Reli- gion	Stand	Wohnort	Verwandte
21	Woolinger Ferdinand	36				
22	Woolinger Konrad	31				1000/6
23	Woolinger Kasper	9				
24	Woolinger Eise	7				
25	Woolinger Andrey	5				inverwandte
26	Woolinger Ferdinand	3				
27	Woolinger Maria	1/2				
28	Heinrich Adam	39	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	1000/6
29	Haberbrunner Eise	35	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	250/6
30	Klein Salentin	33				
31	Klein Paulmann	28				1400/6
32	Klein Josef	8				
33	Klein Baumgarten	2				inverwandte
34	Klein Salentin	1/4				
35	Wiederman Franz	32	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	900/6
36	Wiederman Anna	26	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	
37	Wiederman Anna	4	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	inverwandte
38	Wiederman Anna	32	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	100/6
39	Bergmann Josef	30	Calh.	Landw.	Angeltorf	190/6

Datum und Anzahl der im Antrag eingereichten Personen	Mittels des Ordnungs Büros	Kategorie	Anzahl	Bemerkungen
1. März 1848		Neu York	über See	
1. März 1848		do	do	
1. März 1848		do	do	
1. März 1848		do	do	
1. März 1848		Neu York	über See	
1. März 1849		do	do	
1. März 1848		do	do	
1848		do	do	

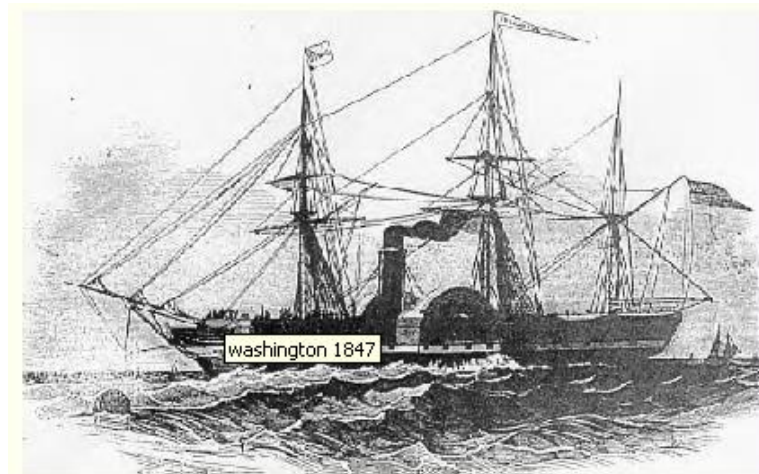
Previous two images; Record of Elisabeth's approval to emigrate. Show that her permission was granted 1 March 1848. Note the name Adam Heinrich above hers. Is that Heinrich Pünter?



Location of Forstinning, Feldkirchen, and Rosenheim, plus Rosenheimerstrasse



Forstinning and Aitersteinerling in Upper Bavaria, Germany



The Washington, 1847



The Mohongo, 1851



Taglioni, year unknown

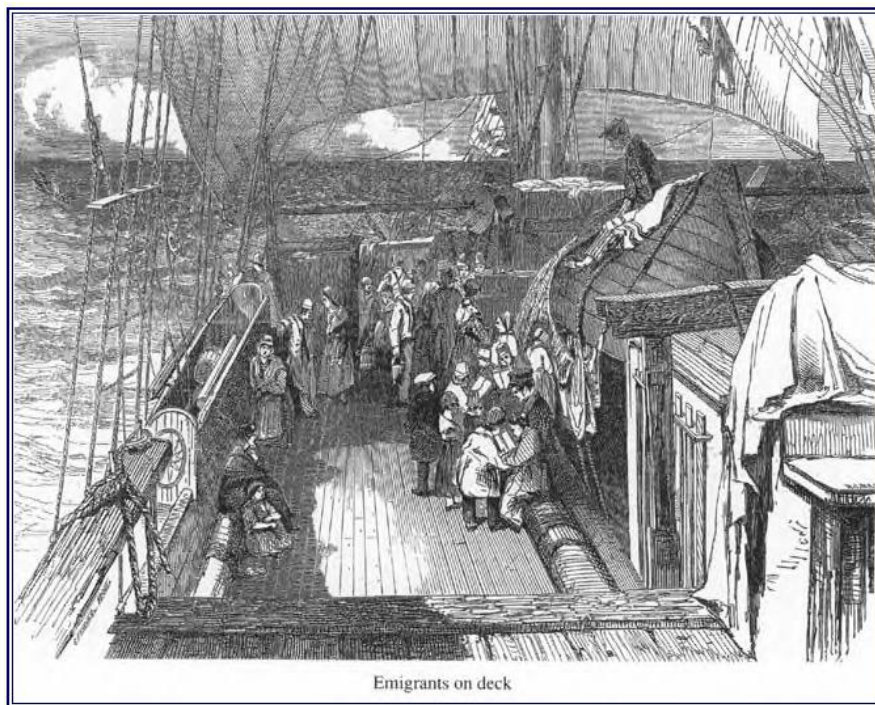
Ships in the time that Heinrich and Elisabeth migrated to America



On the way to the seaport, 1851



Departure, 1850



Emigrants on deck

On deck at sea, 1849



New Orleans, 1852



New York Harbor, 1848



La Havre 1856



New York Harbor, 1851



New York Harbor, 1847

Heinrich and Elisabeth's Complete Childhood Families

Name	Born	Died	Notes
Hans Jacob Pünter	6 May 1781	23 Jan 1843	Married: 8 Oct 1805
Regula Wyssling	12 Sept 1779	3 Feb 1814	
Anna Barbara	26 Mar 1806	7 Mar 1836	
Hans Jacob	14 May 1808		
Heinrich	17 Aug 1810	12 Jan 1900	
Hans Jacob Pünter	6 May 1781	23 Jan 1843	Married: 25 July 1814
Magdalena Furrer	1 July 1787	3 Sept 1841	
Jacob	17 Sept 1815	1816	

Name	Birth Date	Baptism Date	Died	Married
Melchior Hohenbrunner	11/15/1771		3/14/1825	15 May 1800
Elizabeth Köch	4/4/1775		11/28/1843	
Melchior	5/9/1778	5/9/1778	5/6/1799	
Joseph	2/28/1800	2/28/1800		
Monica	5/4/1801	5/4/1801	12/20/1804	
Melchior	12/13/1802	12/13/1802	1/6/1805	
Melchior	9/3/1805	9/3/1805		
Anna	9/3/1807	9/3/1807		
Georg	1/31/1810	1/31/1810		
Franz	5/16/1811	5/16/1810		
Elisabetha	8/3/1813	8/3/1813	5/8/1865	
Maria	2/10/1816	2/10/1816		

Notes on the Research Method

Note to reader: Read this section only if you are interested in the original research methods and resources used.

Heinrich's surname in Stäfa, Switzerland, was spelled Pünter. However, after arrival in the US, the name was spelled a number of different ways when recorded by the census takers and other record keepers until the final spelling of Pinter was recorded in 1880 and thereafter. The spellings found include:

- Pünter
- Puentner
- Painter (and Bainter)
- Binder
- Bender
- Binter
- Pinder
- Pinter

All of these spellings were used in the research.

Elisabeth's surname is Hohenbrunner. This is documented in the Church on the Hill records. An entry for her entry into the US has also been found on a web site noted below as resource #4.

Resources used in this Research

1. www.ancestry.com
Ancestry.com has a large online database of passenger records and ship crews as far back as the 1700's. The database is called Immigration and Emigration Records.
2. www.theshipslist.com
This web site lists hundreds of ships and their passenger lists.
3. www.immigrantships.net
This is the website for the Immigrant Ships Transcribers Guild (ISTG). It also contains passenger lists for hundreds of ships that travelled from Europe to the US.
4. <http://forum.ahnenforschung.net/showthread.php?t=30793>
This web site contains a list of Bavarian emigrants who migrated to America between 1846 and 1852. The list was transcribed from a document titled "Die Auswanderung nach Noramerika aus dem Regienrungsbezirk Oberbayern in den Jahren 1846-1852", by Friedrich Blendinger. (approximate translation: Immigrants to North America from Upper Bavaria in the years 1846-1852).

This document is part of a larger document titled The Journal of Bavarian History, comprised of 70 volumes. Volume 27 contains the above list by Blendinger.

I also obtained a few key pages of the Blendinger document (pages that contained Elisabeth's record) from the LDS Church Family History Library.

5. www.archives.gov/genealogy
This is the web site for the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA)
6. www.familysearch.com
This is the web site for the LDS Church (Mormons).The Mormons have done a considerable amount of research and work to make foreign and domestic genealogical records available to the public.

Notes on Passenger List Research

Beginning in 1832 in Germany, ship captains were required to produce hard copy lists of passengers on their ships bound for other ports. Often, they would provide these lists to authorities at the port of debarkation. Thousands of voyages were documented this way and many of these passenger lists are on line.

However, many of the ship manifests for ships leaving Bremen were lost. Two reasons have been put forth. First, the German government simply ran out of storage space, and so they destroyed some records, and second, buildings housing the records were destroyed during WWII.

<< End of Addendum >>