

OUR EPPERLY (EBERLE) ANCESTORS

JACOB EBERLE m. ELIZABETH \_\_\_\_\_

JACOB EPPERLY, JR. m. CATHERINA SAUR (SOWERS)

JOHN M. EPPERLY m. NANCY PHARES

EDEN EPPERLY M. LEAH GILHAM

JOHN WILLIAM EPPERLY m. NANCY ADALINE CANNADAY

LAURA EPPERLY m. JOHN TAYLOR AGEE

### JACOB and ELIZABETH EBERLE

Jacob and Elizabeth Eberle lived in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania in the mid 1700s. By 1775 they had moved to Frederick County, Maryland. They were members of Saint Peter's Lutheran Church in Woodsboro, Maryland where all of their children took their first communion.

They were the parents of:

- |                           |    |                         |
|---------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1. Christina Eberle       |    | b. 1757 *               |
| 2. George Eberle          | m. | Maria Morgel            |
| 3. JACOB EBERLE           | m. | CATHERINA SAUR (SOWERS) |
| 4. Anna Eliz. Eberle      | m. | George Saur             |
| 5. Christian Eberle       | m. | Elizabeth Morgelin      |
| 6. John Eberle            | m. | Susanna Roth            |
| 7. Eva Catherine Eberlem. |    | David Funderburg        |

The Eberles were German as were the Morgels (Morricles), the Saur (Sowers) and others. Their church records, wills, etc. were kept in German and have been translated. The church records have been invaluable as they recorded all births, baptisms, communions, marriages.

By 1796 three of Jacob and Elizabeth's sons and one daughter had migrated to Virginia - as had many of their neighbors. Their first child Christina apparently remained single. She was still alive in 1810, when her father wrote his will.

The last record of Jacob and Elizabeth taking communion was in May, 1802. Elizabeth had died by the time Jacob wrote his will on November 20, 1810. The will was probated May 7, 1811.

Will of Jacob Epperly (Eberle), Sr. of Frederick County, Maryland

In the Name of God, Amen. I Jacob Epperly, of Frederick County in the State of Maryland, Carpenter, being sick and weak in body but of sound and disposing mind, memory and understanding considering the certainty of Death and the uncertainty of the time thereof and being desirous to settle my worldly affairs and thereby be the better prepared to leave this world when it shall please God to call me hence do therefore make and publish this my last will and Testament in the manner and form following, that is to say, First and principally I commit my soul unto the hands of Almighty God and my body to the Earth to be decently buried at the Discretion of my Executor hereinafter named and after my Debts and Funeral charges are paid I Devise and bequeath as follows -

Item, I give and bequeath unto my beloved son John Epperly the whole of my Real and the one half of my Personal Estate to him his heirs and assigns forever on the following Condition that is to say my son John Epperly is to pay immediately after my decease unto my Daughter Christina the sum of twenty-five pounds current money - one year after my decease unto my son George the sum of fifteen pounds current money - two years after my decease unto my son Jacob the sum of fifteen pounds current money - three years after my decease unto my son Christian the sum of fifteen pounds current money - four years after my decease unto my daughter Elizabeth Sours the sum of fifteen pounds current money - five years after my decease unto my daughter Catherine Funderburg the sum of fifteen pounds current money to them their heirs and assigns forever.

Item, I give and bequeath unto my before named daughter, Christina my Bed and the residue of my Personal Estate to her and her heirs or assigns forever.

And lastly I constitute ordain and appoint my well beloved son John Epperly my whole and sole Executor of this my last will and Testament hereby revoking all former wills before this made, ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last will and Testament. In witness whereof, I Jacob Epperly have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this twentieth day of November in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and ten.

Signed, sealed, published and pronounced  
by the said Jacob Epperly to be his  
last will and Testament in the presence      Jacob (his X mark) Epperly  
of us the subscribers.

David Funderburg, \_\_\_\_\_ Morgel,  
George Fox

Frederick County, to wit, on the 7th day of May 1811 then came John Epperly and made oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that the foregoing instrument of writing is the true whole will and Testament of Jacob Epperly late of Frederick County.

## JACOB EPPERLY, JR.

Jacob Epperly, Jr., son of Jacob and Elizabeth Eberle took his first communion at St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Woodsboro, Maryland September 13, 1778 when he was 15 years old. He married on April 5, 1785 at Monocacy Church in Frederick County, Maryland to Catharina Saurin. All of these early records were written in German and later translated. "1785, April 5. Jacob Eberle and Catharina Saurin proclaimed 3 times. Witnesses: George and Christina Eberle. Johann and Jacob and Margreth Saur"

Jacob and Catherine's first six children were born in Frederick County, Maryland, as shown by Baptismal records of St. Peter's Lutheran Church.

They came to Montgomery (now Floyd) County, Virginia about 1796. Jacob bought 250 acres of land on Little River near Terrys Creek. This is northeast of the town of Floyd.

Jacob and Catherine's last seven children were born in what is now Floyd County, Virginia and baptised at Zion Lutheran Church. When the church was formally established in 1813, Jacob Eberle and family, 13 in number, were charter members.

Their children were:

1. Betsy (Eliz.) Epperly m. George Spangler
2. Catherine Epperly m. William Lampe
3. George Epperly m. Sally Sowers
4. JOHN M. EPPERLY m.. NANCY PHARES
5. Jacob Epperly m. Polly Howry
6. Juliana Epperly b. 4/16/1795 No info.
7. Soloman Epperly b. 5/14/1797 No info.
8. Maria Epperly b. 2/12/1799 No info.
9. Philip Epperly m. Rhoda \_\_\_\_\_
10. Polly Epperly m. Jacob Sowers
11. Peggy Epperly b. 12/9/1803 No info.
12. Sally Epperly m. James P. Lawrence
13. Daniel Epperly m. Elizabeth Lawrence

**JACOB EPPERLY, JR -continued**

Catherine Sowers Epperly had died by the time Jacob wrote his will on April 9, 1849. Four of his children had also died. Jacob's son Philip posted bond on June 18, 1849 after his father had died.

We're told that Jacob and Catherine were buried at the Zion Lutheran Church Cemetery, but we have been unable find their graves.

Will of Jacob Epperly of Floyd County, Virginia

In the name of God, Amen, I Jacob Epperly, sen. of the County of Floyd and State of Virginia, feeling my body strength fast departing from me and knowing that it is appointed unto man once to die, and being of a sound, disposing mind, do make and publish this my last will and testament.

As follows (to wit). First of all, I direct and order that my necessary burial and funeral expenses shall be first paid out of my estate or effects. Secondly, I bequeath or give to my two sons George and Daniel Ten Dollars each. Thirdly, I direct that all the balance of my estate or effects shall be equally divided between balance of my children (to wit) Betsy, Jacob (DC), John, Catherine, Philip, Sally, Polly and Peggy. It is expressly understood that that portion which would go to Jacob if he were alive, is to be given to his children as they become of lawful age. Fourthly and lastly, I appoint my son Philip my lawful Executor. Given under my hand and seal this 9th day of April in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty-nine.

Signed and sealed in the presence of

Jacob (his X mark) Epperly

Thomas G. Shelor  
David Sowers  
John P. Ratliff

At a Court of quarterly session held for the County of Floyd, at the Courthouse thereof on the 18th day of June 1849.

This last will and testament of Jacob Epperly deceased was proved by the oaths of Thomas G. Shelor and David Sowers, witnesses thereto and was ordered to be recorded. Under motion of Philip Epperly, Executor therein named, who made oath thereto and together with Thomas G. Shelor and Jobe Wells, his security, entered into and acknowledged a bond in the penalty of \$ 500. conditioned as the law directs, certificate is granted him for obtaining a probate of said will in due form.

Teste:

E. N. Zintmeyer, Clerk

JOHN M. EPPERLY

John M. Epperly, son of Jacob, Jr. and Catherine Sowers Epperly, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, January 11, 1791. He came with his parents to what is now Floyd County, Virginia about 1796.

He married March 10, 1814 in what is now Floyd County (recorded in Montgomery County, Va.) to Nancy Phares, daughter of Amariah and Elizabeth Beheler Phares. The minister was Peter Howard.

The first land record I have for John and Nancy is the purchase of 75 acres from the heirs of Amariah Phares in 1831. This is east of the town of Floyd and was (before the organization of Floyd County) in Franklin County. John bought and sold many parcels of land before finally settling (about 1835-36) southwest of the town of Floyd on lands later owned by his sons Eden and David - and still later by their sons.

John M. and Nancy Phares Epperly were the parents of:

- |                       |   |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. EDEN EPPERLY       | m. LEAH GILHAM                                |
| 2. David Epperly      | m. 1st. Ursula Mangus<br>2nd. Sarah Stigleman |
| 3. Ruth Epperly       | m. Burwell Hatcher                            |
| 4. Sarah Epperly      | b.10/10/1821-d.3/8/1854                       |
| 5. Luana Epperly      | m. Henry Howell                               |
| 6. Soloman Epperly    | b.6/9/1826-d.6/19/1826                        |
| 7. Jesse Epperly      | m. Caroline Akers                             |
| 8. Nancy Epperly      | m. William Altizer                            |
| 9. Margaret Epperly   | b.5/23/1834 d.3/13/1855                       |
| 10. Samuel Epperly    | b.12/27/1837 No info.                         |
| 11. Andrew J. Epperly | b.5/27/1838-d.7/18/1855                       |

John died August 25, 1858. Four of his children had died before this and all but one of the rest had married. We're told that John and Nancy were buried in Eastview Cemetery which is on land he once owned. The road number is now (1989) Floyd Co. rd. 714 and the farm the cemetery is on is owned by Palmer Tolbert. The cemetery is on a hill about 1/2 mile off Route 8 south of the town of Floyd, Virginia. Their graves are unmarked. Their son David, his wives and several grandchildren were buried there.

John's wife (Nancy Phares Epperly) wrote in 1879 that John had gone to war soon after their marriage in 1814. We have sent a request for information of any military records to the National Archives but have not, as yet, heard from them.