

THE NEW YORK CONNECTION: DE LA MONTAGNES, EARLES, FLAGGS AND VANDERBILTS

PETER FLAGG MAXSON, ARCHITECTURAL HISTORIAN

When I was a child, every few years my parents would go to New York City for a week to shop and see plays. To me, a child in Dallas, it seemed very glamorous. I finally had a glimpse of the Big Apple when I was age 13, but did not get to know it until I went to college in Connecticut. To this day, I must force myself to go there, and, once in the city, am amazed I do not return often.

My mother, Virginia DeGolyer Maxson, was born in Oklahoma but raised in a fine Tudor-style manor near the top of a New Jersey mountain, with spectacular views of the Manhattan skyline. A New York-trained concert pianist, she spent more than 50 of her 74 years in Texas and always considered herself a Texan. But she felt a certain nostalgia for the East and was pleased when I attended college in New England.

In contrast, my Southern father, John Sherman Maxson (whose middle name I suspected was a mild embarrassment to him, especially as a remote connection with the General existed) was a Dallas businessman by profession but at heart a Texas rancher. His father, Harry Maxson, was reared in Galveston and graduated from what became my alma mater, Trinity College in Hartford. There he met and married an aristocratic Yankee named Marion Flagg. She lived in Texas 63 years, and never considered returning East, even for burial. Her illustrious ancestors she took much for granted and Grandfather was more interested in them than she. Infrequently she referred to her Grandmother's town house in the Gramercy Park neighborhood, or her New York aunts and uncles. But the other three-quarters of my forbears were largely farmers, with the occasional doctor or teacher, and her New York/New England connection was intriguing and rather exotic by comparison..

My interest in family history blossomed while I was still a teenager. I looked through genealogies, quizzed my grandparents and occasionally had the foresight to write down and file their responses). When Grandmother died at age 85 in 1972, I became family archivist, inheriting books, papers, scrapbooks and other memorabilia dating back 200 years. Almost thirty years later, I continue to find new material among the old. Organizing and curating the material is a particular responsibility, and in middle age I have begun to contemplate the disposition of it. Thus far, no family member has exhibited a passion for family history. The *June Austin Genealogical Society Quarterly* has been an incentive to put pen to paper on various aspects of family history. I am grateful to the Society for encouraging the Ancestor Listings, providing a forum for short family pieces. Relatives seem to appreciate copies of my articles, condensed Genealogical Greatest Hits.

My studies of the family New York connection has gone in three directions. First, a direct line of forbears on the de la Montagne/Earle dates back to the earliest days of New Amsterdam. "Edward Earle of New Yorke, Planter" (1628-1711), male line ancestor of my great-grandmother Ellen Earle Flagg, was granted Secaucus Island, Bergen Co., N.J. in 1676. Her great-grandmother Anna Montagne Earle's Huguenot de la Montagne and de Forest ancestors settled on Manhattan a generation earlier, in 1637. Dr. Jean Monier de la Montagne (ca. 1595-1670) was Commander at Manhattan Island 1640-45 and a member of Peter Stuyvestant's council 1647-50. His family farm (bouwery) was located in present day Central Park and was said to comprise 200 acres at present day 8th Ave. and 93rd St. It did not flourish, and by 1661 "had lain for some years unused, except as cattle and goats browsed through its deserted clearing and woodlands." The doctor's son Jean helped organize the remote village of Harlem. Jean Jr's daughter-in-law was Adriana (or Adriantje) Aken Montagne; her grandfather Cornelis Claussen Swits was killed by Indians in 1655, and his wife and daughters were taken prisoner. Swits' father Claes Cornelissen Swits was killed by an Indian in the present Turtle Bay neighborhood in 1641.

- 47 ii. Robert Eric Moehring, born 29 Jan 1953 at Ellsworth Air Force Base, South Dakota. He married Vicki LeighAnn Orr 18 June 1975 in Poway, California; born 16 Dec 1952. Children Erica, Joshua and Zachery.
- 48 iii. John Austin Moehring, born 19 Jan 1957 at Tachikawa Air Force Base, Tokyo, Japan. He married Carol Jean Wardlow 5 Dec 1982 at Western Hills Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas; born 9 Nov 1956. Son Jared.
- 49 iv. Robin Kay Moehring, born 30 Jul 1961 at McConnell Air Force Base, Wichita, Kansas. She married Larry Thomas Hayles 10 Nov 1984 at Western Hills Baptist Church, Fort Worth, Texas; born 8 Jul 1958 in Methodist Hospital, Dallas, Texas. Children Julia and Jordan.

38. Charles William⁵ Moehring (Reinhold Robert⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 5 Mar 1926 in Round Rock, Texas, and died 7 Feb 1998 in Huntington Beach, CA. He married Lettie Unknown. Children of Charles Moehring and Lettie Unknown are:

- 50 i. Charles⁶ Moehring.
- 51 ii. Rick Moehring.
- 52 iii. Billy Moehring.

39. Alvin Earl (Red)⁵ Moehring (Reinhold Robert⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 1 Jan 1931. He married Bette Moore.

Children of Alvin Moehring and Bette Moore are:

- 53 i. Sheryl⁶ Moehring, born 28 Apr 1958. She married Buddy Steger; they divorced. Daughter Breanne.
- 54 ii. Lynda Moehring. She married Greg Race. Children Brandon and Lexy.
- 55 iii. Keith Moehring, born 31 Oct 1958; died 27 May 1997 in Jarrell, Texas, with his wife Cyndi and sons Erik and Ryan. All four buried in IOOF Cemetery, Georgetown, Texas.

40. Joe Ernest⁵ Moehring (Reinhold Robert⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 2 Mar 1935, in Round Rock, Texas, and died 21 Mar 1990 in Austin, Texas. He married Nancy Pope 1 Sep 1959 in Dripping Springs, Texas. She was born 3 Aug 1938 in Houston, Texas. Joe is buried in IOOF Cemetery, Georgetown, Texas.

Children of Joe Moehring and Nancy Pope are:

- 56 i. Mark⁶ Moehring.
- 57 ii. David Wayne Moehring, born 21 Sep 1966 in Paradise, Texas. He married Andrea Dawn Ashley 23 Nov 1991 in Little Chapel of the West, Las Vegas, Nevada; born 28 Feb 1969 in Riverside, California. Children Blythe and Preston.
- 58 iii. Cynthia Kay Moehring, born 30 Sep 1970 in Cleburne, Texas. She married Christopher David Beall 6 Jan 1993 in Georgetown, Texas; born 13 Sep 1971 in Vincennes, Indiana. Son Noah.

41. Colvin⁵ Moehring (Henry August⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 17 June 1927, and died 18 Jan 1999. He married Rosalie Spies 2 Apr 1950 in Round Top, Texas. Colvin is buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas.

Children of Colvin Moehring and Rosalie Spies are:

- 59 i. Gary⁶ Moehring.
- 60 ii. Rick Moehring.
- 61 iii. Connie Moehring.

Endnotes

1. Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Greenvine records.
2. US Census - Texas - Washington County - 1880.
3. Tombstone, Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Greenvine, Texas.
4. Washington County, Texas Marriage Records
5. US Census - Texas - Washington County - 1880.
6. Washington County, Texas Marriage Records.
7. Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Greenvine records.
8. Washington County, Texas Marriage Records.
9. Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Greenvine records.
10. US Census - Texas - Washington County - 1880.

12. Eddie Chrisfried⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 10 Aug 1888 in Washington County, Texas, and died August 1951 in Corpus Christi, Texas. He married **Ida Marie Charlotte Amanda Schultz**. She was born 12 Jul 1890 in Perry, Falls County, Texas, and died 11 Apr 1976 in Cleveland, Liberty County, Texas.

Child of Eddie Moehring and Ida Schultz is:

- + 36 i. Edward⁵ Moering.

14. Reinhold Robert⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 27 Oct 1893 in Coupland, Texas, and died 13 Apr 1986 in Georgetown, Texas. He married **Fannie Ann Mason** 12 Oct 1922 in Georgetown, Texas, daughter of William Brockman Mason and Florence Olive Stirling. She was born 14 Jul 1902 in Georgetown, Texas, and died 3 Jan 1986 in Georgetown, Texas. They are both buried in Presbyterian Cemetery, Georgetown, Texas

Children of Reinhold Moehring and Frances Mason are:

- + 37 i. Robert Howell⁵ Moehring, born 2 Sep 1923 in Georgetown, Texas.
 + 38 ii. Charles William Moehring, born 5 Mar 1926 in Round Rock, Texas; died 7 Feb 1998 in Huntington Beach, California.
 + 39 iii. Alvin Earl (Red) Moehring, born 1 Jan 1931 in Round Rock, Texas.
 + 40 iv. Joe Ernest Moehring, born 2 Mar 1935 in Round Rock, Texas; died 21 Mar 1990 in Austin, Texas. Buried in IOOF Cemetery, Georgetown, Texas

15. Henry August⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 14 Mar 1900, and died 7 June 1978. He married **Lula Jurries**. She was born 29 Nov 1897, and died 17 May 1986. Both are buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas

Child of Henry Moehring and Lula Jurries is:

- + 41 i. Colvin⁵ Moehring, born 17 June 1927; died 18 Jan 1999. Buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas

Generation No. 4

34. Granville⁵ Moehring (Willie Theodore⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹)

Child of Granville Moehring is:

- 42 i. Jimmy⁶ Moehring.

35. Minnie Belle⁵ Moehring (Willie Theodore⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) She married **Unknown Forester**.

Child of Minnie Moehring and Unknown Forester is:

- 43 i. Tommy⁶ Forester.

36. Edward⁵ Moering (Eddie Chrisfried⁴ Moehring, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) He married **Hazel Mitchell**.

Children of Edward Moering and Hazel Mitchell are:

- 44 i. Carl⁶ Moering. He married Carolyn Unknown.
 45 ii. Dianne Moering.

37. Robert Howell⁵ Moehring (Reinhold Robert⁴, Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 2 Sep 1923 in Georgetown, Texas. He married **Jonnie Yukon Ross** 14 Mar 1943 at First Baptist Church, Round Rock, Texas, daughter of Roy Ross and Eunice Awalt. She was born 17 Jul 1924 in Round Rock, Texas.

Marriage Notes for Robert Moehring and Jonnie Ross: Daddy, a Lt. in the Army-Air Corps and B-25 pilot, got their marriage license in Dallas County since he was stationed at Love Field. Jonnie Ross and Robert Moehring's marriage is filed in Dallas County although they were married in Williamson County in Round Rock..

Children of Robert Moehring and Jonnie Ross are:

- 46 i. Alana Sue⁶ Moehring, born 7 May 1946 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. She married Granville Eugene (Gene) Mallard, Jr. 23 Jan 1966 at Hyde Park Baptist Church, Austin, Texas; born 30 June 1941. They divorced 9 Nov 1979. Children Kim and Trey.

- 13 vii. Emma Emilie Moehring, born 2 Mar 1890 in Bastrop County, Texas. She married late in life. According to Washington County deed records, Emma was living in Denver in 1925, a femme sole at age 35.
- + 14 viii. Reinhold Robert Moehring, born 27 Oct 1893 in Coupland, Texas; died 13 Apr 1986 in Georgetown, Texas.
- + 15 ix. Henry August Moehring, born 14 Mar 1900; died 7 June 1978.

3. Fritz³ Flentge (Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 27 Sep 1861 in Washington County, Texas. He married **Dora Meyer⁷** 20 Dec 1894 in Washington Co, Texas⁸. They moved from Washington County to Rosebud, Texas, in Bell County in about 1905.

Children of Fritz Flentge and Dora Meyer are:

- 16 i. Arvin Heinrich Karl⁴ Flentge⁹, born 19 Aug 1895.
- 17 ii. Martha Emma Emilie Flentge⁹, born 4 Feb 1897.
- 18 iii. Arthur August Robert Flentge⁹, born 6 Dec 1898; baptised 29 Jan 1899 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas.
- 19 iv. Heinrich Robert Jergen Flentge⁹, born 7 Mar 1904 in Wesley, Texas, and baptised 31 Mar 1904 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas. He married Alma Amelia Reynolds; born 1911 in Ben Arnold, Milam County, Texas.
- 20 v. Arnold Heinrich Friedrich Flentge⁹, born 26 Feb 1901, baptised 7 Apr 1901 at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas.

4. Theodore³ Flentge (Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born Abt. 1865 in Texas¹¹. He married **Wilhelmine Foechner** 29 Nov 1890 in

Washington Co, Texas.

Child of Theodore Flentge and Wilhelmine Foechner is:

- 22 i. Robert Wilhelm⁴ Flentge, born 2 Oct 1891.

5. August Eduard Ernst³ Flentge (Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 31 Dec 1869 in Texas¹¹. He married **Emilie Petrich** 20 Mar 1895 in Washington Co, Texas, daughter of Eduard Petrich.

Children of August Flentge and Emilie Petrich are:

- 23 i. Herbert Frederich⁴ Flentge, born 26 Feb 1896.
- 24 ii. Viola Paula Flentge, born 6 Jun 1897.
- 25 iii. Eldar Ewald Flentge, born 19 Apr 1899.
- 26 iv. Eduard Paul Flentge, born 7 Sep 1900.
- 27 v. Heinrich Carl Flentge, born 7 Sep 1900.
- 28 vi. Otto Ernst Flentge, born 25 Sep 1901.

6. Emma³ Flentge (Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 23 Aug 1876 in Washington County, Texas. She married **Robert Ramsel** 11 Sep 1894 in Washington Co, Texas. Robert Ramsel was born January 1871 and died in 1903.

Children of Emma Flentge and Robert Ramsel are:

- 29 i. Lula Minna⁴ Ramsel, born 25 June 1895.
- 30 ii. Arthur August Ramsel, born 25 Oct 1897.
- 31 iii. Lonnie Heinrich Ramsel, born 10 Dec 1900.

Generation No. 3

7. Ella⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 8 Dec 1884, and died May 1968. She married **Ernest F. Carlson**.

Child of Ella Moehring and Ernest Carlson is:

- 32 i. Alma⁵ Carlson.

8. Alma⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 5 Oct 1883, died 3 Jul 1965, and is buried in LaGrange City Cemetery, LaGrange, Texas. She married **Edgar C. Willenberg**.

Child of Alma Moehring and Edgar Willenberg is:

- 33 i. Ella⁵ Willenberg.

11. Willie Theodore⁴ Moehring (Anna Martha³ Flentge, Heinrich², Frederich¹) was born 25 Aug 1886 in Washington County, Texas, and died November 1975 in Austin, Texas. He married **May Unknown**.

Children of Willie Moehring and May Unknown are:

- + 34 i. Granville⁵ Moehring.
- + 35 ii. Minnie Belle Moehring.

Baptist minister who had trained at the Seminary in Rochester, New York, came to Texas to assist Reverend Sievers in his missionary work in the German communities. He preached a revival at the Kyle church where he met and later married the preacher's daughter and church organist, Dorathea Sievers, in 1902.

In 1907 Reverend Sievers moved his family back to Waco and resided in a house near 8th and Dutton. He became District Missionary of the Conference seeing that all the churches were supplied in the Association. He was paid a salary by the Conference (North American German Baptists).

In April, 1908 the Sievers family with their three younger daughters (Lydia, Clara and Lillie) moved to Dallas, Texas, where Reverend Sievers was called as the pastor of the German Baptist Church there (later renamed Carroll Ave. Baptist). This church building is still in use today. The family first lived on Good Street but later moved into a newly built parsonage near the church, and lived there until 1911.

Reverend Sievers served as pastor next in Seguin, Texas. After this he retired and he and his wife moved back to Dallas, living for a while with their daughter, Anna, and her family. Later they moved to a house on Munniger Street in Dallas.

Reverend Sievers continued to serve as minister to several German Baptist churches in Texas both as a pastor and as a circuit preacher traveling by horse and buggy into the 1920s. Some of the cities included Dallas (Carroll Ave. Baptist Church), Seguin and Gatesville. German Baptists in America are organized as the North American German Baptist Association.

Carl and Lena moved into the Waco house of their widowed daughter, Dorathea Schaible, in their later years where they stayed for the remainder of their lives. Carl and Lena Sievers celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary in Waco in 1933. This photo of them was probably taken at



Dorathea Sievers

that time when Carl was 86 and Lena was 81 years of age. They both died at the Waco house at 1500 Clay; "Grosspa" Sievers in 1934 at age 87 years and "Grossma" Sievers in October, 1945 at age 93. It is interesting to note that neither Carl or Lena Sievers ever acquired U.S. citizenship.

This photo showing all six of the sisters as very young women was taken sometime near the turn of the Century. Beginning with the back row and on the left (facing the photo), they are Lydia, Sophie Elizabeth, and Lillian (Lillie). And on the front row from left to right, we see Clara, Anna Marguerite, and Dorathea Maria.

In the early 1900s these young ladies started their own families as they married and moved away with their husbands. All of them except Anna and Dorathea settled in northeastern states.

**Charles Locklin, 7507 Long
Point Dr., Austin, TX 78731**

*Flentge
Fan*

Descendants of Heinrich Flentge and Minna Hartgemier/Hagemeier of Washington County, Texas

Generation No. 1

1. Heinrich² Flentge, possibly son of Frederick Flentge¹, was born 17 May 1837 in Wahle, Brunswick, Germany^{2,3}, and died 13 Nov 1913 in Latium, Texas. He married **Minna Hartgemier** 14 Sep 1859, in Washington Co, Texas⁴, possibly daughter of William Hagemeier. She was born 8 May 1837 in Levens, Prussia⁵, and died 6 Aug 1906 in Latium, Texas.

More about Heinrich Flentge: Church records list cause of death as "alterschwache" or senile decay. Buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas. Heinrich Flentge may have come to Washington County in the late 1840s.

More about Minna Hartgemier: Listed also as Wilhelmina. Church records list cause of death as "herzschag" or heart attack. Buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas. Washington County index of naturalization papers lists William Hagemeier's date of naturalization as 5 Jul 1858.

Children of Heinrich Flentge and Minna Hartgemier are:

- + 2 i. Anna Martha³ Flentge, born 20 June 1860 in Shelby, Austin County, Texas; died 31 Mar 1939.
- + 3 ii. Fritz Flentge, born 27 Sept 1861 in Washington County, Texas; died Abt. 1950 in Bell County, Texas.
- + 4 iii. Theodore Flentge, born March 1864 in Texas.
- + 5 iv. August Eduard Ernst Flentge, born 31 Dec 1869 in Texas.
- + 6 v. Emma Flentge, born 23 Aug 1876 in Washington County, Texas.

Generation No. 2

2. Anna Martha³ Flentge (Heinrich², Frederick¹) was born 20 June 1860 in Shelby, Austin County, Texas, and died 31 Mar 1939. She married **Wilhelm Mohring** 12 Oct 1882 in Washington County, Texas⁶. He was born 30 Nov 1859, probably in Germany, and died 3 Feb 1917. Both are buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Greenvine, Texas

The family legend says that Wilhelm came to America from Germany as a teen-ager, landing in Galveston in 1876.

Research Findings #1:

Wilhelm Moehring, age 17, ID #18763, a laborer from Germany, arrived in Galveston on 7 Oct 1877 on the ship Hannover, which embarked from Bremen with Capt. Erdmann in command destined for Texas. Auguste Moehring, age 20, ID #18763, a female working as a servant was on the same ship. Source: CD listing of German Immigrants.

According to Wilhelm Mohring's naturalization papers in Washington County dated in 1882, he came to Galveston, Texas, on 12 Oct 1878 from Germany. According to the 1880 Washington County census, Auguste Moehring lived with Christian Wilkens and his wife Elise. Auguste was listed as Christian's sister-in-law. Elise's sister? Wilhelm's siblings? Christian, Elise and Auguste were born in Hannover; their parents were born in Hannover.

Research Findings #2:

Wilhelm Mohring came to the US in 1876, aboard the SS Oder, from Bremen, Germany to Southhampton, then to New York. He was apparently alone, or with a family member or friend not named Mohring/Moehring.

Children of Anna Flentge and Wilhelm Mohring are:

- + 7 i. Ella⁴ Moehring, born 8 Dec 1884; died May 1968. She married Ernest Carlson.
- + 8 ii. Alma Moehring, born 5 Oct 1883; died 3 Jul 1965. She married Edgar C. Willenberg; born 9 Oct 1883; died 3 Aug 1936. Both buried at La Grange City Cemetery, La Grange, Texas.
- 9 iii. Minnie Moehring, born 14 Jan 1898; died 10 June 1986 in Burton, Texas. She married Walter S. Maurice; born 11 Feb 1888; died 2 Oct 1966 in Round Rock, Texas. Both buried at La Grange City Cemetery, La Grange, Texas.
- 10 iv. Annie Moehring, born 20 Feb 1892; died 30 Jul 1920. She married Unknown Limmer. Buried at Emmanuel Lutheran Church at Greenvine, Texas
- + 11 v. Willie Theodore Moehring, born 25 Aug 1886 in Washington County, Texas; died November 1975 in Austin, Texas.
- + 12 vi. Eddie Chrisfried Moehring, born 10 August 1888 in Washington County, Texas; died August 1951 in Corpus Christi, Texas.

