

# **THE KNIEPER / KNIPPER FAMILY OF FRENCH CREEK, AVON:**

Vincentius Knieper (-aka- Vincent "Zence" Knipper) arrived in the area along with his wife Anna Marie "Emma" (nee Klee).

Both were born in Landkern Rhineland Prussia and made passage to America arriving on June 28, 1861 aboard the ship "American Eagle". This ship set sail from London England and arrived in the Port of New York.

Vincent was registered as husband and wife with he as passenger #94 and Emma as passenger #95. They were married on June 5, 1851 in Katholich Illerich Rhineland Prussia.

Also arriving at the same time were Vincent and Emma's children; Petrus Knieper (-aka Peter Knipper) listed as passenger #96, Johannes Knieper (-aka- John Knipper) as passenger #97, Jacobus Knieper (-aka-Jacob Knipper) as passenger #98 and Elisabeth "Lizzie" Knieper as passenger #99.

Once they arrived in Lorain County they had other children.

The Vincent and Emma Knipper family of Avon was as follows:

Name	Born	Died
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Peter Knipper 9-25-1851 Prussia 1-13-1932 Avon

John Knipper 2-12-1854 Prussia 4-19-1934 Avon

Jacob Knipper 9-8-1858 Prussia

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Knipper 8-5-1860 Prussia

Marie Catherine "Mary" Knipper 1-11-1864 Avon, 1883 Avon

Margaretha Knipper 7-25-1866 Avon, Ohio

Anton Knipper 7-8-1870 Avon, 3-11-1871 Avon

Ana Marie Knipper 12-17-1871 Avon, 8-1-1898 Avon

Anton Knipper 6-12-1873 Avon, Ohio

Emma Knipper in 1872 Avon, Ohio

Barbara Knipper 5-20-1876 Avon, Ohio

It was common practice that when a child was born and died later on, another child born would be given the same name as a remembrance of sorts. This theory shows up on several occasions within the Knieper / Knipper families.

Vincent, or "Zence" as he is referred to as, was employed as a wagonmaker locally. He was born October 28, 1822

and died in Avon in 1910. His wife Emma was born in August 1831 and died on November 21, 1914, also in Avon. Both were members of St Mary's Catholic Church in Avon and both are interred within the parish cemetery.

Also arriving on the same ship were Vincent's brother Johannes Knieper (-aka John Knipper) and his wife Margaretha (nee Klee) Knieper (-aka Margaret Knipper). Johannes is registered as passenger #107 and his wife as passenger #108. Their two daughters arrived with them also; Katherine Knieper, registered as passenger #109 and Emma Knieper who was born enroute.

Johannes was born June 3, 1827 in Sankt Servatius Rhineland Prussia and died August 14, 1895 in Elyria where he had settled and made his home. His wife was born May 6, 1838 in Katholisch Illerich Rhineland Prussia and died July 2, 1898 also in Elyria. Both were members of St Marys Catholic Church in Elyria and are both interred at that parish cemetery in Elyria as well.

A sister of Vincentius and Johannes, Elisabetha Knieper, came along with them as well on their voyage to America. She was registered as passenger #110. She was born in 1838 in Katholisch Illerich Rhineland Prussia and her date of death and marital status are unknown to me as of this writing yet.

Not only had Vincent and John married sisters but they

also arrived in a new country together as well.

Another brother, Jacobus Knieper (-aka- John Knieper) immigrated much later in 1883 and after a brief stop in Lorain County, migrated north to Michigan where he made his home and raised his family.

Johannes and Margaretha (nee Klee) Knieper were married on 1-20-1859 in Katholisch Illerich Rhineland Prussia and their family (better known as the John and Margaret Knipper Family) was as follows:

Name	Born	Died
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Katherine "Kate" Knipper 1-12-1860 Prussia, 1928

Emma Knipper 6-8-1861 Prussia 4-24-1938 N. Ridgeville

Vincent Knipper 11-4-1864 Elyria, Ohio, 11-5-1932 Elyria,

Margaret Knipper in 1865 Elyria, Ohio

John A. Knipper April 1867 Elyria, Ohio, 7-19-1939  
Lakewood, Ohio

Margaruite Knipper 10-20-1868 Elyria, Ohio 12-29-1936  
Elyria, Ohio

Anton "Anthony" Knipper 9-26-1872 Elyria, Ohio, 12-13-1918

Lorain, Ohio

Nicholas "Nick" Knipper in 1875 Elyria, Ohio, 6-19-1933

Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Elizabeth "Lizzie" Knipper 6-18-1878 Elyria, Ohio

10-23-1968 Oberlin, Ohio

Jacob Knipper 12-29-1882 Elyria, Ohio

Franciscus Knieper born in the late 1790's and Margaretha Sesterhenn, born June 25, 1797, were the parents of the following individuals:

Name	Born	Died
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Petrus Knieper 9-1-1821 9-25-1821 Landkern Rhineland  
Prussia

Vincentius Knieper 10-28-1822, 1910 Avon, Ohio

Petrus Knieper 9-30-1825 Believed to be in Prussia

Johannes Knieper 6-3-1827 8-14-1895 Elyria, Ohio

Jacobus Knieper 8-31-1837 1910 Maple Grove, Michigan

Elisabetha Knieper 1838 Believed to be in Avon, Ohio

I had always believed that a connection existed between the Knieper and Knipper family name spelling and that those in Elyria (my wife's family) were indeed related to those in the Avon area.

By reviewing parish records from both St. Mary's Catholic Church in Avon and from St. Mary's Catholic Church in Elyria, cemetery records, census records and probate court records along with assistance from a few other dedicated individuals, I have been able to establish this to be quite so.