

Nieman-Held-Grebe Cemetery

As is so often the case in rural small cemeteries, there is a family link amongst all the occupants. It is also a bit confusing as additional names are used for some of the people, which seems to be a common practice. Besides having common families, all occupants originally emigrated from Northern Germany (Prussia) in the late 1860's, principally the Westfalen region. There are two family links, the matriarchs were sisters, maiden name Koelling. The larger families, the Helds and Niemanns, consisted of one sister and her two husbands and some of their children. The Grebe branch was the other sister, her husband and one son. It appears that many lived in Hickory Grove Township, Warren County, Missouri. It is also supposed they were farmers, censuses from that time period could not be found. There also appear to be several child burials, unfortunately another common denominator in older cemeteries. I can only imagine the tearful visits the parents made to this space. This cemetery is very picturesque, with a white fence surrounding it and a persimmon tree in the middle. Descendants maintain it to this day. The original homestead was located on the right before one arrives at the cemetery. Interred by family unit are:

Christopher Heinrich "Henry" Grebe Feb 6, 1816 – Dec 16, 1873

Charlotte *Koelling* Grebe Nov 10, 1825 – Dec 26, 1889 (AKA Caroline Friedrike Charlotte)

Heinrich Grebe Oct 22, 1851 – March 1, 1881

Henry was born in Rehme, North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany (or actually Prussia in those days). He was baptized on Feb 11, 1816 in the same area. He originally married Anne Marie Friedricke Hedwig Koch on November 6, 1842, again in Rehme, and had two children. After five years of marriage, she passed away in 1848.

Charlotte was also born in Bonneberg, Herford, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Prussia. On March 30, 1849 she married Christopher in Rehme. The couple had a few children in Germany, then on October 27, 1868 arrived in the United States. Their son Heinrich was born when they were in Germany. They had a total of ten children before Christopher's death.

After Christopher passed away, Charlotte married Christopher Stumme. She passed away in Wright City.

Charlotte's sister Caroline is the other principal woman figure of this cemetery.

Caroline Koelling Held Nov 20, 1837 – Jan 12, 1901 (AKA Christine Friederike (Wilhelmina) Caroline

Caroline was born at #9 Bonneberg, Valdorf, Herford, Nordrhein-Westfalen, Prussia. It is unsure when she immigrated to this country, however in 1852 she was living in Warren County, Missouri and gave birth to a son August, on May 6, 1852. According to records on Ancestry, his

father was Hermann Heinrich Niemann. She was 14 and he was 37. On November 9, 1856 she and first husband Hermann were married in Warren County, Missouri. A photo of her is included.

Hermann Heinrich Niemann May 7, 1814 – August 5, 1866

Hermann was born at Bielefeld, North-Rhine – Westphalia, Prussia. He was able to purchase ground in Warren County, his land grants are attached. He and Caroline had a number of children, a few of which are buried here with them. Sadly they lost many in childhood. These are:

August Niemann May 6, 1852 – June 4, 1860

Heinrich Louis Niemann Feb 12, 1860 – Sept 11, 1860

Louise Johanna Niemann May 18, 1861 – May 1, 1873

Alwine Louise Charlotte Niemann Dec 20, 1864 – Sept 28, 1888

Alwine married Henry Fricke on Feb 8, 1887 in Warren County, MO. Unfortunately, she passed away less than a year later. Her brother-in-law was William Henry Fricke, Sr. It is believed he occupied the Innsbrook cabin at from 1904-1908.

Hermann passed away in Warren County at the age of 52, after having been married only 9 years.

Ernst Fridrich Ditrich Held May 27, 1837 – November 7, 1894. (AKA Fred)

Ernst was born in Germany. His immigration date to this country is not known. He became Caroline's second husband when they married in 1868. The 1870 census lists them living in Hickory Grove Township, with a post office of Pitts. He was a farmer, and they had eight children together. Two of these children are buried here also.

Johann Karl Louis Held Oct 22, 1869 – April 6, 1870

Anna Karoline Held May 12, 1877 – May 22, 1884