



Ephraim Hambuier (Hamburg, Hamburger)



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## INTRODUCTION

### EPHRAIM HAMBUJER

Ephraim is pronounced ē'frēum or ē'frum according to the Random House Dictionary. It means "very fruitful" in Hebrew.

If the name Hambujer was originally Hamburger, it is possible that his parents were citizens of the city Hamburg about the year 1800 when all Jews were required to adopt last names. Hamburg is a city on the Elbe River in Germany, in the northwestern part of the country near the Netherlands. Hamburg was in the Kingdom of Hanover until 1866 when Hanover became part of Prussia. Ref.: Historical Atlas; C.S. Hammond Co. The name Hambujer is pronounced Hambyujer.

What follows is the biography of a remarkable man; he was a very successful professional magician, a land speculator, and an inventor with more than 33 patents to his credit. He was father to 11 children, all of them upstanding and successful in their own right. He lived from 1826 in Prussia, to 1850-1859 in England, then emigrated to New York, then Detroit, then Chicago, and died in 1913 at the age of 86. The following are the photographs, biography, documents, patents, and family groups he left.

## CHAPTER I

### WHAT WAS GREAT GRANDPA'S NAME?

The earliest record of his name is in the testimonial book which my mother Sylvia Grayson gave to me and which her mother Estella Mandelbaum gave to Sylvia. Ephraim Hambujer gave the book to Stella. Stella was his eleventh child. The book contains the autographs and complimentary words of the sponsors of Ephraim's performances of magic from 1850 to 1858 in Germany and in England. In most of the notes, he was referred to as Professor Edward Hamburger and occasionally as Hamburger or Hamburg. (See samples of these testimonials in appendix.)

His children probably knew his name as Ephraim Hambujer inasmuch as the grandchildren Eugene Henry, Bernice Beck, Sylvia Grayson, and Anna Leah Lans all stated that his name was Ephraim Hambujer. Further, Bernice carefully points out that the name is pronounced not Hamboojer, but Hambyujer. His marriage certificate of 1865 says Ephraim Hambujer, most of the city directory listings in Detroit and in Chicago use the name Hambujer, and all the 33 patents I have recovered use that name as far back as 1864.

However, the name is not that simple, for his gravestone, which I have photographed, says Anna and Ephraim HAMBURG. It is notable that his son Lewis, who used the name Hamburg, was his undertaker and probably was the one who ordered the gravestone. Lewis no doubt released the information to the Chicago Tribune for the two obituaries which used the name Ephraim Hamburg also.

It is peculiar, therefore, that his wife was listed as "Annie Hambujer" on her death certificate and in her obituary in 1896.

The most reliable name, one might think, would be the name on his Naturalization application and Oath (see copy in appendix.) I find two of his signatures on these documents and five other uses of his name written in apparently a clerk's handwriting. The last name as written by the clerk looks like these: 1. Hamburger 2. Hambuger 3. Hambuger 4. Hambuger 5. Hambujer. The two signatures by Ephraim himself definitely end with "ER" and seem to start with "HAM", but I cannot be certain whether it is Hamburger or Hambujer. Anyway, it certainly is not HAMBURG.

In regard to the first name, you will find this spelled EPHRAIM on his patents, and EPHRIAM on his death certificate. Ephraim is the correct spelling, since it is the only spelling for this name used in the Encyclopaedia Britannica, for example: "EPHRAIM, the stronger of the two tribes into which the house of Joseph was divided." (Ref.: V. 8; p. 646.)

HAMBURGER, Ephraim: His various birth dates:

1. 1 Aug. 1824. Ref.: death certificate. "Died 31 May 1913 at age 88 years 9 months 30 days."
2. 1824: Obituary #1., Chicago Tribune, 1 June 1913: "Ephraim Hamburg, age 88."
3. 1 Oct. 1815 Ref.: Obituary #2, 2 June 1913, Chicago Tribune. "Col. Ephraim Hamburg died age 97. Born 1 Oct., 1815."
4. 1826-27; Hambujer, Ephraim, age 53: Ref.: 1880 census.
5. Oct., 1826: Hamburger, Ephraim, born Oct. 1826. Ref.: 1900 census. listed as age 73.

Summary: 4 out of 5 sources list his birth as 1824-1826. The 5th source is an obituary which has the glaring error in it that grants him civil war service which has been disproven. I believe the age must be one of the other 4 sources. The 2 most reliable are the 1880 and 1900 census, which were possibly answered by Ephraim himself. Furthermore, his age was listed as 53 in 1880 and 73 in 1900, which tends to corroborate the accuracy of both census. If we assumethat because October is mentioned in the 1900 census, that therefore the Oct. 1st in the discredited obituary #2 might be accurate, then perhaps Oct. 1st was his birthday.

CONCLUSION: Ephraim Hambújer(Hamburg, Hamburger, Hamburgerher) was probably born 1 Oct. 1826.

Inferences:

1. He was age 33 when he came to the U.S.
2. He was age 39 when he married Annie Darmstadter.
3. He was age 55 when he had his 11th and last child, Stella.
4. He was age 86 years and 8 months when he died.

1826 October.

Ephraim Hamburg born in Prussia. Father, E. Hamburg and mother (name ?) born in Prussia. Ref.: his death certificate #16158 on file, office of county clerk, Cook County, Ill. Ephraim was born in Frankfort: tradition related by Eugene Henry, 1974.

"He had 7 brothers and 1 sister, all musicians who had their own orchestra in England. The sister had a daughter named Louisa Glickstein who had 2 daughters. They visited the Mandelbaums on Lincoln Ave. Louisa's last name was Alexander" (married name?). Ref.: Ann Lans.

The father of Ephraim was Moshe, Hebrew for Moses: Ref.: The marriage certificate of 1865.

1838

16 October. Anna (Hanna, Annie) Darmstadter born in Germany. (Ref.: her death certificate, on file, Cook County Clerk, Ill.) Born in Hess-Darmstadt. Ref.: 1880 census, Detroit, Mich. Born in the city of Darmstadt. Ref.: Ann Lans, who has photo of the family home in Darmstadt taken by Sherman Lans when he visited that city. Anna's sisters were Jettchen, b. 1816; Rachel, b. 1826; Jeanette, b. 1831; and Regina; her one brother was Zacharias Darmstadter, 1827-1909. Their father was Samuel, 1787-1861, & mother Regine Löewenskin, married 1815. Samuel's father was Zacharias, 1750-2 Feb. 1820, son of Samuel Darmstadter, who died before 1787. Hanna's sister Regina immigrated to U.S. 1854, married, to Bloom, had 5 children, one of who was Lena Berger, 1855-1927. Her daughter Miriam Berger never married, was well known to the children of Stella. Hanna's x daughter. Ref.: letter from Karl D. Darmstadter, son of Samuel of Mannheim (1863-1948), son of Zacharias of Birkenau, the brother of Hannah.

"Hannah Darmstadter (sister of my grandfather Zacharias) was, like Zacharias and the other sisters, born in Birkenau (Odenwald) which belonged to the state ("grand-duchy") of Hesse(n) Darmstadt." Ref.: letter from Prof. Karl D. Darmstadter, Nov. 1974.

1839

Ephraim's father and mother died in the Plague in Germany when he was 13.: Family tradition.

1850 & 1851

The first notations in Ephraim's autograph and log book in the year 1850, in old Gothic German script are to Edward Hamburger regarding his performances. Occasionally spelled Hamburgher. Autograph book owned by R.R.G. He gave many performances these 2 years, all in Germany.

1852

MORRIS HAMBERGER born, place not stated. Ref.: his death certificate #259 on file at County Clerk, Cook County, Ill., buried at Ridgelawn Feb. 9, 1917 by undertaker L.E. HAMBURG, (his brother) of 4649 Prairie street, Chicago. Morris died of Diabetes Feb. 6, 1917 in Hinsdale, county of DuPage, Illinois. He was 65 years old. No other information is on this death certificate.

Inferences: Morris was the eldest child of Ephraim, was born 5 or 6 years before Louis, his mother unknown, but possibly the same Celia as was the mother of Louis. In 1852, Ephraim lived in England, probably left Germany about the beginning of the year 1852; therefore, Morris was probably born in England. The youngest child of Ephraim (and Anna) was born in 1881, 29 years after the birth of Morris...a remarkable spread of years between youngest and eldest. In spite of this, Ephraim was 26 years old at the time of his firstborn. He was 55 years old when Stella was born, and Anna was 43. Thus Stella was born to parents old enough to be her grandparents; more than a generation passed between the birth of her brother Morris and her birth. (Based on the 1826 birth date of Ephraim.) The 3 children of Morris and Jennie were: Anna, Eugene (Billy Robinson on stage), and Sophie. Sophie died young. Eugene Hamburg was named after Ephraim's brother (Ref.: Eugene Henry). Eugene Hamburg married 1st Mae, 2nd Sophie, her step-sister. Mae (May) & her little brother died in the Chicago flu epidemic the same day (1917?); he was 12. Sophie was dtr. of Mr. Weisburg; May was dtr. Mr. Weisburg & his 1st wife. Eugene, Sophie, & Weisburgs moved from Wilmette, Ill. to Crescent Hts. Blvd., L.A., Calif., a few blocks from Stella Mandelbaum, then to Beverly Hills where Sophie & Eugene died. Ref.: Ann Lans. Morris Hamburger was a famous comedian. Ref.: Bernice Beck. Morris and Jennie Hamburg are buried at Ridgelawn cemetery, Chicago. (Ref.: sexton of the cem.) Eugene Hamburg said many times that Ephraim was married 5 times but Stella Mandelbaum, his aunt, always denied that. Ref.: Ann Lans. Morris Hamburger was an actor from age 15 until he died at "age 74": Ann Lans. His daughter Anna disappeared mysteriously before 1962. (Ann Lans.) Eugene Hamburg took his own life when his wife died suddenly. (Ann Lans.) Morris Hamburger acted 8 years at the old Majestic Theater in Chicago: (Ref.: Stella M.) In his later years, Uncle Morris played in pictures at the Essanay Studios at 1345 Argyle Street, Chicago, & also worked a few years in movies in Hollywood. (Ref.: A. Lans) Eugene & Sophie had no children but each had a dtr. by previous marriage. (A. Lans.)

- 1852 through 1858 Ephraim, known as Mr. Hamburger and later as Professor Hamburger gave many performances of magic, lectures, and demonstrations of the cabalistic art in England.; *ibid.*
- 1856 Ephraim Hamburger became a member of the Masons, Lodge Roman Eagle, No. 160, in Edinburgh, Scotland. Ref.: letter from the Grand Secretary of the Grand Lodge, Edinburgh Scotland.
- 1857 22 March. Lewis Hamburger born , Birmingham, England, at 46 Upper Dean Street. Father Ephraim Hamburger; Mother Celia Hamburger, formerly Celia Worms. Ref.: Certified birth certificate from General Register Office, London, England. Occupation of father: "Professor of Magic."
- 1859 Ephraim Hambujer and family apparently left England in 1859 for America. Ref.: his obituary: see last page. Ref.: The last testimonials to his magic performances were in Dec. 1858 in England and there are no further performances recorded. (His book of autographadtestimonials.)
- 1860 Ephraim Hamburger emigrated to the U.S. in 1860 Ref.: 1900 census, Chicago, Il..

1857

Louis E. Hamburg born to Ephraim and Celia in Birmingham, England. (Does "E." stand for Ephraim?) Ref.: death cert. of Louis; died 17 June 1933, Chicago, Ill.

Louis E. Hamburg was a wealthy undertaker. He married Carrie, an English woman. They had no children. Ref: Sylvia & Ann.

Her name was Caroline; Ref.: her gravestone in Waldheim cemetery reads: Hamburg, Caroline. 1860-1947 (Forest Park, Ill.) (Also known as Forest Home Cemetery.)

The same stone shows Lewis Hamburg. 1860-1933.

The death certificate of Louis Hamburg: Reg. No. 16555. of 6355 Blackstone Ave., Chicago, Ill, ward 59.

Date of birth unknown; age about 75, profession undertaker, for 40 years, born in Birmingham, Eng, mother Celia born in Birmingham, Eng. Informant, Caroline Hamburg.

Buried at Waldheim Cemetery June 20, 1933, died of Mitral insufficiency, angina pectoris and diabetes mellitus.

LEWIS EUGENE HAMBURG. Born 22 March 1859 in England. Initiated in the Warwick Lodge 1109. Offices held in Warwick lodge included Worshipful Master and Chaplain. Initiated in 1892; March 5. Occupation, undertaker. Reference: Letter from the Grand Lodge, A.F. & A.M. (Ancient Free and Accepted Masons), state of Ill.

COMMENTS: Morris Hamburg's son was Eugene Hamburg and Hattie Hamburg Henry's 3rd son was Eugene Henry. Eugene Henry states that he was named after his grandfather Ephraim's brother Eugene Hamburg. Now we find that Lewis Hamburg's middle name is Eugene, (not Ephraim as theorized previously.) Inference: there must be records of Ephraim's brother Eugene somewhere which would lead to other brothers and other genealogy. Look for a Eugene Hamburg or Hamburger.

1860

**RACHEL HAMBUJER:** the sister of Stella Mandelbaum. "She was born 25 April 1860 and died 13 March 1883. She is buried in Betholem Cemetary, also known as the Smith Street Cemetary, in Plot L-4." (Ref. letter from Miriam Kushner, Archivist of Temple Beth El, 7400 Telegraph Road, Birmingham, Mich.)

**RACHEL HAMBUJER:** born: New York. Died March 13, 1883 of Consumption in Detroit, Mich. at age 22 years, 11 months, and 5 days. Occupation, none. Father Ephraim Hambujer. Mother Annie Hambujer. Marital status single. (Ref.: Certificate of death register no. 1563, Lansing, Mich.)

**Comment:** Annie was Rachel's stepmother. Annie (Hanchen, or Hannah) married Ephraim in Detroit in 1865. (Ref.: original Ketubah.) Rachel's natural mother is not known.

1861

Ephraim Hamburger, a native of Prussia, the 19th day of February, 1861, before the clerk of the court of quarter sessions in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States and renounced all allegiance to the King of Prussia.

1864

Rebecca Hamburg, 4th child, born in New York. Ref.: 1880 census. She married John Ashley, a Methodist minister. Children: Walter and Donald. Walter married Ella, had 2 girls, 1 named Joyce. Ref.: Letter from Estella Mandelbaum to Sylvia Grayson, 7 April 1964.

1864-65

Address in NY.: "Be it known that I, Ephraim Hambujer, of No. 6 Allen Street, in the city, county and state of New York have invented a new and improved passenger-register;..." Ref.: patent no. 52043, dated January 16, 1866. (See copy of this patent in appendix.) Note: the above address appears to be in the 10th ward on the lower East side of Manhattan island.  
**Comment:** It is interesting to find that in 1864 there was a Morris Hamburger living at No. 4 Allen street according to the NY City Directory, although Ephraim was not listed. Morris was a beer pedler. Was he related to Ephraim?

## CHAPTER VI

## EPHRAIM HAMBUJER IN DETROIT

Following are entries from Detroit city directories:

- 1866 - Hamberger, E. patternmaker, h 214 Congress e.
- 1867 - Hambujer, Ephraim, prop. Weekly Review and patent solicitor, cor. Griswold & Jefferson ave. h. 176 Congress e.
- 1868 - Hambujer, Ephraim, h 176 Congress e
- 1869 - Hambujer, Ephraim, inventor, h 192 Congress e
- 1870 - Hambujer, Abraham, patent agent, h 192 Congress e
- 1871/72 - Hamburger, Ephraim, Saloon, 53 Mich ave. h 192 Congress e.
- 1872/73 - Hambujer, Abraham, boarding house, 131 St. Antoine
- 1872/73 (another directory) - Hambujer, Ephraim, agent, h 179 Lafayette
- 1875/76 - no listing
- 1882 - Hambujer, Ephraim, gravel, sand, etc. h 17 Columbia w.
- 1887 - Hambujer, Ephraim, h 324 Randolph
- 1889 - Hambujer, Ephraim, real estate, 10 Seitz Blk, h 98 Elizabeth e
- 1893 - no listing

## National Genealogy Service

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### Detroit City Directory:

- 1880: Not listed.
- 1882: Hambujer, Ephraim gravel, sand, etc. h. 17 Columbia s.w.
- 1883: Hambujer, Ephraim h. 125 Clifford
- 1884: Hambujer, Ephraim h. 125 Clifford
- 1885: Hambujer, Ephraim h. 13 Plum
- 1886: Hambujer, Ephraim h. 324 Randolph
- 1888: Hambujer, Ephraim Real Estate & Patents, bsmt 84 Griswold h. 98 Elizabeth e.
- 1889: Hambujer, Ephraim real estate 10 Seitz BLK h. 98 Elizabeth e.
- 1891: Hambujer, Ephraim removed to Chicago.

1865.

Ephraim married Hanchen Darmstadt in Detroit, Mich.  
Ref.: letter from Professor Karl Darmstadt, Washington,  
D.C., 9 June 1955 to R.G. Hannah was sister of Karl's  
grandfather in Germany.  
However, the county clerk of Wayne county, Detroit, Mich.,  
reports no marriage record for Ephraim and Anna 1832-1974.

Ephraim Hambujer married Hanna the daughter of  
Shlono in Detroit, Mich on the 16th day of Heshvan  
Oct.-Nov. Ref.: Their marriage certificate in Hebrew  
called the Ketubah. (Heshvan also spelled Chesvan.)  
The father of Ephraim was Moshe, Hebrew for Moses. (Ibid.)  
The marriage certificate was hand lettered in Hebrew and  
Aramaic, dated the Jewish year 5626 (1865) on a Sunday.  
Shlono is Hebrew for Solomon.

Ref.: original owned by Bernice Beck. Translations by  
1. Rabbi Hyman Agress, Aurora, Ill., 2. Rabbi Kenneth  
Weiss, Glendale, Calif.

1867

Rosa Hamburg, 5th child, born in Michigan: 1880 census  
Rosa Hamburg married first Ben Brill; second, Max Friend.  
No children either marriage. Ben Brill was a tailor. Max  
was in real estate. Ref.: family tradition. Benjamin  
Brill, Rachel Brill, and their daughter Amelia Brill are  
buried at Ridgelawn Cemetery. (Ref.: sexton of the cem.)  
Max Friend died of a heart attack on his 80th birthday in  
Chicago in 1939. Aunt Rose, his wife, died about Sept. 12-  
15, 1947, age 79-80. Ref.: Sylvia, Ann, & Bernice.

1869

Samuel Hamburg born in Mich. 6th child: 1880 census.  
He was an actor for 40 years, used the stage name Allan  
Hampton. Went into real estate in Van Couver, B.C. Ref:  
Ann Lang & Berniece Beck.

"Uncle Sam" married his leading lady. He then married his wife's  
mother. His wife's sister died, leaving a 2-year old child,  
Virginia, whom Samuel adopted. He was wealthy, and had " a  
mansion, a Chinese cook, and a governess for the child." He  
went into real estate with his brother-in-law, Virginia's father  
when retired from acting. After several years he went to live  
with Aunt Hattie (Henry). The adopted daughter was known  
by the name Virginia Hampton when single."

Ref.: Ann Lans

Samuel Hamburg died in Seattle, Wash. in 1938. His adopted  
daughter age about 70 in 1974, was last known to be living  
in N VanCouver, British Columbia. Ref: Eugene Henry.

1870

U.S. Census, Detroit, Mich. 1870, July 7th.:  
p. 26 4th ward

Hamburjer, Abraham	age 42	Patent Agent	Born: Prussia
" Annie	age 32	Keeping hse	" Hesse Darm stadt
" Morris	age 16	Male at home	born England
" Rachel	age 10		" N.Y.
" Rebecca	age 7		" Mi.
" Rosa	age 3		" Mi.
" Samuel	age 1		" Mi.

Comment: there is no doubt that the above census refers to Ephraim Hamburjer. Note that in 1870 he listed himself as Abraham Hamburger in the Detroit City Directory at 192 Congress street. This is the same address given by Ephraim Hamburjer the year previously in the 1869 City Directory. Perhaps he had such a pronounced accent that clerks could not always spell properly what he said.

1870

U.S. Census, Detroit, Mich., 1870  
p. 30 4th ward also

Hamburger, Solomon	age 48	carpenter:	born Prussia
" Lena	age 42		" "
" Lizzie	12		" NY
" Maurice	11		" NY
" Annie	11		" NY
" Raphael	6		" NY

Comment: Was the above Solomon Hamburger a brother to Ephraim? Note the coincidences: both were in the 4th ward; both were born in Prussia; both used the name Hamburger at times; their ages were only 6 years apart; both had first sons named Morris (Maurice). Remember that Ephraim was said to have had 7 brothers and none has been identified; therefore Solomon is a candidate.

1871

Julia and Fannie Hamburg, twins, 7th and 8th children, born in Mich.: 1880 census

Julia Hamburg married Harry Walters. Only child, Leo Walters. Leo married Beuhla \_\_\_\_\_. No children. Julia died after 1964 in Chicago.

Fannie Hamburg married Moses Salkey. Children: Dorothy & Samuel. Dorothy married Guy White; ch. Gloria & Delight. Delight md. \_\_\_ Helstrom, had 5 children. Samuel Salkey died age 17 of tb. Ref.: Bernice, Ann, Sylvia.

1873

Leopold Hamburg born in Mich, 9th child of Ephraim and Anna Hamburg.: 1880 census. He died at age 17: Ref.: Letter from Estella Mandelbaum.

1874

Ephraim Hambujer declared that he had lived in Detroit Michigan for more than five years, took the oath of allegiance to the United States and renounced allegiance to the Emperor of Germany March 18, 1874, before the court in Detroit, Michigan.

1877

Ephraim Hambujer listed as member of the board of trustees of the orthodox synagogue, Congregation Shaarey Zedek, Detroit, Michigan.

A copy of the book, CONGREGATION SHAAREY ZEDEK, 1861-1981 was given to me by the officials at that temple in response to some queries that I made to them regarding Ephraim Hambujer.

On page 25 are reproduced the directory and the list of church membership for the year 1877. (See p. 181a.)

Ephraim Hambujer is listed as one of the 7 members of the board of trustees and is also listed as a member in the church membership list. There were 73 members. Only the men were listed. Therefore if the average size family was 4, then the total in the congregation was 292.

In the booklet Family Trails, by the Mich Dept of Ed, 1974, p. 9 it states that Beth El congregation in Detroit was Orthodox when formed in 1850, became Reform in 1861. A split apparently occurred in the congregation and the orthodox people formed Shaarey Zedek in 1861. Shaarey Zedek remained orthodox until 1913 when they became Conservative.

Ephraim Hambujer arrived in Detroit between 1864 (Rebecca was born in N.Y. 1864) and 1865 (Ephraim married Hanna Darmstadter in 1865 in Detroit). Therefore, when he came to Detroit, he joined the Shaarey Zedek Temple (which formed in 1861.) This is proof that the tradition of his orthodoxy is correct.

- 1878 18 Dec. Hattie Hamburg, 10th child, born in Mich. Hattie Hamburg married Adolf Henry. Three sons: Eugene, Max, and Benjamin. Eugene said he was named after one of Ephraim's brothers. Eugene was age 72 in 1974. Wife is Julia. Married 50 years August 1974. Address 14449 E. 7th St. Whittier, Calif. Three sons of Eugene & Julia: Don, age 48, never married. Robert, age 47, married, 2 daughters: one married age 23, other age 20, in college. Stan, age 45, 4 children: dtr age 20, son 18, dtr 14, son 12. Hattie Hamburg Henry died age 67 on her birthday in Burbank, Calif., 18 Dec. 1945. Born 1878.  
Ref.: from Eugene Henry, 1974
- 1879 "Hamburgher, Ephraim, real estate. 209 $\frac{1}{2}$  Congress. e." Listing in Detroit City Directory, 1879.
- 1880 Census, Federal: Detroit, Ward 2, Wayne county, Mich. on 4 June. 209 $\frac{1}{2}$  Congress East. Sheet 17, line 33. Dwelling 133. Family 170.  
Hambujer, Ephraim age 53 Patent Rts. Agent. b. Prussia  
" Anna 44 wife b. Hesse Darmstadt  
Children present at home in this census: Rachael, age 18; Rebecca, 16; Rosa, 13; Samuel, 11; Julia, 9; Fannie, 9; Leopold, 7; and Hattie, 3.
- 1881 Dec. 19th. Estella Hamburg, 11th child of Ephraim and Anna born in Detroit, Michigan; Ref.: death notice of Estella 7 Feb. 1968, Los Angeles, Calif.
- 1882 "Hambujer, Ephraim, gravel, sand, etc. h. 17 Columbia Ave. w." Ref.: Detroit City Directory for 1882.
- 1883 Louis E. Hamburg came to U.S.A. Ref.: death cert. of Louis in 1933. Informant: Darline (?) Hamburg. Answered question on death cert: how long in U.S.: ans: 50 yrs.

1883 Rachel Hambujer, born in New York April 25, 1860, daughter of Ephraim and Annie Hambujer, died of consumption 13 March 1883, age 22 years 11 months and 5 days. Ref.: her death certificate.

1887 June 4th. "Prof. Hambujer, of this city, has just published a volume entitled "The Family Tree" which is intended when properly filled out to show a complete family record, exhibiting the relationship between families and tracing the line of descent through several generations." Testimonial from the Detroit Free Press included in the book. Ref.: copy of this book which sold for \$1.00 owned by Ann Lans.

1890 December 10th. The Ephraim Hamburger family moved from Detroit, Michigan to Chicago, Ill. Ref.: death certificate of Annie Hambujer dated March 24, 1896, states that she had lived in Chicago 5 years, 4 months, and 2 weeks, and that she had lived in Illinois the same period of time.

1890 Leopold Hambujer died Friday, March 14, 1890, at his father's residence, Prof. Hambujer, 98 Elizabeth at East, age 17 years and 3 months of Phthisis (tuberculosis). Duration of illness, 18 months. Place of burial: Shaarey Zadeck cemetery (which in the 1890 city directory of Detroit was on the north side of Pallister Ave., east of Dubois.) References: 1. death certificate; Detroit dept. of Health, Vital statistics; 1151 Taylor, Detroit 48202. 2. Death notice: The Evening News, Detroit, Friday March 14, 1890, page 2.

1890 Hamburg, Louis E. Bds 28 Grant Place. Ref.: Lakeside annual Directory of the City of Chicago. Note: This proves that Louis Hamburg came to Chicago before Ephraim moved his family there.

1890 Hamburg, John, musician, h. 84 Racine Av.  
Hamburg, Peter, musician, h. 84 Racine Ave.

Ref.: Lakeside Annual Directory of City of Chicago  
Question: are these two Hamburgs, living at the same place, in the same year that Louis Hamburg appears, one year before Ephraim moves to Chicago, ...are they brothers of Ephraim from the orchestra of England composed of his "6 brothers and 1 sister"? These two musicians are listed in all subsequent directories of Chicago also: 1891, 1902, 1907.

1891 Hamburger, Ephraim, inventor. h. 371 Dayton. Ref.: Lakeside annual directory of the city of Chicago. Ephraim invented the first heating stove for trains and the wheels that prevented trains from turning over when they went around curves. A large oil painting of Ephraim holding a model of the wheels is owned by Bernice Beck; this painting was always on display previously in the house of Stella and Jake Mandelbaum. "Our grandfather invented many things but sold his patents instead of getting royalties for them. My mother told us he sold the railroad wheel to the Michigan Railroad for \$10,000." Ref. A. Lans  
Ephraim started a newspaper, possibly the Detroit Free Press: Eugene Henry. He was the first to start a neighborhood newspaper; either in Chicago or in Detroit: Ann Lans.  
Ephraim was a rich man for many years but died in poverty in a little frame house on the corner of School street and Ashland Avenue in Chicago, just a few blocks from where we lived. He lost everything during the Columbian exposition. His son Samuel sent him money through the years until he too lost everything; then Stella and Jake sent Samuel money." Ref.: A. Lans.

1897 Ephraim lost the land for taxes that Henry Ford bought and built his Dearborn auto plant on. He, Ephraim, bought hundreds (A. Lans ) or thousands (B. Beck) of acres of land in the East: Maryland, Virginia, New England, for speculation but lost all of it when he could not pay the taxes. Ref.: B. Beck & A. Lans remember reading the deeds.

1893? Ephraim had a restaurant in Chicago called the Rathskeller which failed, not the White House Restaurant. Ref.: A. Lans.

1893 The Annual Directory of the City of Chicago by the R.H. Donnelly Co. for 1893; p. 694:  
"Hambujer, Ephraim, gen agt. 71, 125 Clark Street, h. 244 Burling."  
"Hambujer, Samuel, actor, 244 Burling."  
"Hamburg, Louis E., agt. h. 292 Bissell"  
"Hamburger, Maurice. Actor. h. 485 N. Clark."

896 ANNIE HAMBUJER age 58 years, 5 months, 8 days, died on March 24, 1896 at 2:45 p.m. at 430 Cleveland Ave. 21st ward at home, Chicago, Ill. of pneumonia following the Grippe. Buried at Ricklawn (Ridgelawn). Undertaker, A.L. Bentley & son, Lincoln Avenue, license no. 17.  
Ref.: copy of original death cert. on file with Cook County Clerk, Chicago.

HAMBUJER, Mrs. Anne Hambujer, beloved wife of E. Hambujer of the Weekly Enterprise\*at her residence 430 Cleveland Av. on Tuesday March 24, age 58. Funeral on Thursday 10 o'clock. Detroit, Syracuse, Cincinnati papers please copy.

Chicago Tribune March 26, 1896

1897 Ephraim Hamburg married Lottie: Ref. 1900 census. Lottie was his 3rd wife: Ref.: Ann Lans; Lottie was his 4th wife: Ref.: Eugene Henry.

1900. HAMBURGER, Ephraim clerk home 785 No. Robey Street:  
Ref.: 1900 Chicago City Directory, page 800.

1900 6 June. The 12th Census of the U.S.:

HAMBURGER, Ephraim, and wife Lottie. Ephraim listed as born Oct., 1826, age 73 on last birthday. Married for 3 years. Born in Germany. Mother and father born in Germany. Immigrated 1860 to the U.S., and in the U.S. for 40 years. No occupation listed.

HAMBURGER, Lottie: same census. Born Oct. 1865, age 35. Born in Austria. Mother and father born in Austria. Came to the U.S. in 1895, present here 5 years.

REFERENCE: 1900 census. Illinois. Cook County.  
West Town Township. City of Chicago.  
15th ward. Page 232 A.

ADDRESS: 785 Robey Street., Chicago.

1891: page 966: Hamburger, Ephraim, inventor, h. 371 Dayton

1893: p. 694: Hambujer, Ephraim, gen. agt. 71, 125, Clark,  
h. 244 Burling

1902 Hambujer Ephraim pub 22, 125 Clark h 780 N Winchester Av  
Hamburg Lewis E. undertaker 316 Ogden av h 850 W Polk

1906 Ephraim wrote and published "The Family Tree" book. 150  
pages. Sold for \$2.00. Published by The Family Record  
Co., Chicago, Ill. Ref.: copy owned by Ann Lans. Who  
owns one that has Ephraim's genealogy written in it?

1907 Hambujer Ephraim pub h 856 N Winchester Av  
1907 Hamburg Lewis E undertaker 3725 Cottage Grove Av

Ref.: 1902 & 1907 Annual Directory of the City of  
Chicago, Ill. State Library, Springfield, Ill.

19-- Ephraim married Sophie, age 64, his 4th or 5th wife.  
Sophie outlived Ephraim and married a Mr. Zeigler. Ref.:  
Ann Lans.

Obituary Number 1.:

1913 EPHRAIM HAMBURG, age 88 years, husband of Mrs. Sophia Hamburg, nee Leze, and fond father of Morris, Lewis, and Samuel Hamburg, Mrs. Max Friend, Mrs. M. Salkey, Mrs. Harry Walters, Mrs. Adolph Henry, Mrs. J.D. Mandelbaum, passed into eternal rest May 31. Funeral Tues. June 3, 11 a.m. from his son's residence, 4649 Prairie Ave. By automobile to Ridge Lawn Cemetery, Bee Hive Lodge, No. 909(9007) A.F.&M. Officiating. Cincinnati, Ohio, Detroit, Mich., and Dallas, Texas papers please copy.

Chicago Tribune, June 1, 1913, p. 8

Obituary number 2.:

1913 June 2, 1913. Chicago Tribune, page 4. A long obituary containing references to war records which cannot be documented. There is no family tradition of any war experiences of Ephraim .

"COLONEL EPHRAIM HAMBURG. AGED WAR VETERAN, DEAD.  
Soldier in Franco-Prussian and Civil Struggles  
and Believed Oldest Mason in Chicago Passes Away.

Col. Ephraim Hamburg, veteran of Wars for his fatherland and his adopted country died Saturday at the Hamburg residence, 4649 Prairie Avenue, at the age of 97. He was believed to be the oldest Mason in Chicago.

Col. Hamburg was born in Prussia Oct. 1, 1815 and entered the army at age 18, continuing as drillmaster until he was detailed in 1850 for three years: detached service in London. In 1859 he came to the United States and settled in Detroit, working for the Detroit Free Press until the opening of the Civil War, in which he served for four years.

At the outbreak of the Franco-Prussian war he offered his services to his fatherland, and at the close of the war was granted various medals. He was a Mason since 1856, when he was initiated at Edinburgh. He is survived by his widow and eight children. The funeral service at the residence tomorrow at 10 a.m. will be in charge of Bee Hive lodge No. 909, A. F. & A. M."

BACKGROUND information for the understanding of Ephraim Hamburger, the magician: (From the 1949 Encyclopedia Britannica.)

1. "Conjuring, the art of entertaining by pretended performance of those things which cannot be done. Because the entertainment an audience derives from conjuring depends largely upon complete mystification, the profession always tries to keep its methods secret and permits the public to think what it will. Even into the 18th century, a majority of people believed the tricks they saw performed were the result of the aid of demons. The two most common terms used for the art, conjuring and magic have in their earlier meanings associated with devils, demons, spirits, and unholy powers. In the 18th century, more enlightened people began using the words Natural Magic, or White Magic to indicate the entertainment. It still was confusing, for white magic also has the meaning of curative magic as opposed to Black Magic which destroys."

2. "Because of the quantities of apparatus, magicians avowed super-mechanical knowledge and based their wenders on a scientific claim, rather than the magic words previously used. The public did not object, for people were becoming conscious of the remarkable possibilities of mechanics and were losing interest in the pretense of magic spells.

Professor as a title for magician, invariably self-bestowed, became generally accepted."

3. "All were great travelers and gave their shows in many countries."

4. "What makes an exhibition of <sup>4</sup>my<sub>1</sub>steries effective is the agreeable personality of the conjurer, and the timing, naturalness and smoo<sup>n</sup>thness of his performance. Properly to enact the role of purveyor of the impossible, a conjurer must be assured in every word and action."

EPHRAIM HAMBURGER: (Abstracted from his book of testimonials.)

Research into what it was that he did in his exhibitions of magic in Germany and Britain in 1850-1858:

1. "His skill in cutting glass is extraordinary."
2. "He performed many clever and unusual tricks."
3. "Mr. Hamburger's slight of hand tricks..."
4. "Skilful and entertaining performance..."
5. "Witnessed the cabalistic feats..."
6. "...and heard a lecture from Professor Hamburger...."
7. " feats in the cabalistic art.."
8. " and the remarks with which he accompanied the exhibition were highly interesting.."
9. "performed numerous feats in the cabalistic art.."
10. " I feel great pleasure in testifying to his skill as a Professor of Natural Magic.."
11. "His lecture was very instructive."
12. "He took great pains to explain his subject and was very successful."
13. " The explanation was calculated to \_\_\_\_\_ their minds on this much misunderstood science.."
14. " The explanation of the performances was such as to deprive the exhibition of Natural Magic of its supernatural character."
15. "...amused our boys for half an hour with his magical tricks.."
16. "They were very pleased and it tended to make them despise those pretended conjurors.."
17. "...of great service in proving to the children that no such persons exist as conjurors.."
18. "dispelled all doubt as to his being a conjuror.."
19. " set right the erroneous idea of conjuring.."
20. "His tricks excited walls of laughter.."

21. " his feats of legerdermain.."

22. "Professor Hamburger's experiments and explanations.."

23. " the ancient art of magic..."

24 "...the "professor" visited ..."

25. " amused and instructed by the lecture on the cabalistic art.."

26. " will tend to destroy the superstitious belief in conjuring.."

27. "Professor Hamburger's entertainment and instructive lecture on Natural Magic very much interested the young ladies of ...Jackson's School, Miss Thompson's School, and the young gentlemen of the High School. His rapidity, dexterity, and general manipulation are unrivaled and his supreme sliight of hand make him independent of apparatus."

28. "accompanied by explanations of some of the tricks.."

29. " and his various apparatus..."

30. "Useful to dispel beliefs in the cabalistic art..."

Summary: Ephraim Hamburger for about 10 years in Germany and in England made his living as a professional magician. He performed shows of magic primarily at schools and also a few adult gatherings where he called himself a professor of natural magic. This was in contradistinction to the cabalistic art, or conjuring , wherein people were deceived and their superstitions promoted. He explained many of his tricks and sliight of hand feats and gave lectures on magic and the deceptions practiced by his competitors, the conjurers. His shows were a half hour long or more and were so popular that he was recalled two and three times to various schools over a period of several years, being applauded more each time. His performances tended to dispel popular superstitions about magic and sorcerers.

...Richard Grayson, M.D.

CHAPTER 1A  
FAMILY MEMORIES OF EPHRAIM HAMBUJER:

I. From Anna Leah (Mandelbaum) Lans):

He was a professional theatrical magician in England.

He had 7 brothers, all musicians, who had their own orchestra.

He had 1 sister who was a singer in the orchestra. Her daughter was Louisa Glickstein. She and her 2 daughters used to visit us on Newport Ave. Louisa Alexander was the daughter of Ephraim's only sister.

Walter Ashley had 5 children.

Stella Mandelbaum said Ephraim was married 4 times. Eugene Henry said 5 times.

Our grandfather was a brilliant man even though he did not have too much education. He had the intelligence of a genius and the stature of a great man.

II. From Sylvia Mandelbaum Grayson:

Fanny and Julia used to fight about how many wives Ephraim had, whether 4 or 5.

He once owned the land on which Henry Ford built his factory.

Ephraim's father lived to be 120 years old in Germany according to Stella.

III. From Berniece Mandelbaum Beck:

Ephraim was wealthy from his inventions then lost his money during the World's Fair in Chicago in 1893. He owned thousands of acres of land in Virginia and other southern states and lost them for taxes.

Ephraim's daughter Rebecca married a gentile and was disowned.

There are 3 programs in existence telling of Ephraim's performances at various courts and palaces; i.e., Windsor and Buckingham palaces by royal command of Queen Victoria and in Russia by Command of the Czar. I saw them framed on the wall of Max Henry, now possibly in his son Bruce's home.

Page 2.

Grandpa invented and patented a brake wheel for trains which he sold to the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad for \$15,000.

He spoke 9 languages. But he could not write English.

He reared his brothers and gave them a musical education.

IV. Stella Mandelbaum:

My brother Leopold died when he was 17. He was 4 years older than Aunt Hattie.

John Ashley was the husband of my sister Rebecca and they had 2 children, Walter and Donald. Walter married Ella \_\_\_ and they had 2 girls, one named Joyce.

V. Eugene Henry:

Ephraim's 1st wife had Morris and Lewis. The 2nd wife had Rachel and Rebecca. The 3rd wife was Hannah. She originally came to Detroit from Germany as a governess to a wealthy family.

Ephraim was born in Frankfort in 1820.

Eugene has a program showing Ephraim played before Lord and Lady Seaton, governor of Ireland, in Ireland.

Ephraim lived <sup>with</sup> Eugene's folks until Eugene was age 8.

Eugene helped Max Friend bring Karl Darmstadt to America in the 1930's to escape Hitler.

ADDENDUM: from Berniece:

Leopold's grave is in Detroit. We visited it in the 1920's.

Stella said that Rachel died of a broken heart 3 weeks after refused her permission to marry because the man was a gambler.

Rebecca and John Ashley's son Walter had children Joyce and Norman Ashley.