

CHRISTOPHER HEBBE, farmer, Section 1, P. O. Perry, is a native of Germany, and was born in Prussia, December 13, 1828; was there educated and learned the blacksmith's trade. In 1854, came to America. For a time remained in New York, after which he came to Milwaukee, Wis., working at his trade a while, when he went to Chicago, and for about two years was in the employ of the Union, afterwards Union & American Car Works. In 1857, came to Kansas, locating on the Kaw River, at Rising Sun, in Jefferson County; here he built a shop and did the first blacksmithing at that point. Mr. Hebbe, although a strong Free-state man, did not parade his opinion, nevertheless the opposition party gave him considerable trouble. On his arrival at Rising Sun, when asked if he was Democrat or Republican he answered that he was a Dutchman. Becoming dissatisfied with Rising Sun, the spring of 1869, he removed his shop to a point now adjoining Medina, where he rented a small amount of land and commenced farming in connection. Two years later he removed to where he now resides, following blacksmithing for several years. He has been eminently successful in Kansas, and now owns 369 acres of choice land. He was married in Milwaukee, Wis. to Miss Sophia M. Weis, of Saxony, Germany. They have nine children living - John O., William C., Carl F., Mary S., Albert J., Esther L., George H., Frank T., and Emma O. They lost one daughter, Paulina, the first born. The family are identified with the Lutheran Church.

<http://www.kancoll.org/books/cutler/jefferson/jefferson-co-p18.html#THOMPSONVILLE>

William G. Cutler's History of the State of Kansas

was first published in 1883 by A. T. Andreas, Chicago, IL.

Helen Stein identified the above as coming from Andrea's History of Kansas, 1883. Her typed account sent to LSS late 1980s, included this next paragraph which may, or may not, have been included in the Andrea version. The account of John F. Goepfert was not found on-line in the Jefferson County section. Mention of his and Sophia's burial in the same cemetery precludes that paragraph from inclusion in a book published 1883.

While living on that small place near Medina, the son William C. was born. In later years his son-in-law asked Mr. Hebbe why he left the fertile land in the bottom and moved up in the hills north of Perry. The answer was "too much Malaria" and that might have been the cause of the death of daughter Paulina.

Another bit of interest from the above book

John F. Goepfert, a farmer, Section 24, P.O. Perry was born in Saxony, Germany, Feb. 16, 1831 came to the United States in 1852, located in St. Clair County, Ill. Where he resided, engaged in agricultural pursuits until 1866, when he moved to Kansas; his mother and the rest of the family went afterwards; the father having died. He has been identified among the leading farmers of Jefferson County. His estate embraces 606 acres of land, 200 of which are under cultivation. Mr. Goepfert was married in 1865, to Miss Martha N. Thurston. They have four children - Theodore, Orien, Ernst and Cyrus.

Mr. Goepfert and Sophia M. Weis were neighbors in Saxony Germany, came to America and finally settled near Perry. He came by way of St. Clair County, Illinois which is just east of St. Louis and she came by way of Wisconsin and Chicago. They are buried near each other in the Oak Ridge Cemetery at Perry, Kansas. When in Saxony, Sophia's sister wanted to date a certain young man that her parents did not like but it was alright for her to go out with John Goepfert, who took her to the young man she wanted to see. (Times have not changed much even tho countries and dates have.)

A history of the Jefferson County, Kansas communities Rising Sun, Medina and Perry is located here.

http://www.kancoll.org/books/cutler/jefferson/jefferson-co-p17.html#KENTUCKY_TOWNSHIP