

Kroll family

by

Roland Wagner, 2019

My Reis and Wagner families both had links with the Kroll family in Rastadt.

Ferdinand Wagner (b. 1793), his second wife was **Elisabeth Kroll**. Her identity within the Kroll family is unknown. Ferdinand was a widower when he married her in ca. 1828, so it's possible that she too was a widow and Kroll may have been her married name. Elisabeth Wilhelm, the wife of Christian/Christopher Kroll (see below) had a son as late as 1836 so she couldn't have been Ferdinand's wife.¹

My other ancestor, **Karl Reis** (b. 1822), married **Katherina Kroll**, they were the parents of my great-grandfather Ignatz Reis. Katharina was probably born in the 1820s, approximating Karl's birth year, so she was likely the granddaughter of **Michael Kroll**, from Böchingen, in the Pfalz, who was one of the founders of Rastadt in 1810. The 1811 census ("Revision List") for Rastadt shows **Michael Kroll** (his age is not shown) and his wife, **Agnes** 31 (b. ca. 1780), and four children - **Wilhelm Sutter** 17 (step-son, b. ca. 1794/95), **Heinrich** 13 (b. ca. 1798), **August** 9 (b. ca. 1802), and **Sophie** 10 (b. ca. 1801). Like so many other colonists, Michael Kroll died from cholera during his first year in Russia. The 1811 agricultural report for Rastadt shows **Agnes Kroll**, a widow, with 3 sons and 1 daughter. After Michael's death, Agnes remarried to **Jakob Sutter**. The 1816 Revision List for Rastadt shows Agnes 35 and her husband, Jakob, with her children Wilhelm 21, Heinrich 17, August 13, and Sophia 15. One family tree on internet² shows that Agnes had a daughter, **Katharina**, born ca. 1824, the daughter of **Michael Kroll**. This is clearly mistaken because Michael Kroll was already dead by that date.

There are two candidates for the identity of Katharina Kroll, born in the 1820s, who married Karl Reis. (1) Katharina (born 1824 supposedly the daughter of Agnes and **Michael "Krell"**) can be eliminated because Michael Kroll died in 1811. There is no known source for her so this is probably based on a mistaken guess. (2) The only other documented candidate is **Margaret Katharina Kroll** who was born 1827, the daughter of **Christian Kroll** (see discussion below). By process of elimination Margaret

¹ Elisabeth Kroll, Ferdinand Wagner's second wife, is based on Georg Wagner's marriage record which states his parents' names. Harvey Eberle also had her listed as a wife of Ferdinand and he forwarded to me info that Elisabeth Kroll was born ca. 1795. His source for her birth year is unknown. This was probably based on a guess since Ferdinand's birth year was 1793.

² Katharina Wacker's family tree shows Katharina "Krell" (1824-1899) the daughter of Michael "Krell" and Agnes, who married Karl Reis. The problem is that Michael Kroll died in 1811 and Agnes remarried to Jacob Sutter. Katharina, born ca. 1824, would most likely have been Jacob's daughter.

Katherina Kroll is the most likely candidate for the wife of Karl Reis because she was the only woman born in the 1820s with the name of Katharina Kroll.

The earliest records that refer to the Kroll family in Rastadt are summarized below.

Michael Kroll from Böchingen, Baden, b. prob. ca. 1780, d. 1811 Rastadt. He marr. **Agnes** (b. ca. 1780), Michael died 1811 in Rastadt and Agnes remarried to Jacob Sutter. Michael Kroll had these children:

1. **Wilhelm Kroll** b. ca. 1795
2. **Heinrich Kroll**, b. 1798/1799, d. 1811 Rastadt.
3. **Sophia Kroll** b. 1801- (her birth year overlaps with Christopher/Christian), marr. Valentin Jorden then Peter Gärtner.
4. **August Kroll**, b. 1802/1803-, marr. Florentina.

After the death of Michael Kroll in 1811 Agnes remarried to Jacob Sutter in Rastadt, he was b. ca. 1781 from Auenheim, Haguenu, Pfalz. The report in 1811 (6-1-593) states that Jacob Sutter married the widow of Michael Kroll, she relocated to his household and the four Kroll children were his step-children.

There are also these children in various records, their relationship with Michael Kroll is uncertain:

Christian Kroll b. 1801, d.1836 Rastadt, marr. Elis. Wilhelm Nov. 6, 1823, they were stated to be from Rastadt, witnesses were Johann Wilhelm and Karl Wandler.

Friedrich Kroll (unknown birth year), marr. Christina Wandler then Katharina Holtzmann.

Katharina Kroll 1824- (doubtful, since Michael d. 1811, and Katharina is shown on Ancestry.com as b. in Mothorn, Alsace rather than Rastadt)

In 1826 the citizens of Rastadt signed a community testimonial ("*Gemeindespruch*") stating that they accepted two new citizens as members of the colony. They all had to affix their names to this sworn document. **Friedrich Kroll** was one of the signed members of the community. There were no other persons with the surname Kroll shown. Friedrich also appears in the early baptismal and marriage records.

Friedrich Kroll was married first to **Christina Wandler**. The baptismal records show that he was the son of Michael Kroll. After her death, "Friedens" Kroll was married a second time on April 2, 1827 in Rastadt to **Katharina Holtzmann**, da. of Anton, both of them were stated to be widowed. Friedrich's children were:

1. **Valentin Kroll**, b. Aug. 17, 1820, son of Friedrich Kroll and Christina Wandler.
2. **Matheus Kroll**, b. Sept. 6, 1822 Rastadt, son of Friedrich Kroll and Christina Wandler.
3. **Martin Kroll**, b. June 25, 1824, son of "Frils" Kroll and Christina Wandler.

4. **Magdalena Kroll**, b. Aug. 22, 1826, da. of Friedrich Kroll and Christina Wandler; Sofia Kroll was godmother which probably indicates a relationship.

Magdalena Kroll, married **Johann Frei**, their son was:

- **Joseph Frei**, born Nov. 2, 1846 in Rastadt, the godmother was Julianna Kroll.

5. **Elisabeth Kroll**, b. Nov. 29, 1833 Rastadt, the da. of Friedrich son of Michael Kroll and Katharina da. of Anton. Katharina's name is written clearly, but her surname is not given, presumably she was Katharina Holtzmann.

Friedrich served as a baptismal godfather for Karl Friedrich Traub, son of Valentin Traub and Susanna Gustin on March 27, 1822 in Rastadt. He was also a witness for the marriage of Daniel Faller and Maria on May 11, 1824 in Rastadt.

Christian Kroll (the priest recorded the name in one baptismal record as "Chrisostin"), was born 1801 and died 1836 age 35 in Rastadt. The baptismal records for his children state that Christian was the son of Michael Kroll (although he is not shown in the household of Michael in the 1811 R.L.). His wife was **Elisabeth Wilhelm**, the da. of **Johann Wilhelm**. They were married Nov. 6, 1823 and they had at least six children, the known ones were:

1. **Anna Maria Kroll**, b. Oct. 30, 1824. She may be the same person as **Maria Anna Kroll** who married **Johann Frei**, they had a son Anton Frei on July 31, 1853 in Rastadt.

2. **Margaret Katherine Kroll**, b. Feb. 24, 1827, d. 1849 Rastadt.

It is likely that she was the **Katherine Kroll** who later married Karl Reis. Karl and Katherine Kroll had **Ignatz Reis**, b. 1846, so presumably both of them were born in the 1820s.

3. **Johann Heinrich Kroll**, b. Dec. 8, 1832 Rastadt. **Heinrich Kroll** marr. **Margaret Fastner** (Kastner?), they had a son:

- **Sebastian Kroll**, b. Sept. 24, 1870 who d. Oct. 7, 1870 age 13 days, in Rastadt. Parents stated to be Heinrich Kroll and Margaret.

4. **Magdalena Kroll**, b. Nov. 4, 1834 Rastadt.

5. **Paul Kroll**, b. Sept. 25, 1836 Rastadt.

6. **Mariana Kroll**, marr. Georg Wock on Jan. 17, 1840 in Landau, she was stated to be the dau. of Christian Kroll and Elis. Wilhelm, age 18 (= b. ca. 1822).

Christian Kroll served as a baptismal sponsor for Christian Kastner in München on Nov. 28, 1821, and for Elisabeth Jordan, daughter of Adam Jordan, in Rastadt in 1826.

The death records show that **Barbara Kroll**, daughter of **Georg Peter Kroll**, died on Nov. 11, 1820 in München, no age is shown. There is no other record for Georg Peter Kroll. It should be noted that our Kroll family lived in Rastadt, whereas this death record refers to München, which suggests that they may be different families. Also, Georg Peter's surname is not totally clear so there may be a mistranslation.

Joseph Kroll married to **Margaret Erdmann (Erhardt?)**, had a da. **Theresa Kroll** Feb. 10, 1821 in Rastadt. There is no clear link for Joseph Kroll, but his surname is written unclearly in the baptismal records.

Augustin Kroll and his wife **Florentine** received a passport to travel outside their home colony of Rastadt to Cherson province on June 30, 1831. He presumably was the same as August, the son of Michael Kroll and Agnes, b. ca. 1802, who is shown in the 1811 Revision List above.

Franz Kroll marr. **Katharina** (her surname unknown). Franz's surname is unclear, spelled as "Kol." This is based on one record:

1. **Maria Eva Kroll**, b. May 13, 1831 Rastadt. Maria Eva Kroll had an illegitimate daughter **Katharina** on Sept. 9, 1850 in an unnamed Khutor.

Sophia Kroll married **Valentin Jordan** in Rastadt. She was probably the daughter of Michael Kroll and Agnes, b. ca. 1801. They had a daughter:

1. **Agnes Jordan**, b. 1826.

Sophia Kroll served as godmother for Magdalena Kroll on Aug. 22, 1826, da. of Friedrich Kroll and Christina Wandler. This likely shows a relationship.

Sophia Kroll was also shown as married to **Peter Gärtner** he b. ca. 1820, he d. Jan. 4, 1880 of cancer, age 60 in Rastadt. This surname was mistranslated as "Herter" by our Cyrillic translator of the baptismal records. This may have been Sophia's second marriage, although there is a 20 year difference in the births of their children. Peter Gärtner's death record shows his children as Anton, Josef, Jakob, Johann, Hieronymous, Katharina, Magdalena, and Agatha. His wife is not shown, so Sophia may have been deceased by 1880:

1. **Jakob Gärtner**, born on Oct. 26, 1843.

2. **Sebastian Gärtner**, b. Feb. 1, 1846, Rastadt.

3. **Katherine Gärtner**, b. April 12, 1853 in Rastadt.

4. **Hieronymus Gärtner**, b. April 12, 1858, Rastadt.

5. **Agatha Gärtner**, b. Feb. 3, 1860. There is also a record for Adam Gärtner, b. Feb. 3, 1860, which may indicate that he was a twin. I do not have the original record for this baptism so it may be a mistranslation of the first name from Cyrillic.

6. **Johann Gärtner**.

7. **Magdalena Gärtner**.

8. **Anton Gärtner**.

9. **Josef Gärtner**.

Sophia also served as a godmother for Jakob Keller on April 28, 1846 in Rastadt.

Mathias (Martin?) Kroll married to **Katharina Fischer** had a son:

1. **Mathias Kroll**, born April 22, 1846 in Rastadt.

The records are unclear because they show **Martin Kroll** married to **Katharina** (her surname is uncertain). They had a son **Joseph Kroll**, who died June 9, 1855, age 6, yielding a birth year of 1849..

There was also **Martin Kroll** married to **Katharina Fischer**. Both Matheus and Martin Kroll are shown as married to Katharina Fischer. It's likely that one of their names was mistranslated from the Cyrillic; however the birth years for their children are separated by 12 years so they may have been brothers. There are baptismal records for 4 children of Martin and Katharina Fischer:

1. **Julianna Kroll**, b. Aug. 27, 1853 in Rastadt, she d. Dec. 20, 1853, age 4 months.
2. **Michael Kroll**, b. Nov. 7, 1858 Rastadt.
3. **Julianna Kroll**, b. Sept. 30, 1860.
4. **Anna Maria Kroll**, b. Sept. 16, 1862.
5. **Christina Kroll**, b. Nov. 29, 1864 Rastadt.

Katherina Kroll (presumably Martin's wife) also served as godmother for:

- Heinrich Wandler, b. Aug. 16, 1859 Rastadt.
- Anton Hoffart, b. Feb. 2, 1860 Rastadt.
- Katharina Wandler, b. Sept. 16, 1861.
- Kalumda? Wandler, b. Oct. 28, 1863.

Martin Kroll served as godfather for:

- Magdalena Hoffart May 1, 1858 in Rastadt.
- Veronica Wandler, b. Oct. 17, 1864 Rastadt.
- Katharina Wandler, b. April 23, 1866 Rastadt.

There was also **Martin Kroll** married to **Margaret Fischer**. Presumably he is not the same as Martin Kroll above married to Katharina Fischer since they each had a child born in 1858, although it is puzzling how there could be two contemporary Martin Krolls in Rastadt:

1. **Franziska Kroll**, b. April 13, 1858, Rastadt.

Margaret Kroll served as godmother for Margaret Schmidt, July 31, 1858 Rastadt.

Marta Eva Kroll, married to **Friedrich Klug**. Probably her name should be "Maria."

1. **Georg Michael Klug**, b. June 6, 1859 Rastadt.

Margaret Kroll married **Jacob Selinger**. An anonymous source states that she was b. Nov. 22, 1866, Rastadt, but this doesn't match the baptism of their son, Adam.

1. **Adam Selinger**, b. Aug. 27, 1870.

Adam Kroll marr. **Anna Maria Pretzer** (her surname is probably mistranslated from the Cyrillic):

1. **Maria Anna Kroll**, b. July 3, 1869 Rastadt.

Adam Kroll served as godfather for:

- Adam Eberle, b. Feb. 8, 1867 Rastadt.
- Anna Maria Rapp, b. Sept. 10, 1867 Rastadt.
- Adam Selinger, b. Aug. 27, 1870 Rastadt.