

Hi KKC Extended Family,

Over the next few months, I am going to take sections from a genealogy book written by Mary Frances Beasley, of Fort Smith, Arkansas, and published in 1986. I rediscovered the book while preparing for this year’s reunion. I assume that Mary found out about our annual reunion and had contacted my mother, Ruth, the Reunion Secretary, to have her name added to the mailing list around the time the book was published, and mom got it from her.

The book, *Culp and Related Families*, details the genealogy of those of the Hans Casper Kolb line in their migrations from Pennsylvania, to North/South Carolina, to Tennessee (Fayette County) and finally Arkansas (Clark County), through her mother’s family. Mary covers much of what I had written back in the February and March 2025 newsletters about Casper Kolb, but in much greater detail.

The book has several interesting sections that detail the family origins in Europe, war in the Palatinate, the immigrants, a list of Immigrant Kolbs and even a section about the Dielman Kolb family, the first Kolbs to come to America. Some of these sections were taken from first revised draft 1978 of Avery E. Kolb ‘s book: *Kolb Families and Relatives in the South – Johannes Kolb and Sons Progenitors of Southern Families*.

I am not sure if that book was ever published, as Avery died in 1980, and I could not find it referenced online. However, he edited another book published in 1973, *Kolb Families and Their Relatives of Mississippi and Arkansas: The Descendants of James Kolb Sr. of York Co., S.C. and his son Silas Kolb of Lownes Co., Mississippi*, which also has a well written compilation of the Kolb History, which I might also use in the future.

I hope you find what she has in her book interesting.

(The following is taken from *Culp and Related Families* by Mary Francis Beasley)
European Beginnings (from *Kolb Families and Relatives in the South*, by Avery E. Kolb, first draft revised 1978)

The name “Kolb” is an old Teuton tribal one, meaning helmet and one with a shaved head. It is descriptive of the warrior and a monk and, paradoxically, suggests the roles those who bore the name would play in the history of their times – both men of war and men of peace. But primarily, the Kolbs were men of the soil.

The Teutonic clans came out of the northlands, bearded, fair-skinned people, at the time of the Roman Empire. They came, not for plunder, but seeking land on which to plant crops and pasture cattle, land on which to build farms and rear families. They settled in the valley of the Rhine, on the slopes of the Alps, and prospered under a simple code which held that a man was due only as to the product of his labors.

But they were set upon by contending hoards, by plundering Romans, and later by warring lords who envied them their storehouses, their lands, their women. What they had wrought, some stood to defend. But many, being peaceable men, loaded their families and goods and moved

on. Their longest and most difficult trip was down the Rhine to the Netherlands and across the Atlantic to the New World. Here the cycle of their trials was to repeat itself, as though it were ever so.

The German immigrants who came to America before the Revolution, of whom the Kolbs were a small but influential number, were almost entirely from South Germany, especially the Palatinate, Wurttemberg and from Switzerland. This area has an important history. Its inhabitants are descendants of German tribals called the Rhein Franken, with an admixture of Alemanni who were defeated and assimilated around 500 A.D. situated along the great water highway of Europe. They are said to combine the best qualities of the North and South, being distinguished for indomitable industry, keen wit, independence, and a high degree of intelligence.

During the Middle Ages the Palatinate was the most powerful and prosperous of the German States, having benefitted and advanced under progressive and tolerant rulers. The country along the Rhine and Neckar Rivers was known as the garden of Germany, and the University of Heidelberg was one of the most influential seats of learning in Europe. The yeomanry were in a state of great prosperity. "Their houses were comfortable, their barns capacious, their stables well stocked with horses and cattle, their crops were plenteous, and many had considerable sums of money safely stored away against a rainy day."

The disorders of religious wars dealt a terrible blow to this prosperity. The causes run deep. The consequences marked a crucial turn in history. Many would leave their homeland for the new world.

More next month...Until then stay cool...

Jack Oberholtzer
Secretary, Kolb, Kulp, Culp Family Association

P.S. Be sure to follow the website (<http://kolb-kulp-culp.org>) and on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/Kolb-Kulp-Culp-Family-Reunion-111440337655136>).

P.P.S. For website or digital marketing help, please consider **Lenore Suhanec** at **Pink Sky Studios** <https://pinkskystudios.com>. She helped with our website and did a great job.

P.P.P.S. Please check out the genealogical resources at the website of *Palatines to America German Genealogy Society* <https://www.palam.org>

<https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/25173136/mary-frances-beasley>