

Sensebach Heritage

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A family history newsletter for:

Sinsabaugh Sensibaugh Sensenbaugh Sensebox
Sinsapaugh Sencabaugh Sencenbaugh Sencerbox
Sincebaugh Sencebaugh Sincerbeaux Sincerbox
Sensabaugh Sencibaugh Cincebeaux Sensaboy
Sensebaugh Cencebaugh Cincebox Senciboy
and other variations of the name

Restless Feet: The Six (not Seven) Sons of Simeon Sinsabaugh (part II)

by Steven L. Sinsabaugh

In the last issue we discussed some of the difficulties and previous results in determining the sons of Simeon Sinsabaugh. We also reviewed in detail the evidence for possible sons David, Hiram and George, and against possible son Jacob.

We now look at three more probable sons: John, Joseph and Isaac Sinsabaugh, along with the evidence supporting each case. As was shown with Simeon and his three eldest sons, these sons (at least two of them) had "restless feet" – living in several places throughout their lives.

Once we finish reviewing the individual sons, the article concludes by examining the old census records to see if the number and age of the sons fit the size of Simeon's household between 1810 and 1840.

John Sinsabaugh

John Sinsabaugh is another son for whom no birth records exist. He first explicitly appears in the 1850 census, living between the households of 'Simon Cinsibau' and 'Isaac Cincibau' on one side and 'Joseph Cincebaugh' on the other (with their respective families).¹ John's age is listed as 31, born in Pennsylvania, and, like his brother David before him, he was a peddler. His wife, Elizabeth, was age 26 and born in Ohio. Children were James, age 3, and Alice, age 8 months, both also born in Ohio.

In the 1860 census John, now a grocer, resided in Harrison Township, Licking County, Ohio.² In addition to his wife Elizabeth and children James and Alice, a new family addition was Hiram S., born about 1856. Also residing with them was Emily Haines, age 22, born in Ohio, engaged in housekeeping.

John's home in 1870 has not been found in the census, in spite of searches in Ohio, and Coles and Vermilion Counties in Illinois.

In 1875 John married Eliza N. Sinsabaugh, the widow of his brother David, in Coles County, Illinois. By 1880 this family is found in Danville, Vermilion County, Illinois.³ Here John operated a livery stable, providing horses and carriages for other travelers. This census, which explicitly lists relationships to the head of the household, illustrates a rather mixed family. Lucy Neilson is listed as a stepdaughter (Eliza's daughter from her first marriage – the one that preceded John's brother David); Minnie Sinsabaugh (Eliza's daughter by John's brother David); Hiram Sinsabaugh (John's son by his first wife) and Charles Sinsabaugh (Eliza's son by John's brother David).

By 1900 John apparently had died; his widow Eliza N. Sinsabaugh was living in Richman Township, Wayne County, Iowa.⁴ No evidence has been found that John and Eliza had children of their own. The widow owned her own house and made a living as a tailor.

Eliza's travels were not yet over. The widow of two sons of Simeon died in 1918, and is buried in the Masonic Cemetery in Walsenburg, Huerfano County, Colorado, beside her daughter, Lucy N. Neilson who died in 1945.⁵

John's Family

JOHN SINSABAUGH was born about 1819, Pennsylvania, married (1) ELISABETH [—?—], born about 1824, Ohio;⁶ married 18 August 1875, Coles County, Illinois,⁷ (2) ELIZA N. [—?—] SINSABAUGH, born about 1833, Ohio.⁸

Children of John Sinsabaugh and Elizabeth [—?—]:

- i. JAMES SINSABAUGH, born about 1847, Ohio.
- ii. ALICE SINSABAUGH, born about 1849, Ohio.
- iii. HIRAM S. SINSABAUGH, born July 1856, Ohio, married in Vermilion County, Illinois, LIZZIE M. WOODS.

The Evidence: John

Only indirect evidence links John to Simeon. John was born in 1819 in Pennsylvania, according to all the census records. No evidence has yet been found that pinpoints John's place of birth in Pennsylvania. But at least it does match the state and era when Simeon was in Pennsylvania. In the 1880 census John states that his parents were born in New York, which also matches what is known about Simeon and Hester.

In 1850 John was living adjacent to the households of Simeon, Isaac and Joseph Sinsabaugh, suggesting a potential relationship. In the 1880 census, after John married David Sinsabaugh's widow Eliza, the census states that David's two youngest children were John's niece and nephew. This implies David and John were brothers; and David's relationship to Simeon is well proven.

One other small piece of evidence is the naming of one of his son's Hiram, which is a com-

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name	relationship to	age	birthplace
John Sinsabaugh	John	60	Pa.
Eliza N. Sinsabaugh	wife	47	Ohio
Lucy N. Neilson	stepdaughter	22	Iowa
Minnie Sinsabaugh	niece	16	Iowa
Hiram Sinsabaugh	son	22	Ohio
Charles Sinsabaugh	nephew	10	Illinois

Table 1: 1880 Census, Danville, Vermilion Co., Ill.