



Port Misery Memorial, West Lakes

Johann Christian SCHILLING (1805-1888)

&

Johanne Rosina SCHILLING (1806-1883)

married

in 1828 at Fablum Ragwitz Pozen, Prussia

Departed in 6 July 1838 from Hamburg

Arrived 21 November 1838 at Port Misery on the

Prince George

Children of Christian & Rosina:

Johanne Louise (1829-1875) m [1]Ernst WARNEST

[2] Gottlieb ROGASCH

[3] Gottlob WISLANG

Maria Elisabeth (1838-died in infancy)

Johann Christian (1843-died in infancy)

Johanne Caroline (1847-1921) m Gottfried MADER

Maria Ernstine (1850-1893) m [1] Gottlieb MADER

[2] Wilhelm MADER

An Original German Pioneer Settler

In early 1838 a group of approximately 250 Lutherans from Prussia, under the guidance and leadership of Pastor August Kavel, were allowed to leave their homeland for South Australia and the freedom to practice their religion without fear of persecution.

Christian and Rosina Schilling, with their two children Louise and Elisabeth, were among passengers on the "Prince George" that landed at Port Misery. The passengers were taken to Port Adelaide where they stayed for four weeks before being moved to a more permanent site.

Here, the pioneers set about building a village, which they named Klemzig after the area where Pastor Kavel's congregation came from. They also built the first Lutheran Church and School, cleared the land and planted food crops. They were then able to sell their produce in Adelaide. While at Klemzig, Rosina gave birth to a son, but both he and their second daughter Elisabeth died.

Around 1846, the Schilling family moved to Light Pass in the Barossa Valley where Christian began farming, and two more daughters were born.

Over the next few years more of the pioneers at Klemzig gradually moved to the Barossa Valley, Hahndorf and Lobethal. As more Lutherans arrived in South Australia from Prussia they were welcomed into established communities with a strong German Lutheran culture. This culture is still evident today and is celebrated in festivals and tourist attractions in these areas.



Christian and Rosina are both buried in the Immanuel Lutheran Church cemetery at Light Pass.

From information provided by Dawn Horton,
Christian and Rosina's great great great granddaughter
January 2016

