

1853 Michael immigrated to the United States in 1853, arriving on the ship "**Bastide**" from Bremen, Germany. He lived in the German area called "Klein Deutschland" or Little Germany, on the lower East side of New York City.

The first record of Michael in the United States, appeared in "Trows" copy of the New York City Directory. In 1855 it showed that Michael was living at the rear of 68 Norfolk Street and listed his occupation as a "Varnisher"

1857 The next record of Michael was an application for Naturalization on October 13 1857 bundle # 270 Record # 160 A&B, filed in the Superior Court of New York City. It showed his home address, as 68 Norfolk Street.

It is apparent that he had already met the young lady that would soon be his wife, as she and her family were also living at the building at 68 Norfolk Street. Her mother was still operating the "Porter House" that her father, Francis Xavier Dierkess, also known as "Big X" owned at 65 Norfolk Street. After his death in 1849, his wife, Victoria, continued to operate the Porter House at 68 Norfolk St., until her death in 1860.

1858 Michael married Dorothea Victoria Dierkess, daughter of Francis Xavier Dierkess and his wife, Victoria Dorothea Henning on September 21 1858 at the The Most Holy Redeemer RC Church on Third street in New York City. The Rev. P.J.Helmpracht, officiated. Their witnesses were, **Henry A Dierkess**, brother of the bride and a friend called **Jacobus Zapp**.

The records of their marriage, show Michael's father, Caspar Mann, came from "Greifdorf., Bavaria". This created an eight year search for the right town in Bavaria. and after hundreds of inquiries to archives, Churches, Historical Societies and government records, no one could find "Greifdorf" as a town of Bavaria.

The last "PS", sent to a researcher in Munich from my wife, Noel Mann, suggested that she attempt to locate "Greifdorf" with a "K" in place of a "G" and within two weeks we found the town of "Kraisdorf, and all the records of the "Mann" family back to 1649 which became available to us. What a bonanza.

This was also followed by a visit to both towns, Kraisdorf and Pfarrweisach, by one of the Mann's direct descendants, **James Davey** of Trieste, Italy, son of Andy and Addie Davey, and to our great surprise, he found relatives of our family that are still located in the area. He was wined and dined by relatives who were happy to see our interest in the history of their family. In the past year, some Manns from "Kraisdorf, have written and shared their history with us. There is also an Industrial Corporation still operating under the "Mann" name in Pfarrweisach.