

<http://usgenwebsites.org/TXVictoria/indianola.html>

**INDIANOLA GERMAN IMMIGRANTS
TREATED IN VICTORIA BY DR. FELIX B. WEBB**

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Dr. Felix B. WEBB had a medical practice in Victoria, Tex in the 1840's. In 1846 he was approached by a number of German emigrants who had arrived at Indianola, where illness and disease were spreading through their colony. Dr. WEBB treated a great number of the colonists, but it appears that he was not paid for his services, despite the apparent promise of the colony's leadership. This petition from Dr. WEBB to the Legislature in 1870, seeking payment for medical services rendered to the Germans, is unique in that it contains a list of names those who were treated by the physician. It is possible that some of these names, especially in those cases in which the patient did not survive, do not appear in any other records, therefore making this record potentially invaluable to the genealogist. (Cynthia J. BEEMAN, Research Assistant)

To the Hon. the Senate and House of Representatives members of the Legislature
State of Texas:

Your petitioner Dr. F. B. WEBB respectfully represents that in the year A.D. 1846 he was a resident of the town of Victoria in this State and a practicing physician. At that time large numbers of German Immigrants under the charge of the Colonization Company becoming fatally sick at Indianola many of them were sent to Victoria. My medical attendance was then necessary and requested and in as much as I treated them more kindly perhaps than others, Mr. MILLER. resident Agent of said Immigration Company at Indianola visited me at Victoria and in consequence I was by him employed to furnish medicine and give my medical advice and attendance to all the sick Immigrants, to communicate with whom I was also obliged to engage an interpreter, they had to make proper proof that they belonged to said company. I was to receive a very moderate pay for my services whenever my term of employment should expire, the same not being definitely agreed upon.... Being in need of money and making a demand for same I did not receive any; I made out my accounts and presented them for approval and payment to the agent MILLER who approved the account but did not pay me anything and advised me to call on the chief Agent at New Braunfels, the Baron von MEUSEBACH to get my money. But upon my rival at New Braunfels said Agent MEUSEBACK refused all payments or payments stating that there was a new agent who was absent. I went shortly afterwards to see him again but was told he had gone to the Colonization Farm 16 miles east of LaGrange. I followed, but upon nearing the said farm I was told that the Germans had been attacked by marauders and all fled in

consequence. The agent soon after left the country, and your petitioner did not and has not to this day received a cent for all his labor and expenses and by this time has given up all hope that he ever will from that source. Although the company was scarce of funds I had reason then to believe that they would at some future day settle their debts until I learned that the Legislature had interfered with their claims against the immigrants by restoring the moiety of land the Company were to receive from each family of emigrants or every single person they would bring into this country etc. which rendered the company powerless and dissolved the same. Now, your petitioner, seventy four years of age, weak in body and his eyesight much impaired and dim, unable to make a living by labor, my claim being a just one and the Legislature having power at any time to take from the said company every vestige of their Land Claims, that they or FISHER & MILLER the original contractors with this Government may have. Therefore I pray that this Legislature will consider and order to pay your Petitioner's claim and so shall ever pray, etc.

(signed) F. B. WEBB

VICTORIA COUNTY A.D. 1846 & 1847

The German Emigration Colonization Company to Felix B. Webb, Dr.

Henry SPANGENBERG for medical services and medicines	\$12.25
Conrad SECK or ZECH for med. services Etc.	2.25
Ludwig MYER for medicine	1.25
Widow of Christoph TAEX, visits & medicine	13.12½
WEAVER for medicine	2.25
Frank HAHNA & Brother for visits & med.	9.25
Christoph STILEN for visit & medicine	1.62½
Henry DECHERT for visits & medicine	5.25
Joseph FRINDSAMEN for medicine	1.25
Ludwig BOCHMAN for visit & medicine	2.00
Christian MALLER for visits & medicine	14.25
Widow of John BAUER for visits & medicine	17.75
Theodore NOELKE for visits & medicine & burying child after father's death	24.87½
John GEISLER for medicine	1.87½
Yergan PURHOP for medicine	2.12½
Joseph FISHER Dec'd. for visits & medicine	19.71¼
Christian SCHORER Dec'd. widow for visits & med.	25.12½
Henry HART for medicine	1.81¼
John Casper STITLER for medicine	8.75
Francis SPANGER for medicine	2.12½
Widow of John LUDWIG for visits & medicine	10.12½
Wilhelm SCHULTE Self & Children for visits, medicine, and their support, etc.	66.62½
Christian WEISHEIT for visits & medicine	14.31¼

Mararetha E. VOLKMAR Dec'd. & children for visits & med.	48.37½
Christoph KNOLLE for visits & medicines	19.00
Theodor Fritz PETER for visits & medicines	5.50
Widow of John Philip GERMAN	2.00
Nicholas RODEN for visit & medicine	1.62½
Carl VALENTINE for visit & medicine	3.12½
Christoph KOLLER & Johann BICKELMEYER for visits & medicines	21.25
George SCHIWITZ for visits & medicines	7.75
Michael KRIES or KRAIES visits & medicines	22.97½
Peter ZABEL for visits & medicine	12.62½
Adam Val. GROSS & servant for visits & medicine	20.50
Christian GEFFERS for medicine	1.37½
KORUS or KURUS for visits & medicine	8.87½
John BOEGGER visit & medicines	1.87½
Valentine HOHMANN for visits & medicines	36.56¼
Francis & Amen STERLER for visits & med.	\$33.12½
Jacob SCHIWITZ for visits & medicine	12.62½
Heirs of Antonio FABER for visits & medicine	15.31¼
Heirs of David KENSING for visits & medicine	32.00
"John George MENZ for visits & medicine	53.60
John Adam MORIL for visits & medicine	5.50
Mauritz VON OSTERHAUSEN for visits & medicine	19.25
John Theodore PRICE for visits & medicine	2.75
Henry LESAKA for medicine	1.25
Johann KREISLE Widow & heirs for visits & med.	19.46¼
Michael SONDERGELD for medicine	3.37¼
Valentine MULLER for visits & medicine	12.31¼
Family of John JATH for visits & medicine	10.00
Wm. WAGNER & family for visits & medicine	39.25
John Casper SCHELLER for visits & medicine	3.25
Peter KNAPP for for visits & medicine	20.12½
Philip Joseph FREI for visit & medicine	4.00
Johann SCHIBEL for visits & medicine	9.25
Anton LENTZ for visits & medicine (S7.93-3/4)	7.93
John BARGOFF for medicine	.75
Wm. GEFFERS for visits & medicine	46.02½
Wm. WEDEMEYER for visits & medicine	14.72½
Christoph HORNBERG for visits & medicine	21.75

August SCHULTZ & Gossleit KAULFERS for visits & med.	10.12½
Susanna M. BEK for visit & medicine	5.00
Wm. WALSCHMIDT & family for visits & medicine	10.62½
George HAPGEN or HOPGEN for visits & medicine	17.87½
George Andreas STRAUS for medicine	6.25
Henry HORNBERG for medicine	4.37½
Christian LUTTERBROT for visits & medicine	13.20
V. KERNER for visits & medicine	19.70
Estate of Frederich SCHAPER for visits & medicine	25.37½
German at E. SCHNEIDER's was supposed to be T. MILLER for visits & medicine	24.37½
Frank SCHNEIDER for visits & medicine	3.75
Sundry persons called for aid after my book was posted to the amount of	16.12½
Subtotal	\$1,014.64½
To cash paid Interpreter \$ 42.00	
To cash rightly due Interpreter \$ 70.00	
Total	\$1,126.64½

Committee Room
Feb. 1, 1871

Hon. Ira H. EVANS
Speaker, House of Representatives
Austin, Texas

Sir,

Your Committee on Claims & Accounts to whom was referred "Petition of F. B. WEBB, for special relief" ask leave to report that they have carefully examined the same, and recommend that it be laid on the table.

W. G. Robinson, Chairman
Stockbridge
C. L. Abbott
Van Noy
J. C. Weaver
J. R. McKee
J. O. Abbott

Affidavit of Anna WILLMEN (WILLIMEN)

In the year 1846, I was living in the family of Dr. F. B. WEBB. A number of German colonists who had left Indianola, Texas, on account of sickness came to Victoria in Victoria County and called on me to aid them in getting medicine from Dr. Webb. Stating

that other Doctors refused to do for them, wherefore Dr. Webb told me to tell them not to die without medicine but to call at his office and get it, and as I spoke German and English, I interpreted for both, and in a few days he was employed by a Mr. MILLER, German Agent at Indianola, for the German Immigration Colonization Company, to practice and furnish medicine for any of the Colonists that might call on him for medical aid; which they were to demonstrate by the exhibition of their colonial book; And as they could get no other person to interpret for him, I had to do so towards which he paid me six dollars per month out of his own funds on which business I was closely engaged for seven months or more expecting to receive an additional. sum from the Company but have never rec'd. anything from the said company. I also assisted in keeping and marking up the accounts and I know he paid great attention and gave general satisfaction and took many to his own house and fed and nursed them without charge as far as I know much of which labor I had to perform he also had a hired black woman and she and myself carried suitable food for the sick to many outsiders some of whom were nearly supported by his aid.

(signed) Anna Willmen

The State of Texas

County of Victoria

Before me W. J. NEELY, Clerk of the County of Victoria and State aforesaid personally came Anna WILLMEN to me known and who signed the above in my presence and upon oath declared the facts set forth in the above affidavit and statement were true and that she signed them as such.

Witness to my hand and Seal of office this 20 day of May A.D. 1870.....W.J. NEELY,
Clerk, C.C.V.C