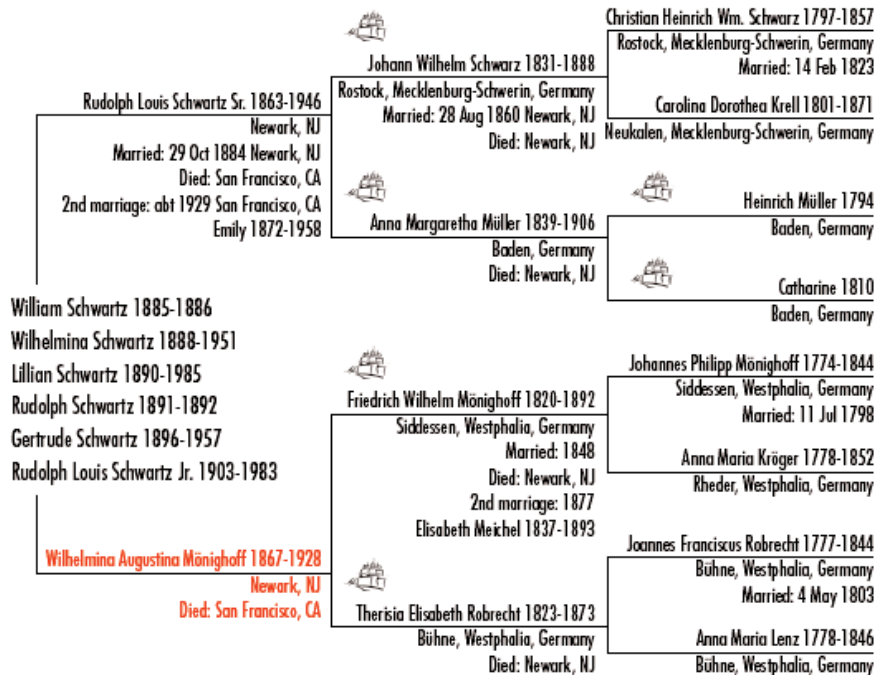




Minnie Mönighoff about 1869, Newark, NJ.



# Minnie Mönighoff

## 1867-1928

### Spouse:

Rudolph Louis Schwartz Sr. 1863-1946

### Children:

William Augustine 1885-86  
Wilhelmina 1888-1951  
Lillian 1890-1985  
Rudolph 1891-92  
Gertrude Violet 1896-1957  
Rudolph Louis Jr. 1903-83

### Parents:

Wilhelm Mönighoff 1820-92  
Elisabeth Robrecht 1823-73

### Siblings:

Joseph 1849-87  
Elisabeth 1850-82  
Marianna 1852-55  
Carolina Theresia 1854->70  
Marie 1858-59  
Henry 1859-68  
Charles 1863-86

### Step-sisters:

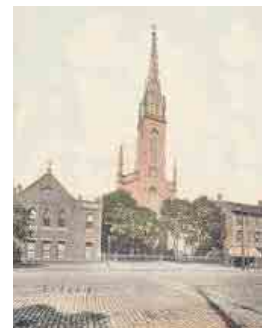
Barbara 1860  
Hannah 1866  
Caroline 1870

Born 6 January 1867 in Newark, NJ, Maria Wilhelmina Augustina Mönighoff was the eighth and youngest child of Elisabeth Robrecht and William Mönighoff.

Minnie's German Catholic parents immigrated to the U.S. from neighboring villages in north-central Germany. Minnie's father came to the U.S. in 1839 when he was 19 years old, and was the youngest of 11 children. Minnie's mother, who was the youngest of seven children, immigrated in 1848 at age 25.

Minnie's father worked as a retail and wholesale grocer to support his large family, and his grocery business was listed in the Newark City Directory for 41 years, from 1851 to 1892.

The Mönighoff family lived in the large "Germantown" community of Newark, NJ, where thousands of German immigrants perpetuated their old-country culture and language. In January 1867 baby Minnie was baptized in St. Peter's German Catholic Church in Newark, NJ.



St. Peter's Catholic Church, Newark, NJ

## The Schwartz Family History

At Minnie's birth, her sisters were ages 16 and 12; her brothers were ages 17, 8, and 3. Sisters Marianna and Marie both died before Minnie's birth.

When Minnie was two years old, her oldest sister, Elisabeth, married and three days later Minnie's nine year-old brother, Henry, died.

Minnie's mother died in February 1873 when Minnie was six years old. After their mother's death, Minnie's 17 year-old sister, Theresia, took over housekeeping and childcare until May 1877 when Minnie's father remarried. Minnie was 10 years old and Charles was 13 when their German stepmother and three stepsisters (ages 7, 11, and 17) came to live in the Mönighoff home on Academy Street.

When their father remarried, the two oldest Mönighoff children no longer lived at home: sister Elisabeth lived across the street with her husband and their children, and brother Joseph worked in a saloon.

In 1882 when Minnie was 15 years old, her 31 year-old sister, Elisabeth, died, leaving a husband and seven children.

Minnie grew up in a large extended family, including 22 first cousins, two uncles, and an aunt on her mother's Robrecht side, and an aunt and seven first cousins on her father's Mönighoff side. Minnie's aunts and uncles, like her parents, were born in Germany as were many of her cousins.

Minnie and Elisabeth were the only Mönighoff children who had children.

Elisabeth married Henry Spicker in November 1868 and they had seven children:

Anna Rosealia	1870
William	1871
Theresia Christine	1872
Bernardina Elisa	1874
Anton Jacob	1877
Mary Francisca	1879
Joseph	1881

Henry Spicker remarried in 1883 a year after Elisabeth's death, had two more children, and died in 1886.

7	230	Spicker Henry	24	M	at home	✓	200	Germany
8		Elisabeth	14	F	keeping house			New York
9		Prsa	12	F	at home			New Jersey
10		Ab. Bride Mary	57	F				Wisconsin
11	231	Hofford Thomas	22	M	bookster	✓		New Jersey
12		Christina	20	F	keeping house			Wisconsin
13		Abel J.	2	F	at home			New Jersey
14		Thomas	12	M				
15	232	Madden William	35	M	labrier	✓		Wisconsin
16		Mary	40	F	keeping house			
17	233	Mönighoff William	49	M	Robt. Grocer	✓	7500-1600	Wisconsin
18		Elisabeth	47	F	keeping house			
19		Joseph	21	M	works in trunk job	✓		New York
20		Theresa	15	F	domestic servant	✓		New Jersey
21		Charles	7	M	at school			
22		Maria	3	F	at home			

The William Mönighoff family (yellow highlight) in the 1870 federal census, taken 7 June 1870. Henry Spicker (green highlight) married Minnie's oldest sister, Elisabeth, and they lived across the street.

## The Schwartz Family History



Minnie Mönighoff and Rudolph Schwartz photographed in Newark about 1884.

### MARRIAGE

Minnie was 17 years old when she and Rudolph Schwartz married. The mayor of Newark wed the young couple in a civil ceremony on 29 October 1884. Minnie was Catholic and Rudolph was Protestant, an awkward situation in those days. Their marriage certificate indicates that Minnie was 19 years old, however, she was a few months shy of her 18th birthday. Minnie's brother, Charles, was a witness to their marriage as was Rudolph's father, William.

Rudolph Schwartz, a 21-year-old plumber, was the son of German immigrant parents. His father was born in Rostock, a seaport near the Baltic coast. His mother was born in Baden, on the southwest edge of Germany. Rudolph, an only child, was born 17 September 1863. The newly weds made their home on Wallace Place in the Germantown community of Newark, NJ, where they were both born and raised.

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY.**

(To be filled out by the parties, respectively named.)

1. FULL NAME OF HUSBAND: *Rudolph Schwartz*  
 Place of Residence: *3 Wallace Place Newark N.J.*

2. Age: *21* years — months. Number of his Marriages: *First*

3. Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Name of Father: *Wm. Schwartz* Country of Birth: *Prussia*  
(Name of Mother, when known.)

5. Maiden name of Mother: *Elizabeth Schwartz* Country of Birth: *Prussia*

1. FULL MAIDEN NAME OF WIFE:  
*Minnie Mönighoff* Country of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Place of Residence: *3 Wallace Place Newark N.J.*

3. Age, nearest birthday: *17* — months. Number of Bride's Marriages: *First*

4. Last name, if a Widow: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of Bride's Marriages: *First*

5. Name of Father: *Wm. Mönighoff* Country of Birth: *Prussia*  
(Name of Mother, when known.)

6. Maiden name of Mother: *Elizabeth Schwartz* Country of Birth: *Prussia*

7. Date (in full): *October 29 1884* at *Newark N.J.*

8. In presence of: *William Schwartz*  
*Charles Mönighoff*

9. Signature of Minister, (not Church Pastor if in grave application): *Joseph P. Maynard*

Minnie and Rudolph's Marriage Certificate.



## The Schwartz Family History

---

### CHILDREN

On 16 May 1885 Minnie and Rudolph welcomed their first child into the world. He was named William, honoring his two grandfathers. William was baptized on 15 February 1886 at St. Augustine's German Catholic Church.



William Augustine Schwartz about 1885.

Grandfather William Mönighoff was named as his godfather. Baby William only lived 19 months and died on 17 December 1886.

Minnie's brother Charles also died that year in July at age 23, and the following year Minnie's 39 year-old brother, Joseph, died.

18 months after William's death, Minnie and Rudolph's first daughter, Minnie, was born on 10 May 1888. Later that year Rudolph's



Baby Minnie Schwartz about 1888.



Baby Lillian Schwartz about 1890.

father died and joined baby William in the Schwartz family plot at Woodland Cemetery in Newark, NJ.

Lillian, the second Schwartz daughter, was born on 5 April 1890, followed by Rudolph born 18 months later. Baby Rudolph lived only eight months and was buried 18 July 1892 in the Schwartz family plot. (No photo is available of baby Rudolph.)



Entrance to Woodland Cemetery in Newark, NJ, where babies William and Rudolph Schwartz are buried with their Schwartz grandparents. No tombstones are present on the plot today.

## The Schwartz Family History

---

Five months earlier, Minnie Mönighoff's father also died. He was living with Minnie, Rudolph, and their daughters on Norfolk Street in Newark at the time of his death on 2 March 1892. William Mönighoff was buried next to Minnie's mother at St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery in Newark, NJ.

The following year, Minnie's stepmother died. She also lived in the Schwartz family home at the time of her death. She willed her worldly goods to her daughter and nephew.

Gertrude Violet, Schwartz daughter number three, came into the world on 15 October 1896.



Gertrude Schwartz about 1901, Newark, NJ.

Seven years later on 29 May 1903 the birth of Rudolph Louis Schwartz Jr. completed the Schwartz family.



Minnie and Rudolph with daughters Minnie (rear) and Lillian (front) about 1893.



Rudolph Louis Schwartz Jr. about 1915, photographed at the Lucerne Studio on Fillmore Street in San Francisco.

## The Schwartz Family History

---



Minnie and Rudolph Schwartz photographed with their children in 1904.  
Rear: daughters Minnie and Lillian. Front: Gertrude and Rudolph Louis.

In 1904 Minnie and Rudolph celebrated their 20th wedding anniversary, and that year the Schwartz family portrait (left) was photographed.

For 60 years the familiar Germantown community of Newark, NJ was home to three generations Mönighoff and Schwartz families.

Their way of life was about to change.

### Dress of the Day

*It was the style of the early twentieth century to dress and coif little boys as girls, which can be seen in the photo left.*

*The child seated in his father's lap is really a boy!*



Downtown Newark (about 1900) as it looked when the Schwartz family last lived there.



## The Schwartz Family History

---

### THE MOVE TO CALIFORNIA

The Schwartz family moved from New Jersey to California in 1906, shortly after the February death of Anna Schwartz, Rudolph's mother.

The family briefly lived in Los Angeles, later relocating to San Francisco shortly after the devastating April 1906 earthquake. Much of San Francisco was destroyed by fire following the huge quake; consequently, work was plentiful for Rudolph who was as a plumbing contractor.

Minnie Mönighoff Schwartz lived to see most of her 13 grandchildren, and she and Rudolph lived in San Francisco for the remainder of their lives. Minnie was 61 years old when she died in 1928 after a long battle with high blood pressure, which was not treatable at that time.



Minnie about 1914.

A nurse, Emily, was hired to care for Minnie during the last years of her illness. Rudolph and Emily were later married.

Rudolph lived in the family home on Richland Street until his death in 1946 at age 82, and Emily died in 1958 at age 86.



Rudolph, Minnie, and daughter Lillian about 1924.



Minnie with four of her 13 grandchildren about 1918 and 1921.

