

GREAT GRANDFATHER - WILHELM THIESSEN
FATHER OF GRANDPA JOHN THIESSEN

WILHELM/WILLIAM THIESSEN:

Parents: Peter Thiessen and Elizabeth Giesbrecht

Born: June 20, 1842 in Muntao, Russia

1st Marriage: Elizabeth Thiessen on June 28, 1863

1st Death: Elizabeth on January 31, 1875 or June 28, 1875 or Feb. 17, 1875
(discrepancy in notes from Gerhardt Thiessen and Rachel Bath and the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia)

2nd Marriage: Sara Thiessen (sister of Elizabeth) July 9, 1876, Schoenau, Russia

2nd Death: Sara on January 15, 1925

Died: May 15, 1927, 84 years of age almost 85 years old

PERSONAL BIOGRAPHY OF WILHELM:

Wilhelm's father was Peter Thiessen and not Jacob Thiessen from Schoenau. He had two brothers, Jacob and Peter, living in Hierschau, Russia as well as a brother David in Jansen, Nebraska.

In 1876 Wilhelm moved to America from Russia. His home was one mile east of Jansen, Nebraska. The Thiessens joined Isaac Peters' church where Wilhelm was also elected into the ministry in January of 1879. Wilhelm was elected the Minister of a Mennonite Church in Jansen on January 12, 1879. He was ordained on Jan. 16, 1879.

Sarah, Wilhelm's second wife, was the youngest daughter of former Kleine Gemeinde minister Peter Thiessen of Schoenau. She was obviously the second wife of Wilhelm, because at the age of 22 she had a son age 14.

They lived in Jansen, Nebraska till 1904, when they sold their farm to Heinrich Loewen and moved to Litchfield, Nebraska. Here they bought a farm of 160 acres for \$3,500. He led the church there.

In the spring of 1907, they moved to Langham, Saskatchewan. They moved to Saskatchewan to be near their children. On a farm 8 miles east of the city, Wilhelm was the Assistant Pastor in the E.M.B. Church till 1926.

He died at the age of approximately 84 years of age, on May 15, 1927. His two wives preceded him in death.

PATERNAL GREAT GRANDMOTHERS,
THE TWO WIVES OF WILHELM THIESSEN:

ELIZABETH THIESSEN, FIRST WIFE:

Parents: Peter Thiessen and Margaretha Friesen (or Von Riesen)

Born: April 24, 1840 or April 12, 1846 probably born in Schoenau, Russia

Married: June 28, 1863

Died: January 31, 1875 or Feb. 17, 1875, at the age of 29

(Discrepancy in dates from the notes from Gerhardt Thiessen and Rachel Bath)

*SARA THIESSEN, 2ND WIFE:

Parents: Peter Thiessen and Margaretha Friesen (or Von Riesen)

Born: May 7, 1858 in Schoenau, Russia

Married: July 9, 1876 in Schoenau, Russia

Died: January 15, 1925 at Langham, Sask., at the age of 66