

extent of this change. But the Friesen name was so common that no conclusions can be drawn from this.

Endnote 409: The 1782-1805 baptismal records for Bärwalde show an Abraham Penner, Neuteicherwald, whose daughter, Barbara, was baptized on 29 June 1782, with other children baptized in 1786 and 1792. This could have been the father of Helena [# 409], who could have been an older sister of the above. The age would be right.

Furthermore, Barbara was a relatively rare name among Mennonites. Helena [# 409] is recorded with the very unusual diminutive, Nölke. Hermann Thiessen's first known Penner ancestor (Mrs. Martin Thiessen [1740-1821]) had the common name, Elisabeth, but the rare diminutive, Elske. I wonder whether all of these could have belonged to the same family, whose usage of diminutive forms appears to have been unusual in rural areas at that time. That would mean that Elisabeth was the oldest of the three mentioned surmised sisters, Barbara the youngest, and Helena in between. The time span between the first birth (1740) and the last baptism (1792) means that this would be likely only if the father had been married twice, but that was a common occurrence. I do not know whether the records to prove or disprove this thesis are still available.

Gustav Reimer mentions finding names like Barbcke, Elske and Neelcke in early Danzig church records. This suggests to me that the family may have moved from the city to the country at a relatively late date.

Incidentally, Nölke is used primarily as a diminutive for Cornelia, a rare name among the Russian Mennonites (although less rare in West Prussia), but I think Helena Jahnke's account of her family makes it clear that the reference in this case was to Helena. (A comparable American case would be the general reference to Senator Edward Kennedy as "Ted," even though the latter usually is short for Theodore.)

Endnote 412: According to *The Baergen Heritage*, Elias von Bärge (1742-1808) was the son of Hans von Bärge and the grandson of an earlier Elias. However, I am quite sure that this traces a different, although almost certainly related, line of descent. Therefore, the information in that book needs to be treated very cautiously for the purpose of tracing my von Bergen lineage.

The two von Bergens married Gertrude Regehrs, almost certainly aunt and niece. The data can be very confusing unless one realizes this. One Gertrude was definitely the daughter of Jacob Regehr and Gertrude Penner, whereas the other one (my ancestor) was very likely the daughter of this Gertrude's brother and the granddaughter of # 1652 and 1653. Compare with endnote 826.

Mike Hornbaker wrote me years ago that the same individual was referred to as both Hans [# 824] and Elias [# 1648]. If this applies to my ancestor, not to his apparent relative as I believe, there might be no information about # 1648. But I think there is