

G E N E A L O G Y of J O H A N N T H I E S S E N

797

*1770, Ellerwald, W.Pr., + ? , Burwalde (OC) R.

by

Henry J. Riediger, Leamington, ON (A3-B1-C4-D9-E1, p.20)

JOHANN THIESSEN is listed in the B.H.Unruh Book on p.276: living with his family in Burwalde (OC) R on Sep.20, 1808. He had come to Russia in 1789 as a young man with his parents.

The Kornelius J. Thiessen family (A3-B1, p.2) has been assembled by convincing but not positive evidence. Johann, Jakob, Heinrich & Helena were all born in Burwalde, a small village of the Old Colony (OC). Their ages run chronologically very well.

Johann's story comes from Esther Born's book 'Genealogy of my Great Grandparents Johann & Aganetha (Nickel) Thiessen', written in 1987 in Clearbrook, BC.

Jakob's story can be found in the 'Abraham Riediger Genealogy' by H.J. Riediger, 1998 on p.20.

Heinrich's story comes from 1st-hand information from his grandson Walter C. Thiessen (A3-B1-C3-D6-E1, p.13), London, ON in 1995. His mother had often said that we were 2nd cousins.

Helena, my grandmother, married Heinrich M. Riediger (also to be found in the 'Abraham Riediger Genealogy', p.17). She told her family that her parents had both died when she was only 10 years of age. This left her & her siblings as orphans. They were all taken in by probably relatives & she, Helena, came into a family where she was nursemaid & housekeeper. No wonder all the Thiessen children have left no other information about their parents! Helen Riediger Schmidt (A3-B1-C4-D6, p.7) said that her mother, the above Helena Thiessen, signed her name as Helena K. (Thiessen) Riediger, which tells us that her father (in the Russian tradition) was K or Kornelius (see Essex-Kent Mennonite Historical Society Archives, Leamington, listed in 1937 in the Church Membership Book).

INTRODUCTION

The name Thiessen, Tiessen, Tieszen was first entered in the Danzig record in 1685. According to B.H.Unruh the name 'Thyess' (which later became Thiessen) occurred in 1589, a teacher on the Frisian island Texel (p.70). Some dates are double because of the old Julian Calendar, used in pre-revolutionary Russia, converting to the newer Gregorian Calendar, which added 13 days to all dates c.1900. Feb.1, 1918 overnight became Feb.14, 1918 by decree of the new Communist government in USSR. Generations are designated by Capital letters. Not-direct descendants such as children brought into a marriage or adoptees are identified by small letters. With any male descendants named Thiessen, in the absence of a middle name, the initial of the father's first name is used (as was the custom in Russia only).

ABBREVIATIONS

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| * = born | (F) = Fürstenland Colony | Can. = Canada |
| + = died | (Mk) = Memrik " | BC = British Columbia |
| oo = married | (Bo) = Borissovo " | VI = Vancouver Island |
| re oo = remarried | (B) = Baratov | AB = Alberta |
| c. = circa (around) | (Bj) = Berdjansk area | SK = Saskatchewan |
| | (S) = Saratov | MB = Manitoba |
| W.Pr. = West Prussia | (Tr) = Trubetzkoje | ON = Ontario |
| R. = Russia | (C) = Crimea | QC = Quebec |
| USSR = Soviet Union | (Si) = Siberia | N.S. = Nova Scotia |
| (OC) = Old Colony | (Kas) = Kasachstan | |
| (M) = Molotschna Colony | | USA = U.S. of America |
| (I) = Ignatjevo " | Germ. = Germany | CA = California |
| (Jas) = Jasykovo " | Eng. = England | MI = Michigan |
| (Bz) = Borozenko " | (Som) = Somerset | KS = Kansas |
| (T) = Terek " | Br. = Brazil | OH = Ohio |
| (Sag) = Sagradovka " | (P) = Parana | IL = Illinois |
| (Br) = Brasol | Para. = Paraguay | WA = Washington |
| | | NY = New York |

Beck