



ANDREAS AND EVA SCHMIDT

THE FIRST PARENTS (STAMMELTERN)

ANDREAS SCHMIDT, the father of this Genealogy, son of Andreas and Ancke Ratzlaff Schmidt, was born in the year 1818 in Deutsch Kunpat, West Prussia. The month and day of his birth is not known. One report says he was born January 8, 1818. On the tombstone it says he was born August 8, 1817. Accurate records were not kept by our ancestors at that time. His parents lived in the Przechowka village from 1803 to 1806, in Kunpat from 1807 to 1820. Andreas was the sixth child born in the family (see page 21). In 1820 his parents left West Prussia to go to Russia. They traveled by wagon and on foot a long trek of hundreds of miles. In 1821 they came to the Molotschna colony in South Russia. The reason for migrating to Russia was they were not tolerated, they had to pay high taxes or go into military service. They were denied to purchase more land and homes. As early as 1786 over six thousand Mennonites left the Vistula region to start a new life on the steppes of Russia. And so the whole Przechowka congregation migrated to Russia. They came to the Alexanderwohl village. Here in Alexanderwohl Andreas grew up in the home of his parents. No doubt Andreas attended the village school which was in the German language and mostly religious instruction.

EVA SCHMIDT, the mother of this Genealogy, daughter of Jacob Schmidt and Eva Schmidt, was born January 17, 1821 at Karolswalde, Poland. She was the second child in the family (see page 22). Her parents lived in the village Glugowka, West Prussia. They too left Prussia to go to Russia.