

common ancestor. Contrary to my earlier assumptions, the Kleine Gemeinde Heidebrechts are descended from at least two of Peter's sons, Abraham and Jacob. In view of this and considering the fact that the Heidebrecht progeny were very numerous, the names of those who were listed as probable ancestors for Numbers 42, 43 and 84 in the second edition have been deleted.

Delbert Plett (Pioneers and Pilgrims, p. 421) lists a Martha Heidebrecht, born in 1815, as a Widow Wiens, who apparently was still alive in the Ukraine in 1881. Her first husband is identified as a Heide. It may be worth exploring whether she might have been married three times, the second marriage possibly a brief one to Peter Unger. It is the only information available to me which points, however tentatively, toward a specific line.

Hermann Thiessen has identified the following people who could have been the ancestors of the Mennonite Heidebrecht line, strongly suggesting that the Heidebrechts became Mennonites in Prussia and were not among those who fled from the Low Countries in the 1500's:

(a) Captain Lorenz Heidebrecker was active as a pirate in the Balkan Sea near Danzig in August 1571.

(b) Jan Heidebreker married Stiene Meinerts at the Lutheran Church of St. Peter and St. Paul on 1 February 1602.

(c) Thomas Heidebreker was present as a village representative at the signing of a land rental contract on 11 July 1604.

(d) Thomas Heidebrecht, son of Thomas Heidebrecht, was baptized at the Lutheran Church in Elbing on 10 May 1642.

Note 4: Martin Brandt is the probable ancestor according to Hermann Thiessen. The 1776 census shows a Martin Brandt on the Third Road (Trift) in Ellerwald, but there are also a Peter and a Berend Brandt on the Fourth Road. A son of Berend Brandt, also known as Berend, stayed in Prussia. If the three young Brandt males who migrated to Molochna were brothers, as I surmise, this would preclude Berend Brandt from being # 32.

Glenn Penner wonders whether a Martin Brandt of the Third Road in Ellerwald, who died on 27 April 1769, according to the Elbing St. Annen Lutheran church records, could have been the father of the three Brandts listed at Ellerwald in the 1776 census and the son of the Peter Brandt