

Plett, Hierschau, whom I knew well, were in her family line.<sup>53</sup> She was a kind and merciful person. One day a poor woman came to the door and complained about her need for clothes. Grandmother took her underwear and gave it to the lady. Earlier in life, grandmother knew what it meant not to have enough clothes."

"Grandfather knew Johan Cornies. They became close friends, and thus it happened that Johan Cornies, out of love for his friend, sent grandfather's oldest son, my father Johan Harder, to the Orloff Verein Schule for a three year period, paying all expenses. This education was a great help to my father in his later life."

"An anecdote which was told about the elder Cornies and my grandfather is in my memory. One day in the dead of winter, Mr Cornies and some of his friends walked home from church. They were walking along the ruts made by the sled runners in the deep snow. Several horse drawn sleds came home from church and made Mr Cornies and his friends step out of the ruts into the deep snow so that they could get by. This aggravated Mr. Cornies that people had no more respect than that. While he was talking, he looked up and saw my grandfather coming along in a sled. Mr Cornies said, "There comes Johan Harder from Blumstein. He will drive around us." His friends doubted it; but when my grandfather approached, he drove around just as Cornies had said he would."

"If I remember correctly, grandfather came home sick from a trip to the Crimea. Within a few days he was dead."<sup>54</sup>

Dr. Leland Harder has stated that Johan Harder (1789-1847) "was highly respected in the community as a man of integrity and consideration for others"<sup>55</sup> Six children were born of his first marriage and two children of his second marriage.

Gen	Name	Birth	Marriage	Death
4	Johan Harder	1789	1810	Feb 2, 1847
m	Elizabeth Plett	1790		
5	Johan Harder	Sep 15, 1811		Sep 11, 1875
5	Abraham Harder			
5	Isbrand Harder	May 18, 1817	Jul 27, 1839	Aug 10, 1840
5	Eliz Harder			
5	Helena Harder			
5	Peter Harder			
4	Johan Harder	1789		Feb 2, 1847
2m	Katharina Mandler			c.1840
5	Isbrand Harder			
5	Maria Harder			

5 **Johan P. Harder** (1811-1875) was born and raised on the family farm in Blumstein, Molotschna. He attended the Orloff Verein School for three years also learning the trade of a tailor. He was baptized in 1833 and the next year he married Justina Schulz, the daughter of Georg Schulz from Friedensruh.<sup>56</sup> During their first years of marriage the couple lived in a small house on his father's Wirtschaft and Johan also did some tailoring for additional income. In about 1840 Johan Harder V "built a dwelling house, with attached stable and shop across the street. His mother had died and so his father moved into this Anwohner property and he presumably bought the Wirtschaft in 1841."<sup>57</sup>

Abraham J. Harder (born 1840) wrote as follows about the entrepreneurial skills of his father: "My father was a serious man, but he had a good sense of humour. At his work he was fast and clever. Because he had such good luck in relation to agricultural handicrafts, father was able to remodel the whole Wirtschaft within five years." Dr Leland Harder states that "as a consequence of the respect he enjoyed in the community, Johan [was elected to the Blumstein village council, which dealt with various matters of judicial community concern."<sup>58</sup>

In his village council work Johan Harder V was undoubtedly influenced by individuals like Jakob W. Friesen (1808-1889) who served as Schulz or Mayor of Blumstein at about this time. Friesen was the son of Kleine Gemeinde Aeltester Abraham Friesen (1782-1849).<sup>59</sup> In 1855 Johan Harder (1811-1875) was elected as a minister of the Orloff Gemeinde together with his friend Franz Isaac. At about this time he married for the second time to Katharina Schulz his first wife's sister. She was sick much of the time.<sup>60</sup>

In 1860 **Johan Harder** was elected as Aeltester of the Orloff Gemeinde. In this office he became known for his Christian virtue and spirit. Some of his accomplishments included, working together with the Kleine Gemeinde to resolve the so called "Barley Land Dispute" and his later intervention on behalf of the landless and the "secessionists" who became known as the Mennonite Brethren.

It is noteworthy that Johan Harder (1811-1875) never adopted the teachings of Jung Stilling and his eastward chiasm, as did his cousin Bernhard Harder (1832-1884). In fact he supported his cousin Peter P. Tocws, Aeltester of the Kleine Gemeinde, when that group published a tract