The Schnaidt and Wanner Families connection – the Schnaidt and Wanner Orphans

By Willy Guzman Schnaidt

The Chronical of the Schnaidt Family, published in 1971, and written by Bernhard Schnaidt and completed after his death by his widow, Lilli Elfriede Schnaidt (nee Herrmann), presents the assumption that all the German-Russian Schnaidts, are descendants from the union of Johann-Georg Schnaidt and his wife Christina Magdalena Zeeb. This is true, but new information at hand indicates that there is much more to the story than the Chronical presents.

Page 3 of the Chronical indicates:

The above-mentioned Johann-Georg Schnaidt, born 16 June 1765 in Unterjesingen had five siblings, all of whom remained in Unterjesingen. He, after his marriage to Magdalena Zeeb, went to Hagelloch, where his descendants were to be born and raised.

In 1804 he emigrated with his family to Russia. In Glückstal, Charson, they were moved from the Swabian land with many other families. But he died, either on his journey, or immediately after his arrival in Glückstal, it was not clear anymore when.

The second paragraph, where indicates that in 1804 he emigrated with his family to Russia, presents a problem. His family did emigrated to Russia, but he did not; he died in Hagellogh, Tubingen, long before the family made the move to Russia. In addition, his widow, Christina Magdalena, remarried after his death to her former brother in law, Christian Eberhard Wanner, and they had three children of their own.

In 1804, Christian Wanner and his wife Christina Magdalena, with the 3 Wanner-Zeeb (Wanner) children and only 3 of the 4 Schnaidt-Zeeb (Schnaidt) children, emigrated to Russia.

Again here, new historical records present additional information; both Christian Wanner and his wife Christina Magdalena died, during the journey to or soon after, arriving in Russia. The end result is that the Wanner and the Schnaidt children become orphans and were placed with other families.

An orphan report dated 1 Dec 1810, places an orphans boy, Johann Georg Schnaidt, age 20, under the care of Elisabetha Kurnerin and her husband Conrad Kapp. The report also places two orphan boys, Johannes Schnaidt, age 17 and Carl Wanner, age 11, under the care of Friedrich Raisser and his wife Sabina. Further, the report places two orphans, an orphan boy, Friedrich Schnaidt, age 18, and orphan girl, Catharina Wanner, age 5 (age 10), in the care of a widow, Veronika Kalmbach.

There are no accounts found regarding two of the other children, one from each of the Schnaidt and Wanner families.

There no details available of Christina Magdalena Schnaidt even making the journey to Russia, but new information indicates that Christina Magdalena, after the death of her father, might have moved with her Grandparents in Unterjesingen, as she appears married there and a as a young mother in 1820.

There is not information regarding Christina Magdalena Wanner at all, if she made the journey, dying before or during the journey, and does not appear in any of the orphan reports available.

These are the beginning of the story of the Schnaidt siblings and their half siblings, the Wanner children in their journey to Russia. The Wanner children settled in Glueckstal, Odessa with families of their own. Two of the Schnaidt children, Johann Georg and Friedrich Wilhelm, also settled in Glueckstal, Odessa, having large families of their own. The youngest of the Schnaidt children, Johannes, with his wife and 5 children, in 1834 move to Brienne in Bessarabia, where they completed the family with an additional 4 children.