

GERMAN-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL NOTES

Genealogists seeking information on Prussian towns whose names have been changed between the years 1850 and 1942 should consult Fritz Verdenhalven's NAMENSÄNDERUNGEN EHEMALS PREUSSISCHER GEMEINDEN VON 1850 BIS 1942. This book also has an appendix with Prussian town names and changes through 1950. It is published by the Verlag Degener & Co. (Neustadt/Aisch).

A list of emigrants from Thüringen in 1850 is to be found in an article by Karl Werner Klüber ("Die Hamburger Schiffslisten...") which appeared in Band I, Jahrgang 6, Heft 4 (Okt.-Dez.1965) of the periodical MITTELDEUTSCHE FAMILIENKUNDE on pages 289-294. A copy of this issue is in the Dr. Robert E. Ward Collection of Americana Germanica at the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland, Ohio.

A list of German schools and institutes (1900 of them) in 720 German towns in Dr. Karlheinz Goldmann's VERZEICHNIS DER HOCHSCHULEN... (Degener & Co., 1967) is a valuable source for genealogists.

The Stiftung Zentralstelle für Deutsche Personen- und Familiengeschichte zu Berlin is the compiler of FAMILIENGESCHICHTLICHE BIBLIOGRAPHIE, a bibliography of family histories published by the Verlag Degener & Co.

The Militärarchiv in Freiburg i.B. has records from the government files of the old Norddeutsche Bund for the years 1867 to 1945. The records of the old Prussian Army were destroyed with the Heeresarchiv in Potsdam during WW II.

In the foreword to his book, DIE AUSWANDERUNG AUS MARKGRÖNINGEN, Prof. Römer states that some 17,000 persons emigrated from Württemberg in the year 1817. Some of them left from Heilbronn to go to Holland where they set sail on the ship, De Zee Ploog. This ship ran into bad storms and was stranded on September 29, 1817 on the isle Herlø near Bergen, Norway. About 500 passengers were on board at the time. 30 children died of malnutrition and were buried in Frødens Bolig, a cemetery in Bergen. The De Zee Ploog list of October 10, 1817 has the names of some 424 persons most of whom were headed for America. They are listed in an article in Band 14, Heft 5 (Sept.1974) of the Südwestdeutsche Blätter für Familien- und Wappenkunde. A copy of this issue is in the Ward Collection at the Western Reserve Historical Society. In the summer of 1818 about 80 well-to-do persons sailed from Norway to Philadelphia on the brig called "Susanna Catharina." Most of them were German. The Norwegian ship "Prima" brought many Germans (about 200) who had been stranded on Herlø, to the USA on October 17, 1818.

An excellent guide for Alsatian genealogical research is Christian Wolff's GUIDE DES RECHERCHES GENEALOGIQUES (Strassburg, 1975).

For research on North German names, see NIEDERDEUTSCHE NAMENWELT by Hans Bahlow (Hamburg, 1973).

Sundry sources for genealogists researching the area of the capital city Hannover of the old Kingdom of Hannover are given in Helmut Zimmermann's article ("Übersicht über Quellen und Literatur zur Personengeschichte bis 1874 in der Landeshauptstadt Hannover") which appeared as a Sonderdruck (special publication) numbered 13 of the Niedersächsischer Landesverein für Familienkunde. [Copy in Ward Collection at the WRHS]

Issues of the following German genealogical periodicals have been added to the Ward Collection of Americana Germanica at the Western Reserve Historical Society: ALTPREUSSISCHE GESCHLECHTERKUNDE; BLÄTTER DES SIPPENVERBANDES WALLMICHTRATH; BLÄTTER FÜR FRÄNKISCHE FAMILIENKUNDE; FAMILIENKUNDLICHE NACHRICHTEN; GOLDMANN-RUNDBRIEF. MITTEILUNGEN AUS DEM FAMILIENARCHIV GOLDMANN/CHRYSANDER; HESSISCHE FAMILIENKUNDE; LÜBECKER BEITRÄGE ZUR FAMILIEN- UND WAPPENKUNDE; MITTELDEUTSCHE FAMILIENKUNDE; NIEDERSÄCHSISCHER LANDESVEREIN FÜR FAMILIENKUNDE. RUNDSCHREIBEN; OSTFRIESISCHE FAMILIENKUNDE; OSTFRIESLAND. ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR KULTUR, WIRTSCHAFT UND VERKEHR; QUELLEN UND FORSCHUNGEN ZUR OSTFRIESISCHEN FAMILIEN-UND WAPPENKUNDE; ROLAND ZU DORTMUND; SAARLÄNDISCHE FAMILIENKUNDE; SCHRIFTEN ZUR WANDERUNGSGESCHICHTE DER PFÄLZER; SÜDWESTDEUTSCHE BLÄTTER FÜR FAMILIEN- UND WAPPENKUNDE; ZEITSCHRIFT FÜR NIEDERDEUTSCHE FAMILIENKUNDE. Also added to this collection are several special publications and yearbooks, e.g. Hand Nessler's BRAUTWEINBUCH DER STADT UNA 1623-1803, published by the Roland zu Dortmund society in 1972, which lists the names of persons who, in the town of Una, are listed in the records made of those individuals who paid the special marriage assessment fee required by churches.

The GERMANIC GENEALOGIST, published by the Hartwell Company, 1617 West 261st St., Harbor City, CA 90710 was formerly known as GERMAN GENEALOGICAL HELPER and GERMANIC GENEALOGICAL HELPER. It carries excellent articles on German heraldry and genealogical research. Some of its articles are as follows: "Immigrants from Baden" (No.2:1974); "Lancaster Co., Pa., Wills 1753-77" (No.2, No.3:1974); "Index to the Wappenführende Geschlechter der Bundesrepublik Deutschland" (No.3, No.4, No.6:1974-76); "German Research Materials Printed in English" (No.3:1974); "An Immigration List from KÖbele" (No.4:1975); "Refugee Card Files/Boundary Changes" (No.5:1975); "Bern Church Cemetery Inscriptions" (No.5:1975) No.6:1976); "Little Tupehocken Cemetery Inscriptions" (No.7:1976); "StammOrten of Some Germanic Emigrants to Ohio" (No.7:1976); "Austria and Austria" (No.7:1976).

Dr. Heinz F. Friedrichs' booklet, HOW TO FIND MY GERMAN ANCESTORS AND RELATIVES is a handy guide for beginners. It is published by the Degener Verlag.

Some readings important for every German-American genealogist are: Rudolf A. Noss, HANDBOOK FOR PRACTICAL GENEALOGY IN GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND SWITZERLAND; A.F. Bennett, A GUIDE FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH, pp.235-237, pp.255-256, pp.281, 283-285, 291-292, 302-303; Arizona Temple District[LDS], PRACTICAL RESEARCH IN GENEALOGY, pp.134-143; A.F. Bennett, PROVING YOUR PEDIGREE, pp.113-118, 139-144; Walter M. Everton, HANDY BOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS, pp.191-193, 203-205; Howard S. Bennion, GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH, A PRACTICAL MISSION, pp.115-120, 125-133; National Genealogical Society, GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN GERMAN-SPEAKING LANDS. A SYMPOSIUM; L.G. Pine, THE GENEALOGIST'S ENCYCLOPEDIA (Collier's Book Edition:1970), pp.123,126,130,159 et seq.; Clifford Neil Smith et al, ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GERMAN-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH (1976). See also the discussion of German-American genealogy in Milton Rubincam and Jean Stephenson, GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH METHODS AND SOURCES BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS and in Dr. Ethel Williams, KNOW YOUR ANCESTORS: A GUIDE TO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH, and Pine's AMERICAN ORIGINS.

Dr. Robert E. Ward's lecture given at the Bicentennial Conference on American Genealogy and Family History in Cleveland, Ohio will be published under the title "German and German-American Genealogical Guides and Sources Since 1850."

Heritage House, Rt.1, Box 211, Thomson, Illinois 61285, is the publisher of Clifford Neal Smith's GERMAN-AMERICAN GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH MONOGRAPHS, Nos. 1,2,3, and 4. No.3 was published in three parts.

Researchers will welcome using the bibliography published by the Schweizerische Landesbibliothek in Bern, Switzerland in 1964 entitled SWITZERLAND AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/ DIE SCHWEIZ UND DIE VEREINIGTEN STAATEN VON AMERIKA. It is an excellent source on the Swiss Germans and contains a register of place and personal names.

Emigrants from Thüringen and Sachsen(Saxony) are treated by Roland Seeberg-Elverfeldt in his article, "Auswanderer aus Thüringen und Sachsen nach Übersee" which appeared in MITTELDEUTSCHE FAMILIENKUNDE, Band III, Jahrgang 12, Heft 3 (Juli-Sept.1971), pp.219-221.

Emigrants from Leipzig for the years 1850 to 1855 are listed in an article by Karl Werner Klüber ("Leipziger Auswanderer nach Übersee 1850-55"), in the MITTELDEUTSCHE FAMILIENKUNDE, Band II, Jahrgang 10, Heft 1(Jan.-März 1969) on pages 273-281. Klüber also has an article in Band III, Jahrgang 13, Heft 3 of the same periodical (Juli-Sept.1972 issue) on emigrants from Anhalt, Magdeburg, and Merseburg and surrounding areas ("Auswanderer aus Anhalt und den preussischen Regierungsbezirken Magdeburg und Merseburg, 1850-52") which treats the years 1850 to 1852. In "Dresdener Auswanderer nach Übersee 1850-1903," which appeared in the same periodical (Band III, Jahrgang 12, Heft 3: Juli-Sept.1971, pp.193-198) he lists names of emigrants from Dresden for the years 1850 to 1903.

SUSCRIBE TO THE JOURNAL OF
GERMAN-AMERICAN STUDIES NOW

Annual suscription price: \$7.