

Peter Teuthorn



Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel

zwischen den Mitten der Jahrhunderte
siebzehn und zwanzig

Mehr als ein Jahrzehnt Teuthorn geboren Nagel,
der Sohn des Michael Friedrich Otto Teuthorn,
bald evangelisch-lutherischer Religion,
bei seinem Tode am 22. April 1848

in der Hoffnung ist bestattet —
seit vierzehn Jahren Max — des Jahres

Von Frankenhausen über Kiel in die Welt

Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel

Familiengeschichte
zwischen den Mitten
der Jahrhunderte siebzehn und zwanzig

Peter Teuthorn
2016

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Kontakt: af82205@gmail.com

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Zwischenrede II - A Statement

In Amerika angekommen, musste sich der Einwanderer entscheiden, ob er sich auf einer ethnischen Insel abschotten und möglichst lange deutsch bleiben oder sich möglichst bald integrieren, ja sogar assimilieren wollte. Dazu war es nötig, so schnell wie möglich ein passables Englisch zu sprechen. Von Otto wird berichtet, dass er diesen Weg ging. Gleichwohl wird es in der ersten Einwanderergeneration ein dauerndes Nebeneinander von Deutsch und Englisch gegeben haben. Diese Gegebenheit ahme ich nach, wenn ich im Folgenden - unsere Hauptdarsteller dieser Familiengeschichte sind ja jetzt in den Vereinigten Staaten - ins Englische wechsele. Eigentlich ist der Hintergrund dafür aber ein anderer. Ich hatte bereits vor Jahren auf meiner Website die Einwanderung nach Chicago für unsere amerikanischen Verwandten in Englisch verfasst. Es scheint mir vernünftig, wesentliche Teile davon hier leicht angepasst zu übernehmen und damit in den Zusammenhang der gesamten Familiengeschichte zu stellen.

Once in the U.S. the immigrant had to decide for a living in an isolated ethnic neighborhood, i. e. to remain German as long as possible, or to long for integration, even assimilation, as soon as possible. To reach this target you had to dominate the English language. I was told, Otto decided early to do so. Never the less we may imagine our immigrants using both languages side by side for a long time. My next chapters will follow the same pattern. But to be honest, most of the text has been written years ago, trying to share my research of family history with my American relatives by means of my website. Those parts which proved to be up-to-date will be taken over unchanged or slightly adopted.

William (1871-1946)

As we have seen above, William was born as Wilhelm Eduard



*George Billström KIEL
Holstenstr.22.*

*33 William in Kiel, before
emigrating*

Nicolaus April 8, 1871 in Kiel and he died August 8, 1946 in Chicago. The portrait taken in Kiel shows him as a boy. Such photos helped parents to remember their children which often could not even return for a visit. Once in Chicago William had himself photographed as young successful gentlemen. So he could send his parents the message "Don't worry. You see, I'm well." (See photo next page.)

William immigrated 1891. From the passengers' list of steamship Scandia⁴⁴, which started Oct. 10, 1891 from Hamburg and arrived at NY Oct. 23, we know, he traveled on tween deck without relatives. When I visited Fannie Nugent, daughter of Grandauant Petra, in New York 1970 and 1972, she had no further news from him and ignored where he had

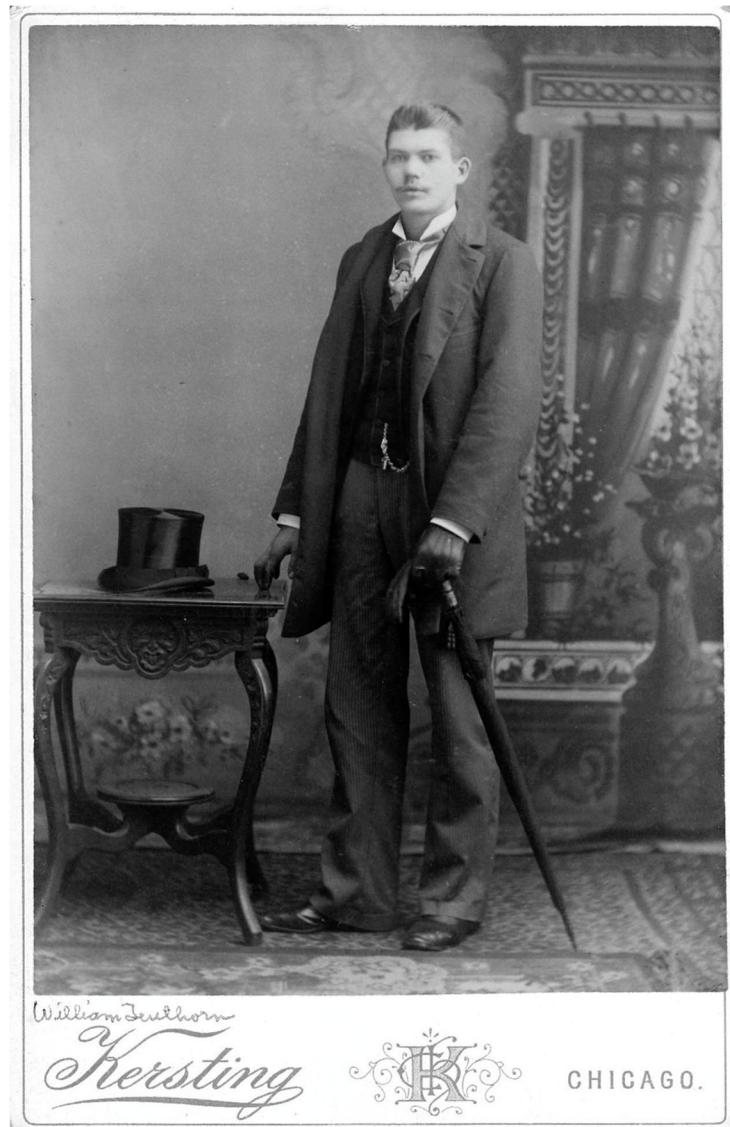
lived, whether he had had family or not. In the meantime, I found census data which add information. Most important and self-explaining are two Marriage Licenses.

⁴⁴ The information is as follows: Wilh. Teuthorn, age 20, from the state of Holstein, living in Kiel, commercial [Kaufmann], traveling on tween deck without relatives, destination New York, passengers number 01.0009, passage number A1891.0353, beginning the journey 10.10.1891, ship's name Scandia, steamship, company: HAPAG.

Erster Teil

- His first wife was Minnie Bruns. She was born March 24, 1870, had immigrated in 1890 and died Feb 22, 1917. They had contracted marriage at North Chicago on May 1, 1901. There are no children.
- On April 24, 1919 William married Betty Marie Liska (1871-1947) from Blatnice, Czechoslovakia. It was their second marriage for both of them.

Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel



William Teuthorn

Kersting



CHICAGO.

34 William with all evidence of a successful gentleman, topper, umbrella, gloves (one of them lose in his left), polished shoes, fine trousers, watch chain.

William ran a grocer's store in North Chicago.

Erster Teil

Early photography fascinates me. Even more, since I studied the studio of my great-grandfather Christian Bachmann in Stettin, Pomerania.



35 Nice reverse (of William's portrait) with all ingredients of a reliable establishment

Photographers were always proud of an elaborated reverse which proved their feeling for art and was their advertising showcase as well.

Erster Teil

Statistics

It is a fact that all our Kiel emigrants started their journey at the harbor of Hamburg (Otto is supposed to) and arrived at the harbor of New York.

Collecting data from the ship lists available in the 'Staatsarchiv Hamburg', we receive a chronicle of ship departures for the Teuthorn family. Only Otto's voyage is missing. His date of arriving at NY is taken from his document of naturalization.

surname	name	age	ship	class	passenger number	departure	arrival
Wilhelm	Teuthorn	20	Scandia	tween	01.0009	1891/10/10	1891/10/23
Louise	Teuthorn	25	Moravia	tween	01.0050	1892/05/11	1892/05/26
Otto	Teuthorn	24	unknown	tween		1893/04	1893/05/01
Petra	Teuthorn	19	Russia	tween	01.0045	1894/09/02	1894/09/17
Emil	Teuthorn	15	Palatia	tween	01.0019	1895/06/09	1895/06/22

Louisa (1866-1942) & her Family Prellberg



37 Louisa in Kiel, before emigrating

brother William still live in the city at that time? Did he come from Chicago to meet her? Did her relatives Nagel come to see her? We really do not know. But obviously Louisa remained at the disembarkation place Hoboken and here she met her future husband, Bremen born Willy (Heinrich Wilhelm) Prellberg (1869-1942). They married May 15, 1894 in Hoboken and continued living at the banks of Hudson River.

Louise and Willy lived at 65 Park Ave. This is a place south of 1st Street and very near by the piers where Willy had his job as a longshoreman. We do know this date not only from the 1910 census

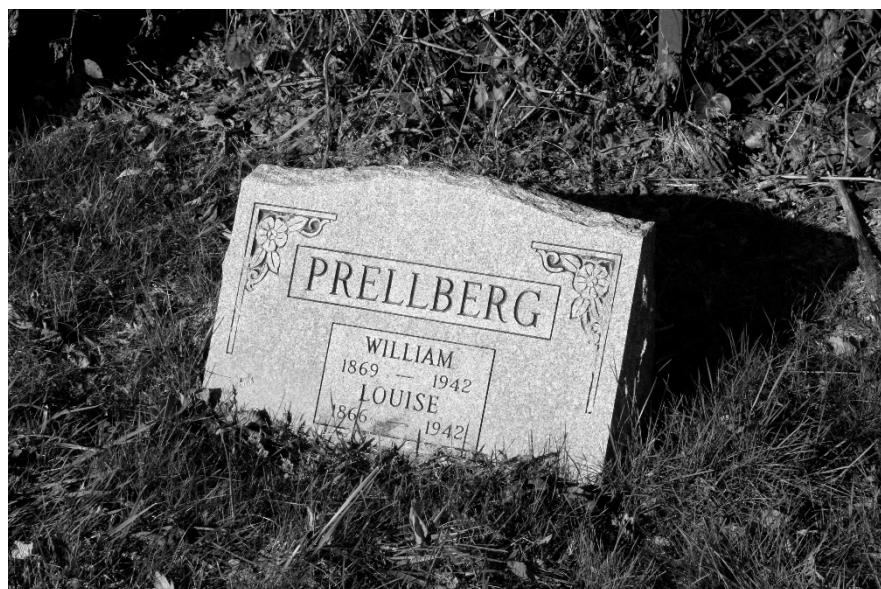
Immigration for a single woman was not easy. Puritan administration at that time demanded women to enter together with a husband, to visit her family, to follow a contract, e.g. as a housemaid, or at least being expected by any male person declaring, he would make himself responsible for her, under certain circumstances also a future husband. In all of those cases the female passenger was expected to be picked up by the people she was dependent from. Entering the U.S. without the conditions just mentioned, meant refusal or danger of economic exploitation.

We ignore what exactly was the situation, when Louisa arrived at New York. Did her

Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel



44 John's wife Anna married Marty Brumerstedt



45 William & Louisa, the immigrants

Hoboken

When I heard 'Hoboken' for the first time in my youth, it was a word without any content. My grandfather Emil had mentioned the place. Family lived there. Hoboken occurred a second time when, as a seminar student, I wrote an essay about 'New York as an Immigrant Harbor'. Hoboken arose opposite Manhattan at a certain distance north of the busy Castle Garden, on the New Jersey Coast. With a Hoboken ferryboat photo, I connected the impression of transportation, of a first step bringing newly immigrated Europeans to their destination into the interior of the vast country. Both times Hoboken had remained this foggy place for me.

When I met Louise's grandson Alan, he procured me with a lot of written and illustrated description of what to me once had been a place without clarity. The 150 years of Hoboken Anniversary Journal from 2005 brought the best image and information for me⁴⁶. But when visiting Hoboken personally in 2009, I was overwhelmed how close past and present meet in this city, which with her preserved historic architecture seemed to me like a museum and a busy modern city at the same time. But back to history.

"Resort, transportation hub, college town, restaurant mecca". I add, hopeful shore of various waves of immigrants: Irish, German, Italian, and Hispanic. - Before the 'mile-square'-city was officially incorporated in 1885 it had been a popular resort for New Yorkers. Yachting, racing horses were the main upper class distractions. But of course our interest is focused on the time of German immigration and its significance as main pier of German ocean liners.

From 1850 to 1970 several waves of immigrants swept to the banks of Hoboken. They were Germans 1850-80/90, Irish 1870-1890, Italians since the after-WWI years and Puerto Ricans 1950-1970.

⁴⁶ Geschichte Bremens, Bd II S. 515/527.

Otto (1868-1937)

Otto Wilhelm (*10.06.1868) dropped his second name rapidly. When at the very beginning I came in contact with the U.S. branch of our family Otto had been supposed to have been the first of the Kiel barber's children to cross the Atlantic Ocean. But there is no proof for this proposition. In the contrary, there exists a record card of Otto's naturalization mentioning May 1, 1893 as day of arrival. Believing, that a document like this must not be mistaken, I take his immigration date for granted. The exact proof normally would be the passengers list of arrival. But whereas such documents do exist for his siblings it just could not be found for Otto up to now. - Twenty years later on March 6, 1913 Otto became a U.S. citizen.

T - 365	
Family name Teuthorn	Given name or names Otto
Address 3912 Janssen Ave.,	
Certificate no. (or vol. and page) P-7906	Title and location of court Circuit Court, Cook Co., Ill.
Country of birth or allegiance Germany	When born (or age) June 10, 1868
Date and port of arrival in U.S. X May 1, 1893 X	Date of naturalization Mar. 6, 1913
Names and addresses of witnesses Henry Meyer, 3629 Ward St.	
Fred C. Nickelsen, 2147 Lincoln Place	
U.S. Department of Labor, Immigration and Naturalization Service. Form No. I-IP.	

49 Naturalization of Otto Teuthorn 1913

Erster Teil

Otto met Auguste Janssen in a German Club. She had immigrated in 1892. But what about her family and origin?



50 Places of origin family Janssen

Her complete name was Auguste Victoria (10 Feb, 1871) and she was the 8th of 10 siblings. Her parents were Police Inspector Johann/John JANSSEN (1833-1881) in Leer, Emsland/Germany, and his wife Petronelle Sophia Thöle (*1836). John's father was Harm Janssen (1792 Nortmoor - 1874 Leer), his mother Gretje Harms Kräfting (1798-1852 Leer).

The couple's marriage took place in Leer⁶². This is amazing, especially because of the costs of such a voyage. They had two sons, Ottie and Kurt William. Ottie died young but Kurt went on to become a lawyer and years later a candidate for Alderman. As Kurt became a public person, it is worth while searching the newspapers⁶³. The most informative article is from the Chicago Daily Tribune, Apr 17, 1960, "Leaders Flip Two-Head Coin in 45th Ward".

⁶² I was told so, but have no document.

⁶³ Jim Haas, friend and historian from Annapolis MD, researched the web for Chicago Teuthorns - census & newspapers - already in 2003.

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Grooves at Clybourn Ave. The way to the place was described to somebody new in Chicago coming from direction Lake Michigan as follows: “*Take your way up to North Ave., turn right into Halstad Street until Willow Street, then turn west and you will look at green trees. Follow the way to the entrance of cool forest green shadow.*”⁶⁷ The special atmosphere that filled Germans with enthusiasm is painted by key words like „*sunny summer, shadow of oak trees, plenty of good beer, strong good smelling coffee, German cakes like Topf- und Blechkuchen, life music, dancers, sounds of German dialects from Holstein in the North to Switzerland in the South. [...] There is nothing what Germans love more than a party in the forest beneath oak-trees.*” And the writer regrets that he soon will have to return to the reality of a foreigner who feels the daily difficulties to get accustomed to a strange surrounding.

Kurt's Children

Otto's and Auguste's marriage had been an alliance of origins from the German countries of Holstein - plus important Danish influence -, Schleswig and Friesland. In spite of this ethnic variety the family had remained German in a sense of culture and language. But with Kurt marrying Helen Manson English and Irish heritage was added.

Helen's Father Clarence Aither Manson was a born English Canadian. We don't know at the very moment, where his parents came from, supposedly from Britain. But Helen's mother introduced the Irish element. She was Kate Foran (1877-1959). Helen's grandparents were John Foran and Hanna Calahan, her great-grandparents John Calahan and Catherine (Kitty) Fox.

Kurt's children were Robert Kurt / Bob (1931-2010) and the twins James Lee and Margret (1936).

⁶⁷ Keil, Harmut (Hrsg.): Deutsche Arbeiterkultur in Chicago von 1850 bis zum Ersten Weltkrieg, eine Anthologie, Ostfildern 1984., S. 214, quoted from Der Westen 22.7.1869.

Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel

Bob Teuthorn

has the pride of an extraordinary role in the development of the family Teuthorn. Since the times when Wilhelm Günther Teuthorn had left Frankenhausen the number of a couple's children had diminished continuously. In their town of origin families not seldom had had 8 to 10 children. Only Bob achieved to reach this historical number with five sons and five daughters.

Marrying Edith May Fenner (1933-2010) the German, Danish, English and Irish genes were added by the Indian element. For Edith's mother Cora Shananaquet had been a pure native. For Bob himself the Indian culture became decisive, for his children important but especially for one of their sons predominant. When Edith and Bob passed away in the same year 2010, they left behind an impressive number of grand- and great-grandchildren.

Margaret Swarm, born Teuthorn

Following the conservative pattern of family building women lose their paternal surname with marriage. So Margaret's children are the Swarms, and they are five.⁶⁸

A book like this has its clear limit, where privacy of living family is concerned. I'll stick to that codex although this principle is softened not only by national administration, spying citizens with the pretense of security, but also by all those "friends" who produce abundant information about themselves in social networks. Beside of all these points of view I see an exception with public persons.

James Lee Teuthorn

One of the two children of James is Dawn Teuthorn, appointed to a pastor in the southern Bay Area of San Francisco. The Coast Side Lutheran Church has an own Facebook performance, is part of the

⁶⁸ I communicated with Timothy and Susan in 2005. There is also a loose facebook contact with them.

Erster Teil

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and located in Half Moon Bay, CA.⁶⁹

I feel grateful for Dawn. She was the first member of U.S.-family I met in the web, and it is she whom I owe an early design of the American branch of Teuthorns.

The immigrant Otto's family story ends here with listing his Teuthorn grandchildren (*1950-65) Theresa Ann, Marie Louise, William Allen/Bill, John Robert, James Michael/Jim, Anette Lynn, Dawn Marie, Thomas Andrew/Tom, Joseph Patrick/Joe, Daniel Patrick, Linda Catherine, Laura Ann and Barbara Joyce. Most of them enjoy children and grandchildren.

Otto's grand- and great-grandchildren - the living family - of course cannot be part of this book. But the stories they once will have to tell when gray or white haired, will - among others - deal with the new age of communication, which they are part of. With their daily shares on Facebook and other social medias they already started sort of a continuous family story. Some few of my insights are due to those contributions. Never the less the values of tradition will remain important for them. So is my hope and confidence.

It is obvious that Kurt's family fills a vast chapter of this family story. But this seems justified by her importance for carrying the Family Name into future generations.

⁶⁹ More information about Dawn Teuthorn may be found at
<http://www.coastsidelutheran.com/pastorsnotes.html>

Petra (1875-1943)

(Petra Sophie Friederike * 20.03.1875 in Kiel † 1943 in Hoboken, NJ)

Petra, arriving at New York with S.S. Russia on Sept. 17, 1894, was the 4th child immigrating from Kiel's Teuthorn family. She was shortly before twenty at that day.



52 The double connected brick building in center was the hotel and home of the Hessel family.

Her photo portrait was taken some years later in Hoboken by studio C. Magnus at 520 Washington St. - I see a friendly and self-confident young woman, certainly not a cover beauty but pretty enough to be courted for future wife, tough enough to handle daily work, but also ready to proudly wear a precious garment.

After four years in Hoboken, Oct 21, 1898, Petra married German born John F. Hessel (* 1871). He had immigrated in 1890. The 1900 census shows them running a hotel in the First Ward.

*The town of Leck*¹³⁵

You find Leck in the extreme north western corner of Germany near the Danish border. The place is already mentioned as a settlement in



64 Leck Church - historic pulpit

¹³⁵ This chapter is a repetition of the German version at the first pages of this book. So the U.S. branches of our family may take advantage from it.

Dritter Teil

documents of 13th century. Since early times it was a market place and when the North Sea reached to the "Geest"-edge (sandy uplands) it even possessed a harbor on the banks of the small river "Lecker Au". But it silted up already in the 15th century. Today only an anchor in the coat of arms reminds us of those times.

Leck now is a small community with about 7.000 inhabitants. The local tourism organization has developed the region around Leck in an attractive manner.

The center of the village will not have changed substantially since the middle of 19th century. Especially St.-Willehad-Church presents itself the way the Nagel family knew it from church-going.

An information board explains us: "The old church in Leck is named after St. Willehad who worked as a missionary with the Saxons and Frisians. It was first mentioned in the 13th century, but Romanesque stylistic elements and granite stones of the north wall prove it was built in the 12th century. [...]."

Centuries later, exactly in 1865, Fanny Henriette Wilhelmine Nagel, daughter of the in Leck practicing doctor Jens Otto Nagel, and her cousin Wilhelm Friedrich Otto Teuthorn from Kiel got married in this church. Few years later the thatched spire was consumed by fire but already in 1875 the tower was rebuilding with red bricks in the new gothic style.

The nave of the Romanic building presents itself with the typical mixture of granite, soft volcanic stone (frequently imported from the Eifel region) and red brick. This was the way small churches of Schleswig-Holstein were mostly built because of the absence of natural stone material in this sandy region. By the enlargement of 1807 the choir and the apsis of the old church had disappeared.

When I visited the church in Summer 2002 I was impressed by the results of restauration from 10 years ago. There is a beautiful old furnishing consisting in beam ceiling, gallery and altar wood carving from 1520 by Master Claus Berg from Odense. But I rather appreciated the wonderful Renaissance pulpit.

The baroque painted plates of the north gallery were completed by modern plates from Werner Juza, illustrating parts of the Sermon on the Mount and so repeating texts on the beams of the ceiling.

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Vorwort

Die Fülle des inzwischen zu Frankenhausen am Kyffhäuser angesammelten Materials und mein eigener Anspruch an eine qualitativ vertretbare Darstellung der dort beginnenden Geschichte unserer Familie, hat dazu geführt, dass ich jetzt vor einem Berg stehe, von dem ich nicht weiß, ob ich ihn noch ersteigen werde.

Jedenfalls ist die Hauptroute noch nicht begangen, wohl aber einige kleinere Nebenpfade. Zu diesen rechne ich meine bisherigen Veröffentlichungen in Aufsatzform (siehe Anhang), aber auch einige Kapitel des 2012 in der Familie verteilten Buches zur Familie Bachmann-Corvinus-Teuthorn.¹ Diese waren aber vor allem auch eine Aufarbeitung meiner eigenen Erinnerung an die Erlebnisse um 1945 und die Nachkriegsjahre.

Für die heute noch in Deutschland, der Schweiz und vor allem in den U.S. lebenden Teuthorn-Familien ist die Geschichte der letzten 200 Jahre außerhalb ihrer ursprünglichen Herkunftsstadt entscheidend. Und die beginnt mit der Ankunft des Barbierchirurgen Wilhelm Günther Teuthorn in Kiel/Holstein und mit der Verbindung, die er über seine Ehe mit der Familie Nagel einging. So ist unsere Familiengeschichte seit der ersten Hälfte des 19. Jahrhunderts genau genommen die Geschichte der Familie Teuthorn-Nagel.

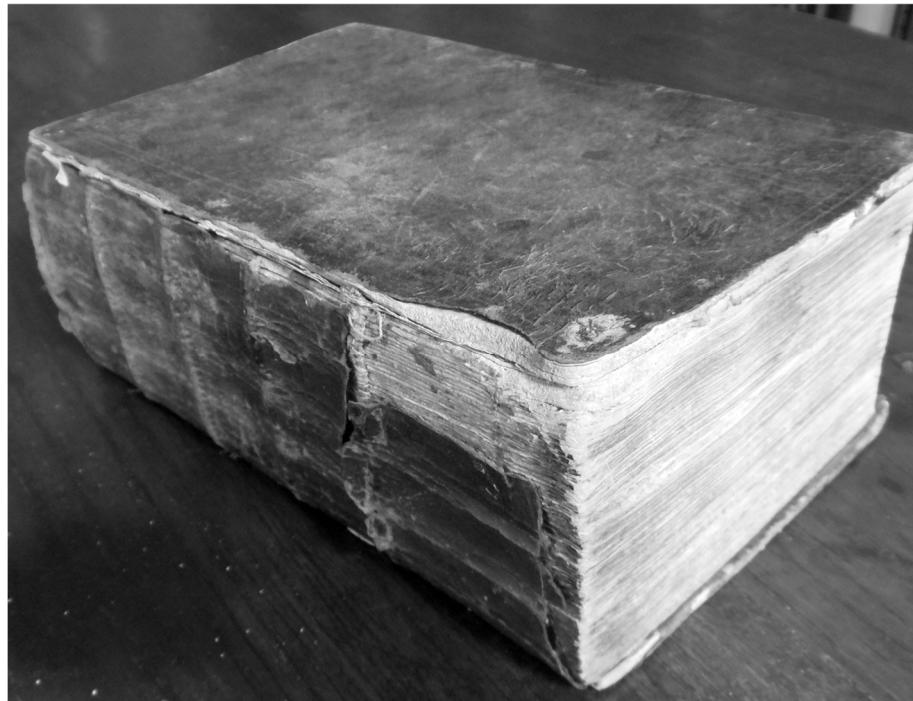
Stand 15. September 2016

¹ Teuthorn, Peter: *Erinnerungen an Großmutter Erica, 1885-1970. Ihre Zeit und ihre Familie*, Gilching 2012.

Die Familie Teuthorn-Nagel

Die Familien-Bibel

Die knapp 200 Jahre alte Bibel erhielt der Autor Weihnachten 1964



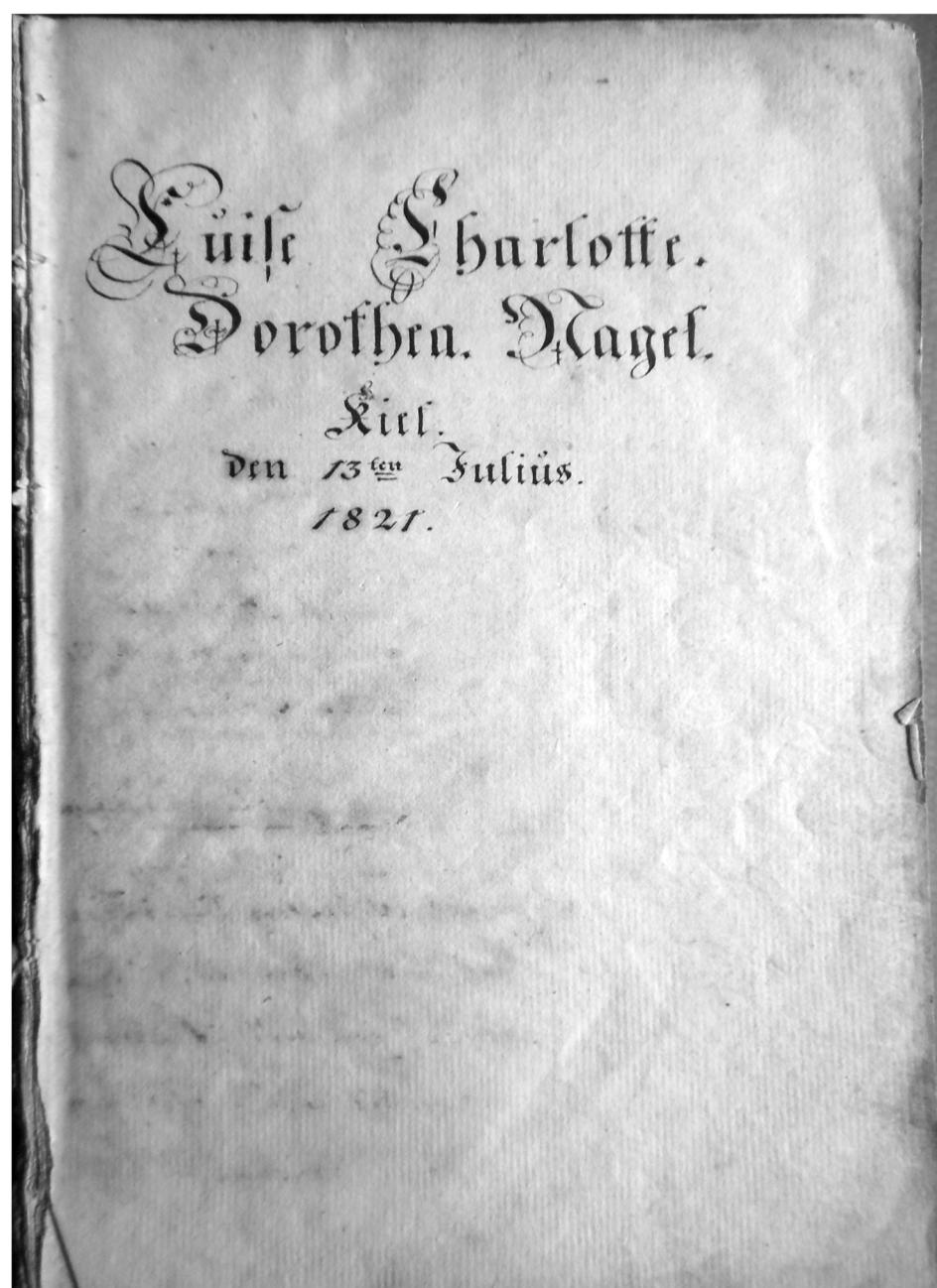
18 Die "Nagel-Bibel" schenkte Nicolaus Nagel seiner Tochter Louise Charlotte Dorothea vermutlich zur Konfirmation

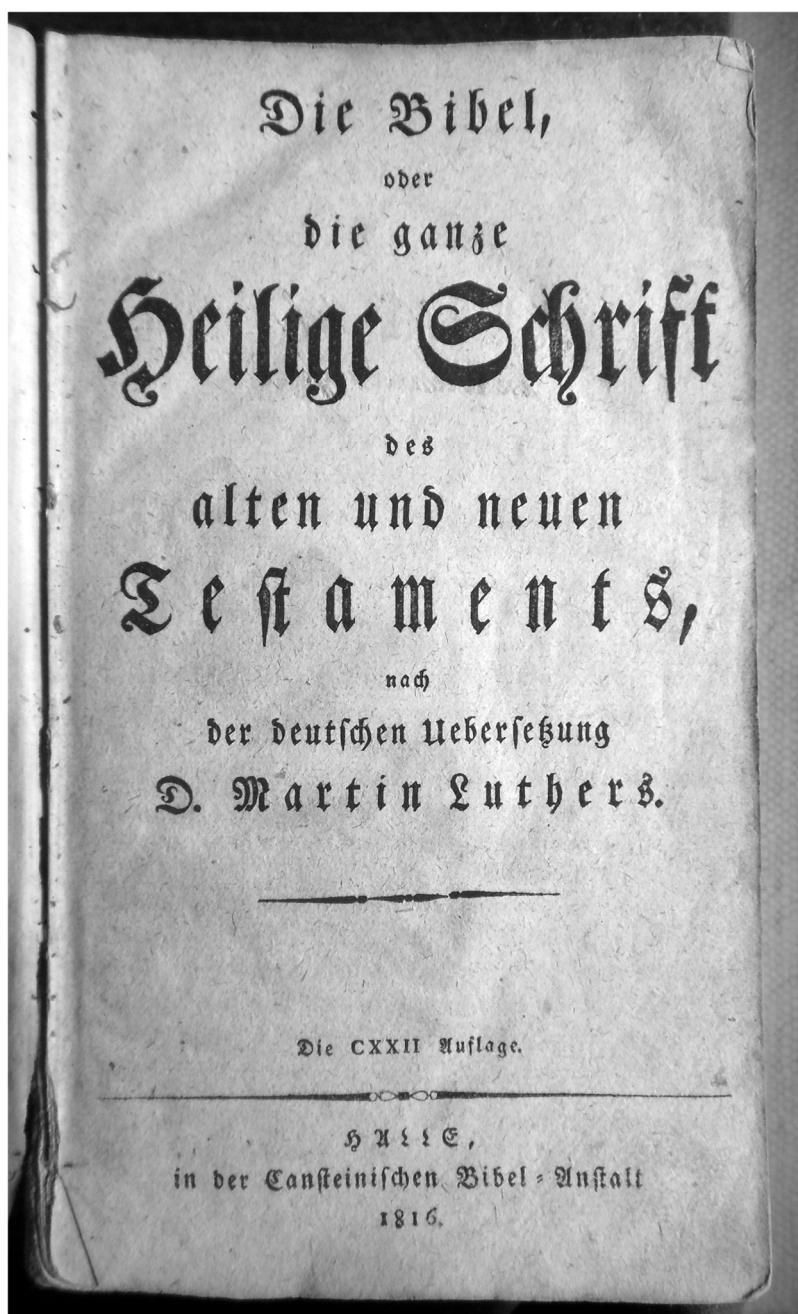
von seiner Großmutter Erica, geb. Bachmann zusammen mit den folgenden Zeilen (Auszug): „*Die alte Bibel von 1816 stammt aus dem großelterlichen Haus von Opa [Emil Teuthorn]. Seine Mutter war ja eine geborene Nagel und Peter korrespondiert ja wohl noch mit den Nachkommen in Amerika. Die Bibel hat schon viel erlebt, ist bei uns in Afrika von den Termiten angefressen worden. Ich möchte annehmen, dass Dir, lieber Peter, die Bibel als Familienstück vielleicht eine wertvolle Erinnerung sein wird.*“ - Auf den letzten Leerblättern hat Nicolaus Nagel für seine Tochter Familiendaten

Erster Teil

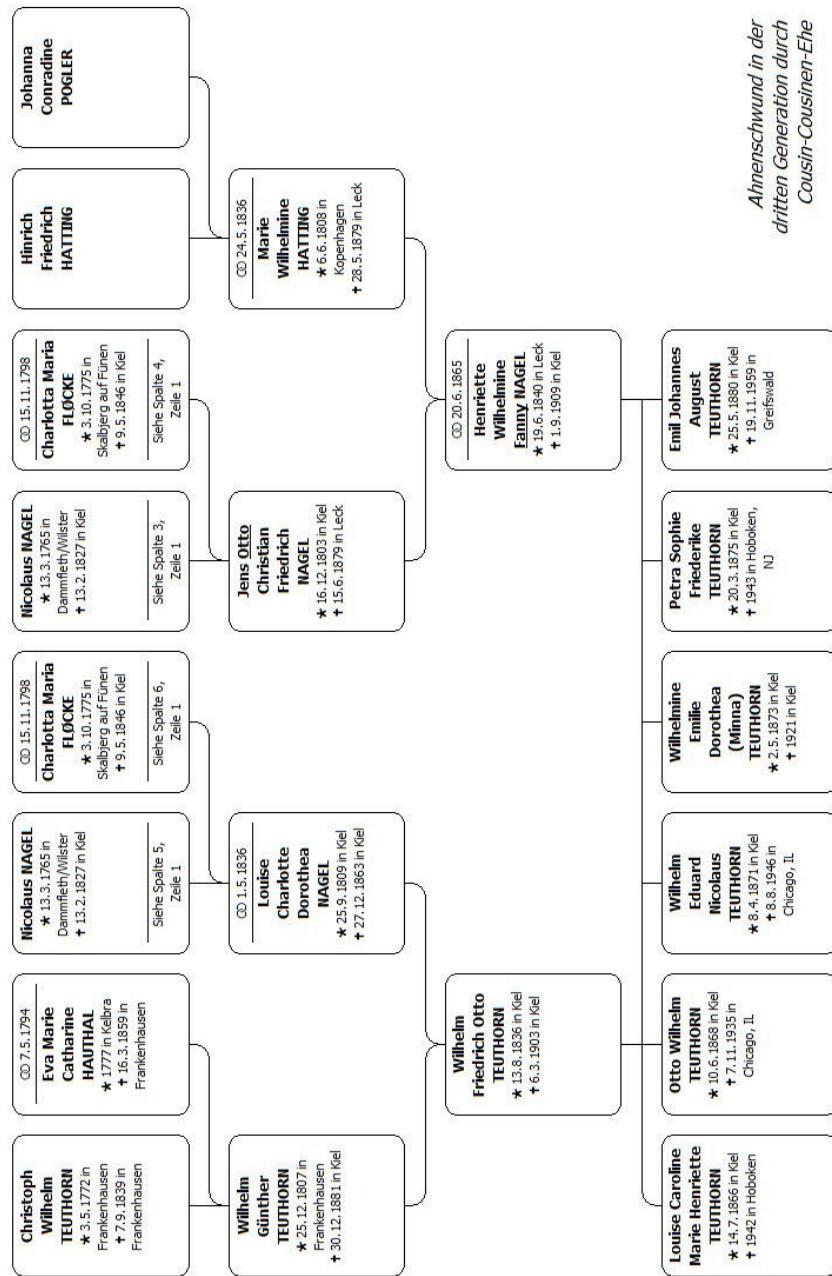
eingetragen. Ich nahm immer an, bin aber inzwischen sicher, dass dort nach der Seite 3 ein ganzes Blatt, also zwei Seiten fehlen.²⁵

²⁵ Auf den fehlenden Seiten befanden sich u.a. wohl Eintragungen zu den Kindern seines ersten Sohnes. Diesen Schluss lässt auch die kürzlich von Christl Nagel-Eger, einer Nachfahrin des Nicolaus Christian Friedrich (*8.9.1792) erhaltene Familienliste zu.





Erster Teil



*Ahnenschwund in der
dritten Generation durch
Cousin-Cousinen-Ehe*

Die Kinder

Die sechs Kinder des Kieler Barbiers und seiner Frau Fanny waren

Louise Caroline Marie Henriette

* 14.07.1866 in Kiel † 1942 in Hoboken

Otto Wilhelm

* 10.06.1868 in Kiel † 07.11.1935 in Chicago, IL

Wilhelm Eduard Nicolaus

* 08.04.1871 in Kiel † 08.08.1946 in Chicago, IL

Wilhelmine Emilie Dorothea (Minna)

* 02.05.1873 in Kiel † 1921 in Kiel

Petra Sophie Friederike

* 20.03.1875 in Kiel † 1943 in Hoboken, NJ

Emil Johannes August

* 25.05.1880 in Kiel † 19.11.1959 in Greifswald

Auswanderung nach Amerika

Mit Auswanderung habe ich mich umfassend bereits im Historischen Seminar beschäftigt. Damals ging es u.a. um den Schutz der in New York ankommenden Einwanderer vor Gaunern, Dieben und allen möglichen Arten von Ausbeutung und Übervorteilung der ahnungslosen und der englischen Sprache noch nicht mächtigen Neuankömmlinge³⁷. Die Auswanderer aus unserer Familie aber wussten sich offensichtlich vor solchen Übergriffen durch enge Kommunikation und Hilfe untereinander zu schützen.

Ich denke, es kann für das Verständnis der für unsere Familie so wichtigen Auswanderung hilfreich sein, dem eigentlichen Geschehen ein paar allgemeine Aussagen voranzustellen.

Überblick

Unter Auswanderung wird unter Genealogen heute überwiegend reflexhaft die Überseeauswanderung nach Amerika verstanden, obwohl diese nur ein Teil, wenn auch der größte, der historischen deutschen Auswanderung ist.

Noch bis zu Beginn des zweiten Deutschen Reiches, also des Deutschen Kaiserreiches (1871), bedeutete jedes längere Verlassen eines souveränen Staatsgebildes, also zum Beispiel ein Überschreiten der Grenze des Fürstentums Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt³⁸, Auswanderung. Für diese war eine formelle Genehmigung des Landesherrn erforderlich. So wanderten Angehörige der Familie Teuthorn zum Beispiel nach Hessen, Friesland und Fehmarn aus und

³⁷ Teuthorn, Peter: *Schutz für Einwanderer in New York. Kann verbesserte Information oder nur ein zentraler Einwanderungsplatz den Mißständen Einhalt bieten?*

<http://www.teu-net.de/geschichte/NY/einwanderhafenNY.html>

³⁸ Die Stadt Frankenhausen lag in diesem Fürstentum.

Erster Teil

gründeten dort neue Familienzweige. Erst in der nachnapoleonischen Zeit, also in der Zeit des Deutschen Bundes (ab 1815) möchte ich in diesen Fällen statt von Auswanderung von Binnenwanderung sprechen.

Als Wilhelm Günther Teuthorn seine Heimat am Kyffhäuser verließ, wanderte er zwar in das deutsche Fürstentum Holstein, aber auch in den dänischen Gesamtstaat ein, dessen Teil es zu dieser Zeit politisch gesehen war. Allerdings hatten alle Wanderungen eines gemeinsam, man verließ zwar die engere Heimat und die sogenannte Obhut des Landesherrn, blieb aber im deutschen Sprachraum und konnte weitgehend gleiches Rechtsverständnis und vergleichbare soziale Hierarchien und Schichtungen (z.B. Zunftwesen) voraussetzen.

Mit dem Schritt über den Atlantik aber verließ man den heimatlichen Kulturkreis und musste sich größeren Herausforderungen außerhalb der gewohnten Verhältnisse stellen. Dass die Einwanderer der ersten Generation sich zunächst in der neuen Welt trotzdem meist in einem deutschsprachigen Umfeld wiederfanden, steht auf einem anderen Blatt. Hier spielten besonders Kirche, gewohntes gesellschaftliches Leben in Freizeit und Vereinen und eben die Sprache eine wichtige Rolle. Wenn wir heute vorschnell Urteile über die Einwanderung nach Deutschland, insbesondere die türkische, fällen, täte es gut, sich zu erinnern, dass die deutschen Einwanderer in die U.S. sich meist erst in der nächsten Generation assimilierten.

Auswanderung von Frankenhäuser Teuthorns

Die erste große Welle der Massenauswanderung wird von 1846 bis 1857 angesetzt. Zu den mehr als eine Million Menschen, die Deutschland in dieser Zeitspanne Richtung Amerika verließen, gehörten auch Mitglieder unserer Familie. Neben den überwiegend wirtschaftlichen Gründen kamen nach dem Niederschlagen der deutschen Revolution von 1848/49 Gründe der politischen Repression hinzu. Friedrich Bernhard Teuthorn, der aktiv am Revolutionsgeschehen in Südwestdeutschland teilgenommen hatte,