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The Bunsen Family

Much has been reported about the large and important Tiesenhausen family at this or other places, so now it is time to speak about the wives of the family who also did contribute substantially to the continuance of the clan.

We want to start with the Bunsen Family, specifically with Marie Johanna Friederike Bunsen, born June 28, 1838 in Moscow. She was one of four daughters of Philipp Adolph Julius Bunsen and his wife Marie Sophie Dorothea Johanna Stumme, the daughter of Carl Gottfried Stumme and his wife Johanna, born Kierim. He was treasurer of the city of Kassel.

Philipp Adolph Julius and Marie Bunsen had emigrated in 1820 from Kassel to Moscow where Philipp owned and lead a cloths factory. In 1852 he undertook a journey to the Caucasus from which he never returned. It remains unclear under which circumstances he was lost. Six years later his wife had him declared dead and decided to return to Germany with her children.

The eldest daughter, Olga – later married to Ernst Oppert – was already in Germany and attended a young ladies college in Korntal close to Stuttgart. There she met and became friends with Marie Gundert, who later married Mister Hesse and became the mother of the well known writer Hermann Hesse. We will return to this relationship at a later point.

Marie Bunsen became tutor and educator to the three daughters Caecilie, Bertha and Magdalena of Hermann Gustav Andreas Tiesenhausen on Itfer manor in Estonia. There she met and fell in love in 1865 with the eldest son Engelbrecht Karl Konstantin Tiesenhausen. They married December 8, 1866. Shortly after Engelbrecht had been called as the new parson to the Saint Annen Church in Weissenstein, today Paide.

In Weissenstein lived and worked the physician Hermann Hesse who was a friend of Engelbrecht and later became the grandfather to the writer with the same name. Accidentally it happened that Marie Hesse, visiting her parents in law and Olga Oppert, visiting her sister Marie met again after many years.

The Bunsen Family were originally peasants and lived in the county which became later the principdom Waldeck west of Kassel. Jeremias Bunsen (1688 – 1752) was the first in the family who managed to progress from a peasant to an esteemed academic and affluent man. Originally he was servant to Christian Ludwig Count of Waldeck. However, he surprised by his intelligence and intellectual curiositiy. The Countess Johannette von Waldeck, a born Comtesse

von Nassau-Saarbruecken had him tutored together with her sons.

Jeremias was supposed to become a painter. In 1728 he was sent by the new prince Karl August Friedrich von Waldeck to Kassel, where he was educated to become a master of the mint. In this facility he served the prince and first took the office of mayor of the city of Arolsen. His true passion were natural sciences. In 1750 he published a paper trying to explain connections between electricity and thunderstorms „Versuch wie die Meteore Des Donners und Blitzes Item des Aufstiegs derer Dünste Imgleichen Des Nord-Scheins Aus Electricischen Wirkungen herzuleiten und zu erklären sind“ and two years later another paper on electricity and magnetism. „Erklärung Derer Electricischen und Magnetischen Kräften. Ans Licht gestellt von Jeremias Bunsen“.

His son Philipp Christian Bunsen (1729 – 1790) succeeded his father as master of the mint for the prince of Waldeck. In 1764 he changed jobs and became master of the mint in Frankfurt. He was married to Christine Elisabeth Linden who came from a well known theologian family. Together they had nine children. One of their sons Christian Bunsen (1770 – 1837) became the father of the famous chemist and professor at the Heidelberg University Robert Wilhelm Bunsen (1811 – 1899). Another son was Philipp Ludwig Bunsen (1760 – 1809) the grandfather of our Marie Bunsen married Tiesenhausen.

This Philipp Ludwig Bunsen studied first theology and later law. He served as legal advisor for the prince of Waldeck, but his passion was poetry. He wrote a number of comedies which were brought to theater. One was „Siegfried von Lindenberg:

Ein Lustspiel in fünf Aufzügen“ which was published in 1790. He also wrote the poem „Unter diesen Eichen lasst Euch nieder“ which later became the anthem of the principedom.

How much he was appreciated becomes obvious from a description by the later president of the state parliament of the principedom Waldeck and Pymont Wolrad Schumacher: 'Next to us lived the long proven friend Reinhard Bunsen and his father the senior civil servant. I have to rest a while at this man, because he was a person who could only have lived in those days. He was born in Frankfurt and had been a theologian. He had had extraordinary success as sermonizer but had to relinquish this profession due to health problems. Later he had travelled and seen the world with rich people and was now next to being a successful business man the center point of the intellectual movement of our land, specifically our residence. He was the supporting the muses, kept communication to the outside, a friend of many external scientists, a well humored host, and a role model specifically for us younger people as poet, hunter, horseman, friend, connoisseur and counsellor much loved. We did not just see his way of living we could feel

his essence of life already as young people. I met this man almost daily and if I did not talk to him I did see him to due to him living in my vicinity.'



There are two nice paintings from Johann Friedrich August Tischbein, who was also painter at the princes residence in Arolsen, of the couple Philipp and Marianne Bunsen which are today in possession to the Bunsen Family.

Susanne Kreuzsch

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Genealogy – yesterday, today and tomorrow.

Our much loved late family genealogist Ursula von Tiesenhausen, living in Garmisch was a passionate family researcher and working for the family enriched her live and filled her days. She inherited the passion for family research from her mother and was genealogist by vocation. She has researched the past generations and documented them well. To supplement her work, Klas Lackschewitz, the genealogist of the Courland knighthood in 2011, demonstrated in the state archive in Warsaw, where to find further genealogical documents which need to be analyzed. As most of these documents as in Pokish, family members who speak or read Polish are requested to make contact with the family genealogist.

These genalogists have predominantly dealt with the Tiesenhausen family of the past. When updating the family information this year, I tried to capture the

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younger families and their children to document the growth of the family. Unfortunately this turned out to be difficult as the classical letter was a very slow means of communication. Using E-mails was much faster but required to know the E-mail address. In many cases, the phone was the simplest and most effective way of communication. The internet helped to search phone books for family members world wide. From there it was a small step to the social network Facebook where many family members are already meeting and have established a separate group. My birth name Sabine v.Tiesenhausen is the contact point for interested family members. Thru Facebook we can reach predominantly younger family members. For example the contact to the Brazilian family members was established thru Facebook and worked extremely well.

When the next edition of the 'Genealogical Handbook of the German Adel' is published, hopefully in 2013, the younger generation will find themselves represented in this book. They will find in a printed way what was collected electronically. It is however a lot simpler for the family genealogist when family members inform about changes, be it a change of address, marriages, births or deaths. Then time consuming research be it via letter, phone or Facebook is no longer necessary.

Sabine Roeder

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Family Reunion 2013

The last three family reunions were held in different ways and at unusual locations. So we got to know the idyllic palatinate hilly country with its vineyards and cellars, or we were lead by an expert archaeologist to discover the remains of the Roman Empire always accompanied by a wine testing at a local vinery which gave sufficient opportunity to talk to exchange experiences and views.

In 2011 we used the family reunion to search for remains of our family in the the Baltic. This time we went to Estonia where many places remind of the fact that our family lived in this area for many years. Thanks to the competent guidance provided by cousin Wolter, we were able to find some of these places.

Following these interesting and rich experiences we have decided to hold the

family reunion in 2013 again in the classic way at the classic location in Schloss Hoehenscheid close to Kassel. With some difficulties we managed to reserve the week end April 12 to April 14 for this event. Those who are interested can arrive Friday and use the evening to relax, talk and catch up. A separate invitation for this event will be sent around February 2013.

Andreas v.Tiesenhausen

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In memory of our deceased

Cyril Baron v.Tiesenhausen, born 1923 in Pikeruki in Finnland died May 11, 2012 in Cannes in France age 88. His urn was buried in the Philippines, home of his second wife Victoria. Cyril, who lived and worked in Germany for his employer Renault for many years, was an important go between for the cousins living in Germany and France. His kindness, his generosity and his humor will be sadly missed. Our sympathies are with his widow and his step children.

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News from the family

Clara Elisabeth Freiin v.Delwig-Tiesenhausen, daughter of Max and Christiane v.Delwig-Tiesenhausen was born June 4, 2012 in Muelheim Ruhr. The family congratulates the proud parents and welcomed the young cousin.

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Heloisa, is the name of the daughter born July 20, 2012 in Berlin to Friederike v.Tiesenhausen and Stephen Cave. The family congatulates the proud parents, the sisters Emilia (Milli) and Beatrice (Betty), and the proud grand parents Anne and Hanns-Theodor v.Tiesenhausen in Hagen.

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Florian Bartholomaeus v.Tiesenhausen was married Decemeber 12, 2012 in Gueterlsloh to Anja Bary. The family congratulates warmly and welcomes the new cousin to the clan.

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Peter v.Tiesenhausen, artist and environment activist in Demmit, Alberta in Canada has opened in December 2012 an exhibition of his works in the are art gallery of Grand Prairie Alerta. In a report in the Grande Prairie Daily Herald Tribune Peter is quoted to say the exhibition is the result of a major house cleaning to not only finish pieces which were work in progress but also to cleanse his mind to re-order his ideas and beliefs.

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Hans Heinrich v.Tiesenhausen from Vancouver Canada has painted a wonderful family tree of all male Tiesenhausen family members from the middle ages to today. The painting has the size 135.5 to 42.4 cm. For a cost recovery of 20 Euro interested family members can purchase a color copy of it for. Contact Wolter v.Tiesenhausen