

Chapter Three

Sporleder German Ancestry

Auszug aus dem Verzeichnis der Getrauten

der evang.-luth. Kirchengemeinde St. Trinitatis.....

Jahrgang 1686 Pag. 3 Lfd. Nr. 1

Tag der Trauung: 18. April

Name, Stand und Wohnort des Ehemannes: Sporleder, Liborius
Henrichs ehelicher Sohn

Name, Stand und Wohnort der Ehefrau: Pleiß, Margarete
Karl Hans Ebbighausens Relicti

Jahr und Tag der bürgerlichen Eheschließung: 18. April 1686

Standesamt, vor welchem die Ehe geschlossen ist:

Bemerkungen (umseitig):

Name des Kirchenbuchführers nebst Datum: Uffel, Johan Werner

Ausgezogen: Sievershausen, den 28.04. 19 94

Zur Beglaubigung des Auszugs:



Uffel, J.

The earliest known member of this branch of Sporleders was Heinrich (Henni) Sporleder who was born in 1630. He married Catherine Ohlenrodt on November 16, 1651 in Dassel. She was a widow having previously been married to Jürgen Röwer. To the marriage of Heinrich and Catherine was born Liborius Sporleder in 1660.

As shown above, Liborius Sporleder married Margarete Pleis on April 18, 1686 in Sievershausen. She was also a widow having previously been married to Hans Ebbighausen. To the marriage of Liborius

and Margarete was born Hans Harm (or Asmus) Sporleder on February 8, 1693.

Hans Harm (or Asmus) Sporleder was first married on October 14, 1720 to Engel Catharina Wedekind, who predeceased him. On January 14, 1723, widower Hans Harm (or Asmus) Sporleder married Anne Ilse Wedekind. To this marriage was born Heinrich Christoph Sporleder on September 20, 1723.

On January 14, 1748, Heinrich Christoph Sporleder married Ilse Margarete Schmidtman whose father was Hans Jürgen Schmidtman. Hans Jürgen's wife was Catharina Elisabeth Hillebrand who was born May 15, 1723 as the daughter of Hans Heinrich Hillebrand.

To the marriage of Heinrich Christoph Sporleder and Ilse Margarete Schmidtman was born Carl Gotlieb Sporleder on February 9, 1752. Carl Gotlieb's trade was an *Ackersmann*, which meant he worked on the land as a farmer.

On June 29, 1772, Carl Gotlieb Sporleder married Johanne Caroline Ebbighausen. To this marriage was born Ernst Julius Ferdinand Sporleder on July 19, 1790. His trade was *Blackschmied*, which was a type of blacksmith. His wife was Justine Luise Lamprecht who was born in 1790 in Dassel, Germany. They were married on March 31, 1818, in Dassel. Carl Franz Ernst August Sporleder was born on August 6, 1818, to Ernst Julius Ferdinand and Justine Luise. Ernst Julius Ferdinand died on December 2, 1837, at the age of 47. Justine Luise died on July 5, 1861, at about age 71.

In 1987, the Sievershausen church commemorated its 410th anniversary since it was established in 1577. The church issued a 20-page pamphlet that summarized its history. This history is discussed in Chapter Six. There are two references to the Sporleder ancestors. There is a sentence about Kaufmann August Sporleder helping with the recasting of the church bells in April 1838.

April 1838 übergab der
Kaufmann August Sporleder ein vollständiges Altargedek aus schwarzem Samt.

There is mention of a Sporleder who was the Bauermeister (burgomaster or mayor) of the village in 1880.

Am 8. Mai 1880 morgens um 9 Uhr wurde sie in Gegenwart von Bauermeister Sporleder umgegossen.

There is also other evidence of Sporleders living in the Sievershausen vicinity during this period of time. According to the tax records for 1664, four families owned property including two Sporleder families. "Frieder. Spohrleder" and his family lived on Plot 26 and "Christ. Spohrleder" and his family lived on Plot 65. Of the members of these families, there was one who operated a distillery (*Branntweinbrauer*); two who were blacksmiths (*Groschmiede*); 15 were linen-weavers or worked with cloth (*Leineweber*); and two tailors (*Schneider*).¹ They were considered *Häuslings*.

1664 in der Kopfsteuerbeschreibung werden erst 4 Schwerdtfeger mit Besitz angegeben, dagegen 8 Rojahn-Familien, 2 Sporleder und 1 Melching, der Branntweinbrauer. Als Berufe erscheinen hier mit Besitz: 2 Grobschmiede, 15 Leineweber und z. B. 2 Schneider. 1956, als H. Jaster sein Manuskript schrieb, gab es 38 Familien, die den Namen Schwerdtfeger führten!

The following map depicts Plots 26 and 65 owned by “Frieder. Spohrleder” and “Christ. Spohrleder.” They are designated by the red dot for Plot 26 on the upper section of the map and red underlining for Plot 65 on the lower section of the map. Note that the farms are deep and narrow extending out from both sides of the roads with the village of Sievershausen apparently to the right side of the map. In the lower right corner of the map is the Sievershausen church as indicated by the Christian cross.ⁱⁱ



The Spohrleder farms were described as follows with the areas expressed in hectares. One hectare equates to 2.258 acres. Frieder. Spohrleder owned $31\frac{3}{4}$ hectares of tillable land and 11 hectares of pasture or meadow (*weise*). His wife had the property right to 31 hectares of tillable land (Mgr.) and three hectares of pasture or meadow (Pfg.). Individually, with $96\frac{1}{2}$ acres, Frieder. was at least a *Großkötherstelle*. With the addition of his wife's $76\frac{3}{4}$ acres, he was a *Vollmeyer* with over 116 acres.

Correspondingly, Christ. Spohrleder owned $19\frac{1}{4}$ hectares of tillage land and $17\frac{1}{2}$ hectares of pasture or meadow. His wife had property rights to 15 tillable hectares and three hectares of pasture or meadow.ⁱⁱⁱ Individually, with 83 acres, Frieder. was also at least a *Großkötherstelle*. With the addition of his wife's $40\frac{1}{2}$ acres, he was a *Vollmeyer* with over 116 acres.

Sievershausen 1769

Land- und Wiesenbeschreibung

Repetitio 1769

Nr.	Name	Mg. Land	Mg. Wiese	Rthl.	Mgr.	Pfg.
107	Pastor Hauenschild	8 ³ / ₄	13 ³ / ₄	—	11	2
108	Schulmstr. Sievers	—	3 ¹ / ₂	—	1	6
	Viertelspänner					
14	Jacob Schrader	42 ¹ / ₄	38 ³ / ₄	—	33	1
26	Frieder. Spohrleder	31 ³ / ₄	11	—	21	3
34	Hinr. Heny Wekind	40 ³ / ₄	16	—	29	3
35	Wtw. Ebeckhausen	23 ¹ / ₄	22	—	17	2
38	Joh. Jürg Ebbeckhsn.	28	14	—	21	—
43	Joh. Wedekin	36	22	—	26	—
46	Arnold Ebeckhausen	31 ³ / ₄	8 ¹ / ₄	—	20	8
47	Chr. Heinr. Ebeckhsn.	34 ³ / ₄	33	—	25	7
61	Ludewig Scherdtfeger	25 ³ / ₄	11 ¹ / ₂	—	17	5
65	Christ. Spohrleder	19 ¹ / ₄	17 ¹ / ₂	—	15	3

Also in Sievershausen in 1769 were Henrich Sporleder and Hans Sporleder. Heinrich had a wife (*Frau*) and 15 hectors of tillable land and pasture or meadow with his wife having property rights to two hectors of tillable land and pasture or meadow. Individually, with 34 acres, Henrich's holding was not large enough for him to be a *Großkötherstelle* and he was a *Kleinköthner*. Even with the addition of his wife's 4½ acres, he was not *Großkötherstelle*. They had two horses (*Pfe*), three cows (*Kü*), and three swine (*Swe*). They owned Gläubiger and Fritze 70 Thalers; Heinrich Schwertfeger ten Thalers and Henrich Dieck 14 Thalers.^{iv} A German Thaler in 19th Century was the worth about \$5.25 in 1970. A Thaler's value in 1664 may have been considerably less.^v

Henrich Sporleder, Frau, 15 Mg Ezl und Wl, 2 Mg Ml und Wl, 2 Pfe, 3 Kü, 3 Swe,
Gläubiger sind Fritze über 70 T, Heinrich Schwertfeger über 10 T und Henrich
Dieck über 14 T. — (2)

Hans Sporleder, who was a weaver or one who worked with cloth (*Leineweber*), also had a wife. He owned five hectors of tillable land and pasture or meadow. His wife had property rights to 15 hectors of tillable land and pasture or meadow. Individually, with about 11 acres, Frieder. was a *Brinksitzer*. With the addition of his wife's 34 acres, he was a *Kleinköthner*. They had two horses (*Pfe*) and two cows (*Kü*).^{vi}

Hans Sporleder, Leineweber, Frau, 5 Mg Ezl und Wl, 15 Mg Ml und Wl, 2 Pfe, 2 Kü.
— (2)

Living in the neighboring Hilwartshausen was Henny Spohrleder who owned 33 hectors of land and 12¾ hectors of pasture or meadow.^{vii}

Hilwartshausen (bischofl. Teil — 23. 9. 1769)

Der Zehnte von der in der Feldmark belegener Länderei gehört der hochfürstlichen Hofkammer in Hildesheim.

Nr.	Mg		mgr.	Pfg.	Bemerkungen
	Land	Wiese			
1 Schulmeister Straßner Halbspänner (1)	—	4 ¾	1	—	kontribut. frei
9 Christoph Mönneckenmeyer	43	16	28	7	Pfarrland
9 Viertelspänner (6)					
1 David Boning	39 ¾	13 ¼	23	6	Rottland, tw. herzgl.
2 Christian Koß	35 ¾	9 ½	24	1	Rottland, teilw. herzgl.
6 Henny Spohrleder	33	12 ¾	20	7	Rottland, teilw. herzgl.

As mentioned, Carl Franz Ernest August Sporleder was born August 6, 1818, in Dassel, Amt Einbeck, Kingdom of Hanover. His father was a *Häusling* as a blacksmith (*blankschmied*) while other ancestors were farmers (*ackersmanns*). Carl Franz Ernest August attended school in Germany and was confirmed into the Evangelical Lutheran faith as a youth. At the age of 28, he married Carolina Ernst who was born in 1822. To this marriage were born Carl Friedreich William (William, 1848-1935), Friedreich (Fred or Fritz, 1851-1937), Wilhelmine (1855-1923) and Henry Carl Peter (Henry, 1865-1930).

While living in Dassel, Carl Franz Ernest August worked as a blacksmith in this community and the family attended the local Lutheran Church.¹ The blacksmith shop has been preserved as a historic museum and the church remains as an active house of worship.^{viii}



The



family lived in the Dassel area until about 1854 when they moved to Nindorf in the to Luneberg (*Lüneberg*) Heath area in the Kingdom of Hanover. The Lüneburg area has two geologically distinct features. There were salt deposits that had great commercial value several generations ago. The readily available salt was instrumental in the trade the area developed with its neighbors and principally the seaport at Lübeck to the north. In order to obtain the salt, it was necessary to clear the area of the forests. This resulted in the creation of the Lüneburg Heath (*Lüneburger*

¹ The drawing of the outside of the blacksmith shop was provided by Duane Luebe. The photo of the inside of the blacksmith shop is from the Linda and Dale Sporleder Collection and was taken in August 2004. The lathes and other movable equipment are in working order and water-powered.

Heide) that covers nearly 775 square kilometers (300 square miles). The sandy soil is mainly covered with brush and heather, although there are a few oak and beech forests. Toward late summer, the flowering heather turns from green to purple with August and September as the most beautiful months. The *Naturschutzpark Lüneburger Heide*, 260 square kilometers (100 square miles), is a sanctuary for plants and wildlife. This reserve, in the center of the heath, is a peaceful, pastoral scene of shepherds, sheep, and undulating hills. Strict laws enforce the maintenance of the thatch-roofed houses and rural atmosphere.^{ix}

There is no family lore why the family moved several miles from Dassel to Nindorf. The *Verkoppelung* (dividing up) of the *Gemeinheitsteilung* (common or village lands) offers a possibility. As a *Häuslings*, Carl Franz Ernest August Sporleder and his family would have had the use of the *Gemeinheitsteilung* to supplement their income and food. As discussed, beginning in 1822 laws were passed to encourage the division of these lands among the peasant landowners and continued over an extended period of time by villages. This land was divided among the peasant landowners and not *Häuslings* (houseings) such as Carl Franz Ernest August Sporleder. If the Dassel area began its *Verkoppelung* in the 1850s, the family would have lost the use of the *Gemeinheitsteilung* and may have been forced to relocate. As a blacksmith, he would have had a skill that would have made his employable in the *Lüneburger Heide* area.^x

ⁱ *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 271

ⁱⁱ *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 271

ⁱⁱⁱ *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 272

^{iv} *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 278

^v *The Story of Civilization: The Age of Napoleon, A History of European Civilization from 1789-1815* by Will and Ariel Durant, page x.

^{vi} *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 278

^{vii} *Chronik der Stadt Dassel* by Hans Mirus page 261

^{viii} Photos of the church and blacksmith museum are posted on the Internet at the following website: "Fotostrecke Dassel," 24.02.2005, © 2004 Landkreis Northeim, <http://www.landkreis-northeim.de/gra/landkreis/43_3162_DEU_HTML.php>. A side view of the church is "Die Laurentiuskirche von Süden." A front view of the church next to a restaurant or café is "Die Laurentiuskirche mit Ratskeller." A view from the northwest is "Die Laurentiuskirche von Nordwesten." The view of the blacksmith shop is "Das Technikmuseum Blankschmiede."

^{ix} "Lüneburg Heath," © 2000-2004 Wiley Publishing, Inc., as retrieved on Feb 20, 2004 06:38:59 GMT, <<http://www.frommers.com/destinations/luneburg/0886024161.html>> and as retrieved on Nov 3, 2004 03:24:14 GMT, <http://www.frommers.com/destinations/print_narrative.cfm?destID=886&catID=0886010029>.

^x July 30 and 31, 2008 exchange of emails between Dale Sporleder and Robert Frizzell, author of *Independent Immigrants, A Settlement of Hanoverian Germans in Western Missouri*