



MONTBÉLIARD MENNONITE CHURCH REGISTER 1750-1958

A Sourcebook for Amish Mennonite
History and Genealogy

Volume One
Transcription & Translation

Translated and edited by
Joe A. Springer

Goshen, Indiana

Mennonite Historical Society

in cooperation with the Association Française d'Histoire Anabaptiste-Mennonite

2015

Mennonite Historical Library
Goshen College, Goshen, Ind.

For the year 1777:

On the 30th of November, 1777, Peter Lichti **LT3** with Katharina Graber **GR53**

On the date, the 30th of November, 1777, Peter Lichti, widower from Chalembert, and Katharina Graber, the surviving daughter of Ulrich Graber **GR5** from Bussurel, wed each other at les Gouttes before the entire assembly, and I, Hans Rich **RC52**, united them. I, Hans Rich, attest to the above.

Hans Rich

For the year 1778:

On the 4th of January, Peter Klopfenstein **KP41** with Verena Yoder **YR34**

On the date, the 4th of January, 1778, Peter Klopfenstein from Bourogne, the son of Peter Klopfenstein **KP4**, and Verena Yoder, the surviving daughter of Hans Yoder **YR3** who died at Charmont in the principality from Montbéliard, wed each other and they were united at Chalembert on a Sunday before the entire congregation by me, Hans Rich **RC52**, tenant farmer from Belchamp, united them. I, Hans Rich, attest to the above.

Hans Rich

For the year 1778:

On the 1st of February, 1778, Christian Yoder **YRA1** with Elisabeth Lehmann

On the date, the 1st of February, 1778, Christian Yoder, the son of Christian Yoder **YRA** who lives at Sochaux, and Elisabeth Lehmann, the daughter of Simon Lehmann at Beuchat wed each other, and the wedding took place at Beuchat, not in a way consistent with love and trust, because none of the ministers from the Montbéliard congregation were informed, instead Yost Yoder **YR4** gave only a paltry piece of paper [attesting to the marriage]. Peter Klopfenstein **KP4** united them

Note: MMCR (1794 extract) omits this entry. This translation uses Pierre Sommer's Historique des Assemblées identification of "Schetzen" as the farm Beuchat (municipality of Boron), known as a meeting place of the Florimont congregation. Note, however, that RBaecher's research in notarial records (SNABft) shows Lehmann's connection with property known as les Chézeaux (a name close to the sound of "Schetzen"), apparently in or near Chavannes sur l'Étang.

[Leaf 54r/76/image 78]

53

Christian Lugbüll **LB1** Anna Blanck, 1778

On the date, the 24th of February, 1778, Christian Lugbüll, the son of Hans Lugbüll **LB** (who is a soldier in Paris), and Anna Blanck, the daughter of Nicolas Blanck who lives at Meroux near Belfort, who several years ago already had a son with a Catholic fellow, wed each other, and Michael Richard **RD2** united them at Meroux. I, Hans Rich, attest to the above.

Hans Rich

And Christian left his wife on the 10th of June, 1778 because she was leading the life of a whore with other men and good Christian Lugbüll was worried for his life. Thus, on the 14th of June, 1778, people got together before the worship service out at Chalembert and examined this matter and Nicolas Blanck was silenced from the ministry and his wife [Magdalena Klopfenstein **KP3**] and daughter [Anna Blanck] were excluded from the congregation because they lead such a licentious life and allow things that even the world does not tolerate.

Hans Rich

*Note: Rich switched "Hans" and "Christian" in the entry but corrected his own mistake in the margins. MMCR (1794 extract) omits this entry, also not included in BMCR. – Judging from the entry at **LB1**'s remarriage (see 11/25/1781, p. 147), **LB** rather than **LB1** was the soldier. – The use of the indefinite pronoun "man" and the noun "Gemeinde" creates some ambiguity in this passage about who discussed the matter where. One might interpret the wording to mean that the matter was examined in the presence of the congregation rather than by a group prior to the worship service. Civil records at Meroux and court documents (see RBaecher SNABft, p. 32) provide further details of the complicated circumstances of Nicolas Blanck and his family. Prior to marriage daughter Anna (ca1753-04/29/1804) did bear a son at Meroux, Hans Jakob Blanck (05/17/1770-08/11/1849). Hans Jakob's father was likely Meroux resident Nicolas Viellard. Viellard seems to have stolen various things from the elder Blanck before seducing the young Anna who also took linens valued at 48 pounds and 350 pounds in currency from her father and gave them to Viellard. After these thefts, Viellard continued to harass Blanck, hurling insults outside his windows at night while armed with pistols. Following court proceedings in 1772, Viellard received a life sentence of forced labor on the king's galleys. (Three local women were also charged with actions against Blanck.) Civil records at Meroux provide evidence that Anna later became the first wife of Jean Pierre Jacquemin (1752-1830), who eventually served as mayor of Meroux. In 1798, her son Hans Jakob married Rose-Marie Plancher (1777-1841) and that couple had at least 8 children born at Méroux.*

[Leaf 55v/79/image 81]

*Hans Widmer **WD** and Katharina Graber **GR121** in 1781 (no. 42)*

On today's date, January 14, 1781, Hans Widmer, the son of Hans who died at Fesches-les-Prés [i.e. Fesches-le-Châtel], and was a hired hand for the meadow at Allenjoie, and Katharina Graber, the daughter of Peter Graber **GR12**, tenant farmer at Audincourt in the castle, came together and wed each other, but earlier they had committed fornication with each other and they had to do penance in the presence of the congregation and they rejoined the congregation and right after being accepted were wed by me, Hans Rich **RC52**, and there were 13 of us ministers together and a large congregation of brothers and sisters at les Gouttes on the date which is given here above. I, Hans Rich from Belchamp, attest to the above.

Hans Rich

*Note: See **WD**'s father's death record below (01/27/1763, p. 275).*

*Hans Bigler **BG** and Eva Hablützel **HB7** in the year 1781 (no. 43)*

On today's date, May 13, 1781, Hans Bigler, widower and tenant farmer at Audincourt, and Eva Hablützel, the daughter of Simon Hablützel **HB**, from the second marriage, wed each other at les Gouttes in the presence of the whole assembly, and I, Hans Rich **RC52**, tenant farmer at Belchamp, united them and attest to the above.

Hans Rich

*Christian Luginbüll **LB1** and Anna Eicher **EC123** in the year 1781 (no. 44)*

Today, on November 25, 1781, Christian Luginbüll, the son of Hans Luginbüll **LB** who ran away from his wife and child like a scoundrel, and Anna Eicher, the daughter of Hans Eicher **EC12**, who was tenant farmer at Brognard but who drowned earlier in an accident, wed each other. However, this Christian Luginbüll was earlier wed to Anna Blanck, the daughter of Nicolas Blanck, on the 24th of February, 1778, but [Anna] deserted her husband with great immorality and prostitution, and did not want to tolerate her husband, and the husband, Hans [i.e. Christian] Luginbüll had to take to flight due to her licentious prostitution, and [Anna] then had a bastard more than a year and a day after Hans [i.e. Christian] Luginbüll had left her. Therefore a counsel about this matter was held in Schoppenwihr in Alsace on the 13th of October, 1781, with 24 ministers and it was decided that he could marry again, but Anna Blanck [could] not, because she had committed adultery and not the husband. Thus I, Hans Rich **RC52**, tenant farmer at Belchamp, united them at les Gouttes in the presence of the whole assembly on the date given here above and attest to the above.

Hans Rich

Note: This is a rather remarkable example of Amish church leadership at work with a specific problem of church discipline. Luginbüll's father had apparently become a soldier. See marriage record 02/24/1778 (p. 137) for additional details.

*Jakob Eicher **EC122** Anna Luginbüll **LB3**, in the year 1781 (no. 45)*

On today's date, November 25, 1781, Jakob Eicher, the son of Hans Eicher **EC12**, tenant farmer at Brognard, and Anna Luginbüll, the sister of Christian Luginbüll **LB1** mentioned here above, wed each other, and I, Hans Rich **RC52**, tenant farmer at Belchamp, united them at les Gouttes in the presence of the whole assembly. I attest to the above.

Hans Rich

1907.

April 10: Joseph Widmer **WD971**, son of Jacques **WD97**, from Bail, at Grand-Charmont and Marie Boegli **BOd1**, daughter of Isaac **BOd**, from Parc.

April 25: Jean Graber **GR123417**, [son] of Pierre **GR12341**, from Bellevue and Marie Gluck **GL313** from Montbéliard.
Chr. Roth **RT25161**

May 28: Jean Widmer **WD8c4**, son of Joseph **WD8c**, from the Sainans and Anna Boegli **BO61**, daughter of Jean **BO6**, from Delle.

Chr. Lugbull **LB2334**

1908.

Feb. 6: Benjamin Graber **GR127511**, son of Daniel **GR12751**, from les Gouttes and Marie Widmer **WD984**, daughter of Christ **WD98**, from Brognard.

Chr. Lugbull **LB2334**

March 12: Michel Widmer **WD983**, son of Christ **WD98**, from Brognard and Lysa Riche from Joncherey.

Chr. Lugbull **LB2334**

Oct. 24: Daniel Kipfer, son of Pierre, from Taillecourt and Verena Streit from Bussurel.

Chr. Lugbull. **LB2334**

*Note: Groom: Bondeval 12/23/1883-10/05/1954 Brognard, son of Peter Kipfer/Mélina Ramseyer **RM5356**.*

*Bride: La Rosière, Glay 03/16/1885-07/02/1971 Brognard, daughter of Joseph Streit/second wife Verena Boegli **BO5**.*

[See KRichard BOGen 2001, p. 276]

1909.

May 1: Jean Kauffmann **KF1112111**, son of Jean from Bethoncourt, and Anna Riche, daughter of Christ from Pré du Prince.

May 13: Pierre Sommer, born June 15, 1874, at Herbéviller (Meurthe-et-Moselle), son of Pierre and of Marie Vercler and Anna Kennel **KL321512**, born February 1, 1888 at Grand-Charmont, daughter of Pierre **KL32151** and Catherine Richard **RD23126**.

V. Pelsy from Sarrebourg

Note: Valentin Pelsy (1870-1925) was pastor of the Mennonite congregation at Sarrebourg, a prominent leader among French Mennonites and close friend of Pierre Sommer. [Mennonite Encyclopedia IV:133]

1910.

Feb. 12: Pierre Lugbull **LB23322**, son of Jean **LB2332**, from the Grange[-la-Dame] and Marie Kauffmann **KF1112113**, daughter of Jean **KF111211**, from Bethoncourt

Chr. Lugbull **LB2334**

[Leaf 97v/142a/image 143] [Not on photocopy, but transcribed on 142a, with heading: "A note found on a separate page."]

On Feb. 24, 1920 the marriage of Jean Kauffmann **KF1112111** (divorced husband of Anna Riche) and of Anna Boegli **BO61**, widow of Jean Widmer **WD8c4**, took place at the Grange[-la-Dame].

In my opinion, such a marriage is contrary to the directions of the Word of God. (Luke 16:18; I Cor. 7:10-11.)

He who marries a woman renounced by her husband commits adultery. The marriage is not therefore dissolved, even in the case of separation due to infidelity.

P. Sommer

*Note: Pierre Sommer (1874-1952) was husband of Anna Kennel **KL321512**.*