

1.  
1948

The  
Hellmers Family

in

Stedingen

by Wilhelm  
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I.

Historical and Geographical  
Remarks about Stedingen and  
its inhabitants known in Histo-  
ry as

"The Stedinger"

Stedingen is a part of the former  
Grand-Duchy of Oldenburg in  
the North-west of Germany.  
In the South it is bordered by  
Bremen. It is situated on the left  
side of the Weser Stream. Ste-  
dingen formerly consisted of 5  
parishes: 1. Altenesch, 2. Bardenisch,  
3. Berne, 4. Warfleth, 5. Neuenhunteorf.

The parishes of Altenesch and Bardewisch formed the "Vogtei" of Altenesch, and Berne and Warfleth the "Vogtei" of Berne, and Keukenhorst belonged to the "Vogtei" of Holle. At the head of a "Vogtei" (= bailiwick) was the Vogt (bailiff) being the administrator of the court of Oldenburg and Delmenhorst. At the head of a parish stood a "Landesgeschworener", (Burgemeister) We shall see that a Hellmer was a "Landesgeschworener" at Bardewisch.

Stedingen, a sediment of inundations and mud of the Wiser Stream was not cultivated and inhabited till 1100, and such land belonged in old times to the Emperor of Germany. The German Emperor Henry V<sup>th</sup> gave it as a present to the Archbishop of Bremen, who called settlers from Holland and North Germany. Each settler received a larger piece of land as a farm, and he was the free proprietor of it. He only had to give the "Tenth" to the church, that means the 10<sup>th</sup> part of all he produced.

But a century later, the settlers had a quarrel with the archbishops of Bremen, and the consequence was a war. Unfortunately the Stedinger farmers lost it. It was in the battle of Altenesch on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May 1234. In a papal "Bull" the Pope had called people to a crusade (Holy War) against the Stedinger farmers.

Through this war, Stedinger and the Stedinger became celebrated, and in every greater German History-book you will find full particulars about this war, also the name "Hellmerskampf".

The consequence of this war was that the Stedinger farmers must give not only the "Tenth", but also the "Fourth" of all they produced to the victors, who were now the "Grundherren" (proprietors). But in the following time, little by little, the Stedinger became free proprietors again.

After the death of the Anton Günthe, the last count of Oldenburg, Oldenburg (with Stedinger), it received the King of Denmark as a sovereign 1667 to 1785, as nearest relation of the last count.

Since 1785 we had dukes and

4,

grand-dukes till 1918. Then Olden-  
burg became a republic.

## II.

# The History of the Hellers family.

In Stedingen there are some family-names whose holders are signed as owners of Stedingen farms, in very old documents and registers of the Oldenburg State-Archive from 1500. A few of these old names run through centuries up to the present time. Especially remarkable it is that during a long time these old Steding families lived only in a single parish. From this parish they spread further later on from about 1600 into the neighbouring parish of the same "vijk" and firstly only into the next village. To these very old farmer families belongs also the Familie Hellmers whose ancestors lived only on farms in the parish of Bardewisch, and there in the

5.  
Two villages Hörspe and Depen-  
fleth. The farmers Hellmers at  
Hörspe stayed on their farm  
until 1727, then the farm goes  
over into other hands by marriage.  
Now Plate is owner. The Hellmers  
at Depenfleth stayed on their  
farm up to 1648, then the fa-  
mily of Gosath in Neuenhundertorf  
married into the farm. But  
do not think that the name  
Hellmers ceases to exist in the  
parish of Bardewisch. For already  
in 1609 there enters the name of  
Hellmers in another farmplace  
at Hörspe: a certain Gösche  
Hellmers becomes owner of this  
farm by marriage. To-day Koop-  
mann is owner. - In 1745  
there is a certain Gösche Hellmers  
owner of the farm now belong-  
ing to the family Pundt. The  
widow of Gösche Hellmers mar-  
ried a Sievert Bauer in 1757  
Thus this Hellmers farm came  
into the well-known old Ste-  
dinger family of Bauer in which  
entered by marriage a Diedrich  
Pundt in 1827. Further the na-  
me of Hellmers appears in the  
village of Husum, where a Harm  
Hellmers marries into the family

of Gosath at Husum, a village  
next to Hörsp. To-day a Schwar-  
ting is proprietor. Finally, in  
1745 at the village of Buxschüte,  
belonging to the parish of Barde-  
wisch, there is a Heinrich Hellmers  
owner of the farm which at pre-  
sent belongs to the family of  
Brüning. And in the village of  
Butzhausen in the parish of  
Bardewisch there is a Johann  
Hellmers owner of a farm, now  
belonging to Mr. Küken. - In  
1794 a Heinrich Hellmers  
marries into the farm of  
Johann Friedrich Vogt at  
Krögerdorf. Now Mr. Siems is  
proprietor of it. With this I  
come to the present time. For  
Abund Hellmers, a son of the  
above-named Heinrich Hellmers  
gets owner of a farm at Butz-  
hausen by inheritance in  
1836, he is succeeded by his son  
Heinrich August Hellmers, and  
this one is succeeded by his son  
Adolf Hellmers.

All these Hellmers farmers  
in the parish Bardewisch.  
From 1700 the farmer name  
of Hellmers passes the border  
of Bardewisch and enters into

(E)

(B-1) the parish of Altenesch, adjoining Bardewisch, and that is into the neighbour village Sanna in the parish of Altenesch. Here at Sanna, the name of Hellmers is at that time to be found at 3 farms in the village Sanna: firstly a Berend Hellmers at the farm now belonging to the family Griefes at Sanna, secondly a Hinrich Hellmers at the farm at the farm which now belongs to August Rowohl, and thirdly a Klaus Hellmers at the farm now belonging to Mr. Hage. About 1745, also in the north, the name of Hellmers passes the borders of the parish Bardewisch. At 1745 we find a Berend Hellmers as owner of a farm at Hebeln in the parish of Berne. (C-1)

In the foregoing pages I have characterised the course of development of the Hellmers family in the parish of Bardewisch, of Altenesch, and of Berne. Quite a similar progress shows the expansion of the family of Bischoff in Stedingen, as to be seen from my work: "The family Bischoff in Stedingen." This family

is also to be found several times at the village of Ganspe in the parish of Warfleth at first, then at the other villages of the parish of Warfleth, and finally they pass the borders of the parish of Warfleth, and stay in the neighbouring parish of Berne. Such a development several Stedingen families have made. I only mention the families of Bulling, of Kückens and of Kentke in the parish of Berne, the Sosath family at Leesebuustorf, and the families of Vagt (Vogt) and of Bauer in the district of Altenesch. That is a strange fact in the history of Stedingen families. Certainly we do not go wrong, supposing that these families of races of Stedingen are descendants of those settlers whom the Archbishop of Bremen called together from Holland and North Germany about 1100 to settle at Stedingen and to cultivate it. For about 1100 Stedingen was still a swampy district, not inhabited and not cultivated, a sediment of inundations and mud of the Weser-Stream and of its affluents during centuries. These colonists have changed the desolate swamps into highly valuable,



most cultivated farmland with fields producing much corn, and with fertile meadows and pasture-grounds. Many years of hard work lay behind them, but a highly contenting sentiment filled them when these kinships passed the fields which were full of oats and barley, beans and flax in summer time, and when they saw the excellent cattle grazing on rich pastures. With a defiant conscience of having created all this themselves, they were entitled to be proud of it!!

After having quoted thus the ancestors of the family of Hellmers as a

"Stammfamilie" (original family) of Stedingen in general outlines, we proceed to the principal part of our work which will give a detailed story of the family Hellmers.

It.

The "Stammhaus" (original house) of the Hellmers at

Köröpe.

(Owner at present is J. D. Plate at Köröpe.)

a. The "Stammhouse" in the financial registers of

Delmenhorst from 1489 to 1542.

These registers in the State Archives of Oldenburg record the taxes which the farmers of Steedingen had to accomplish to the count of Oldenburg who resided at Delmenhorst (near Bardewisch). The taxes were to be paid "in natura". About 1500 we find a Gotke de Herw as owner of the farm at Höspe in these registers. If this one is connected with the Hellmers, we cannot surely determine. But it is worthy of notice that the Christian name "Gotke" or "Goske" often occurs in the old family story of Hellmers. And our ancestors often only wrote the Christian name alone, not the family name. About 1517, 1534 and 1542 a Hellmers possesses the farm.

In the amount of income of 1517

"Upborynghe van swynen

= (Delivery of pigs)

Hellmers had to deliver 1 swyn (a pig) yearly as a duty. On the page of delivery of the registers of income 1534 with the title

"Upborynghe of allerrenten unde

unde upkumpten (delivery of all rents and revenues) Hellmers has to deliver once ~~more~~ 1 swyn (1 pig) and 3 lbs of bacon. And 1542/43 Hellmers has to give money besides the agricultural products as

"Upborynghe an roggen, an weyten, an botteren, an shapen, an gelde" (= delivery of rye, of wheat, of butter, of sheep, of money)

Remark:

"Upborynghe" is an expression in old German language, it in New German = "Aufbringung" = delivery.

Before Luther who was the creator of the new German language, all old papers in the Archives were written in "Platt Deutsch" (= Low German)

b. The "Stammhaus" of Hellmers in the surveying of land by Heinrich Voller (Henry V.)

Henry Voller, since 1590 organist at Berne, and also measurer of land, has, bound by oath in the order of the count of

Delmenhorst performed a surveying of land throughout whole Stedingen between 1603 and 1648. - The manuscript of this surveying you will find in thick volumes in the Oldenburg State's Archives. It contains the names of all the owners of farms, the size of their acres, acre for acre, even the names of acres and these names have the acres still a present. The size of each acre is given in "Morgen", (a "Morgen" is  $1\frac{1}{4}$  hektar) even in "Quadrat Ruten" (square roots) and square = feet.

As to the "Stammhaus" of Hellmers at Hörpe, there is written in 1609: Heinrich Hellmers, "Landesgeschworener" (= burgemeister) at Hörpe, possesses a "Vollbau", that means a farm over 25 hektars. The "Grundherr" is U. G. (= Unser Gnädiger Herr "our gracious count") The size is 16887 square roots or 4323002 square feet, which do

30 Morgen 5 Hunte

(nearly 40 hektars)

We see that Heinrich (Henry) Hellers has Hellmer has a distinguished position in the parish of Bardewisch. To-day we would say:

He was the "Gemeinde-Vorsteher" or the burgemaster.

c. The Stammhouse of Hellmers in the "Mantzahlregister"

The "Mantzahlregister" (= number of men Registers) contain the names of all men being able to bear arms in each village. From time to time they had to show their arms to the "landdrost", a high officer of the count at Delmenhorst, and to the "Vogt" (= bailiff) at Altenesch in meetings of control.

In 1654, a meeting of control takes place in order of the Landdrost von der Osten. We read about Heinrich Hellmers: "He has a whole "Bau" (= farm). He has to lead a "Schwarschaft", that means he has to instruct a group of men for the use of arms in military service. Also here, we see, he filled an important post.

In 1670, two, Heinrich Hellmers appeared in the control, even with a son. They show 2 Musqueten and a fire lock.

d.

### The Hellmers in the Vogtei-Registers.

The Registers begin about 1689 and are continued till 1727.

Heinrich Hellmers at Hörpe is mentioned 1689, also his son Berend Hellmers. We find in these Registers the names of many Hellmers farmers: Johann Hellmers at Krögerdorf, Hinrich Hellmers at Barschlüte, Harmer Hellmers at Sannau and Ahrend Hellmer twice in 1688 and 1689 at Hörpe.

e.

### The Stammhouse Hellmers in the

"Erdbuch" and "Landbeschreibung".

(= Erdbuch is a book with all acres and ground of each farm, to-day we say "Grundbuch".

Untill 1681 the farmer had to do deliveries in natura, that is they had to deliver a part of the products of their farm. So it remained still under the last Oldenburg count Anton Gienther. When this one died in 1667, the

land of Oldenburg came to the  
king of Denmark's share, as the  
nearest relation, because Anton  
Günther had no heirs. The Da-  
nish government wanted to  
have the deliveries from the far  
remote Oldenburg in money.

And therefore, all deliveries, the  
personal disbursements too, in  
which the farmer had to give to  
the court until then were chang-  
ed into money. These contributions  
in cash we find in the End-  
books.  
= earth

We read in the "Endbook" of 1681

Berendt Hellmers at Hörste has a  
farm of 30 Morgen 5 Hunte, he is  
a tenant of a farm of his Maje-  
sty the king, which means the  
king is the "Grundherr". He has  
to pay 20 Reichsthaler as a  
"Weinkauf".

His house has a length of 9  
"Facken" (pane of a wall),  
each 3 thalers = 27 Rth (= Reichsthaler)

His barn has 5 "Facken, each  
2 Rth 6 Grote 10 Rth 30 Grote.

Another barn with 4 Facken  
each 1 Rth 9 Grote  
a pig-sty 5 Grote  
4 "Morgen" of good land:

each 4 Rth = 16 Rth.  
 22 Morgen of medium quality  
 2 Rth each = 44 Rth.  
 4 Morgen 5 Hunt of poor quality  
 1 Rth each = 4 Rth. 63 Grote  
 1 turf-moss 44 Grote

## Paid

Contribution	38 Rth 2 Grot.
Money for free service	12 " 65 "
" " charges conveyance	1 " 13 " 4 S.
" for feeding to Weihenhausen	1 " 69 " 2 1/2 "
" " pigs	1 " 54
Hens (27 Groten) money	— " 57 Grot.
for turf (30 Groten)	— " 6 "
oats Weinkauff	
money for farm-labourers	1 " 69 " 2 1/2 "
Money for provisions	1 " 63 "
	<hr/>
	60 Rth. 16 Grot.
	2 Schwaren

From this we see: Heinrich Hellmers the burgemaster and leader of a "Schwarsenschaft" is called as the owner of the Hellmer farm at Flörze 1609 and 1648 in Voller's surveying of land, and 1681 his son Berendt Hellmers followed him. Whether in the meantime Heinr. Voller Hellmers died or if he gave



the farm to his son in his life-time - as they did often - we cannot determine

My book "The family of Bickhoff" offers further commentaries about the single deliveries (Page 24 to 27)

f.

The Stammhouse of Hellmers in the "Endbook" of 1693.

There is said:

"Hörne, Berendt Hellmers, now his son Claus, has 30 Morgen 5 Hunte of which he is a tenant of farm of His Majesty the King to whom he delivers the "Weinverkauf". He pays 27 Rth. 55 Grote 2 Schwaren for "Ordinärgefälle", money for farm-labourers, for charges of conveyance, for feeding and provisions.

Instead of the "Fruchtgefälle" is given yearly 28 Rth.

as gift barley 6 Rth. 15 Grote  
Ding barley 3 Molt = 6 Rth. 15 Grote  
Ding-beans 5 Rth. 16 Gr.  
gift-outs 12 Molt

Kitchen-taxes.

1 pig, 6 hens, 3 lbs of bacon =

2 Rth. 15 Grote  
 Weinlauf 17 Rth, that makes  
 yearly 6 2 grote 2 Schwaren, the  
 case calculated for 20 years.  
 From this is taken off the 4<sup>th</sup>  
 part of the Dingzahl = 7 Rth.  
 which is calculated too high  
 there remains to pay 41 Rth.  
 60 grote 4 Schwaren, and there is  
 to be added again to money of  
 forbess de anno 1734 = 1 Rth. 12 grote  
 4 Schwaren which are to be paid  
 at the following terms as

Petri	10 Rth.	57 grote
Viti	10 "	57 "
Jacobi	10 "	57 "
Michaelis	10 "	57 "

We see that in 1693 Claus Hellmers  
 the son of Berendt Hellmers, is  
 owner of the farm at Höröpe. Claus  
 Hellmers died before before 1727,  
 evidently without leaving chil-  
 dren who would have had in-  
 herited the farm. For his wi-  
 dow, Gesche Hellmers (born Rulfs)  
 married Johann Bauer in 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 marriage, the son of the farmer  
 Bauer at Krögerdorf. We  
 know this by a marriage-con-  
 tract from January 17<sup>th</sup> in 1727.

between Johann Bauer and Gesche Hellmers, born Rulfs.

According to the ancient Ste-dinger heritary right:

Hänger Heile, länger Güt  
=(longer body, longer property)  
the marriage-partner who lived longer inherited the farm. Thus Gæte Hellmer became owner, and by her marriage with Johann Bauer the farm passed over to the family of Bauer, and was owned by them until 1832. In 1832 a Johann Lüken brought it, and in 1889 Carl Heinrich August Plate got it by inheritance

There the <sup>story</sup> of the "Stammhaus" of Hellmers family at Störpe ends. Nearly for 200 years a Hellmers was the owner of it.

Marginal Note.

As son from the above-mentioned matrimony Hellmer-Bauer was Dirk Bauer junior. In 1779 he married Catherine Hedwig Bauer, a daughter of Dierk Bauer senior, who was a brother of the above-mentioned Johann Bauer Dierk Bauer senior who died at the 12.2.1786 at Lampe, had brought

the "adeligfreie" (= noble-free) estate at Campe, near Berne. This estate, large 159 Morgen (= 200 Hektar) was given as a present by count Christian of Delmenhorst to his chancellor Flake. Thieske. Thus the daughter of Claus Hellmers' widow became "Gutsfran" (= squire's wife) at Campe.

### B.

#### Branches of the Stammhaus at Hørspe.

a)

In Heinrich Völlers' surveying 1609 there we find a Goske Völlers at Hørspe as an owner of a full farm, which is large 26 Morgen  $3\frac{1}{2}$  Hunte or 14549 square roots (= 3724623 square feet), and 7310 square roots of it are "freies Erbland" (= free inheritance land) which means <sup>one</sup> needs not pay deliveries from it. It often occurs in Stedingen that a part of a farm is "freies Erbland". In 1648, Berend Hellmers, a son of Goske Hellmers is owner. But in 1693 a Berend Rulfs (perhaps a relation of Goske Hellmer b<sup>on</sup> Rulfs) is proprietor. He seems

to have married the daughter of Berend Hellmers, the heiress of the farm. From the Rulfs the farm passes to the family of Koopmann. in 1837, and in 1879 Julius Koopmann becomes heir of the farm.

b.

In 1745 there is a Gosche Hellmers owner of the present farm of Pundt. His widow Gosche Hellmers marries Giefert Bauer in 1752, a brother of the above-mentioned Dieck Bauer senior. and of Johann Bauer. The grand-daughter of Giefert Bauer, namely Anna Sophie Bauer, born 15. 8. 1808 as the daughter of the youngest son of Giefert Bauer is married by Johann Diedrich Pundt, and so the old Hellmers farm is now in hands of the Family Pundt. 1899 Diedrich Martin Pundt is owner. — We see the three large farms, now in possession of the 3 families of Plate - Koopmann - Pundt, once were property of ancestors of the family Hellmers.

c. Hellmers at Husum.

At Husum a neighbour village of Hörspe, a Harmer (Harm = Hermann) Hellmers is proprietor of a large

farm with 41 Morgen 5 1/2 Heunte.  
 (53 Hektar). 18 Morgen 3 1/2 Heunte of  
 this farm has the King of Denmark  
 as "Gutsheer", but the rest, 23 Morgen,  
 is free heritated land, free from  
 any delivery. Before Harm Hellmers  
 a Johann Schiever was owner a-  
 bout 1648. Harm Hellmers is suc-  
 ceeded by his son at 1745, and in  
 1764 the farm passes to the family  
 of Schwarting.

d.

In Barschlüte, a village in the pa-  
 rish of Bardewisch, is Hinrich  
 Hellmers owner of a full farm  
 (= Vollbau) about 1700, and in 1793  
 a Diedrich Hellmers. In 1829 the  
 farm passes over to the family  
 of Brüning, who is still now  
 there.

e.

In Butzhausen, a village in the  
 parish of Bardewisch, a Johann  
 Hellmers is 1745 owner of a farm.  
 From 1489 to 1745 it was the  
 property of the family Gohrände.  
 Johann Hellmers is followed by  
 Berend Gosath. From 1792 to 1898  
 the old Stedinger family of Pundt

is owner. Then Johann Friedrich Meyer bought it, and in 1911 Anton D. Hüken acquired it by bargain.

f.

In Depenfleth, a village in the parish of Bardenisch, a Heinrich Hellmers was owner of a large farm 1489 to 1648, about 1648 the farm passed by marriage to the family of Gosath, who is still there at present. The family of Gosath who came as settlers from the environs of the town of Soest in Westfalia, and who acted as prime settlers in Stedingen at 1100, lived at several farms in the parish of Neuenhundert till 1648. It is remarkable for the story of the Gosath-family that at the same time a branch of the family of Gosath married into a farm at Ochtum in the parish of Altenesch. The last heiress of this farm at Ochtum was Anna Rebecka Gosath. She married the farmer's son Hinrich Meyer from Horst. A daughter of this matrimony is Catharine Meyer, who, in 1868, married the farmer August Hellmers at Butzhausen. A kinship of two families of prime settlers in Stedingen.

In the parish of Bardewisch there were, as we know now, in old times 6 old "full farms" (Vollbauern): one is the Stammhouse and 5 branches, all 6 the propriety of members of the family of Hellmers. Besides these 6 "full farmers" of Hellmers, there were a large number of members of this family who owned smaller farms: called "Halbbau" (Half farm) or quarter farms (in German "Köterei" and even smaller ones. The reader of this work must know that the paternal full farm was inherited by the youngest son. The other sons often came into possession of smaller farm-places by marriage, purchase or inheritance. Their names, too, are to be found in the registers of income about 1500, in the registers of illen's Kumber, in Völlers surveying and in the "Erdbooks", also the size of their property and the deliveries. So we find a "Köter" Johann Hellmers at Krögerdorf, in 1692, he lives on Kassebotz's estate. He pays "Küchgefälle" 1 hen = 4 Grote, 2 1/2 Schwaren, "Ordinärgefälle" 3 Grote. His son is Dietrich Hellmers. At Hörspie lives a Johann Hellmers on Johann Rulfs land.



at Krögerdorf a Frerich Hellmers, an  
 Ahrend Hellmers at Kro. Hörpe, named  
 in the registers of 1689, and a Be-  
 rend Hellmers at Hörpe who mar-  
 ried Diederich Kammernann's  
 widow, he lives on Martin Vogt's  
 land. and so on. The tie of rela-  
 tion kept a long time together the  
 whole of the family. At christen-  
 ings we recognise it f. i. at the  
 names of the godfathers and godmo-  
 thers: The full farmer takes his less  
 wealthy brothers and sisters as god-  
 fathers and godmothers, and inverse-  
 ly.

To the six full-farmers in the pa-  
 rish of Bardewisch we have<sup>to</sup> add the  
 3 full farmers at Gannau in the pa-  
 rish of Alkenesch and the 'Vollbauer'  
 Hellmers at Heheln (parish of Berne).  
 This Hellmers family at Heheln has  
 even found a place in the well  
 known "Deutsches Geschlechterbuch"  
 a great number of volumes con-  
 taining German families in  
 the whole of Germany. You will find  
 these volumes in every large public  
 library in Germany. You will find  
 the Hellmers at Heheln in  
 Volume 103, page 803: A Gossel  
 Hellmers 1659, a Johann Hellmers  
 1781, a Gosseke Hellmers, 1679 to 1753.

26.

The Hellmers family  
in the church registers of  
Bardewisch, 1800 - 1900.

It is a pity that at 1800 the church registers of the parish of Bardewisch, containing the enrolment of the dates of birth and christenings, of marriage-ceremonies and of deaths in the time from 1650 to 1800 were burnt by a fire in the clergyman's house. Therefore I can only give those dates from 1800 to 1948. But I took pains to construct a connection by old manuscripts and documents in the State's Archives. In this painful work, the old descent custom in Stedingen to choose the names of children at the christening after a certain rule has helped me a little: the first son gets the name of the grandfather on father's side, the second son the name of the grandfather on mother's side and so on.

So I found the following line of ancestors:

Heinrich Hellmers,  
the owner of the "Stammhaus"  
at Hørspe had a son

Arend (Ahrend)

Hellmers

an elder brother of the heir of  
the Stammhouse who was, as we  
saw, Berend Hellmers.

This Ahrend Hellmers  
had a son

Henrich Hellmers.

He married, in 9. 3. 1725,

Hedwig Walkenstedt

By this marriage he became owner  
of a farm at Gannau, now  
belonging to August Rowehl.

Henrich and Hedwig

Hellmers (born Walkenstedt)

had a son Arend Hellmers (arrend)  
he married Frau Lücke in 1757.

The son of Arend and Lücke

Hellmers

was

Henrich Hellmers

born 10. 5. 1765, died 27. 2. 1820,

from feverish nerve's sickness

He married 1794 Ahlke Marga-  
rethe Voigt (Voigt, Vagt) born

8. 12. 1772 as a daughter of the  
"Hausmann" (= full farmer) Johann  
Friedrich Voigt at Krögerdoof, who  
died ~~5. 3.~~ 21. 11. 1808.

Ahlke Margarethe died

5. 3. 1835.

Children

of Hinrich Hellmers and  
Ulke Margarethe Voigt are

I.

Johann Friedrich Hellmers, born  
30. 1. 1796, died 30. 1. 1852 at the age  
of 56 years: was "engaged" 9. 4. 1824 (that  
means that on this day the proper mar-  
riage-contract was accomplished,  
"proclaimed" on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> of  
April 1825 (that means: on these two  
Sundays the engaged ones were pro-  
claimed in the church at Barde-  
wisch, and prayers were said for  
them) "married" on 10. 5. 1824 as  
"the legitimate oldest son of the  
former Hausmann Hinrich Hellmers  
and of his wife Ulke Margarethe,  
born Voigt" (written thus in the  
Church-book)

"with Anna Margarethe Siemes  
(Siems), born 1794 as legitimate  
daughter of the former Köter Diedrich  
Siemes at Krögerdorf and of his for-  
mer wife Beke Margarete born  
Voigt" (thus in the Church book)

Johann Friedrich Hellmers died on  
29. 12. 1865 at the age of 71 years.

from  
German  
person at  
works like  
her death  
date was

not his

other researcher  
says same thing

Children of these married ones

1. Heinrich Adolf Hellmers, born 8.2. 1826, died 17.3. 1826, christened 20.2. 1826. (Godfathers: Ahrend Hellmers, Johann Schriever, Ahlke Margarete Hellmers)
2. Diedrich Heinrich Hellmers, born 1.2. 1827, died 17.2. 1874, christened 11.2. 1827 (godf: Heinrich Kass, Friedrich August Vogt, Rebecka Horstmann.)
3. Heinrich Adolf Hellmers, born 25.9. 1829, died 8.9.30, christened 4.10. 1829 (godf: Heinrich Hellmers, Claus Heinrich Schriever, Trina Kass.)
4. Rebecka Catharina Hellmers, born <sup>4.4.</sup> 7.8. 1830, died 26.5. 1831, christened 21.4. 1831 (godf: Berend Schwarting, Berend Oltmanns, Anna Schwarting.)
5. Bernhard Friedrich August Hellmers, born 7.8. 1832, died 25.4. 1833, christened 19.8. 1832 (godf: Bernhard Kückens, Friedrich August Vogt, Anna Margarethe Hellmers.)
6. Rebecka Amalie Hellmers, born 11.2. 1834, died 8.10. 1867, christened 2.3. 1834 (godf: Margarethe Schriever, Becka Horstmann, Heinrich Hellmers.)

Remark:

The Hellmers-farm at Krögerdorf came 1764 in Possession of the family of Vogt, perhaps by heritance from the family of Rulfs. After Hinrich Hellmers' death 1820, the farm came in possession of the heirs. 1824 acquired Johann Friedrich Hellmers it from the heirs, as he was the oldest of the 4 children. But already 1830 it came into possession of Martin Küchens' heirs, who bought it. In 1837<sup>5</sup> Bernd Diederich Siems bought it. 1837<sup>4</sup> Johann Diederich Siems inherited it, a son of Bernd Friedrich Siems and Gesine (born Hellmers), who was a daughter of Gerd Hellmers in Bardewisch. Later on, Johann Friedrich Siems was "Gemeinde-Vorsteher" (burge master) at Bardewisch.

The 4 first children of J. F. Hellmers stand in the church-book as children of the "Hausmann" J. F. Hellmers (Hausmann is the title of an owner of a full farm), the last 2 children as children of a leaseholder. Perhaps J. F. Hellmers was forced to sell the farm, because in the time after the French Emperor Napoleon who conquered a great part of Germany, many farmers were forced to sell their farms. In the time after 1830 began the Emigration to the U. S. A.

## II. Alvrend Hellmers.

born 1797 (I cannot give the date as the <sup>registers</sup> are destroyed by fire), he died 23. 1. 1853 at the age of 56 years. He fell into the ocean, and after having been dāwn out of the water still living, he died soon after by apoplectic fit.

Engaged 12. 8. 1837 (Saturday)

Proclaimed 13. 8 and 20. 8. 1837 (2 Sundays)

Married 21. 9. 1837 to

Elsche Margarethe Heents, „legitimate daughter of Heent Hiller Heents, inn-keeper and brewer at Carolinensiel (Ostfriesland (near the North-Sea))

### Children of these married couple

1. Hinrich August Hellmers, born 26. 7. 1839, christened 20. 10. 1839 (godfathers: Friedrich August Vogt, Rinelt Martens, Hinrich Hellmers. He died in 1895, June 27<sup>th</sup>.)

2. Rinelia Amalia Maria Hellmers born 1. 12. <sup>1842</sup> christened 12. 2. 1843 (godf: Rinelt Martens, Anna Margarethe Hellmers, Helene Hinrich Hellmers)

3. Meta Hinricherike Marianne Hellmers born 17. 3. 1845 christened 4. 5. 1845 (godf: Inse Marie Hellmers, Helene

Hinnerika Martens, Johann Friedr.  
Hellmers.

To No 1.

Heinrich August Hellmers

proclaimed 26.4.1868 and 2.5.68.  
married 4.5.1868 with Catharine  
Johanne Mathilde Meyer, born 14.5.  
1839 at Ochtem as a daughter of  
the "Hausmann" (= Full-farmer)

Heinrich Meyer at Ochtem (born 10.10.  
1812 at Horst, died 23.5.1889 at  
Ochtem) and of his wife Anna Re-  
becka born Sosath, heiress at Ochtem  
(born 11.4.1811, died 11.12.1872 at Ochtem.

Catharine Johanne Mathilde  
Hellmers born Meyer died 18.10.1896  
at Butzhausen.

Children of this married couple

a) Adolf Heinrich Emil

Hellmers, born 18.4.1869, chri-  
stened 30.5.1869 (godfathers: Hein-  
rich Meyer, Heinrich Wenke and



33.  
Elsche Margarethe Hellmers)  
Confirmed 18.3.1883.

b) Anna Ainelie Diederike Hell-  
mers, born 11.1.1872, christened  
27.2.1872 (godfathers: Diederich  
Theodor Meyer, Anna Rebecka Meyer,  
Ainelie Amalie Wenke)  
confirmed 18.4.1886.

### The Farm at Butzhausen

belonged till 1609 to the family of  
Daneke, owner since 1489. In 1648  
a Friedrich Ötten is the owner.  
In 1693 Diederich Rulfs is the owner.  
then Berend Rulfs in 1742, in  
1795 his widow, then followed

Gerd O'ttker "Hausmann" (= Full-farmer) at Butzhausen, he died in 1823, October 17<sup>th</sup> at the age of 58 years 2 months, born in August 1765. His widow Alke Margarethe O'ttker, born Rulfs, died on the 17<sup>th</sup> of April 1836 at the age of 78 years 3 months, 10 days, therefore she was born the 8<sup>th</sup> of January 1768. In 1823 this widow Alke Margarethe born Rulfs followed by inheritance. In 1836, March 26<sup>th</sup>, Arend Hellmers becomes proprietor by inheritance. In 1853 January 23<sup>rd</sup> his son and heir Henrich August Hellmers gets owner by inheritance. On the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1895 his son Adolf Henrich Emil Hellmers gets owner by inheritance. Since 27.11.1901 Bernhard August Bulling is the owner by purchase.

### III.

## Henrich Hellmers

born 8.11.1802, christened 11.11.1802  
 (godfathers: Friedrich August Vogt,  
 Johann Schriefer, Grette Vollers) and  
 his wife is Inse Marie born Meents  
 (Meendts)

Children of this married couple.

My Great Grandfather

1a Friedrich Hellmers (in German version)

1. Rinelia Amalia Hellmers, born 22.8.1833, christened 23.9.1833, (godf: Rinelt Martens, Alvrend Hellmers, Gesche Margarethe Martens.)

2. Johann August Hellmers, born 8.12.1835, christened 3.1.1836 (godf: Friedrich August Vogt, Inse Marie Meents, Johann Friedrich Hellmers)

3. Martin Hinrich Hellmers, born 8.8.1838, christened 23.9.1838 (godf: Bernhard Hellmers, Marie Eibens Martens, Anna Margarethe Hellmers)

4. Gerhard Otto Hellmers, born 29.9.1843 christ: 5.11.1843 (godf: Gerhard Hinrich Rowehl, Hinrich Friedrich Ludwig Hennings, Anchen Marie Meets born at Altenesch)

5. Hinrich Hellmers (My Great Grandfather's brother) born 13.9.1848 at Altenesch, christ: 22.10.1848 (godf: Hinrich Hellmers Joh. Friedrich Rulfs, Christine Helene Martens.) *geb. in* born at Altenesch.

The name is in the German version buried in Ocean Springs MS

The No 1. 2. and three were born at Bar. dewisch, 4 and 5 at Altenesch.

To Nr. 4.

Gerhard Otto Hellmers <sup>died</sup> 29. 11. 1913 in Blumenthal, married 13. 7. 1876 Henriette Lorette born Brinkmann, died 26. 4. 1923.

Their Children are

- a) Marie Hellmers, born 17. 10. 1876, died 15. 10. 1898
- b) Minna Hellmers, born 16. 12. 1879, died 14. 4. 1900
- c) Otto Wilhelm Hellmers, born 10. 8. 83
- d) August Hellmers born 3. 7. 1888, died 1925
- e) Frieda Hellmers, born 15. 2. 1890.
- f) Martha Hellmers, born 17. 6. 1892
- g) Karl Hellmers, born 28. 1. 1894, he married 28. 3. 1921 Anna born Kronke, a son of these is Karl Hellmers, born 13. 6. 1929, who lives in the parents' house at Blumenthal.
- h) Hermann Karl Hellmers, born 14. 4. 1897 he is living at the parents' house (farm) at Blumenthal (opposite to Bardewisch on the right side of the Neer-Stream.

to letter C.

Otto Hellmers, a baker at Farge, opposite to Berne married Wilhelmine born Lübsen, born 6. 12. 1890 at Peckum. Their children

- aa: Johann Wilhelm Hellmers born 19. 11. 1914
- bb: Gerda Lorette Hellmers born 29. 11. 1915.
- cc: Heinz Gerhard Otto Hellmers, born 10. 1. 1917
- dd: Ottilie Auguste Hellmers born 20. 4. 1920.
- ee: Franz Karl Hellmers, born 18. 3. 1922.
- ff: Herbert Günter Hellmers, born 20. 4. 1923.
- gg: Harald Wilhelm Hellmers, born 26. 10. 1926.

## IV. Bernhard Hellmers.

born 2<sup>d</sup>. 7. 1811, christ: 21. 7. 1811,  
 (godf: Berend Vogt, Abrend Völlers,  
 Grette Weyhausen.) married with  
 Rebecha Wilhelmine Stellmann  
 daughter of Claus Stellmann,  
 smith and "Köler" at Altenesch  
 and his wife Kette Marie born Harde.  
 in 1837. 14<sup>th</sup> of July.

Children of this married  
 couple.

1. Hinrich Adolf Hellmers, born  
 12. 10. 1837 (godf: Abrend Hellmers,  
 Elsche Margarethe Hellmers, Claus  
 Hellmers.)

2. Nicolaus Friedrich Hellmers,  
 born 28<sup>th</sup>. 9. 1840, christened 27. 9.  
 1840 (godf: Claus Stellmann  
 Friedrich Stellmann, Elsche Mar-  
 garethe Hellmers.)

3. Nicolaus Friedrich Hellmers  
 born 12. 1. 1842, christ. 27. 2. 1842  
 (godf: Claus Stellmann, Johann  
 Friedrich Hellmers, Margarethe  
 Stellmann.)

Remark:

The family Stellmann is already

in the "Erdbook" Altenesch in 1693.  
 To Hette-Marie Harde: Her parents  
 were Hinrich Harde "Köter at Al-  
 tenesch and Helene born Hellmers.

Concerning

the family of Martens.

Born 4. 9. 1856 Christine Kimerike  
 Martens. Parents: Martin Eims  
 Martens, leasholder at Butzkassen  
 and Ancke Gesine Corradine, born  
 Bruuns (godf: Helene Kimerika  
 Martens, Hinrich Hellmers, at Rönne-  
 beck, Helene Witte)

We see: Hinrich Hellmers was  
 first at Bardewisch, then at Al-  
 tenesch, 1856 at Rönnebeck (at the  
 right side of the Weser)

Concerning relations

between the Hellmers family at  
 Flekeln (parish Berne) and family  
 Hellmers at Bardewisch:

Born 11. 2. 1867 Johann Bern-  
 hard Hellmers. Parents Albert  
 Bernhard Hellmers in Krögerdorf,  
 formerly Hausmann (full farmer)  
 at Flekeln.

39.

# Hausmarke

= (token, or sign, or mark belonging to a house of the family of Hellmers in Stedingen.)

The old families of Stedingen had their own token of House. They are token of the families and of the property. They were carved in agricultural utensils, in trunks, in cupboards and pens. These tokens generally consist of straight lines, for thus they can be better carved in. They stick to the farm and were left as a legacy with the property. (Compare my book "The family of Prickhoff, last pages) In very old times those who could not write used to put the token instead of signature. - Rauchheld, the architect of the Government of Oldenburg has left a voluminous collection of ancient Oldenburg tokens of houses. There you find at the page 250 the token of the Hellmers' family. On page 250 is written:

"1675 Berend Hellmers the elder at Flörspe near Bardenwech"



This is the token of the Stammhaus Hellmers at Flörspe.

40.

# Hellmerskamp.

Up to date there is a part of an embankment, or a way, or a piece of land joined with some names of Stedinger farmers' families. Such the word "embankment" with the name of Kückens. There is a "Kückens-Deich", and a "Renken Weg" and near Ollen an "Eiben Weg".

The name of Hellmers is historically united with the word

Kamp (= field, acre)

So we read at page 201 of "Köhli" "Handbook of the duchy of Oldenburg"

"In 1233 Count Burchard of Oldenburg was slain by the Stedinger folks near

"Hellmerskamp"

Later on the name was written Flemmelkamp, which still occurs as a family name, but in 1745 it was written still Hellmerskamp. It is now a family name in Stedinger.

Near Hasbergen not far from Altenesch is a large farm (country-seat) called Flemmelkamp.



41.

The Voigt Family  
in which Hinrich Hellmers married  
1794 is a very old Stedinger family  
in the parish of Altenesch. This family  
had a "Freies Erbe" - (free heritage) at Sü-  
derbrook, now J. D. Schüster is owner.  
The land was free of taxes and delive-  
ries. Perhaps the great farm was  
a present of the count of Delmen-  
horst to his chancellor Voigt.

Something about the family name  
"Hellmers"

In church books and old registers, it  
is sometimes written with one l,  
sometimes with two ll. The old  
people did not care for the ortho-  
graphy of names. One clergyman wrote  
Hellemers, the successor to him wrote  
Hellmers with one l. The abbot of the  
monastery at Rastede (a place near the  
town of Oldenburg) wrote about the con-  
flicts between the Stedinger people and  
the Archbishop of Bremen during the  
years 1233 and 1234 in the year-books  
of the monastery. He wrote in the  
year-book of 1233: Count Burhard  
of Oldenburg was slain by the Ste-  
dinger folks in a battle near  
Helmerskamp (one l) and

I am of opinion that one l is the right way of writing, because "Hellmers" comes from old-High-German word "Helm", old gotisk "hilms", new high-German "helmi". (English: helmet). From the old-High-German came the word helmhart, then helmheit and then helmert. In the same manner came from Burg (= a fortified place) the word burghart - Burckard And Helmhart (Helmheit, Helmert) ~~And~~ later on <sup>was</sup> a Christening-name given in the act of baptism. Now many Christian names have become Family-names. For instance: One had a neighbour with the Christian name Gerd, he spoke of Gerd's ~~the~~ children or Gerd's family. So came the family name Gerd's or Gerd's (The "s" is only a Genitive "s". From Helmert came the family name Helmerts. As the "t" was not exactly pronounced the ancestors wrote  
 Hellmers.

So to read in  
 "Heintze, German Family Names"  
 a thick book with most German  
 Family names."