

Karl Stumpp

The Emigration
from Germany to Russia
in the years 1763 to 1862

Part I

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Dedicated

**to the Russian-German people in the Soviet Union, and the
Germans from Russia in Canada, the United States and
South America.**

RECOGNITION

Prof. Joseph S. Height, Franklin, Indiana, AHSGR Director, in collaboration with the Author, Dr. Karl Stumpp, translated the first 45 pages plus additional subsequent passages, where readership so required, from the original German text to the English.

Corrections where feasible of obvious errors from the First Edition were accomplished under the supervision of Arthur E. Flegel, Menlo Park, Calif., AHSGR Vice President, with the valued assistance of Mrs. Emma S. Haynes, Oberursel, Germany, AHSGR Vice President, Herman D. Wildermuth, Yucca Valley, Calif., AHSGR Director, the Author, Dr. Karl Stumpp and the Translator Prof. Jos. S. Height.

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PREFACE

For almost forty years Dr. Stumpp has persevered in the laborious task of researching in a methodical, systematic fashion the emigration from Germany to Russia in the hundred-year period extending from 1763 to 1862. The results of his work are of especial significance even today, not only for the history of the local and ancestral origins of the emigrant people but also for the former colonists who are scattered today in many parts of the world.

Of particular importance is the publication of the immigration and census lists. The detailed information about the ancestral origins of the Russian-Germans will be of great help to the historian, as well as to the ethnologist and the linguistic student of dialects.

As an ethnologist I may, therefore, express the emphatic wish, on behalf of many colleagues, that the publication of Dr. Stumpp's manuscripts may be made possible through an appropriate grant-in-aid at the earliest feasible date.

Prof. Dr. Künzig

About fifty years ago, the young student Karl Stumpp published his first work under the title: „Die deutschen Kolonien im Schwarzmeergebiet — dem früheren Neu-(Süd-)Rußland“, with the subtitle „An essay on the geography of settlement and agriculture“. (Ausland und Heimat Verlag 1922). It was recognized as his doctoral dissertation and marked the beginning of research activities which Studierat Dr. Stumpp pursued indefatigably for half a century, in addition to his regular profession and the frequently hard struggle for existence. The results of this extensive research have been deposited in a series of books and a large number of scientific articles on the Russian-Germans published in pertinent periodicals, especially in the „Heimatsbuch der Deutschen aus Rußland“, a yearbook that he founded, and edited for twelve years.

The present work must be regarded as the ripest and most significant fruit of this research activity. It is a jubilee edition which the author has dedicated to the Russian-German ethnic groups in the Soviet Union, Overseas, and in Germany. Whoever delves into its contents will owe him a debt of gratitude, but the specialist will acknowledge the sedu-

lous industry and the scope of this thoroughly scientific work. Alone the listing of some 20,000 families with a multiple number of data about their origin and settlement demanded the researching of many sources, of which the census (or immigration) records and the passport lists (Part II., 1 and 2) are here published for the first time.

Since the place of origin and the destination in Russia is given for 75 per cent of the recorded family names (Chap. VII), the author has largely achieved what he described as the foremost goal of this research: „to build the bridge between the emigrants and their original homeland“. The way in which the present-day namesake of the listed families can gain access to this bridge is to be found in the „Foreword and Introduction“ (pages 13 to 15). The eight maps provide additional aid. The maps relating to the countries of origin may inspire some seekers to visit the locality that had been the home of their forefathers up to the time of emigration.

The history of emigration (Chap. I) not only includes the well-known manifestoes of the Russian Czars who solicited immigrants and settlers, but also documents the injunctions against emigration issued by the German princes, including the edict of the German Emperor of July 7, 1768, issued against the „harmful recruiting and emigration into foreign countries which had no relations whatever with the Holy Roman Empire“. Recruiters and emigrants became liable to punishment; often the latter were only able to leave the country in secrecy. These documents furnish incontrovertible proof of the fallacy of all those assertions which claim that the settling of German peasants in Russia was promoted and organized by the German government for strategic considerations in case of war. Ignorance and deliberate falsification of history lie at the bottom of such representations, which, unfortunately, have contributed to the devastating measures undertaken by Russian governments.

Beyond the perimeter of the Russian Germans, this work provides ample material for the history of population in the countries of emigration. The fact that the lists of the mother colonies (Chap. IV) also indicate the religious denomination and the particular ethnic composition of the settlers makes them especially useful for the folklorist and the dialect researcher.

May this book find its place in many Russian-German families. It should be in the libraries of the local and district groups and be made available to everyone who has an interest in the history of his ethnic group and in his own ancestral origin.
Stuttgart June 1972

H. Roemmich

If agriculture is the mother of civilization, the memory and identity of the emigrants who forsook their native land to cultivate remote uninhabited regions of the earth deserve to be recorded in the annals of history. In view of contemporary efforts by certain ideologic historiographers to ignore and even to liquidate the history of the German colonists in Russia, it is gratifying to note that an increasing number of Russian-German scholars have, in recent years, devoted themselves to the task of researching and preserving that history for present and future generations.

Among such scholars Dr. Stumpp stands out as one of the most dedicated, knowledgeable and prolific historians of this ethnic group. In a truly monumental work of painstaking research he has succeeded, on the basis of a vast collection of authentic records, in bringing into the light of history the names and

ancestral origins of thousands of German colonists who were settled in Russia. This extensive record of names is all the more important when we consider that the historic achievements of the colonists were in danger of being consigned to perpetual oblivion, just as the original identity of their former villages from which they were forcibly uprooted has been obliterated, the very tombstones of the former inhabitants demolished, and the village records either destroyed or buried in inaccessible archives.

In establishing the identity of the thousands of German colonists, Dr. Stumpp has not only erected an enduring memorial to a hardy, peace-loving people who made a significant contribution to Russian agriculture and industry; he has also evinced a truly humanitarian attitude of love and respect for the individual personality of a free, enterprising race of pioneers.

Present and future generations of descendants will owe Dr. Stumpp a great debt of gratitude and appreciation for his impressive work.

May subsequent researchers and writers, inspired by his scholarly achievements, continue to build on these foundations by producing detailed histories and cultural studies of individual villages and entire districts.

Prof. Dr. J. S. Height

HONORARY CONTRIBUTORS LIST

My heartfelt thanks to all those who have participated in the Honorary Contributors Fund! It was only due to these contributions that this comprehensive and expensive work could be published. Concerning the significance and evaluation of this book, pertinent comments have been stated in my introduction and in the prefaces written by Prof. Künzig, Pastor Roemmich and Prof. Height. In special consideration of this effort, the „Landsleute“ — Germans from Russia in America have freely offered their most generous support. Names of Honorary Contributors are listed in both English and German editions.

In conjunction with my personal thanks, I must add this pertinent comment. All net proceeds from the sale of the books shall revert to and be at the disposal of the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia and the Landsmannschaft der Deutschen aus Rußland in Germany for the purpose of heritage and cultural research.

The contributors have, in this manner, accomplished two worthwhile objectives. 1. They have made possible the publication of the book. 2. They have indirectly given their support to the cultural research activities.

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