

The History of the Glarus Families, especially Those of the Sernf Valley.

A Medley of Pictures from Past Days.

(Zur Geschichte glarnerischer Geschlechter, derjenigen des Sernftales insbesondere. Allerlei Bilder aus vergangenen Tagen)

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[All lettered footnotes and information in brackets were added by the translator]

XIX. The Disches

[pg. 133-134]

"In this year" (1602), reported J. Heinr. Tschudi, "several new cantonal citizens have once again been accepted, in return for which each must pay 100 Gulden"; among these accepted into the cantonal rights in 1602, he named "Mathys Teisch and Andreas Teisch, both from the above confederation ". Likewise, the Elm church register mentioned a Matthis Disch, who was married to Regula Pfifer and had a daughter, Anna, baptized in 1597. A Joss Disch and his wife, Salome Bähler, had 4 sons baptized: Felix in 1598, Andreas in 1603, Mathis in 1604 and Jost in 1608; to infer by their names, these might well have been grandsons of an Andreas Disch and nephews of a Mathys Disch. They and their descendants had then become citizens of Elm and Glarner cantonal citizens. On the other hand, it was clearly marked in the 1631 church register about a Heinrich Disch, married to Maria Giege, on the occasion of the birth of his daughter: from Fals [*Fahls, Swabia, Bavaria?*]. He, and likewise his sons, Jakob (1637) and Fridli (1640), as well as their descendants, were, doubtless, not in the position to buy the Glarner cantonal rights, which always had to be bought at a high price. For this reason, we also find 85 Disches (47 males and 38 females) among the "non-cantonal citizens" who were purchasing [*the cantonal rights*] in 1834.

We encountered no personages from the Disch family who had served the canton in the highest positions; the Disches who were considered to be non-cantonal citizens were excluded from them in advance. On the other hand, in the 1840s and 1850s, a Hans Ulrich Disch, as an shrewd swindler, had caused the Glarner and Confederation courts much anxiety and work. For this reason, the Glarner Times reported with satisfaction in 1853, in its Issue 54, that credible reports had arrived in Schwanden, "according to which the infamous swindler, J. U. Disch, had successfully arrived in America. People told themselves interesting things about the manner of his escape. Disch earlier expressed little fancy towards the free America. 'They put on a short trial over there,' he said once." With the exception of Elm, where the Disches were reported on with 21 head-taxpayers and a property of 20,000 Fr., 3 Disches were found in Engi, 2 each in Glarus and Netstal, and 1 each in Schwanden, Sool, Mitlödi and Ennenda, as a result of the 1876 cantonal tax rolls, but all 32 were citizens from Elm.

As Tschudi's notice, which was communicated above, already showed, the earlier spelling was varied: Teisch, Tysch, Thysch, Thys, Disch and Dysch. Undoubtedly it is a question of an abridgement from Matthias. It even so happened that a member of the family bore the name Disch as baptism and as family names. "On 21 February 1621 Heinrich Disch and Rosina Rachensteiner had a boy baptized, who was called Disch," - similar to when someone from the Joss family also received the baptismal name Joss, and, for this reason, as the Elm church register reported, was called 'Over-Joss'".