

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)

By Gottfried Heer, 1920

Printing and publishing by Rud. Tschudy, Glarus, 1920

Translated by Sue Wolf

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

XVII. The Kublis

[pg. 131-132]

"On the 31st day of July (1595) a daughter was baptized to Balthasar Kubli and Agatha Hämmerli, and called Anna, and was sponsored by Hans Fuchs, Lärer Schnyder, Elsbeth Jacober and Barbara Stüssi." A son named Peter was baptized to the same parents in 1598, and, in 1599, a second Peter.

A second Kubli, Jodel Kubli, was married in 1597 to Margreth Luchsinger and, in the period of 1600-1621, had 6 boys to register for baptism.

Besides these two, Balthasar and Jodel Kubli, the minister's register, however, from 1618 on, had a "Jakob Zopfi, whom they usually call Kubli" to display, who, on 13 December 1618 got married to Rosina Dürst from Diesbach and registered several children for baptism, and, in 1639, a "Jakob Zopfi called Kubli", who married Anna Maria Stauffacher.

The same Matt minister's register, however, in the same years, 1595-1620, also had several Zopfis without the surname Kubli to record, thus, in 1595, 1597, 1598, 1600 and 1602, an Oswald Zopfi, married to Madalena Büssi. We have the same phenomenon to record also in Schwanden, where, likewise, Zopfi, and Kubli, and Zopfi called Kubli¹ are found. For this reason, the conjecture suggests itself that the Sernf valley Kublis took up residence there from Schwanden back around the end of the 16th century. Whereas in Schwanden the Zopfis gave up the surname Kubli entirely, the Sernf valley residents abandoned the name Zopfi and called themselves, simply, Kubli. However, the male descendants of Balthasar and Jakob Kubli died out rather soon; on the other hand, Jodel Kubli was the ancestor of fairly numerous descendants, who at first established themselves in Matt (above all in Weissenberg^a), but, after that, also in Elm. In Elm, Rudolf Kubli acquired the citizen rights for himself and his descendants in 1765 for about 100 Fl.

The headquarters of the Kublis was, and is, Netstal, where, in 1763, of the 45 Kublis which Joh. Melchior Schuler enumerated in his survey of the Glarner families² (with property of 21,400 Fl.), 27 of them were found (with a property of 17,900), and, thereby, proved themselves to be the second largest family of Netstal³. Besides in the Sernf valley and in Netstal, they were represented, in 1763, only in Glarus with 4 taxpayers, in Riedern with 3, and in the Kerenzen^b with 1.

In 1876, 131 taxpaying Kublis were found in Canton Glarus altogether, with a total property of 2,188,000 Fr., so that, among the Glarner families, in regard to the number of souls, they were found in 14th place, and, in regard to the taxable property, in 10th place. Of the 131 taxpaying Kublis, 87 were found in Netstal (1,990,500 Fr. property), and the number of Kublis in the capital city [*Glarus*] had increased, as a result of further immigration from the neighboring Netstal, to 22 (155,000 Fr.); in addition, 7 were found in Matt, 7 in Elm, 2 each in Mollis and Ennenda and 1 each in Hätzingen, Riedern, Näfels and Niederurnen.

Should the Kublis from Matt be related as more distant kindred with those from Netstal, then it must be assumed that they made their entrance into the Sernf valley by way of Schwanden. However, whether they were actually related to one another, I would not presume to decide, and, for this reason, I mention here only in addition that, to the best of my knowledge, the first documented mention of Glarner Kublis fell in the year 1446, in which, in this year, a Hans Kubli attended a Confederation meeting as the Canton Glarus envoy.

¹ Thus in a 1465 tax-roll: Hans Kubli old Zopfi.

^a A "field-name", or descriptive term, for the area in Matt where they lived [SW]

² J. M. Schuler. Story of Canton Glarus, pg. 543 ff.

³ Numerous as the Kublis were in 1763 in Netstal, only the Leuzingers with 56 taxpayers (property 20,800 fl.) were ahead of them, and, in regard to property, also the Stähelis with 26,900. In 1876, besides the Leuzingers (138), the Webers with 89 taxpayers were also a little ahead of the Kublis, while, in regard to property, they were in first place (the Leuzingers had 552,000 Fr., and the Webers 1,255,000 Fr.)

^b A district north of the capital city of Glarus, containing the communes of Mühlehorn, Obstalden & Filzbach. [SW]