

## ***THE STRUVE FAMILY IN EUROPE AND TEXAS***

An 1843 publication by Amand von Struve (1798-1867), a brother of Heinrich Struve (1812- 1898) was the source of information for a re-publication in 1881 by Heinrich von Struve (1840-??), a professor in Warsaw, Poland and a nephew of Heinrich Struve (1812-1898), the man who came to Texas. It is now offered [in an abridged form] by Arno Struve of Abernathy, Texas, great-grandson of Heinrich Struve (1812-1898).

The reader is referred to a further explanation of this book at the conclusion of *Lebensbild/Memories of My Life*.

(Title page lettered by D. Z. Ward and manuscript typed by Sandy Struve.) Sandy is a daughter-in-law of Arno Struve.

You have in hand the story of a family named Struve. Once it was von Struve. Some individuals still retain the von. The earlier use of the "von" in our name is evidence that someone back there somewhere was honored for service rendered his king. The von is roughly equivalent to knighthood in the English world in which the title "Sir" was conferred by the king. In the English world, however, the title is not inherited whereas in the German practice it is. The importance of the title "von" is difficult for Americans to grasp but Germans fully understand its weight. One of my cousins insisted that I should use the von at least while traveling in Europe, but my egalitarian upbringing would not allow me to feel comfortable doing it. The "von" was dropped from the name when certain family members who were promoting democracy in Germany felt it unbecoming to use an unearned title. . .

One's cultural heritage is the most important legacy a person can have, be it for good or evil. If it be good, as I think ours is, an advantage far greater than title has been bestowed. What is "cultural heritage"? It is the sum of all teaching and example that has reached us separate and apart from our genetic makeup. Most of it is unconsciously transmitted. Love begets love, honesty begets honesty, diligence begets diligence, faithfulness begets faithfulness, fairness and justice follow an example of fairness and justice, a pattern of civic consciousness will be the example followed by following generations. It is because of pride in our cultural heritage that I feel it important to call attention to it in this book. The purpose of this effort is not to brag to outsiders about ourselves, but to raise the consciousness of our family in appreciation of those to whom we owe so much. Subsequent generations cannot know about their great heritage unless someone puts it on record.

The Struve family has shown little of greatness in the sense of being important or renowned leaders, but the family tree shows evidence of public service and good citizenship that we ought to emulate. And for this reason it is important for us to know something about the people to whom we owe so much not only for our very existence but also because of the example that has been passed on to us. . .

Man is not the rational creature that he sometimes thinks he is. We are heavily dependent on the habits of thought and action our cultural heritage brings to us. . .

We are not discrete individuals either. Who can feel secure in an unstable world standing entirely on his own? Civilization is composed of family units. Anything that denigrates family weakens civilization. Without the concept of "family" there would be chaos. The father-mother concept connotes stability; flowing from this combination is the family. Though it eventually gives rise to other mother-father combinations and other family units, the original unit still retains validity as a unit. Experience tells us that "blood is thicker than water," that the strengths we gather from each other help us over many a rocky road.

Large families were the rule in centuries past and this led to close knit clans in which the members helped each other. Family ties eased the road of life and made it possible for better and richer lives. The major part of this book is an account of the life of Heinrich (von) Struve (born in 1812). He was the youngest of a large family and was assisted on several occasions not only by his brothers, but by other kinsmen. The thread of family assistance continues down to our own time, and I for one am glad that "blood IS thicker than water". . . .

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DIRECT LINEAGE of Amand (1838) and Louis (1839) Struve from Johannes Struve who left Struvenburg, Kanton Aargau, Switzerland probably during the reformation. (Amand and Louis, sons of Heinrich Struve, were the forbears of the Struves in Texas.)

1. Johannes Struve
2. Berthold Struve
3. Georg Adam von Struve (1619-1692)
4. Friederich Gottlieb von Struve  
(Whose brother became an astronomer in Russia, one of whose descendants was Dr. Otto Struve of the US.)
5. Anton Sebastian von Struve (1729-1802)
6. Gustav von Struve (1763-1828)
7. Heinrich Struve (1812)
8. Amand (1838) and Louis (1839)

(Because of the numerous duplications of Christian names, this work will use the device of using the year of birth after each Christian name where there might be a doubt of identity, thus:

Gustav (1763)-Gustav (1805), father and son. . .

Also an asterisk (\*) by a name will indicate direct lineage . . .)

(Records of the family as they exist are re-enforced by the identical heraldic sign in continuous use from generation to generation.)

[Footnote material in the original text has been inserted in the body of the related paragraphs enclosed in brackets [ . . . ].]

## THE STRUVE FAMILY IN EUROPE AND IN TEXAS

The earliest record of the Struve family that we have is of **\*Johannes Struve** leaving the town of Struvenburg in the Kanton of Aargau, Switzerland. It is conjectured that this occurred during the time of the reformation, the religious movement in the 16th century that led to the establishment of the Protestant churches, i.e. the century of the fifteen hundreds.

**2nd Generation:** \*Berthold Struve, son of Johannes, held a high position in the judicature of Magdeburg as "Moellenvoight."

**3rd Generation:** \*Georg Adam von Struve (1619-1692), son of Berthold, was born in Magdeburg and died in Weimar. He was a famous lawyer, Privy Councillor of Saxony and President of Government in Weimar.

The fourth generation of Struves from Johannes were the sons of Georg Adam: Burkhardt Gotthelf, "the renowned professor of law and history in Jena who died in 1738; Ernst Gotthold, who was a doctor of medicine; \*Friederich Gottlieb, our ancestor, who died in 1752 in Kiel, being lawyer and professor; a fourth son whose name is not recorded in the information we have was an astronomer in St. Petersburg; and another about whom there is nothing recorded beyond the fact that he existed. (It is presumed that the Dr. Otto Struve, astronomer at Yerkes Observatory, a division of the University of Chicago, was a descendant of the St. Petersburg astronomer since Dr. Otto was born in Russia. Dr. Otto Struve assisted in the establishment of MacDonal Observatory, a division of the University of Texas, in the early nineteen thirties. I, Arno Struve, met Dr. Otto and his wife at the University at that time. I was privileged to talk with Dr. Otto's wife for quite a long time one evening at the Architecture Building at the University while Dr. Otto was in a meeting with Dr. Benedict and others. I was introduced to Dr. Otto but didn't get to speak with him. My mother and father, Manna and Fritz, had met Dr. Otto previously at Texas Tech. )

**4th Generation:** \*Friederich Gottlieb v. Struve (?? -1752), lawyer and professor who died in Kiel in 1752.

The fifth generation from Johannes were the sons of Friederich Gottlieb: Wilhelm Otto, Doctor of Medicine in Lausanne, Switzerland; Karl Friederich Wilhelm, physicist in Holzminden, Germany; and \*Anton Sebastian, our ancestor (1729-1802).

**5th Generation:** \*Anton Sebastian von Struve completed his studies, made several voyages to complete his education, then received his first position as Private Secretary to the Minister of State, Count von Schönberg in Dresden, who was the Saxonian representative in the German Reichstag. His association with the Count brought him to Regensburg where he became acquainted with Sophie Friederike Reimers, the daughter of the Legation Secretary of Holstein. They married and later the ambassador gave Anton Sebastian his father-in-law's position after the death of the old Reimers. Thus in 1755 he entered the service of the Duke of Holstein-Gottorp. The Duke later married Catherine the Great, Czarina of Russia. Anton Sebastian went with the Duke to the Russian Court where the Duke became Peter III, Czar of Russia. Anton Sebastian thus became a Russian citizen in the service of the Russian diplomatic corps. He was sent to Regensburg as Minister Resident at the German Reichstag. He was knighted for his service and continued the title "von" in his own right.

Anton Sebastian had many children but only his oldest son \*Gustav (1763), his youngest son, Heinrich (1772), and youngest daughter Philippine had children.

Once during the years in Regensburg there was a near famine. A Jew visited the family offering a raffle ticket. The father, Anton Sebastian, refused to buy a ticket but the very young daughter, Philippine, had taken the ticket and did not want to give it back, forcing the father to purchase the ticket. The lottery had been forgotten when the Jew returned bringing bags of money. They had won 2,000 Taler. The family was then able to obtain food from distant places and were able to survive the hard times.

Anton Sebastian's wife, Sophie, was described as the "soul of the house." She was a woman of energy. She induced her husband to participate in business opportunities which he had at first refused and which proved to be quite profitable. They had five sons and four daughters. Three of the children died in early childhood.

Anton Sebastian von Struve died April 7, 1802. His biography is recorded in "Nekrology der Deutschen für das 19 Jahrhundert."

Children of Anton Sebastian von Struve and Sophie Reimers Struve: 6th generation from Johannes of Struvenburg:

Philippine Rosina Elisabetha (1759-1838). Married the reichsstädtischen Ambassador von Selpert.

Died a childless widow. Was known by the family as Aunt Selpert. Lived in the household of Gustav (1763) for many years.

\*Johann Gustav v. Struve (1763-1828). our ancestor

Johann Georg von Struve (1766-1831) Born in Regensburg, died in Weimar. Royal Russian "Staats and Legationsrat."

Johann Christian (1768-1812) Prolific writer. Was attached to Russian embassy in China under Count Golofkin.

August Wilhelm (1770-1838) Died "in his best years." Worked in the postal department in St. Petersburg. Had the reputation of being a "ladies man."

Heinrich Christoph Gottfried (1772-1851). Royal Russian Minister Resident at the court of the Duke of Oldenburg and the Hanse Cities. Married Countess Elizabeth von Oekle-Friedenberg.

Albrecht (1774-1794)

Another sister. Married the Royal Prussian Legations secretary von Kauffmann. After his early death she married Legationsrat Dürfeld. Died childless in 1789.

Marie, died 1787.

Philippine (1775-1819) Married Frans Ferdinand von Grün, who for 50 years was the Chief of the Government of the Principality of Reuss.

Siblings of Friederike von Hochstetter, wife of Gustav (1763):

Christian von Hochstetter (1774-1837) Died in Paris. Ambassador of Württemberg.

Karl (1775-1849) Royal Russian Engineer . . Captain.

Ludwig (Louis) (1779-1803) Forester.

Konrad (1780-1867) Royal Prussian horsemaster. First marriage to Baroness Henriette von Hügel. Second marriage: Elizabeth von Manuel.

**6th Generation:** \*Gustav von Struve (Johann Gustav) (1763-1828), oldest son of Anton Sebastian von Struve, was first employed in the Russian Embassy in Warsaw under the supervision of the Count von Stackelberg, then worked in Regensburg with his father (Johann Sebastian). Later worked with the Russian Embassies at Den Haag and München. He was in Paris with Count Nesselrode and signed the Paris Treaty of 1814. After 1817 he was Russian Ambassador in Karlsruhe, where he died May 6, 1828.

He wrote several political books, one of which was "The Overall View of the European Political Affairs in 1806."

He was exceptionally robust, was a stern man, but liked to joke and laugh. He liked to sing and whistle when he thought nobody was listening. He was a fast walker and a good horseback rider. A quote from his son Amand says, "When he was in his fifties, I once walked with him from Baden to Karlsruhe, nearly four miles, in one afternoon. After the walk he wasn't any more tired than I was, and I was a student at the time." He was a man of simple tastes and simple dress, though his position led him into important circles. He valued simplicity in others. He had a forgiving spirit, preferring to excuse a mistake rather than to punish. He loved simple country-cooking, liked to take evening walks with his family and friends of the house. He liked to play whist. He loved music, preferring simple songs and melodies. He particularly liked to listen to the singing of his daughter Sophie, who had a lovely voice. In his earlier years he played the harp and composed songs sung by his mother as he accompanied her on festive occasions such as birthday parties. He found true relaxation in evenings at home with his family, sitting, legs crossed, on the couch with his wife by his side knitting. During his later years he became sterner and quieter. He was unable to walk as uprightly as before and his eyes began to fail, but still there was on his face an expression of pious benevolence.

He was religious, friendly to others and clung to the old justice; he could hardly understand the theories of the "new time" which he believed to be threatening to the church and state. [He wouldn't have understood the agitation for republicanism and democracy by his son Gustav (1805).] He was mild when judging others and never felt compelled to revenge, believing in the words, "Judge not" and "Vengeance is mine, says the Lord." Every day was started with a prayer and he never started a journey or even a walk without praying to God to protect the family from all mishap.

When the burdens of his office and his large family seemed to weigh heavily upon him, his spirits were lifted by encouraging words from his wife. When the turn of events lifted the burdens, he was most appreciative. No needy person asked in vain for help from him.

He was a learned man with a thorough education. History and German law were his main subject

interest. He knew the classic writers and often recited Virgil and Horace when making an excursion with his family. He liked modern literature and read many books.

\*Gustav von Struve (1763) was married to Friederike von Hochstetter (1773-1842) on May 18, 1793. Their son, Amand (1798-1867), to whom we are indebted for this information about them, wrote that Friederike was a mother of whom her children could be proud. She was the ideal of womanhood who had a great reservoir of love.

Her family was well off enough for her to have been born in what was called a mansion in the city of Stuttgart. She was brought up in a simple way, even though her grandfather on her mother's side was the famous von Buehler, who had been the highest representative of the land in which she was born. Her education was left completely up to her mother. She got a religious education and was taught knitting since at those times these virtues seemed to be the most important for a future housewife. In her youth she suffered from smallpox and the illness left permanent marks on her face. "But the smallpox could not destroy the wonderful brown hair, the beautiful eyes and the elegant figure." Her hands were soft and tender and seemed to resist aging. She always made a wonderful appearance. She was seventeen when her Uncle Baron Carl von Buehler, who was in the Russian service, suggested to her parents that they send her to Regensburg, where he had good connections with the Russian Minister Resident and Russian Representative in the German Reichstag, Anton Sebastian von Struve, who would gladly take her into his house. There her education was to be completed. [Her future husband, Gustav, was not at home during this time being in service in Warsaw.]

In the new family circle she soon became the favorite of everybody except the youngest daughter, Philippine. [The same Philippine who had caused her father to win a large sum of money in a lottery many years before.] But eventually these two who were about the same age became fast friends.

In the evening at the hour of tea there was always a meeting of the Reichstag delegates in the Struve house. Sometimes some of the younger delegates came to the house to see the young ladies, and if the girls were busy with household work would give them a helping hand. [Can you imagine chauvinist German males doing this?] The house was famous for its hospitality, made possible partly by the presence of an aunt (Aunt Selpert) who was of great assistance in the home. She particularly was interested in the social lives of the young members of the family.

Gustav's brother Georg (1766) helped their father in his business affairs and also spent considerable time in educating his sister Philippine and the guest Friederike. The third son of Anton Sebastian Christian was "a man of deep thoughts" who later became a very prolific writer and who went to China with Earl Golofkin on a diplomatic mission. Christian was a religious person and never married. The fourth son August had an artistic flare and liked to draw caricatures and sometimes when his ludicrous exaggerations were about important personages, he was forced by his father to apologize for the sometimes too pointed wit.

Friederike remained in Regensburg in the Struve home for about a year. Everybody was sorry to see her leave. She returned to the home of her parents in Stuttgart. Here her many relatives were almost the only persons with whom she socialized.

Friederike's father was the only son of the Reichsritter Hochstetter von Hohenstadt, whose very important position with the Protestant Church was always passed on to the eldest son. In Württemberg the possessions of the Protestant Church were completely separated from the state and these possessions were administered by the Reichsritter Hochstetter. The value of these possessions was great, being on the order of 100 million dollars (1950 dollars). The Reichsritter, Friederike's grandfather, had two daughters who were rarely seen by any of the relatives. One of them, the Regierungsrätin Haselmeier, did not want to leave her well-filled moneycheats.

Friederike's father came from a clan of prelates in Württemberg.

\*Gustav Struve (1763) as a young man in the Russian service was traveling to Poland by way of Vienna, where he stayed a few days. He visited the museums and the Royal Castle (the Hofburg) where he lost his way and while wandering in the halls, he was approached by an old man in a simple jacket and was asked who he was and about his personal circumstances. Then the old man took him to the door, wished him farewell, and – then – he learned from the guards that the old man was the Emperor Franz Joseph.

For seven years Gustav served in Warsaw, having everything a young diplomat in the Russian service could wish for. He had the privilege of traveling to St. Petersburg several times and became thoroughly acquainted with the Imperial Court, but he was happy to be transferred to Regensburg, where he was added to his father's staff. His personal knowledge of the Russian Court was a great asset to his father.

Soon after the arrival back in Regensburg, Friederike had the opportunity to respond to oft repeated invitations for her to visit the Struve family again. Here she met for the first time a handsome, stern young man, her future husband. By the time her parents requested her return to her home in Stuttgart, the relationship had bloomed and the young folks' feelings for each other were beginning to be very strong. Gustav and one of his sisters accompanied Friederike on the journey to Stuttgart. Near Ulm at a stop for a walk and relaxation, Gustav suggested that she might spend her life with him. The union was established by her assent, but her parents weren't so happy with the choice, having a different young man in mind for their daughter. The spirited Friederike put the latter idea to rest by her emphatic insistence that she would gladly sacrifice any family inheritance she might be due rather than agree to their wishes, and that she would never marry another man. Finally, when Anton Sebastian von Struve asked for the hand of the lovely young lady for his eldest son, all objections were dissolved. On May 18, 1793, they were married.

The wedding was held in the village church at Plöchingen, where a kinsman, M. Buehler, was the minister. Friederike's father was a master at arranging family celebrations. For three days they celebrated in Stuttgart in the "mansion of the bulwark" after the wedding. In the large garden of the mansion he had placed a merry-go-round for the children. For years this merry-go-round and finally its dismembered components were available for the children to play with. Most of the entertainment was arranged by Friederike's brothers Louis (Ludwig) and Konrad. Among the guests at the wedding were princes, a countess and other important personages.

In Regensburg the young couple rented rooms from Gustav's father, though the wealth of the family did not require that the young couple make this monetary sacrifice, but the frugal Sophie, Gustav's mother, thought it was best for the young couple to learn economy.

It is said that Sophie von Struve was able to save a bit every year when her husband's salary was still small; thus she had really founded the wealth of the family.

Life for the Struve family in Regensburg was a happy one. Anton Sebastian rented a house down the Danube at Winzer and here the entire family spent the summers and relaxed in the wonderful environment. The Danube coming from Regensburg was a great sight and the castles on the vineyard-covered hills made the landscape a romantic one.

Though the young couple had reason to be most happy, there were unhappy times, too. Their firstborn, a son they named Albrecht, died before he was a year old.

Grandmother Sophie had a persistent chest disease that gave all of them grave concern. And then there was the bloody French Revolution that caused much worry. There were many refugees from the country of Marat and Robespierre who asked for hospitality. The news of the many horrors committed in France by the rebels filled everyone's hearts with revulsion and especially was this true of Gustav, who felt that though the French Revolution may have led to human progress, this progress would have come eventually without the inhuman atrocities.

Among the guests at this time was a young and beautiful Polish Countess who was a follower of the ideals of the revolution. All warnings of the elder Struve, Anton Sebastian, were in vain. The Countess left Regensburg for Paris. A few weeks later the name of the Polish Countess was found among the names of those who had been guillotined.

Grandmother Sophie died May 21, 1795, the victim of her "chest disease."

After the governmental structures in France had been destroyed by the revolutionaries, the country was ripe for takeover by a strong man, and Napoleon filled the need. Not content with being in control of France, he began his ravages of the other European countries. One of his early forays was toward the east and as the fighting approached Regensburg, Anton Sebastian had to leave his office at the Reichstag. On the Danube he traveled with his family to Austria. The Württemberg Church Council had entrusted Gustav with a tremendous sum of money which he was to take to a secure place. The riverboat travel was very uncomfortable. At night the sailors stayed in villages, but the passengers preferred the safety of the boat, where they slept on the open deck. One night as the family nurse was trying to comfort the latest baby in the family, Elise, she was walking on the deck when her foot struck the nose of a refugee French Marquis. The injury was not important, but the Marquis had a swollen nose for several days.

They stayed for some months at Stein near Krems (in Austria), but as the war came closer, Gustav had to go from place to place to protect the treasure that had been entrusted to him. During this period he was only an occasional visitor to his family until Napoleon's government was overthrown. The family took refuge in a monastery for nuns between Stein and Krems. When finally Moreau was rejected, the family was able to return to Regensburg.

Two years had passed quietly after the return from the escape to Austria when Gustav was ordered to St. Petersburg where he met his brother Georg unexpectedly. They remained together in the Russian capital awaiting assignment. At this time Anton Sebastian was retired and his two sons were promoted. Gustav was sent to Munich as "Legationsrat" and Georg was to return to Regensburg in a similar capacity. Gustav never returned to the capital of the country he served.

Another outbreak of the Napoleonic Wars caused a disruption in the family once more. Anton fled to the home of his youngest daughter, Philippine, in Greiz where he remained the rest of his life. Gustav and family followed his new superior Karl von Buehler (a great-uncle) to Bayreuth. After the treaty of Luneville they returned to Regensburg, where von Buehler and his staff took up their duties as representatives of the Russian government.

Once again, in 1805, Napoleon's troops became a threat, and Gustav von Struve had to leave his post. Friederike was left alone with her six children in Munich, where her seventh child, Gustav (1805) was born. French troops had occupied the city just a few days before. These were difficult times, but Friederike never lost faith. She knew the Lord and trusted Him. And if anyone pointed out to her that the many children were a heavy burden, she answered that she had given so many souls to our Lord and she was proud of it.

Every day troops passed through Munich going eastward and at the same time there were many carts passing in the opposite direction loaded with wounded soldiers. One day a small man dressed in a simple uniform stopped on the square in front of the house where the family lived. He was surrounded by many soldiers and officers. It was learned later that this was Napoleon.

Another day a herald dressed in a blue-white uniform and followed by a group of trumpeters rode through the streets announcing that Maximilian Joseph had become King of Bavaria.

Every day brought new and exciting events but the Struve children were too young to comprehend their meaning. The education of the children was the responsibility of the nurse, Madame Gauthier. A peculiarity of this woman that impressed the children was the beard that surrounded her lips which she kept shaved every day.

Finally in 1806 after many months of separation Gustav was able to rejoin his loved ones. But it was the end of the days in Munich, for they moved at once to Stuttgart to the home of the Hochstetter grandparents, "the mansion of the bulwark." They traveled to Stuttgart in a large green coach, the whole family being packed into it. The family servant and driver of the coach was Johannes Baptist Schwaerzel who served the family for many years until he was a very old man. [Johannes Baptist Schwaerzel was pensioned by Friederike for the rest of his life when he left the service of the family.]

They went by way of Augsburg, Donauwörth, Ulm and Schoendorf. In Donauwörth they stayed in the inn "At the Red Crab." This may have been the place where an onlooker remarked as the family alighted, one by one, "Is there going to be another one?"

Arriving in Stuttgart the coach entered a large courtyard through an imposing portal. The only entrance to the house was from the courtyard. They found the stable and the accommodations for the servants and proceeded to the big house. The courtyard encompassed a large garden in which later the children were each given a plot for their own use where they planted flowers.

The stay in Stuttgart didn't last long. The outbreak of the Prussian War forced ambassador Gustav von Struve to flee again. This time to Karlsruhe. After a few months they were reunited, but soon again they were required to move back to Regensburg. A reduction in the ambassador's salary made for difficult days, but by the fortuitous presence of relatives in Regensburg who could house them, they were able to get along until conditions permitted return to Stuttgart, where all the younger children were born.

While the family lived in Stuttgart, this time they had a large circle of friends they had always enjoyed there. In the social circle of their friends was the poetess Therese Huber, the daughter of the famous poet Heinrich Heine. Her son Aime was a good friend of the Struve children. Aime later became famous under the name Viktor Amadeus.

A year and a half later Minister Gustav von Struve was transferred as Legation Counselor to the Russian Embassy in Holland. It was impossible for him to take his large family to the expensive Holland where the brother of Napoleon ruled. Gustav's first act upon arriving in Holland was to write a petition requesting re-transfer back to Stuttgart, but the request wasn't granted until a year later. During his service in Holland he was able to do certain favors for the Duke of Oldenburg, who wanted to pay him with a large sum of money, but he refused the gift and asked only for the favor that one of his sons be given a position in the service of the state of Oldenburg.

Gustav returned to Stuttgart via Paris and was met in Strasbourg, France by Friederike and the older

children.

This was the time of the Austrian War of 1809 and many victorious French soldiers passed through Stuttgart on their way home. Once, half a dozen Garde-Chasseurs with their horses came into the courtyard and demanded food for their horses. The servant, Johannes, spoke to them and pointed out the stable, but since he knew no French the soldiers didn't understand him. One of them took a fork and threw it at Johannes, barely missing the poor man. Grandfather Hochstetter then spoke French to the soldiers and put them at ease.

Friederike's brothers Karl and Christian Hochstetter returned to the family mansion during this time. Twenty-three years of Russian military service had left Karl with a "nerve fever." He did not speak and did not answer questions. His nieces and nephews were afraid of him except Georg (1802), who really could handle him. Christian's [Christian v. Hochstetter (1774-1837)] health was also bad. Although he was mentally sane, he had a complex that he was persecuted by his family. He often proposed to ladies of his acquaintance, but never kept his word for fear that he would also be persecuted by his future life. He died in 1837 and left his fortune to the Katharinen Hospital in Stuttgart. However, the efforts of his nephew, Gustav Struve [Gustav von Struve (1805-1871) son of Gustav and Friederike Struve], saved part of his wealth for the family.

Christmas and birthdays were always great family celebrations. The father, Gustav, often wrote poems for these occasions. The gifts were usually practical ones, and the children gladly emptied their piggy banks and bought gifts for their parents and grandparents. Once they bought a fat goose for the mother; the goose was led into the room by a pink ribbon. Grandfather Hochstetter had so much fun with this idea that he asked the children's teacher, Mr. Pons, to paint a picture of the incident.

Friederike's brother Konrad [Konrad von Hochstetter (1780-1867)], was trained in horsemanship. He was in the service of the king at Ludwigsburg when he was offered a position as horsemaster in Bern, Switzerland. The king, however, refused his permission for Konrad to leave his service and also refused to raise his salary. Thus, Konrad Hochstetter left for Bern without the king's permission. The king retaliated by down-grading the positions of some of Konrad's relatives in his service. The king never forgave the independent action of Konrad.

Gustav (1763) was reassigned to Dresden, but the inconvenience of moving his family there caused him to ask for an alternate position in Karlsruhe, which he could take care of from Stuttgart. It would have been unwise to move the children inasmuch as the older ones were already in gymnasium (high school).

Another in the series of Napoleonic wars took place, this time against Russia. Gustav was forced to stay close to his office in Karlsruhe, so he rented a small room there at Zähringerstrasse. He could not receive his salary because of the war. All the money he could get had to go to the family in Stuttgart. As a consequence, he led a terrible life. He often went into the countryside to beg for a simple meal.

When Russia was victorious, he was transferred out of Karlsruhe, where the Russian Embassy was closed by the French who controlled the area. He moved to Pforzheim where he stayed with Dr. Roller, the chief of the sanitarium for mentally sick persons. Since Pforzheim was located close to Stuttgart, he was able to visit his family frequently and they visited him. He was somewhat a "political refugee" at this time. His presence was discovered but he was able to make his way to Bavaria before anything unpleasant occurred.

This time of separation of the family members was another period of difficulty. Gustav was now more or less a soldier and was unable to be supportive of Friederike and the ten children. She had to take the education of the children into her own hands. The children were not difficult for her to discipline. She had an angel-like patience. A word or a tear from her were more than enough to stop even the wildest among the children.

Stuttgart at this time was occupied by the French. Censorship was severe and the local populace did not hear of the victories of the allied armies except camouflaged as French successes; nevertheless, the family had channels of news through which they were kept informed. The elders were always excited when they heard of a victory of the Prussian and Russian Armies as were all the people of Stuttgart. The main source of information for the family was the servant Johannes who, although he could not read, knew what was going on. He often told the family about activities that had occurred long before the war news was printed in the newspapers. He was quite proud of his being well informed and he was appreciated for his patriotism.

When the French power was defeated near Leipzig, Gustav was able to return home. He had been given a significant promotion in the Russian diplomatic service and had been awarded a medal.

The respite lasted only a year, coming to an end upon the Corsican's return from Elba.

At this point Gustav was ordered to recruit officers in Karlsruhe for the expected French attack. He served in France after the final victory over the French. His superior in France was Count Nesselrode, whom he had known along with the countess in his days of service in Poland as a young man. Gustav was quartered in the home of a former member of the French National Assembly, which had voted to execute Louis XVI. This resulted in a conflict of ideologies during his stay there, but the hosts made him comfortable nonetheless, and they soon became quite friendly in spite of their differences. Thus, when he left, the farewell was as hearty as the welcome had been cold.

Gustav was involved in the negotiations leading to the Paris Peace Treaty and was one of the signatories to that treaty.

As a reward for his untiring patriotic service, Gustav's two oldest sons [Anton (1797-1846) and Amand (1798-1867)] became members of the commission of foreign affairs the same year (1815). Both were attached to the Russian Embassy at Stuttgart, where Gustav also received another commission under Count Golowkin.

Gustav's final assignment was as ambassador in Karlsruhe, where the family remained until his death.

During the last Karlsruhe period Gustav's main concern was the education of the children. After attending to business each morning in the ambassadorial office, he returned to his home to teach the younger children the French language. After lunch he went to the museum, where he could read all the newspapers. Usually by 2 p.m. he was back home. He liked to read history and modern novels. When the weather was suitable, there was a family walk to the countryside. Their favorite place to go was the "Schrickelei," a guesthouse close to the city. From there one could see the castles of the Black Forest: Ebersteinburg, Anweiler and the old royal castle, Triefels, where Richard the Lionhearted had been captured.

Gustav loved the theater and whenever possible, he had a seat there. Friederike only seldom accompanied him since her "motherly duties" kept her in the home. Gustav liked to play an occasional game of whist, especially in the winter. The social circle was a musically inclined one with several accomplished musicians in the group. Once they performed the entire first scene of *Giovanni* by Mozart.

On Sundays the parents and older children were usually in church. In the afternoon they might be found at a reception, or perhaps Gustav would ride his horse to neighboring towns: Baden, Rudsnersbach, Rheinbaiern.

The children were brought up to be walkers as they were taken over small side-paths through the forests. It came to pass that sometimes they found themselves "stuck in a swamp and returned home as dirty as pigs."

A constant visitor to the home was the emotional poet Hebel, who during his visits was always surrounded by the ladies, who listened to his wonderful stories.

Two widows, one an aunt who had been close to the family for a long time, came to live with the family in Karlsruhe as long as the family lived there.

Many children of friends and relatives were sent to Gustav and Friederike for their final education: Louis Hochstetter, Cousin Karoline Kauffmann, Augusta Ostertag and others. Karoline became permanently attached to the family after the sudden death of her parents.

One night Karoline was startled by the apparition of Grandmother Hochstetter in her room. The grandmother told Karoline to ring the bell that would awaken Friederike and to tell her that if she wished to see her mother alive, she would have to leave for Stuttgart immediately. The next morning information arrived that Grandmother Hochstetter would not live through the day. Friederike immediately hurried to her, but she had passed on before she arrived in Stuttgart. [There are many such stories of extrasensory messages between relatives. See *Lebensbild*.]

On September 26, 1820, on Gustav's 57th birthday, all members of his family were together for the last time. After that, one or the other would be unable to come to the family gatherings.

Gustav suffered from various maladies, and he frequently visited the baths at Rippolstau in the Black Forest, where he found relaxation. [The "baths" were an important curative practice at this time.]

The news of King Max's death shook Gustav violently. [A stroke?] He fell seriously ill and only barely survived. The malady changed him completely. Often he sat for hours thinking and not moving a bit. His wife attempted to comfort him but often was not very successful. Sometimes he would become his old true self again for a few hours during which time he participated in social events and was a good observer of his surroundings. He was never to see any except one of his grandchildren, a granddaughter born one year before his death.

On May 6, 1828, Gustav had visited a session of the governing body. His son Amand [Amand was his

father's assistant. We are indebted to Amand for all of this information about Gustav.] had given him a report to sign in the usual way. A little later a cry from Friederike brought Amand to his father's office where he found him in his mother's arms. He was already dead. He was buried on a lovely May morning, and only Amand and a few friends attended the funeral.

When the news reached the distant sons, those who could hurried home. Only Georg, the Oberforester in Poland, was unable to come to comfort his mother.

For rest and recreation after the death of her husband, Friederike went to Bern, Switzerland, to visit with her brother Konrad. Her youngest son Heinrich [Author of *Lebensbild*] was being trained at the time by "Uncle Konrad" in horsemanship. The presence of her youngest helped to comfort her and give her the needed relaxation. [An account of this visit appears in *Lebensbild*.]

She returned to Karlsruhe much better than when she left, but soon she had other worries to cope with: her youngest son Heinrich entered the military service of the Russian army in Poland.

Friederike lived only in her memories, though she loved to have friends and relatives visit her. A special visit occurred when her brother Konrad and his family visited her on their way to Berlin in a change of employment.

During a serious illness she was not expected to survive, but miraculously she pulled through. Youngest son Heinrich, who was in Poland, hearing of his mother's illness, hurried to Karlsruhe, making the forced journey in severe winter weather mostly on horseback, taking about twenty days to make the trip. [Heinrich had had an extrasensory premonition about his mother's serious illness but didn't leave home until an actual message arrived.]

Friederike lived seven years longer, during which time there were many visitors, and sometimes the home was filled with people who had come to see relatives who had been absent at great distances for many years. She always made sure that all stayed in the house during these visits so they could all be close together.

On October 22, 1842, many of her children had gathered around her bed. Her hands became cold and she looked at them once again. Then she said, "O Papa!" [Her usual way to address her husband.] At 1200 hours she died.

[NOTE: The abridged version of Heinrich von Struve's *Lebensbild* follows this introductory material in Arno Struve's book. It begins with this brief information:

In 1848 the ship "Colonist" left Hamburg with the Heinrich von Struve family aboard. They arrived in Galveston November 25, 1848.

The ship's passenger roster included:

Heinrich von Struve (35)

wife Minna (26)

children: Amandus (10), Louis (8), Stephanie (1)

At the conclusion of *Lebensbild* in Arno Struve's bound edition of THE STRUVE FAMILY IN EUROPE AND IN TEXAS, Arno closes with the following]

The Germans have had a pervading interest in Texas since the early part of the 19th century. Many Germans braved the frontier of Texas and helped in the settling of a new country. Heinrich Struve came to Texas in 1848, did his bit toward the taming of a wild country, and then returned to his native country to tell of his experiences. He left two sons in Texas: Amand and Louis. Upon his return to the old country he wrote accounts of his stay in Texas. These stories were first published in periodicals and then later they were collected and published as a book.

The translation of the book was brought about by the late Dan Struve, a descendant of Louis Struve, and F.W. Struve. F.W. Struve supplied the funds and Dan arranged for the translation. At the time Dan was involved in military service in Germany.

The translator was not bi-lingual and as a consequence the English version came out in rather stilted language. Many of us have had a hand in making the flow of language more "American". The result does not do justice to the quality of writing of the original German story. We considered having a new translation made, but the limited appeal of a strictly family story didn't seem to justify the added expense.

The gist of Heinrich's story is accurately portrayed in this edition, even though as literature it leaves something to be desired.

We hope that this account will give subsequent generations knowledge of their forebears that will instill pride in their "roots". . .

Arno Struve 1978