

On the History of the Glarner Families, Particularly 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]

XXV. THE WIRTHS

[pg. 145-146]

"On the 1st day of *Brachmonat* [*June*] in 1634 have been joined in marriage: Uli Wirt, Conradt Wirt's son from Hundtwyl, from the Outer Rhode of Canton Appenzell, and Barbara, daughter of the late Andreas Bähler; through the consent of Vice-President Trümpi and members of the Evangelical religion's council, according to their decision which was sent over to me." So reported Pastor J. Melchior Wyss in the first baptism and marriage register. And: "On the 22nd day of March in the year 1635, a daughter was baptized, and named Anna, to Uli Wirt from Hundwil, from the Outer Rhode of Canton Appenzell, and Barbara Bählerin, and she was sponsored for holy baptism by Mr. Hans Heinrich Stauffach, *Tagwen*^a official at Matt, Wernet, Lieutenant Ellmer's son; Elsbeth Frey, the pastor's beloved; and Ursula Zwiflin [*Zweifel*], married housewife of Mr. Emanuel Elsiner, called Milten, from Bilten, who substituted for the maiden, Magdalena Elmer, daughter of Mr. Rudolff Elmer at Glarus, who was in the final place." After the daughter, Anna, followed, in 1640, a son, Conrad, in 1641, Andreas, and in 1642, a second Andreas; in 1646 on January 24th died "Uli Würth (so wrote Pastor Hamann) at Brumbach^b". His son, Cunrat Wirt, (so wrote Pastor Tschudi, in his turn) got married to a Magdalena Weissin (Wyss) and, in 1672, had a son, Fridli, to report to baptism, and, in 1675, a Huldreich. All these, and further descendants of Uli Wirt, lived until 1834 as poor small farmers in the canton, until, in 1834, as a result of the *Landsgemeinde*^c decision which was recounted above on pg. 114 [*in "The Bräms" chapter (pg. 2 in the SW translation)*], they were accepted into the Glarner citizen right¹. In 1876, 9 Wirts were found in 6 Glarner communes, but all without taxable property. In 1915, 3 *Tagwen* rights of the Matt commune were in the hands of the Wirts.

a *Tagwen* - an ancient Glarner term, from at least the 6th century A.D., which is still used today in Canton Glarus to denote the commune of the citizens, i.e. those who have inherited or purchased the *Tagwen* rights (this may only partially coincide with the political commune). It is derived from *Tage Wann*, meaning the work someone could perform in one day in the commonly-held fields, pastures and forests. Over the years the number of *Tagwen* in the canton has varied considerably, with the present-day number being 29. Also its duties have changed – from jointly working on and enjoying the benefits of its common property, to administering all the commune's public interests, to (today) administering and enjoying the benefits of its common property. [SW]

b *Flurname* - field name. People with identical names were differentiated by adding their occupation or a descriptive term for the area where they lived [SW]

c *Landsgemeinde* - the Popular Assembly, which is the Glarus cantonal legislative body. It is made up of all the citizens of the communes who have full citizenship rights. [SW]

1 Six males over 1 year old and 3 female Wirts.