

Gerard tells about the family and living conditions



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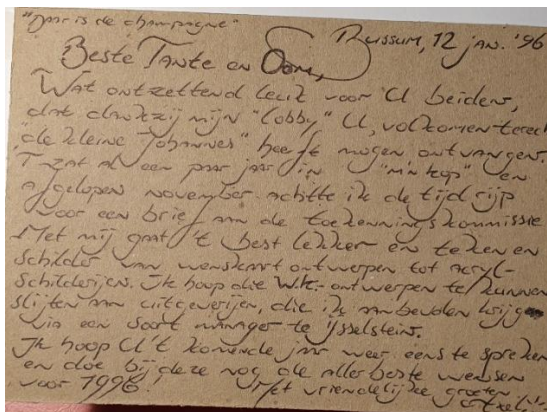
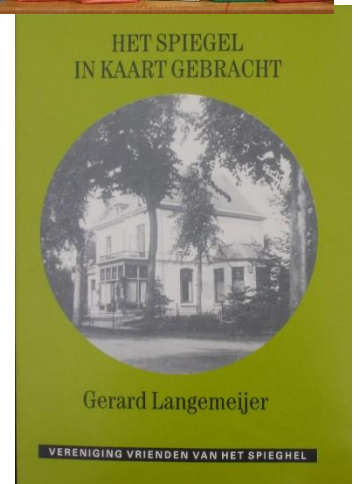
Introduction Gerard

The story that follows was found in the archive of Gerard Langemeijer (8 May 1920). It was probably written somewhere around 1960. Unfortunately, the story is not finished. His sources were probably the oral traditions through his parents. Gerard has always been very interested in family history. He collected all kinds of documents and photos in the binders shown here.

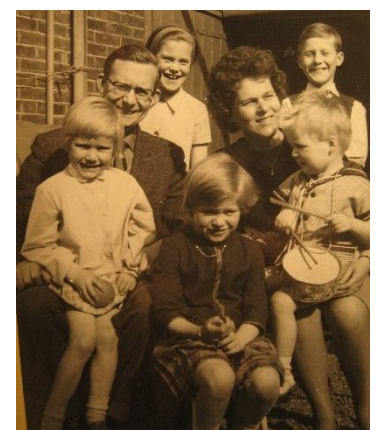


Gerard was actually a collector and amateur writer. For example, he kept an extensive report of his trip to Indonesia illustrated with photos. He also immersed himself in the history of the old district "het Spiegel" in Bussum.

Gerard was chairman of the Historical Circle of Bussum for a while. He wrote stories in the magazine of the Historical Circle, a large number of which can be found in the booklet "Het Spiegel in kaartgebracht". Together with his wife Netty Lucassen, he has won the "Kleine Johannes" prize for their efforts and research into the history of Bussum. The nomination for this prize was made by my cousin Axel Langemeijer (November 3, 1955).



After the war, Gerard emigrated to Indonesia like many young men at that time. He went to work for the trading company Geo Wehry. In 1953 he returned to the Netherlands on leave and married Netty Lucassen. Paul was born in Jakarta (1954). Marianne was born in Medan (1956). In 1957, all Dutch people had to leave Indonesia. Bernadette was born in the "contract pension" (shelter for Dutch people from Indonesia) in Hilversum (1958). Gerard joined C&A after a conversation with a Brenninkmeijer in Oud-Valkeveen (Naarden). He worked there for the rest of his life. In 1958 we moved to a flat in Haarlem where Judith was born (1959). In 1960, Gerard and Netty bought a house at Regentesselaan 35 in the Spiegel. Frans was born there in 1961.



Introduction by his son, Paul Langemeijer (18-09-1954) in July 2024.

Foreword

For many families, the family archive consists only of a church book gilded on edge and with signs of age and a flat cigar box. The thumbled church book contains yellowed prayer cards of deceased grandparents, parents and other family members, while the old chest contains the marriage certificate, smallpox notes and old photos. At best, there are still a few birth announcements and wedding announcements in it. Where our grandparents' cradle stood and where their grave was dug is usually known. Through the school we are practically at home with counts, kings and emperors. We know their year of birth, habits of life and the year of the battle in which they fell. But what do these people actually mean to us? Isn't it a pity that we usually know so little about our own family?

In the following pages I will try to tell my children something about our family and their living conditions. Unfortunately, the old sources are scarce, but may the little I learned still be a contribution to the family bond.



The beginning

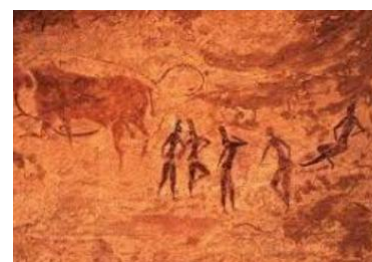
In this chapter I will walk through prehistory with seven-league boots. I admit that I have found few family members. But after all, you have to start somewhere and why not at the beginning...

In the beginning, God created heaven and earth. But the earth was still disordered and empty; darkness reigned over the sea of the world, and God's Spirit hovered over the waters.

God said: Let us make man as our image, resembling us...

And God saw that everything He had made was very good.

When God created man we do not know. For the last hundred and fifty years, scientists have been very intensively engaged in researching how old mankind is. People dig restlessly for old skulls and bones. Thousands of utensils have been found. The last word in this matter has certainly not yet been spoken. The earth itself is given an age of many hundred million years. In 1936 there were hearths near Beijing, which must have been built by humans about 350,000 years ago! Of the people who populated Europe a hundred thousand years ago, cemeteries have been found in which, in addition to bones, stone utensils were found. The works of art that have entered our sphere of vision from the depths of the earth during the last 50 years (109 caves with thousands of drawings) speak a clear language. All these rock paintings date from the last ice age, about 30,000 to 10,000 years ago. How one could have seen in these dark caves is a mystery to us people spoiled by electric light. It is interesting to remember that our great-grandparents still used flints to make fire. It was not until 1827 that the English pharmacist John Walker invented the match!



In WESTPHALIA, no graves and utensils from the most ancient times have been found so far. The first signs of human life there date back to the last Stone Age from 2500 to 1800 BC. From that time date the huge boulders of cemeteries (dolmens). The people who lived there at that time must have already known



arable farming and cattle breeding. The stone hand mill and the plough were used, barley, wheat, peas and beans, spun linen and wool. Earthen cups and pots were made by hand.

In the Middle East, including along the Euphrates and the Tigris, flourishing cultures were already coming to an end. The city of Ur in Mesopotamia, where Abraham lived around 1700 BC, was built on the ruins of the perished empire of the Summians.

A thousand years before Abraham was born, the royal tombs were built there for King A_bar gi and Queen Shoeb-ad. In these richly decorated royal tombs, which were excavated in 1928, valuable cultural treasures were found. Gray white circles indicated the location of flattened solid wood wheels in the ground (Paul Langford: Stargate?). The wheel must have been one of the most important technical tools for mankind at that time. The peoples who had wheeled wagons and horses won the wars. It took until 1880 AD before a combination of wheels created the bicycle.



Grandfather Julius Heitkönig (third from the left in the photo, Clemens L. is on the left) an energetic man, who owned one of the first women's clothing stores in Amsterdam, was also one of the first citizens to have a bicycle. To be more precise, he was not the owner of a bicycle but of a velocipede. A bicycle with direct pedals of the very high front wheel. It took a wall or chair to climb on this tall steel steed and start the bumpy trip on the wooden wheels.



METTINGEN. There is also a dolmen grave in Mettingen (near Westerkappeln), but it has been largely destroyed. Other finds, such as the so-called hand mills, stone axes, etc., indicate that people must have lived in the region where Mettingen is now located during the ice age, which came to an end around 1800 BC. Finds from the Bronze Age (circa 1800 to 750 BC) have also been made in the vicinity of Mettingen.



In the Bronze Age, people burned the corpses and placed them in urns in the graves. Several of these urns have been found near Mettingen. About 750 BC the Iron Age began. D.w.z. dat when people had discovered iron ore and were able to work it. Man began to control the earth more and more. He had a vague concept of God, which was mixed with all kinds of sorcery. In fact, he lived in fear and anxiety of the avenging god, whom he saw in lightning and thunder. He had little hope of a perfectly happy eternity. In the meantime, the fullness of time had arrived. Christ was born. And a few years later, this Christ sacrificed His life for all mankind.

By his death he broke the spell of the senses and by his resurrection the biological circle of birth and death in which pagan man was imprisoned. God revealed Himself to the Gentiles and gave them back heaven and the possibility to know and love Him. With the birth of Christ, history begins all over again and we write the year zero.

We step into history

Now I have to tire the reader with historical events. After all, one cannot paint a family portrait without a background. Otherwise, you would imagine yourself in a wax gallery.

In the years one hundred and two hundred AD, some Germanic tribes proceeded to bury corpses. Hundreds of such graves were found on the western half of the Schaapsberg near Mettingen. Unfortunately, we know very little about the region where Mettingen is located from the first thousand years AD. Certainly the Romans were in the vicinity and different tribes jostled each other, which eventually merged into the Saxon peoples. In 678, the first preachers of the faith from Ireland and England came to mainland Europe and also to Westphalia and the Münsterland. But it was not until the middle of the eighth century that Christianity was introduced there. We also know little about the first settlements.

The Schultenhof is said to have been built in 695. Extensive fields were certainly not yet to be found in the dense forests. Only the free peasants and nobles lived in decent houses. The serfs had to be content with small miserable huts. Count Egbert, the husband of Saint Ida, was probably the first nobleman to rule over the region between the Weser and the Rhine. It would take me too far to tell under which graves the Westphalian country belonged in the course of time. In passing, I only want to remark that it belonged to the counts of Zutphen, Gelderen and Tecklenburg and that the name Mettingen appears on a document from the year 1088.



At the end of the 80 Years' War, Westphalia was ceded to the House of Orange at the Peace of Münster, despite the protest of the Counts of Tecklenburg. The Dutch princes ruled according to Dutch law until 1702. After the death of Prince William Henry of Orange, the Grand Duke of Prussia, who was married to Louise of Orange, claimed Westphalia as an inheritance.

Finally, I would like to mention the period of French domination under Napoleon from 1807 to 1813 as an important historical fact. The blockade that Napoleon applied to England, in order to force England to surrender, had catastrophic consequences for Europe, which were also felt in Mettingen.

Many formerly flourishing trading firms went under, including the ten Brink and Mohrmann families. The retreat of the French troops from Russia and the troops pursuing them impoverished the whole country even more. From 1813 to 1815, about 70,000 men passed through Ibbenburen and demanded hay, oats and straw and the Mettingen women flee to the Vinter Moor.



A marriage and a name change

We meet Johan Heinrich SCHULTE LAGGENBECK and his family.

Nature was in full bloom. The grass asked to be hayed, but it had to wait until after the wedding. Both doorposts of the large farmstead de Langenhof are decorated with birch branches, in which pink paper flowers are tied. Above the door hangs the traditional wreath of oak leaves with a sign in the middle on which a greeting is written in silver paper. It is May 24, 1785. There the beautifully decorated sjees with the bride and groom is already coming back from the church. The groom scatters generously with chocolates and change. The bride wears the usual black woolen wedding gown and on her head she has a myrtle wreath.

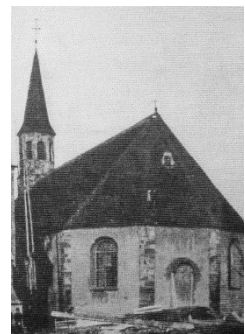


The more than a hundred wedding guests are waiting at the door. The day before, the guests had already brought their festive gifts, such as soup chickens, butter, sugar, coffee, ham, etc., to the homestead.

The partygoers crowd around the long tables. The youth who cannot find a place inside look for a place outside in the orchard. Now that all are seated, we can only get to know the bride and groom and the guests. The bride is a youthful-looking woman of 31 years old. She was born ten Brink. After having been happily married to Johan Gerhard Langemeyer for eleven years, she became a widow in 1784. Her children were then 7, 5, 4 and 2 years old respectively. Her husband had just become a leaseholder of the Langenhof for the sum of 680 guilders. The Langenhof was by far the largest farmstead in the entire region and had extensive building and pastures. Several



Langemeyer families had already lived here, first as serfs, later as tenants of the king. The beginning of the Langenhof probably dates back to around 1200. In a document of 1549 the homestead is mentioned by name. But it is a wedding and therefore not the right time to tell about the otherwise fascinating history of the Langenhof. We must first draw our attention to the 23-year-old groom, Johan Heinrich Schulte Laggenbeck. The eldest son in a family of seven children. According to old Westphalian custom, because he was the eldest son, he would inherit his father's homestead. However, his love for Anna Maria made him renounce this privilege. He married her on the homestead and also took the name Langemeyer. It must have been quite a step and the conversation of the whole village and the surrounding area for weeks. He looks a bit uncomfortable at his four children. But Johann Gerhard, Johann Heinrich, Maria Anna and Herman Heinrich are very happy to have a father again. That place has been unoccupied for more than a year. No matter how small they were, they had understood that their mother was not up to the task of managing the large homestead all by herself. Close to the bride and groom is the immediate family. Pastor Slichter has just prayed and especially invoked Saint Agatha to save the homestead from fire. This was followed by a collection for the purchase of a Stations of the Cross for the new church, which was only completed in 1779, which still looks quite bare on the inside.



Now the old Herman Heinrich Schulte Laggenbeck (March 21, 1736) takes the floor:

Ein Wicht in dei twenty years must not be a zollern Mann, in dei dättiger Jaoren nimpet, wat der kümp. So he says; goes an old proverb. But our Anna Maria did not look at an old man, he continues, but a good farmer's son, who is only twenty years old. This farmer's son has been smart enough to think of the proverb: Dei Frau kann mit 'n Füök ut 'n Huse dringen, äs nen Bur mit ' Rinksenwagen

herinfödn kann. After many good wishes, the old man concludes with the advice: "Einen Dag in dei Wieke mott dei Frau et te seggen häbn, sei darf blousz nich wiesen, wat vän 'n Dag".

In this way one drinks heavily and sings: [Vivat Braut und Bräutigam](#). Anna Maria Kreymeijer was appointed as an assistant for the bride, who later married Johann Ignatz ten Brink. She was a very strong and smooth girl, who caused a great sensation in Mettingen with her braids. When she didn't cut it off when she got married, the chatter was loud. People wondered how a peasant woman who has to take care of her braids every morning could be a good housewife. Later in the afternoon, when the guests, tired and satisfied from all the food and drinks, spread out all over the yard in anticipation of the Kaffee and Kuche, Johann Gerhard ten Brink, the big businessman, and Stockmann, the old soldier with his sideburns, happened to end up together at the bench under the old beech tree. It was wonderful to sit there in the coolness. The two men quietly lit a long pipe and made themselves comfortable. However, they did not sit alone for long, because both men were very popular and everyone liked to talk to them or rather to hear them tell. After all, Johann Gerhard ten Brink was very well-traveled. He had seen a lot of the world and often came to Amsterdam where the ten Brinks had a large office for their export business and trade to the Dutch East Indies. Lately there have been a lot of rumours in Mettingen about the ferments and turmoil in France. Dark clouds seemed to be gathering over Europe for the umpteenth time.



And the Mettinger Tüotten were very interested in the state of the world. There were a lot of Tüotten at this party. After all, it was the end of May and as usual, by the summer most of the itinerant Mettinger traders, called Tüotten, returned to the Heimat to stay there for a few months and help with the harvest.



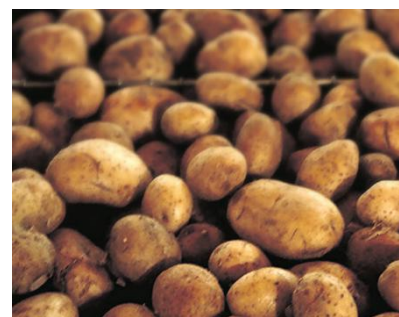
The Tüotten Lampe and Stöcker therefore began to sound out ten Brink about the situation in the Republic of the Netherlands, where the situation was also extremely confusing. Yes, said ten Brink, things are going wrong with Stadtholder William and the House of Orange. The Orangist party, which relies on England and Prussia, finds the Patriots, under whose name aristocrats and democrats, led by France, as enemies. The stadtholder does not support the people enough against the regents, who still predominate and suck the people and divide the jobs among themselves. The people hear the slogans from France about freedom and fraternity.

In Holland, people are no longer allowed to wear orange. If you call Orange upstairs, you run the risk of getting into trouble. You can no longer order orange carrots or green beans from the greengrocer. You have to say carrots and green beans. The situation in the industries is worrying. Half of the common labor force perishes from sorrow and want, and the poorhouses are crammed in. Yes, ten Brink, who as a merchant had learned to calculate and remember well, in 1780 2641 ships entered Amsterdam via the tidal inlets of Texel and the Vlie and 1300 sailed up the Maas for Rotterdam. Those numbers have now fallen sharply.

The French are not to be trusted, Stockmann muttered. He should know, because in the Seven Years' War, which had set the whole of Europe on fire in the years 1756-1763, he had served the Prussian King Frederick the Second faithfully.



He could not stop talking about the field rulership of **Frederick the Great**, who had to defend



himself against the Austrians, Swedes, French, Russians and some German states. Stockmann had been there when the British and Brünswijk troops drove the French out of Hanover and Westphalia after bloody fighting. He had also fought near Mettingen on the Schafberg and had seen more blood flow there than in many other battles combined. But, Stockmann said, the war also brought us something good then. Pensively, he began to refill his large pipe bowl. Behrend Weller became impatient and asked what that had been. You eat it every day, Stockmann chuckled. When the war had brought the whole country to poverty and hunger became so bad, a Mettinger who had emigrated to America sent a bag of potatoes with the message to put those **potatoes** in the ground. Nobody expected much from these weird brown things. All the greater was the surprise when, after six months, it turned out that every potato that had been planted had produced many new ones. At first they fed the strange tubers to the animals, but at last people started eating those things. Yes, said ten Brink; "The smuggling trade has also brought quite a few benefits to many, many Mettingers". Stockmann, who had finally lit his pipe again with a filibus (rolled up piece of paper) stubbornly continued to defend his position that France would once again turn the world upside down.

It seemed as if he knew that just today a young French soldier named Napoleon Bonaparte had passed his exam as a second lieutenant and with such grades that anything could be expected from him.

While the men were talking like this, the women were busy viewing the trousseau. The beautiful linen, which the housewife had woven herself from yarns she had spun herself from the fibres of linen grown in her own fields, lay neatly mangled and folded in the oak bridal chest. The staff and neighbors were now busy washing the dishes and preparing the afternoon coffee. This coffee included the Zwieback, Korintenkuchen (Karottenkuchen?) and Obstkuchen. However, there will not be much to eat because the hearty meal of the afternoon still weighed heavily on the stomach of most guests. Moreover, the young people longed for the dance and the men for the card game.



As night fell, Johan Heinrich walked across the yard with his young wife. He had now become a Langemeyer. He still had to get used to that thought. After all, the Schulte family from Laggenbeck was a very old family. In old documents there was mention of a Schultehof and the construction would go back to the year 841. He did not know whether he was descended from that. Because a fire had destroyed the baptismal records, the history of the Schulte Laggenbeck family continued with the year 1610.



They wandered further into the orchard together and sat down on a fallen apple tree. It was wonderfully cool and quiet there. They looked proudly over the vast fields and meadows, more than 400 morgen in size. In the whole area there was not a homestead with so much land.



In 1755, the lordship of Langenhof was merged with "dem Vorwerk Düsterdiek", located north of the Langenhof. Langemeyer will receive both on a long lease. The leaseholder of Düsterdiek has to leave. In 1836 the leasehold is 477 morgen in size and also includes 7 Wohn-bezw. Heuerhäuser.

Smoke vaguely curled up from the chimney of the Langenhof and faded into the red twilight. "Look at our chimney smoking deliciously," Anna Maria said with childlike joy. She had reason to rejoice about this, because practically all the other homesteads did not yet have chimneys. The smoke from the always burning fireplace had to find a way out through the door or the window. There was always a burning smell in the house. After all, the fire was not allowed to go out. The tinderbox was not so easy to handle.

Johan Heinrich tried to follow the smoke and almost got pain in his eyes. "What will the future bring us," he whispered softly.

The shadows became deeper, it became even quieter. The guests began to return home.

Although the beer was brewed at the Langenhof itself, the stock had run out. Moreover, no one liked to go over the bad paths and cart tracks in the dark. Then there were the witches, who took pleasure in freezing horse and cart to a standstill, as it were. Moist fumes rose from the Vintermoor. The wind began to cover the still warmly breathing dormant earth with a veil of fog. The last partygoers briefly made a cross before disappearing into the twilight, thus protecting themselves from the evil spirits. The latter laid two crossed straws in the doorway to ward off all evil.

Smiling, the young couple stepped over this, when they slipped into the house a little later via a detour. For a moment they shivered, but then the warm glow of the fireplace embraced them. Their own hearth. The center of the entire homestead. It didn't take long before the box bed doors closed.

1785 – 1885

In history, a hundred years is not much, but anything can happen in a family.

As we know from the previous chapter, Johann Heinrich Schulte Laggenbeck married widow Anna Maria Langemeyer ten Brink in 1785. She had four children at the time.

Her eldest child Johann Gerhard was born on August 10, 1777. This **Johann Gerhard** married on January 15, 1805 to Anna Maria Ledig of Leydig, a girl from Friesland. As far as is known, Johann Gerhard was the first Langemeyer to move to the Netherlands. This happened at the time when Napoleon had overrun practically all of Europe. In Mettingen there was great poverty at the time, partly as a result of the continental system, which cut Western Europe off from the world. Johann Gerhard went to live in Leeuwarden and had 9 children. Six boys and three girls. His eldest daughter married a doctor from Leeuwarden and the second to a certain Bredemeijer. Only one of his sons, namely Egidius Silver, born in 1820 and married to T. van Mens, has descendants. The other sons had only daughters. Johann Gerhard was therefore the ancestor of the ancestor of the so-called Leeuwarden branch, with which the other Langemeyers (the so-called Schulte Laggenbeck branch) later had relatively little contact. Which is remarkable in that respect because Martin Langemeyer, the founder of Langemeyer and Stöcker of the Leeuwarden Langemeyers, probably received a large loan from his uncle **Egidius Silver** to be able to set up the Langemeyer and Stöcker business. Incidentally, Martin Langemeyer repaid the loan amount after only a year. In contrast to the other Langemeyers, the Leeuwarden branch did not interfere much with the trade. From this branch came several scholars, about whom we will tell something later. We now return to the family of Johann Heinrich and Anna Maria in Mettingen.



The second child from this family was called Johann Heinrich. He was born on September 18, 1779.

One hundred and seventy-five years later, on the same date, another Langemeijer was born, namely Paulus Maria, in Jakarta!

Since Johann Heinrich's older brother had left for Friesland in the early 1800s and had built up a life and had tied himself to that land mainly through his marriage to a girl from Friesland, Johann Heinrich thus became the heir of the Langenhof. When his stepfather died in 1818, he became the head of the family. Yet it took a very long time before it became completely clear that Johann Heinrich would keep the Langenhof. He turned out to be an inveterate bachelor. Several of his brothers were already married, but Johann Heinrich did not get married. We can now safely assume that several girls will have made an attempt to get into his good graces. De Langenhof will have given every reason to do so!

As the bachelor grew older, the girls gave up their attempts in that direction. They changed tactics. Johann Heinrich still had unmarried brothers and they could well become heirs. What I tell about this is based on a statement from my mother (Emilia Heitkönig -- 1883-1960). A Mettinger girl Caroline Brenninkmeyer had her eyes on Christiaan Langemeyer. This Christiaan, who was born in 1797, was the youngest brother of the non-faithful Johann Heinrich. As she calculated it, Christiaan had a very good chance at the Langenhof. He did have a thriving **Wirtschaft**, but there was nothing like the beautiful homestead. For example, the date of marriage was set at February 24, 1829. Everything looked promising. Because of the



trousseau, which largely had to be spun, woven and sewn by myself and which had to result in a stock large enough for a human life, the wedding date had to be set well in advance.

And then the unexpected happened. It hit like a cannonball and turned the whole of Mettingen upside down. At the age of 49, Johan Heinrich announced that he would marry Anna Lucia Hegger on September 23, 1828. A 25 year old girl from Recke. So the Langenhof did not go to Christiaan.

Caroline, certainly not a girl to be mocked, did not hide her displeasure and wanted to break off her engagement. But her parents thought otherwise and told her: "You wanted Christiaan with the Langenhof, then you take him without the Langenhof now".

To a certain extent it is indeed a pity that Christiaan did not get the Langenhof, because then the homestead might still be in the possession of the Langemeyer family. Johann Heinrich had only one son, named Heinrich Philip. He married Josefa Brenninkmeyer in 1853 and died four years later. The widow married Wilhelm Bisping in 1859. Thirty years later, Wilhelm Bisping sold the entire domain to a certain Holste for DM. 120,000.00 and also the stock and inventory for DM. 23,000.00. The land of the Langenhof amounted to approximately 550 Morgen. Afterwards, the Langenhof burned down twice and was rebuilt. The last time in 1939.



However, we return to the Langemeyer – ten Brink family.

There is little to say about Johan Heinrich's two other stepchildren. The daughter Maria Anna remained unmarried and the child Herman Heinrich died at the age of two.

The first child from Johann Heinrich's marriage to Anna Maria was called Maria Theresa and was born on 20 February 1786. She married Bernard Georg Voss, who had a farm with 34 Morgen of land. Exactly one year later, on February 20, a boy was born, who unfortunately died within the year. Child mortality was still very high in those years. The mothers also often died early and often during childbirth, which was especially common in Mettingen and the surrounding area, because the people had a very hard and hard life. The economic situation forced many farmers to travel around as peddlers or to



work far from home as farmers or polder makers. The women then had to manage the farm alone, work on the land and raise the children. In 1840, about 2000 Germans worked in the Haarlemmermeer polder. During the dredging work, they stood up to their knees in water for days. Moreover, these people were very poorly housed. Many also worked as peat cutters and were nicknamed "peat harvesters", while others who went out to mow and make hay acquired the nickname "hand mowers". For many hundreds of years there was a migration to Holland. After this small digression, we return to the family of Johann Heinrich. The third child was again a girl, Anna Catherina Agatha. She was born on June 23, 1788. At the age of 21 she married Johan Bernard Brenninkmeyer, who was 13 years older than her. He died in 1825 and 3 years later she remarried to Herman Anton Kamping. She also survived her second husband, although she herself was only 47 years old. It was different for her younger brother Friedrich Johann Gerhard, who became a widower twice. The first time he married the widow Anna Getrud Meiknecht née Moormann. Through this marriage, Friedrich Johann Gerhard came into possession of the gin distillery, which had been founded by Ferdinand Moormann in 1790. This gin distillery is still owned by the Langemeyer family in Mettingen and bears the name Westfälische Kornbrennerei and Preszhefefabrik C. Langemeyer.

In Mettingen they speak of the Langemeyersken Aulen Kloaren and on the ashtrays in the Wirtschaften is the motto: Ist 's im Magen nicht geheuer, trink einen Langemeyer.

This marriage produced three children. Two girls and a boy, Heinrich Clemens born May 5, 1826. Heinrich Clemens expanded the factory considerably in 1887 and gave it the name we mentioned above. At that time, they took care of the transport of raw materials and waste materials with 20 oxen. In 1919 the company started using a truck. This was the first truck (Dürkopp-Wagen) that ran in Mettingen. Heinrich Clemens had six children. August Johann, who married Maria Theresia Voss; Anna Maria, who married Dr. Overkamp; Emilie, who married Johann Gerhard Voss; Berta Maria, who also married a Voss, namely Herman; Arnold Bernard, who married Elisabeth Mannesen and Carl Hubert who remained unmarried. As a special feature, I can tell you that Carl Hubert lived for many years on the Boschlaan in Bussum at no. 8. It was a closet of a house and no one really understood why this bachelor wanted to live in such a huge house. He died there on October 13. Strangely enough, my father had practically no contact with him. When Anna Gertrud Moorman died, Friedrich Johann Gerhard remarried after eight months to the widow Maria Anna Covers, née Kösters. Friedrich Johann Gerhard also had a café. At set times, the shooting festivals were celebrated there. When the prize shooting was over and a shooting king was chosen, a ball was held in his café. Among others in the year 1848 and in 1851. In the café there was a list with the names of the marksmen's kings and queens. The following names appeared on it:



- 1817 Berentelg with Frau Langemeyer
- 1821 Egidius Langemeyer with Mademoiselle Caroline Moormann
- 1827 Egidius Langemeyer with Liesette Kösters
- 1828 B. Wethmöller and Frau Langemeyer
- 1822 A. Berentelg en frau Dr. Bosse !!
- 1851 L. Zumpfort and Dr. HeitkÖning
- 1852 C. Langemeijer and Frau H. Bruno
- 1882 Hermann Voss en Berta Langemeijer

- 1899 Wilhelm Laarman and Frau A. Langemeijer
- 1911 J. Langemeijer and Maria Pöppelmann
- 1928 Dr. A. Haring and Frau L. Langemeijer
- 1936 J.J. Carl Voss en Frau Ludwig Langemeijer

Before we tell you about the other children of the Langemeyer-ten Brink family, we would like to take a look at the circumstances of that time, so about the years around the turn of the century of 1800.

The years 1799-1815 are recorded in history as the era of Napoleon. In 1806, a brother of Napoleon ascended the throne of the Kingdom of Holland. Another brother, named Jerome, became king of Westphalia. After countless battles, most of Europe was at Napoleon's feet in 1812. Belgium, Holland, West Germany, Spain and Italy were either annexed to the empire or vassal state. Prussia and Austria were forced into alliances. The



Pope (Pius 7) had been transferred to Fontainebleau. Napoleon's end came with his audacious journey to Russia. An army of 500,000 men consisting of French and non-French forced into military service had to conquer Russia, which had only 150,000 men. The Russians applied the scorched earth tactic. Napoleon's army ran out of time and suffered from shortage. In two months, Napoleon lost 150,000 men, mainly due to desertion. The battle of Borodine cost him 70,000 men. When Napoleon then occupied Moscow, the Russians set fire to the city and Napoleon had to accept the retreat. The cold shrank his army even further. Sometimes 12,000 men died per night due to the frost. At Leipzig he was decisively defeated. Since Napoleon's power was not yet completely broken, volunteers were called upon everywhere to fight him. In Mettingen, Arnold Meijeringh, Bernard ten Brink, Ignatz Bosse and Bartolomeus Moornann report. In addition, 60 people were chosen by lot.

At the beginning of 1800, traffic was still very bad. There were practically no paved roads yet. If one did not have a riding horse or carriage, one had to walk and usually on clogs. In Holland, the barge was a popular means of transport. The next rhyme tells how popular the barge was.

Who can ever appreciate the invention of the barge?
 One travels as if one were sitting at home, no jerking, turning, turning
 Disturb the body, whether one sails by day or night
 One finds himself brought home while sleeping.

Sleeping indeed, but not exactly smooth.

The Amsterdam-Rotterdam journey via Gouda took 14 and a half hours.

Amsterdam, Haarlem – Leiden-Delft-Rotterdam took 16 and a half hours.

At the end of 1700, the roads were so bad that deep cart tracks were created. And because the carts often had different axle widths, the wagons often overturned. Now they did not proceed to improve the roads, but they prescribed that the carts had to have the same axle width. However, Napoleon did a lot for the improvement of the roads.

The dog cart was also a very popular means of transport. From my own youth I still remember that the milkmen in Bussum used dog carts.

The barge was already quite supplanted by the diligence in the early 1800s. In 1816 there was already an Amsterdam-Rotterdam service. Eight times a day a diligence drove off. In total, 70 people were transported in one day! The diligence maintained itself until 1880 and was then supplanted by the horse tram. In addition to these means of transport, there was also the horse-drawn sleigh in the winter and the carriage sleigh in the summer. (1840)

The carriage sleigh was pulled by a horse and accompanied by a tug, which drove with one hand and held the sleigh in the right direction with the other. Every now and then he threw a greaser in front of the sled to make the sled smoother. An Amsterdam tug could transport a load of 1000 pounds on its sledge and had to torture the horse half to death.



The biggest upheaval came with the opening of the first railway lines. The Amsterdam – Haarlem line was the first to be established in Holland in 1839.

Later followed Amsterdam – Arnhem via Utrecht. When in 1831 they wanted to build a railway line between Amsterdam and Cologne, this project was rejected with 46 votes against and two votes in favor. One of the arguments was that the cows in the meadows would be startled by the noise and as a result the milk in the udders would curdle and turn sour.

A legal provision from that time prescribed that when there was little cargo, the barge skippers had to roll the dice for the cargo.

In 1847, the first telegraph line was built between Amsterdam and Haarlem. Although this is not part of the subject I am describing, I would like to point out a curious situation in the field of religion. In the Catechism of Mechelen, translated by a priest from Zierikzee, it is stated in the 1837 editions that it is forbidden to read the Bible.

For those who still have some lust for years from their school years, here are some historical dates:

1815 Battle of Waterloo.

1821-1829 Greek war of independence against the Turks.

The 84-year-old patriarch of Constantinople is hanged from the door of his cathedral.

On Morea, 12,000 Turks are murdered.

	The Turks exterminate the entire Christian population of the island of Chios or sell them as slaves.
1812	The first steamer sails in England.
1823	The first boat with steam arrives in the Netherlands.
1827	The first match comes on the market.
1830	Belgium broke away from Holland.
1832	Opening of the Berlin-Coblenz telegraph line.
1840	The first stamps are issued.
1834	Beginning of socialism.
1834	German Toll Association.
1848	Communist Manifesto of Karl Marx addressed to the "proletarians of all countries".
1797-1888	Wilhelm I King of Prussia since 1861, Emperor of Germany since 1871.
1851	First submarine cable between France and England.
1867	Dynamite invented (Dynamite is about 8 times stronger than gunpowder) (1945 first atomic bomb exploded)

However, we have to take a step back in history and fall back on the year 9 August 1791. Then Heinrich Aegidius Langemeyer was born at the Langenhof. Unfortunately, little information is known about him. We do know that in the year in which he was born a certain Hillermann had a house built. According to old tradition, a beam was placed above the door, in which a motto was chiseled. As is often customary in Mettingen, this was a religious proverb, namely:

"We all believe in one God,
 Creator of heaven and earth
 Who gave himself to the Father,
 that we may become his children.
 He also wants to preserve our souls.
 He will ward off all accidents,
 No harm shall befall us."

If we know little about Heinrich Aegidius, we may say that he was born in an environment where God still had the place in the middle of daily life. Many sayings and inscriptions from that time have been preserved. To name a few:

"Start with God, stop with God, that's the most beautiful course of life".
 "God bless this house and all those who go in and out there."
 "If you want to build, you have to trust God."
 "Up to this point, the Lord has helped, and he will continue to help us."
 "We do not have a permanent place, but we are looking for a future one".

(Addition of Vincent L. in the time of solar panels, old miller's saying:)
 "Heaven gives, he who catches, he has".

Aegidius died in 1860 after 29 years of marriage to Teresia Strömman. Aegidius was followed by five more children, namely Carl Pius, who probably died unmarried at the age of 32, then Maria Elisabeth Victori, who married a certain Kremeijer, then Maria Henriette, who married the widower Ferdinand Stöcker and finally Christiaan and Johan Bernard. The latter died at the age of 9.

With Christiaan we will enter a new chapter.

Christiaan Langemeyer

October 23, 1797 -- February 13, 1856.

When Christiaan was born, the world was very turbulent.

In France, a coup d'état by the royalists to bring the king back to power failed. Thousands were exiled. A serious persecution of the church threatened the Catholic Church in France. Many priests were deported. Napoleon tried to cross over to England with his fleet. In October 1797, the Dutch auxiliary squadron at Kamperduin was decisively defeated by the English. In this year, Wilhelm the first was born, who became Emperor of Germany in 1871



--- Unfortunately, this is where Gerard's story ends. ---