

Richard Grayson, MD

From: <Wachtel@aol.com>
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Subject: Blau genealogy

My great-great-grandmother was Eddel Blau of Gehaus (1801-25 May 1862), who married Sussmann Wachtel, also of Gehaus, in 1825. There were many Blaus around, but I'm not sure how they were all related. I suspect, however, that Eddel's father may have been your ancestor Aron Blau.

Gehaus vital records show that on July 26, 1836, Gedalja (Daniel), the third son of Jacob Mandelbaum, married Jachet, the fourth daughter of Aron Blau. The next record shows the marriage of Sandor Hauer to Leah, the second daughter of Abraham Blau. Elsewhere Leah is called Elsa, and her last name is also given as Blaut (as is Eddel's); another record says she was born in 1817. The difference in age seems too great for Leah as Abraham's second daughter to be Eddel's sister, but not for Jachet as Aron's fourth daughter. This hypothesis is strengthened by Eddel's son Joseph (my great-grandfather) naming his first son Aron in 1861. But I would be very interested in hearing whether you have any further information.

Passenger records for a ship named P. G. Humphreys show that Meyer and Moses Blau of Gehaus, both age 24 and therefore perhaps cousins or twin brothers, arrived in New York, along with 10 other Gehaus residents, in 1853. Meyer settled in Dayton, Ohio. His future wife, named Caroline, may have been the Caroline Baumgart, also age 24, on the Humphreys passenger list. Meyer's daughter Emma Blau married my grandfather's brother Aron Wachtel, but they had no children. I have a photocopy of a letter written in 1890 by Mrs. A. Blau, also of Dayton, to Rosa Wachtel of Cincinnati, my grandfather's cousin, on the occasion of her engagement to Martin Marks, but I don't know who this Mrs. Blau was.

Angelika Ellmann-Krueger of Berlin (dietrich.ellmann@d-ell.b.shuttle.de), the author of two reference books on German-Jewish genealogy, is a descendant of Jachet's sister Seele (or Sela) Blau and Jacob Katzenstein. A family tree that she compiled, which I obtained indirectly through Lois Goldsmith Oppenheimer of San Antonio (LOpp864@aol.com), shows that Aron Levi Blau was born in 1767 and died 11 September 1825. His father was Moses Levi Blau, born 1739 in Solz, Kanton Rothenburg. Aron's mother was named Breinche, born 1741 in Motzfeld, Kreis Hersfeld. Ester Baumgart was born in 1773 in Heinrichs, and died 31 December 1845.

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