

## SOUFFLENHEIM JEWISH RECORDS

Soufflenheim Genealogy Research and History  
www.soufflenheimgenealogy.com

There are four main types of records useful for Jewish genealogy research in Alsace:

- Marriage contracts beginning in 1701.
- 1784 Jewish census.
- Civil records beginning in 1792.
- 1808 Jewish name declaration records.

In 1701, Louis XIV ordered all Jewish marriage contracts to be filed with Royal Notaries within 15 days of marriage. Over time, these documents were registered with increasing frequency. In 1784, Louis XVI ordered a general census of all Jews in Alsace.

Jews became citizens of France in 1791 and Jewish civil registration begins from 1792 onwards. To avoid problems raised by the continuous change of the last name, Napoleon issued a Decree in 1808 ordering all Jews to adopt permanent family names, a practice already in use in some places. In every town where Jews lived, the new names were registered at the Town Hall. They provide a comprehensive census of the French Jewish population in 1808.

Keeping registers of births, marriage, and deaths is not part of the Jewish religious tradition. For most people, the normal naming practice was to add the father's given name to the child's. An example from Soufflenheim is Samuel ben Eliezer whose father is Eliezer ben Samuel or Hindel bat Eliezer whose father is Eliezer ben Samuel (ben = son of, bat = daughter of).

Permanent surnames were typically used only by the descendants of the priests (Kohanim) and Levites. A Levite is a Jewish male whose descent is traced to Levi. The Tribe of Levi served particular religious duties for the Israelites and had political responsibilities as well. The Levites, who were not Kohanim, were specifically assigned to singing and/or playing music in the Temple, serving as guards, and carrying.

The following information lists all Jewish records related to Soufflenheim: birth, marriage, death, name declaration, marriage contracts, cemetery, census, inventory and contracts.

Records listed as (MD) contributed by Mark Drexler.

## CONTENTS

Soufflenheim Jewish Records.....	1
Birth Records.....	2
Marriage Records.....	4

Death Records.....	5
Name Declaration Records .....	13
Marriage Contracts .....	18
Cemetery Records.....	25
Census Records .....	28
Inventories and Contracts.....	29
Appendices .....	38
18 <sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace.....	38
Marriage Contracts of Wissenbourg in the 18 <sup>th</sup> Century .....	41

## BIRTH RECORDS

### SANEL HALFF

#### **05 November 1796 Haguenau Birth Record, Page 20 (MD)**

Sanel Halff Birth Record: Born 05 November 1796 (15 Brumaire Year 5). Daughter of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### DAVID LIEBSCHOETZ

#### **06 May 1797 Schirrhoffen Birth Record (MD)**

David Liebschoetz, son of Jacob Leisser, age 32. Born 06 May 1797 (17 Floreal Year 5) in Schirrhoffen.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

### FROMETTE HALF

#### **19 November 1798 Haguenau Birth Record, Page 31 (MD)**

Fromette Half Birth Record: Born 19 November 1798 (29 Brumaire Year 7). Daughter of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **FEISTEL SAMUEL**

**16 April 1801 Haguenau Birth Record, Page 103/167 (MD)**

Feistel Samuel Birth Record: Born 16 April 1801 (26 Germinal Year 9). Son of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[The name Feistel Halff was changed to Ulric Halff in 1808. Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **BEHL HALFF**

**23 October 1803 Haguenau Birth Record, Page 5, #27 (MD)**

Behl Halff Birth Record: Born 23 October 1803 (30 Vendemiaire Year 12). Daughter of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[The name Beyle Halff was changed to Ursule Halff in 1808. Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **SIMON LEVY**

**04 Complementary Year 12 Haguenau Birth Record (MD)**

Simon Levy Birth Record: Born 04 Complementary Year 12 in Haguenau. Son of Lazare Levy, butcher, age 26, and Sara Simon. Death recorded on 01 August 1806, at age 21 months.

[Sara Simon is the daughter of Simon Salomon of Soufflenheim.]

### **REITZ HALFF**

**13 May 1806 Haguenau Birth Record Page 31, #219 (MD)**

Reitz Halff Birth Record: Born 13 May 1806. Daughter of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[The name Reitz Halff was changed to Rose Halff in 1808. Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **CAROLINE LIEBSCHUTZ**

**05 January 1834 Schirrhoffen Birth Record (MD)**

Birth record of Caroline Liebschutz, 05 Jan 1834, daughter of David Liebschutz, age 37, and Sara Weill, age 36.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **MARIE LIEBSCHUTZ**

### **04 May 1838 Schirrhoffen Birth Record (MD)**

Birth record of Marie Liebschutz, 04 May 1838, daughter of David Liebschutz, age 40, and Sara Weill, age 34.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **MARRIAGE RECORDS**

### **JACOB LEISSER & DELE JACOB**

#### **09 September 1793 Krautergersheim Marriage Record, Online Page 8/34, (MD)**

Krautergersheim, marriage 09 September 1793: Jacob Leiser, age 27, son of Leiser Schmullen burgher and handelsmann in Sufflenheim and Beyle Salomon; and Delsel Jacob, age 19, daughter of Jacob Bahr burger and handelsmann here and Kraunel. Jacob Leiser, born 06 May 1766 in Sufflenheim, son of Leiser Schmullen and Beyle Salomon. Delsel Jacob, born 10 January 1774 in Krautergersheim, daughter of Jacob Behr and Kraunel. Supporting the bride: Moses Bahr and Jacob Bahr. Supporting the groom: Leiser Simon. Krautergersheim, marriage 9 September 1793.

[The entry in the Krautergersheim 10 Year Table reads: "Lazard Jacob & Delsel Jacob.]

### **JACOB LEISSER & FROMET JACOB**

#### **12 July 1802 (23 Messidor Year 10) Krautergersheim Marriage Record (MD)**

Jacob Leisser of Schirrhoffen, age 37, born in Schirrhoffen, widower of Dele Jacob, married on the 23 Messidor Year 10 (12 July 1802), to Fromet Jacob daughter of Jacob Behr, livestock merchant, and Braunel.

### **SARA SIMON & BERE LEVI**

#### **01 June 1803 (12 Prarial Year 11) Schirrhoffen Marriage Record (MD)**

Bride: Sara Simon, age 25, born in Soufflenheim 08 May 1779. Daughter of Simon Salemon and Kayemin(?), both deceased, lived in Soufflenheim. Occupation: hantelsleute (trading people). Groome: Bere Levi, age 21, born in Olungen on 08 March 1782. Son of Bere Levi, butcher living in Haguenau, and deceased Escher(?) Samuel, in life former married people and butcher living in Haguenau, Lower Rhine Department.

[No death record found of either of Sara's parents in Schirrhoffen. They may have died in Soufflenheim between 1784 and 1792 or across the river in exile.]

### **DAVID LIEBSCHOETZ & SARA WEILL**

#### **18 December 1816 Schirrhoffen Marriage Record (MD)**

David Liebschoetz, son of Jacques Liebschoetz [Jacob Leiser] and deceased Delz Bahr, to Sara Weill. Married in Schirrhoffen on 18 December 1816. Born 06 May 1797 (17 Floreal yr 5), in Schirrhoffen.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim]

### **DANIEL LIEBSCHUTZ & BABETE WOESLCH**

#### **27 November 1827 Schirrhoffen Marriage Record (MD)**

Daniel Liebschutz, born in 1794 in Konigsbach, Baden, son of Samuel Liebschutz and Marie Anne (not Eve) Bloch, both deceased (apparently in Schirrhoffen). Married to Babete Woesch.

[Daniel Liebschutz is the son of Samuel Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

### **MARIE LIEBSCHUTZ & ZACHARIE LAZARD**

#### **17 October 1857 Schirrhoffen Marriage Record (MD)**

Marriage record of Marie Liebschutz and Zacharie Lazard, 17 Oct 1857. Lazard Zacharie, age 28, Rabbi, son of Lazarus Aron and Sommer Rachel, both deceased and of Schirrhoffen, and Liebschutz Marie, age 19, daughter of David Liebschutz, age 60, and Weill Sara, age 53, of Schirrhoffen. (much more detail is present in this document).

[Zacharie Lazarus was the Rabbi in Schirrhoffen. David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **DEATH RECORDS**

### **HINDEL LANDAUER**

### **05 January 1794 Wintzenheim Death Record (MD)**

Death record of Hindel Landauer, 05 January 1794 (16 Nivose Year 2), age 42, born Leisser, in Suflum (Soufflenheim), (parents not named). Wife of Hirtzel Landauer, 46, handelsmann.

[Hindel Landauer is the daughter of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim.]

### **BEYLE SALOMON**

#### **11 May 1796 (23 Floreal Year 4) Schirrhoffen 10 Year Deaths Index, Death Record (MD)**

Beyle Salomon from Soufflenheim was married to Leiser Samuel, not Jacob Leiser as listed in the following two index entries. They had a son named Jacob Leisser who may have been a witness on the original record. The Year 4 death records are missing, so no formal record can clarify.

Schirrhoffen 10 Year Table of Deaths Index:

- Index Entry 1: 11 May 1796 (23 Floreal Year 4): Leiser, (Salemon) wife of Leiser (Jacob).
- Index Entry 2: 11 May 1796 (23 Floreal Year 4): Salemon, (Beyle) wife of Leiser (Jacob).

### **ZERLE LEISSER**

#### **16 April 1797 (27 Germinal Year 5) Schirrhoffen Death Record, Page 6/12 (MD)**

Cerle Leiser, age 33, wife of Gumber Kann, age 38, ein hantels guth in Schirrhoffen. Death recorded 16 April 1797 (27 Germinal Year 5).

Schirrhoffen 10 Year Table of Deaths Index:

- Index Entry 1: 16 April 1797 (27 Germinal Year 5): Kahn (Leisser) born Zerle wife of Kahn (Gumber).
- Index Entry 2: 16 April 1797 (27 Germinal Year 5): Leiser, (Zerle) wife of Kahn (Gumber).

[Mark Drexler Comments: I have learned more about Gomber Kahn and about some interesting changes of names. I will describe what I found in a sensible sequence, very unlike the path of discovery.

I had good reason to believe that Gomber Kahn remarried soon after the death of his wife Zerle Leiser, and that he remained in Schirrhoffen and had children there with his second wife. I did not find his marriage in the Schirrhoffen index, and there are no marriage records for Year 6, but luckily there was a rare book of 'publications of marriage' covering Year 6: In a record dated 14 Ventose yr 6 (found on p.3/6): Gumer Kahn, age 42, widower of Zerle Leisser; to marry Hintele Moiser, age 24, daughter of Moiser Lefi and Sorrlle (of a place name that I cannot readily decipher; likely the place of their marriage; spelling looks like 'Techpen', but multiple characters will require further decryption).

Birth records yielded several 'Gomber' entry's, but only one with a rare given name and having a legible record. Record dated 19 Brumaire year 9: Seligman Gomber, son of Gomber Kahn and Hintel Mauschen.

The marriage record of this Seligman Gomber is a treasure trove. It is dated 10 March 1830. (This record is in French, displays good handwriting, and is on a pre-printed form, easy to read and well worth a look on p.3/9). Several names of people here include alternate names, clearly indicating that they had (perhaps recently) changed the names they were commonly known by. First, although it is not explicitly stated here, Seligman Gomber had by that time added the surname 'Kahn'. Seligman Gomber Kahn is seen in this record with the alternate name 'Isaac Cahen' (and in fact his signature is spelled just that way). The record says the groom was born in Schirrhoffen on 19 Brumaire yr 9; the son of "Gomber Kahn or Gottlieb Cahen", age 75, present, and "Hintel Mauschen or Jeanne Lewy", age 55, present. The bride was Marie Abraham, born in Mittelhausen on 4 December 1806; the daughter of "Frommel Abraham or Abraham Levi", age 62, living in Mittelhausen, present, and the deceased "Keilen Moses or Keilen Levy". Witnesses in the above record were Samuel Kahn, age 40, cousin of the groom (not necessarily a first cousin); and Joseph Ruff, age 27, first cousin of the groom; both residents of Schirrhoffen. Also, Josue Levi, age 30, brother of the bride; and Benjamin Weill, age 27, first cousin of the bride; both residents of Mittelhausen.

Finally, the death record of Gottlieb Kahn, dated 17 December 1830: Age 76; born in Schirrhoffen; son of deceased Daniel Kahn and deceased Judithe Heymann (both born in Schirrhoffen); husband of Jeanne Levy, age 56. Declarants were Seligmann Gomber Kahn, age 29, son of the deceased; and Abraham Kahn, age 62, brother of the deceased (both of Schirrhoffen).]

## **SANEL (HALFF)**

### **07 February 1798 Haguenau Death Record (Page 32/86) (MD)**

Sanel (Halff) Death Record: Died 07 February 1798 (19 Pluviose Year 6): Sennel Samuel, age 1-1/2 years; daughter of Samuel 'Feust' (not 'Halff'; presumed error), marchand de bestiaux (livestock merchant) and Schenel (Schenel Sanel).

[Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

## **FROMET HALF**

### **13 July 1800 Haguenau Death Record (MD)**

Fromet Half Death Record: Died 13 July 1800 (24 Messidor Year 8). Daughter of Samuel Halff and Schenel Sanel.

[Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

## **FEISEL HALFF**

### **03 January 1801 (13 Nivose Year 9) Soufflenheim Death Record, Online Page 4/14 (MD)**

Feysel Halff died 13 Nivose Year 9 (03 January 1801). Died at 3 o'clock this morning. Age 75. Born in [not legible], resident of Sufflenheim. In life, husband of Krenle Joseph. Declarants: Shmulen Leysser, occupation [hantelst\_\_][not legible], nephew(?) of the deceased, resident of Sufflenheim. Michael Daul,

farmer, and neighbor of the deceased, resident of Sufflenheim. Signed: Shmulen Leysser, Michael Daul, Joseph Messner, Mayor.

[Despite having been indexed under Feysel, his surname appears to be HALFF. The name is recorded in the 10 Year Table as "Feysel, Half" (names here are written surname-first). However, in the record (where names are written surname-last) his name is seen as "Feisel Half" (in the margin) and "Feysel Halff". His place of birth is hidden in spine, further deciphering would net the first few characters). There is no indication his wife was deceased. I searched for another record of Krenle Joseph and found none in the Soufflenheim 10 Year Tables. One declarant was Shmulen Leysser (the scribe spelled his name "Schmullen Leyser") his age was not given, and his occupations are cryptic (hantelst\_\_[hidden in spine], probably relating to commerce; and 'k?!?her'). He apparently was a nephew of the deceased, though couched in odd terms as the child of the brother and sister of the deceased (by my interpretation). I did a quick search for Schmulen and Leysser in the Soufflenheim 10 Year Tables (through 1832) and turned up nothing. The second declarant was Michael Daul (no age given). Michael Daul was born 23 September 1773, son of Niclaus Daul and Richarde Wagner. He married Magdalena Burger on 20 Messidor Year 8 (09 July 1800). His signature on his marriage record exactly matches that on the Feisel Halff death record.]

## **DELE JACOB**

### **13 January 1801 (23 Nivose Year 9) Schirrhoffen Death Record, Page 2/7 (MD)**

Deles Jacob, age 36, wife of Jacob Leisser, hantels man von Schirhoffen [burger, but age not given], daughter of Jacob Behr and Roesnell [?] married people and hantels leuth living in Grutershersheim (Krautergersheim) department of Lower Rhein; witnesses Gomber Kann, age 45, hantels man living in Schirhoffen, and Leibel Aberham, age 55, hantels man living in Schirhoffen. Death recorded 23 Nivose Year 9 (13 January 1801).

Schirrhoffen 10 Year Table of Deaths Index:

- Index Entry 1: Jacob, (Delle) wife of Leisser (Jacob).
- Index Entry 2: Leisser, (Dele) born Jacob, wife of Leisser, (Jacob).

## **MARIANE STILLE**

### **05 June 1803 (16 Prarial Year 11) Schirrhoffen Death Record, Online Page 3/5 (MD)**

Mariane Stille, age 51, wife of Schmullen Leiser, hantelsman living in Schirhoffen (no age given). Death record 16 Prarial Year 11 (5 June 1803).

[Samuel Leiser is the son of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim.]

## **LEISSER SCHULMEN (Samuel)**

### **18 April 1805 (28 (or 21) Germinal Year 13) Schirrhoffen Death Record, Page 6/7 (MD)**



Leisser Schmulen, age 76, born in Schsuflum (?), husband of deceased Beilen Jut, formerly lived in Schirhoffen; witnesses were Jachob Leisser, son of the deceased, and Joseb Bechel, burger and farmer in Schirhoffen. Death recorded 28 Germinal Year 13 (the index date is 21 Germinal Year 13).

Schirrhoffen 10 Year Table of Deaths Index (Second Series of 10-year Tables): Index Entry: Leisser, Schumen: 21 Germinal Year 13.

[The deceased's birthplace did not read 'Suflenheim' or 'Suflum', but might have been intended to read 'Suflum' and the beginning 'Sch' was simply not scratched out. The Department appeared to be the same "Nittereinisch" (Nieder Rheinisch - Lower Rhine), as it included Schirhoffen. The deceased wife's apparent surname 'Jut' might possibly have been the scribe's word for 'Jew', and not a name at all.]

### **CAROLINE GANTZ (Greinel Joseph)**

**16 December 1808 Haguenau Death Record, Page 28/34, Record 249 (MD)**

Caroline Gantz Death Record: Caroline Gantz, age 86, born in MueKensturm(?), residing in Haguenau, died in [\_\_] number 233 red quarter Haguenau, widow of Feistel Halff, horse dealer (maquignon) -- (no reference to his place of death). Declarant Samuel Halff, 51, horse dealer residing in Haguenau (no relationship with the deceased stated)

[Caroline Gantz (Greinel Joseph) is the wife of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **SIMON LIEBSCHUTZ**

**08 May 1812 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Simon Liebschutz Death Record: Died 08 May 1812 (recorded 11 May 1812) at age 4. Declarant: Samuel Liebschutz, father, age 62. Mother: Shown as " D'Eve Elle' " (significance of odd 'name' unknown).

[Simon Liebschutz is the son of Samuel Liebschutz (Leiser) of Soufflenheim]

### **ZACHARIAS LANDAUER**

**29 December 1816 Wintzenheim Death Record (MD)**

Death record of Zacharias Landauer, 29 December 1816, age 70, born in Wintzenheim (parents not named), husband of deceased Leiser Hindel.

[Hindel Leiser is the daughter of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim.]

### **BERETZ [BERE] LEVY (Senior)**

**02 August 1817 Haguenau Death Record (MD)**

Beretz Levy Death Record: In Haguenau, the presumed elder Bere Levy died at age 86 on 02 Aug 1817. His name was shown in that record as 'Beretz' Levy and his deceased wife's as 'Esther'.

[The Schirrhoffen marriage record called Sara's husband 'Bere' Levy, and his father the same -- Bere Levy (and notably, he was a butcher). And the elder Bere's wife was 'Esther' (or similar). Beretz Levy does not appear in the 1808 DJ book, or so I believe, but his son does, going by the name 'Lazare' Levy. In fact, the only place I have seen Sara's husband called 'Bere' is in the Schirrhoffen marriage record; all the Haguenau records call him 'Lazare'. Beretz Levy Senior is the father of Bere Levy, husband of Sara Simon, daughter of Simon Salomon of Soufflenheim.]

## **SARA CANARD (Sara Simon)**

### **09 January 1823 Haguenau Death Record (MD)**

Sara Simon Death Record: Died in Haguenau on 09 Jan 1823: Sara Canard, age 40, born in Schirrhoffen, widow of Levy Lazare.

[Mark Drexler Comments: I have learned a bit more but have now hit the wall pursuing the Simon family. Unless we stumble upon something elsewhere, I am calling this line exhausted. It looks like Sara might have been the last one; I have not found mention of her brothers (yet?), and apparently her parents were deceased by the time of her marriage in Schirrhoffen. No death record found of either of Sara's parents in Schirrhoffen. Maybe they died in Soufflenheim between 1784 and 1792. Maybe they died across the river in exile. I think I searched the Haguenau records well enough that I would have seen her brothers had they been there. If Sara had surviving children, I cannot find the evidence. Sara, judging from several bits of circumstantial evidence, ended up in Haguenau. No hard connections in the Haguenau records, but it seems almost certain that the following represents our Soufflenheim Sara Simon. Remember that her husband's parents were in Haguenau. The whole business of tracing Sara and her branch of Levy was frustrating because certain desired corroborating records don't appear. Oh, well...I think I have a good case.

That Schirrhoffen marriage record called Sara's husband 'Bere' Levy, and his father the same -- Bere Levy (and notably, he was a butcher). And the elder Bere's wife was 'Esther' (or similar). In Haguenau, the presumed elder Bere died at age 86 on 2 Aug 1817 (his name was shown in that record as 'Beretz' Levy and his deceased wife's as 'Esther'). Good enough. Unfortunately, Beretz Levy does not appear in the 1808 DJ book, or so I believe, but his son does, going by the name 'Lazare' Levy. In fact, the only place I have seen Sara's husband called 'Bere' is in the Schirrhoffen marriage record; all the Haguenau records call him 'Lazare'.

The DJ book has 4 sequential entries that appear to represent the family of Sara and Lazare, but there is no husband/wife language there: #500 is Lazare Levy keeping the same name; #501 is Lazare calling his daughter 'Ester Levy', born 1806 in Haguenau; #502 is Sara Simon renaming herself 'Sara Canard'; and #503 is Sara calling her son 'Abraham Canard', born 1799 in Schirrhoffen. OK -- apparently Sara had a son in Schirrhoffen before marrying Bere/Lazare Levy. I did not find a corresponding birth record in Schirrhoffen. I did not find any justification for Sara's chosen new surname 'Canard' -- no such surname in use in those places.

Sara Simon and Lazare Levy had a son named Simon Levy born in Haguenau on 04 Complementary yr 12 (and Lazare was called a butcher therein). That son Simon's death was recorded on 01 August 1806, at age 21 months, and his father Lazare's age was given as 26. I could not find records in either

Haguenau or Schirrhoffen for the children Abraham Canard and Ester Levy, not birth, marriage, nor death records. Sara's death was recorded in Haguenau on 09 Jan 1823: Sara Canard, age 40, born in Schirrhoffen, widow of Levy Lazare.

### **JACQUES LIEBSCHOETZ (Jacob Leiser)**

#### **29 July 1823 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Jacques Liebschoetz Death Record: Died 29 July 1823. Jacques Liebschoetz, age 55, born in SUFFLENHEIM, husband of Veronique Baer, son of deceased Jacques Liebschoetz and "Babette". The declarants were David Liebschoetz, age 25, and Samuel Liebschoetz, age 26.

[The death record for Veronique was searched for without success. Jacques Liebschoetz/Leiser is the son of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim.]

### **JEANETTE HALFF (Schenel Sanel/Jeanne Hertz)**

#### **23 November 1831 Haguenau Death Record, Page 72/92 (MD)**

Jeanette Halff (Schenel Sanel/Jeanne Hertz) Death Record: Died 23 November 1831: Jeanette Halff, age 60, born in Gunstett, (parents not listed), wife of Samuel Halff, trafiquant (trader) in Haguenau. Declarant: Ulric Halff, age 31, son of the deceased.

[The name Schoennel Sannel was changed to Jeanne Hertz in 1808. Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **SAMUEL HALFF**

#### **12 February 1840 Haguenau Death Record, Page 10/103 (MD)**

Samuel Halff Death Record: Died 12 February 1840: Samuel Halff, age 83, brocanteur (second-hand dealer) in Haguenau, widower of Jeanette; born in Sufflenheim. Declarant: Ulric Halff, age 40, brocanteur in Haguenau, son of the deceased.

[Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **SAMUEL WOLFF LIEBSCHUTZ**

#### **07 October 1841 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Liebschutz Samuel Wolff Death Record: Died 07 October 1841 in Schirrhoffen. Liebschutz Samuel Wolff, age 1 year 4 months, son of Liebschutz David, age 45, livestock dealer in Schirrhoff, and Sare Weill, age 43. Declarant: David.

[David Liebschoetz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **ULRIC HALFF**

### **09 May 1850 Haguenau Death Record, Page 35/105 (MD)**

Ulric Halff Death Record: Died 09 May 1850. Halff, Ulric, indivant (AKA?) Samuel Feistel, age 49, born in Haguenau, residing in Haguenau. Son of deceased Halff, Samuel and deceased Hertz, Jeanne. Husband of Weill(?), Jeanne [AKA] Zippora Nathan, age 49, native of B\_\_willer. Declarants were two neighbors.

[Ulric Halff was named Feistel Samuel at birth in 1801 (DJ Book, Entry 173). His named was changed to Ulric in 1808. Ulric Halff is the son of Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

## **DAVID LIEBSCHUTZ**

### **26 April 1860 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Death record of David Liebschutz, 26 April 1860, age 63, born in Schirrhoffen, husband of Sara Weill, son of Jacques Liebschutz and Delphine Baer (both deceased). Primary declarant was Rabbi and son-in-law Zacharie Lazard.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **DANIEL LIEBSCHUTZ**

### **23 March 1874 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Daniel Liebschutz Death Record: Died 23 March 1874. Daniel Liebschutz; age 82, handelsmann; widower of Babette Welsch; son of deceased Samuel Liebschutz and deceased Marie Anne Bloch. Declarant: Salmon Gradewohl, son-in-law, age 40.

[Daniel Liebschutz is the son of Samuel Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **SARA WEILL**

### **17 November 1883 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Death record of Sara Weill, 17 Nov 1883, age 94, born in Schirrhoffen, widow of David Liebschutz, daughter of Jonas Weill and Rebecca May. Primary declarant was Leon Weill.

[David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## **KAROLINE LIEBSCHUTZ**

### **09 January 1892 Schirrhoffen Death Record (MD)**

Death record of Karoline Liebschutz, 09 Jan 1892, age 58, wife of Leon Weill, daughter of David Liebschutz and Weill Sara, both deceased and of Schirrhoffen.

[Leon Weill was the mayor of Schirrhoffen from 1865-1871. David Liebschutz is the son of Jacob Leiser/Liebschutz of Soufflenheim.]

## NAME DECLARATION RECORDS

Jews were required to adopt permanent names in 1808. The new names were registered at the Town Hall in books labeled "DJ" (Declarations Juifs), officially titled 'Declarations de prise de nom patronymique des Juifs 1808' (Declarations of Patronymic Naming of Jews 1808). The virtual books labelled 'DJ' are found on the on-line virtual bookshelves with the registers of births, marriages, and deaths. The official designation for the Haguenau DJ book is 5E179. The Schirrhoffen DJ book is 5E450.

The records can also be found in *Recueils des déclarations de prise de noms patronymique des Juifs en 1808* by Pierre Katz: Bas-Rhin (4 volumes 800 pages), new edition, 1999.

Name Change records and commentary contributed by Mark Drexler (MD)

### Schirrhoffen Jewish Name Declarations

The 1808 new name registration records in Schirrhoffen are in French. Each entry in the DJ book gave the subject's previous name along with the chosen new surname and the declarant's own forename of choice. They were clearly not stuck with their old given name, and most changed. Also, declarants are often seen to have declared spouses' names (for name and surname) and names of their children, and occasionally a name of another relative. Each record presumably represented a household. All entries were made on 20-21 October 1808.

Two name-change records in Schirrhoffen involve people who previously resided in Soufflenheim, the brothers Samuel and Jacob Leiser. Their name in the Schirrhoffen records is "Leyser". Both changed their family names to Liebschutz.

### **SAMUEL LIEBSCHUTZ** (Samuel Leiser of Soufflenheim)

#### **20-21 October 1808 Schirrhoffen Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E450, Entry 17 (MD).**

Entry 17: Samuel Liebschutz (new name), formerly "Samuel Leyser", wife Eva Bloch, and children Jacques, Leopold, Daniel, and Simon Leibschutz. Schirrhoffen 20-21 October 1808.

[Samuel Liebschutz/Leyser is the son of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim].

**JACQUES LIEBSCHUTZ** (Jacob Leiser of Soufflenheim)

**20-21 October 1808 Schirrhoffen Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E450, Entry 53 (MD)**

Entry 53: Jacques Liebschutz (new name), formerly "Leyser Jacques", wife Veronique Bahr, wife's sister Emerence Bahr, children Samuel, David, Barbe, and Esther Liebschutz. Schirrhoffen 20-21 October 1808.

[Jacques Liebschutz/Leiser is the son of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim. His wife Veronique Bahr may have changed her name from Fromet to Veronique.]

### **Haguenau Jewish Name Declarations**

The bulk of the Haguenau renaming episode ran from 10 October through 25 October, then a final 7 entries were recorded on 30 November 1808 (for 658 entries total). The Halff family of entries (172-177) was recorded in the DJ book on 14 October; the Levy-Simon set (501-503) was recorded on 20 October.

The 658 entries in the Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book were scanned looking for minor children born in Soufflenheim. This can be done because in these records a man declares his minor child in a separate entry, stating his own name, his child's names (old and new), and the child's birthdate and birthplace. No references to Soufflenheim were found amongst the birthplaces declared for minor children. The vast majority of the minors had been born in Haguenau. A fair number of the minor children were reported as born in places other than Haguenau. It was a diverse assortment of places, many that seemed surely across the river. Among those that seemed to be in Alsace, Fort-Louis was the most abundant. When the Jewish population abandoned Fort-Louis, many of them clearly went to Haguenau.

### **The Samuel Halff Family**

Samuel Halff, of Soufflenheim, is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim. The DJ book entries, being in sequence (172-177), strongly suggest a household (presumably, given the content of the death and birth records described) headed by Samuel Halff and including his children, his wife, and his widowed mother.

**SAMUEL HALFF** (of Soufflenheim)

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 172 (MD)**

Entry 172: Samuel Halff: Kept his names unchanged. He listed three minor children: Entries 173, 174, 175. 1808 DJ Book.

[Samuel Halff is the son of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

**ULRIC HALFF**

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 173 (MD)**

Entry 173: Feistel (renamed to Ulric) Halff: Born 01 May 1801 in Haguenau. Information provided by his father Samuel Halff. 1808 DJ Book.

[Ulric Halff is the son of Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **URSULE HALFF**

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 174 (MD)**

Entry 174: Beyle (renamed to Ursule) Halff: Born 30 October 1803 in Haguenau. Information provided by her father Samuel Halff. 1808 DJ Book.

[Ursula Halff is the daughter of Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **ROSE HALFF**

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 175 (MD)**

Entry 175: Reitz (renamed to Rose) Halff: Born 19 May 1806 in Haguenau. Information provided by her father Samuel Halff. 1808 DJ Book.

[Rose Halff is the daughter of Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **JEANNE HERTZ**

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book, Entry 176 (MD)**

Entry 176: Schoennel Sannel (renamed to Jeanne Hertz). No relative named. 1808 DJ Book.

[Jeanne Hertz is the wife of Samuel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **CAROLINE GANTZ (Greinel Joseph of Soufflenheim)**

**14 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 177 (MD)**

Entry 177: Greinel Joseph (renamed to Caroline Gantz). No relative named. 1808 DJ Book.

[Caroline Gantz is the wife of Feisel Halff of Soufflenheim.]

### **The Sara Simon Family**

Sara Simon, of Soufflenheim, is the daughter of Simon Salomon of Soufflenheim. The 1808 Jewish Name Declaration Book has four sequential entries: 500, 501, 502, and 503 that appear to represent the family of Sara Simon and Lazare (Bere) Levy, but there is no husband/wife language there.

## **LAZARE [BERE] LEVY**

**20 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 500 (MD)**

Entry 500: Lazare Levy keeping the same name.

[Lazare (Bere) Levy is the husband of Sara Simon.]

## **ESTER LEVY**

**20 October 1808 Haguenau 1808 Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 501 (MD)**

Entry 501: Lazare Levy calling his daughter 'Ester Levy', born 1806 in Haguenau.

[Lazare (Bere) Levy is the husband of Sara Simon.]

## **SARA CANARD (Sara Simon of Soufflenheim)**

**20 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 502 (MD)**

Entry 502: Sara Simon renaming herself 'Sara Canard'.

[Sara Simon is the daughter of Simon Salomon of Soufflenheim]

## **ABRAHAM CANARD**

**20 October 1808 Haguenau Jewish Name Declaration Book 5E179, Entry 503 (MD)**

Entry 503: Sara Simon calling her son 'Abraham Canard', born 1799 in Schirrhoffen.

[Sara Simon is the daughter of Simon Salomon of Soufflenheim. Apparently, Sara had a son in Schirrhoffen before marrying Bere/Lazare Levy. No corresponding birth record found in Schirrhoffen. No justification found for Sara's chosen new surname 'Canard'. No such surname in use in those places.]

## **Wintzenheim-Kochersberg Jewish Name Declarations**

The 1808 Jewish Name Declaration Book for Wintzenheim-Kochersberg does not appear to have an archive designator number. In the space for 'cote' (e.g., 5E179 or 5E450) there is shown "original en mairie". Apparently, if you wanted to view the original manuscript you would not go to the Archives in Strasbourg but rather to the town hall of the village of Wintzenheim-Kochersberg.

There were 91 name declaration entries in the DJ book in question. The first was entered on 17 October 1808 and the last was entered on 26 October 1808.



This book includes a tabulation of the entries (some of the DJ books I have seen did not have such a tabulation, but most did): Bloch, 4 entries; Blum, 11 entries; Dreyfuss, 1 entry; Gutlib, 1 entry; Kab, 1 entry; Klein, 14 entries; Landauer, 10 entries; Levis, 15 entries; Mey, 1 entry; Meyer, 1 entry; Ross, 1 entry; Schuhler, 2 entries; Ulfman, 1 entry; and Weil, 28 entries.

### **The Hindel Leiser Family**

Hindel Leiser of Soufflenheim is the daughter of Leiser Samuel of Soufflenheim.

The DJ book (1808) in Wintzenheim-Kochersberg showed Hirtzel Landauer change his own name to Zacharias Landauer (entry 24) and declare his three daughters and two sons (entries 25-29): Rosina, Sofia, Karlen, Isac, and Samuel Landauer. There was no indication of any change in the children's names. Judging by other cases I've seen, these were their names at birth and they kept those names.

Hirtzel's declared minor children (as of 1808) had their birthdates given:

Entry 27: Karlen, born 26 April 1794.

Entry 28: Isac, born 20 October 1785.

Entry 29: Samuel, born 30 March 1792.

There were three other Landauer minor-children entries, all indicating Landauer as both former and current surname, and all children of Judith Schuhler:

Entry 82: Joseph (formerly Gossel) Landauer, born 20 June 1793.

Entry 83: Fromet (unchanged) Landauer, born 3 Brumaire Year 9.

Entry 84: Sofia (formerly Solgen?) Landauer, born 26 Thermidor Year 6.

### **The Triena/Dreinen/Theresia Landauer Family** (Presumed daughter of Hindel Leiser)

1808 Wintzenheim-Kochersberg Jewish Name Declaration Book (MD)

Hindel Leiser of Soufflenheim and Hirtzel Landauer had a daughter named Treina Landauer.

Entries 30, 32, and 33 might be Landauer-related, if Triena/Dreinen/Theresia Landauer was part of the Lemman Bloch family. Her insertion after Lemman Bloch and before Lemman Bloch's children suggests she might have been Lemman Bloch's wife.

Entry 30: Lemman Bloch declaring himself, keeping 'Bloch' and maybe giving himself a new forename that I cannot easily decipher: The first letter might not be 'L', but I'll pretend it is and say I see something like Lescheneaiapti/Lescheneraipti/Lescherwaipti. Then again, maybe Lemman kept the name 'Leman' (considering he used it in the following records of his children).

Entry 31: Dreinen Landauer changed her own name to Theresia Landauer.

Entry 32: Lemman Bloch declaring his minor son Joseph Simon Bloch.

Entry 33: Leman Bloch declaring his minor daughter [messy, cryptic; maybe something like Cysten] Bloch.

## MARRIAGE CONTRACTS

In 1701 Jews were required to file marriage contracts with notaries or other public officers. The traditional Jewish marriage contract is called a Ketubah. It provides for a money settlement payable to the wife in the event of divorce or the husband's death. As the notaries could not read Hebrew, the marriage contracts were accompanied by a summary in French. Standard civil marriage contracts were filed beginning in 1791.

### Soufflenheim Marriage Contracts

Seventeen Jewish marriage contracts in *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace* involve Soufflenheim. Six are duplicate contracts found in other notaries. Of the remaining 11:

Eight are Soufflenheim marriage contracts:

- Leyser Samuel & Beyle Salomon (16 December 1755)
- Feisel Halff & Kronle Joseph (02 June 1758)
- Simon Salomon & Miryam daughter of Baroukh (25 January 1764)
- Simon Salomon & Ghayn Borach (10 August 1773)
- Hirtzel Landauer & Hindel Leyser (10 March 1775)
- Samuel Leiser & Marianne Schiele Bloch (30 November 1781)
- Gumbert Kahn & Zerle Leiser (13 June 1785)
- Jonas Abraham & Elle Feistel (14 December 1789)

Two are from another community, with a person from Soufflenheim assisting:

- Leyser Levy & Sara daughter of deceased Aaron (05 February 1756)
- Jacob Levy & Hindel Daughter of Aaron (24 December 1765).

One is from another community, but "passed" in Soufflenheim:

- Simon son of Rabbi Juda & Elie Weyl (18 April 1780)

All marriage contract abstracts are listed below with the exception of the six duplicate records. Also listed are six French notary records corresponding to six of the abstracts. Five of the French notary records are "Marriage Contract Deposits", with the ketouba, in Hebrew/Aramaic, attached. Only one record, from the notary at Obernai, summarizes the ketouba in French, also attached.

- **LEYSER SAMUEL & BEYLE DAUGHTER OF SALOMON WORMBSER**

**16 December 1755 Obernai 6E38/83 Marriage Contract Summary**

In front of me Royal notary of Obernai, compared in my study personally Leyser Samuel Jew in Soufflenheim widower and new husband here on one side. And Beyle Jew girl daughter of Salomon Wormbser and Ester, both Jews domiciled in Neubrisach, accompanied by Lehemann Jacob Jew in Rosheim her cousin, as bride, on the other side.

In first Leyser Samuel declares that the named Beyle has a contract of a religious ceremony of marriage on the 15th of December in Niedernai in front of the Rabbi of this place, and the contract in Hebrew language has been produced here to me notary as accepted and undersigned. At first a dowry of 300 Gulden has been consigned to the husband and received with the usual condition of another sum for the union itself of 240 gulden, so that Bele brings in a total of 600 Gulden as her own property. She also brings in her clothes and personal objects that will remain her property without any contest. For better assurance of this, Samuel Leyser puts a mortgage on his general property without exception. For best guaranty the present Hebraic contract has been undersigned and this certified especially if they would die this year or the following, this contract would be presented as ratified, confirmed, and obliging both parts, renouncing any revocation of the same, passed in Obernai the 16 December 1755.

In presence of Peter Huber and Dietrich Keller, both burghers here, also Ignatz Simonnaire, lawyer, as witnesses and the notary (two Hebrew signatures)

[Note: A second scan of the same entry follows, perhaps the day of the deposit, not mentioned as such.]

**LEYSER SAMUEL & BEYLE DAUGHTER OF SALOMON WORMSER**

**16 December 1755 Obernai 6E38/83 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Obernai Notary. 16 December 1755. The widower Leyser Samuel in Soufflenheim. And Beyle daughter of Salomon Wormser and of Esther in Neuf Brisach. Assisted by Lehmann Jacob in Rosheim. Dowry: 360 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 169 (F). This contract is also found in the Bischheim notary records.

- **FEIST [FEISSEL HALFF]**

**02 June 1758 Roeschwoog Notary 6E33/118 Marriage Contract Deposit**

On the 2nd June in year 1758 compared in front of the undersigned notary with the required witnesses Feist Jew in the village of Soufflenheim, who made deposit in my study in this bailiff resort of Haguenau, to include it in our contract of the marriage contract written in Hebrew, passed in Fort Louis du Rhin on the named day month and year, in presence of Etienne Bruel and Christian Schiffmacher burghers witnesses undersigned. Signed: Schiffmacher, Bruel, the royal notary.

**OURI "SCHRAGA" "FEISEL" SON OF NAFTALY & KRONLE DAUGHTER OF JOSEPH**

**02 June 1758 Roeschwoog Notary Marriage Contract Abstract**

Roeschwoog Notary. 02 June 1758 (18 Iyar 5518). Passed in Soufflenheim. Ouri "Schrage" "Feisel" son of deceased Naftaly, from Rountzenheim living in Soufflenheim. And Kronle daughter of Joseph son of Samuel. Dowry: 300 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 197 (A).

- **SCHIMEN SALOMON & MARIAM [BAROUKH]**

**25 January 1764/19 July 1783 Roeschwoog 6E33 Marriage Contract Deposit**

According to the form and content, the Procurer of the King required has signed with us, without prejudice of the rights of the named parties, made in Haguenau on the 19 July 1783. Signed: Barth.

To-day twenty five January in year thousand seven hundred sixty four, in front of the royal notary residing at Fort Louis du Rhin undersigned and of undersigned witnesses named after this, compared personally Schimen Salomon Jew in Soufflenheim on one side, and the named Mariam his wife, assisted and authorized by her husband Schimen Salomon, who presented to us and required the deposit of a marriage contract in Hebraic letters, passed between the named Schimen Salomon and Mariam on the 18th of this month, which deposit is made according to the arrest of the Sovereign Council of Alsace, for better authenticity and security of the named contract, interpreted in German language in Fort Louis du Rhin, in front of the notary, on the day month and year as mentioned, in presence of Joseph Beunnat, lawyer, and Laurent Spitz, day laborer in Fort Louis, witnesses undersigned: Spitz, Beunnat, Boucher royal notary.

(Translator's Note: The same contract written and deposited in Fort Louis on the 25<sup>th</sup> of January 1764 has been registered a second time on 19 July 1783, for some reason that I cannot explain.)

**SIMON SON OF SALOMON "ZALMEN" & MIRYAM DAUGHTER OF BAROUKH**

**25 January 1764 Roeschwoog 6E33/58 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Roeschwoog Notary: 25 January 1764 (14 Chevath). Passed in Hagenbach. Simon son of Salomon "Zalmen" in Soufflenheim. And Miryam daughter of Baroukh in Hagenbach. Assisted by El'hanan Mosché in Hagenbach. The husband brings a house into the union. Dowry: 144 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel.

- **SIMON SALOMON & GHAYN BORACH**

**10 August 1773 Roeschwoog 6E33/111 Marriage Contract Deposit**

Today 10 August 1773 compared here in Fort Louis du Rhin in presence of two witnesses here under named, Simon Salomon Jew in Soufflenheim on one side and Abraham Drey, Jew in Fort Louis, in name of Ghanyyn Borach wife of Simon Salomon and daughter of deceased Borach in his life Jew in

Hagenbach and of Alcken, on the other side, these declared that Simon Salomon and Ghayn Borach were married on the 5th of this month of August, and to satisfy the decree of the Sovereign Council of Alsace and pass mortgage they have made a deposit of their marriage contract written in Hebraic letters joined between him Simon Salomon and Ghayn Borach in the hands of the royal notary to be registered among his contracts ; passed in Fort Louis in this office on day named in presence of Claude François Dupré and of Jean Trautmann, lawyers here as witnesses who signed after the record was read and interpreted in German for them. Signed: Abraham Treÿfouss, Dprés, Trautmann, Beunat.

### **SIMON SON OF SALOMON “ZALMEN” & CHAYÉ DAUGHTER OF BARUCH**

#### **10 August 1773 Roeschwoog 6E33/64 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Roeschwoog Notary. 10 August 1773 (16 Av). Passed in Hagenbach. Simon son of Salomon “Zalmen” in Soufflenheim. And Chayé, daughter of deceased Baruch, in his lifetime in Hagenbach. Assisted by her brother Zevy “Hirsch” son of Barouch. And by Abraham Dreyfuss in For Louis. Dowry: 100 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 199 (F).

- **HIRTZEL LANDAUER & HINDEL LEYSER**

#### **10 March 1775 Haguenau Notary 6E16/308 Marriage Contract Deposit**

Deposit of a marriage contract between Hirtzel Landauer Jew in Winstzenheim and Hindel Leyser. In front of the Royal Notary near the Sovereign Council in Alsace undersigned compared the undersigned Hirtzel Landauer Jew in Wintzenheim, Basse Alsace, and Leyser Samuel Jew in Soufflenheim in name of Hindel Leyser his daughter, those have presented to me their marriage contract written in Hebrew, containing thirty-five lines, and asked the mentioned notary to include it in the records of his study. This contract has been certified by the signatures, which request has been accepted. Passed and interpreted in German language to the present in Bischheim on the 10th of March in year 1775, in presence of Louis Klein, lawyer, Jean Pierre Mettler, sergeant, both in this place as required witnesses, undersigned with the notary. Signatures: Hirtzel Landauer, Leyser Samuel, Peter Mettler, witness, Klein, the royal notary.

### **NAFTALY “HIRTZEL” LANDAUER & HINDEL DAUGHTER OF ELIÉZER “LEISER”**

#### **10 March 1775 Haguenau Marriage Contract Abstract**

Haguenau Notary. 10 March 1775 (6 Adar II 5535). Passed in Wintzenheim. Naftaly “Hirtzel” Landauer son of deceased Mosché-Isaac in Wintzenheim. And Hindel daughter of Eliézer “Leiser” son of Samuel in Soufflenheim. The husband brings a small house in Wintzenheim into the union. Dowry: 400 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 6 (D). [This contract is also found in the Obernai notary records.]

- **SAMUEL LEISER & MARIANNE SCHIELE BLOCH**

**30 November 1781 Roeschwoog 6E33/119 Marriage Contract Deposit**

In front of the royal notary resident in the town of Fort Louis du Rhin undersigned compared Samuel Leiser Jew in Soufflenheim assisted by Leiser Samuel also Jew in Soufflenheim his father on one side and Marian present wife of Samuel Leiser authorized by him and assisted by Schiehle Bloch Jew in Fegersheim his father on the other side, those declared that the named Samuel Leiser and the named Marianne were married the 29th of this month in Soufflenheim and during the celebration a contract of marriage in Hebraic language has been written which they presently have given as deposit into the hands of the notary to satisfy the decree of the Sovereign Council of Alsace, with mortgage, asking the notary to register this record in his office ; passed and interpreted in German language in Fort Louis du Rhin on the named date 30 November 1781 in presence of François Reffé, lawyer and of Xavier Rauber burghers here, witnesses who signed with Samuel Leiser and Marianne Schiehle Bloch, in front of the notary. Signed: Schmulen Jew in Soufflenheim, Rauber, Reffé, Wagatha, notary.

**SAMUEL SON OF ELIEZER "LEYSER" & MARIAN DAUGHTER OF "SCHIELE" BLOCH**

**30 November 1781 Roeschwoog 6E33/80 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Roeschwoog Notary. 30 November 1781 (12 Kisslev). Passed in Soufflenheim. Samuel son of Eliezer "Leyser" in Soufflenheim. And Marian daughter of Yehochoua "Schiele" Bloch in Fegersheim. The father of the husband brings a house into the union. Dowry: 850 Gulden. Ketouba: 1275 pounds (livres). Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Aron Fraenckel, Page 201 (I).

- **GUMBERT KAHN & ZERLE LEISER**

**13 June 1785 Roeschwoog 6E33/123 Marriage Contract Deposit**

Deposit of a marriage contract in Hebraic letters on the 13 June 1785. In Fort Louis du Rhin the undersigned were present : Gumbert Kahn Jew in Schirhoffen, on one side, and Zerle Leiser as present wife of the named Gumbert Kahn, authorized by him, and also by Leiser Samuel Jew in Soufflenheim her father on the other side ; the couple Gumber Kahn and Zerle Leiser declared they were married on the 8th of this month according to the Hebraic law in the village of Soufflenheim ; a marriage contract in Hebraic letters has been written, which they here and now deposit into the hands of the named notary undersigned to satisfy the decree of the Sovereign Council of Alsace, observing the conditions of mortgage of their property mobiliary and immobiliary, present and future, which they both promise. Made and interpreted in German language in Fort Louis du Rhin on the 13 June 1785, in the afternoon in presence of Nicolas Haaser burgher, and François Xavier Furterer, lawyers in this city undersigned with the notary and comparants. Signed: Harter, Haasser, Wagatha, notary.

**EFRAYIM "GUMBERT" KAHN & ZERLE DAUGHTER OF ELIEZER "LEISER"**

**13 June 1785 Roeschwoog 6E33/81 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Bischheim Notary. 13 June 1785 (30 Sivan). Passed in Soufflenheim. The Efrayim "Gumbert" Kahn widower son of Gedalya in Schirroffen. And Zerlé daughter of Eliezer "Leiser" son of Samuel in Soufflenheim. Dowry: 150 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 202 (I). [This contract is also found in the Bischeim notary records.]

- **JONAS ABRAHAM & ELLA FEISTEL**

**14 December 1789 Haguenau 6E16 Marriage Contract Deposit**

In front of the royal notary of Haguenau and Sovereign Council of Alsace compared Jonas Abraham Jew in Sultz sous Forêts, on one side, and Feistel Half Jew in Soufflenheim, father of Ella Feistel on the other side, who produced a contract in Hebraic letters, which they explained to be the marriage contract of Jonas Abraham and Ella Feistel, registered in front of the notary and holding mortgage and required the same that this piece would be registered into the records of the undersigned notary, and undersigned by themselves as well. Passed and interpreted in German language in presence of Jean Baptiste Sarselle and Louis Ritt, in this town, lawyers undersigned by all also those in Hebraic letters, Haguenau 14 December 1789. Signed: Ritt, Sarselle, Ballet royal notary. [The marriage contract was initially registered with the notary in Sultz.]

**JONAS SON OF ABRAHAM & ELLE DAUGHTER OF FEISTEL HALFF**

**14 December 1789 Haguenau 6E16/308 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Haguenau Notary. 14 December 1789 (22 Kisslev 5550). Passed in Kuppenheim (Bade). Jonas son of Abraham in Surbourg. And Elle daughter of Feistel Halff son of Naftaly in Soufflenheim. Dowry: 280 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 69 (J).

**Additional Marriage Contracts**

Three additional marriage contracts also pertain to Soufflenheim. Two mention people from Soufflenheim assisting the bride, and one was passed in Soufflenheim.

- **LEYSER LEVY & SARA DAUGHTER OF DECEASED AARON**

**05 February 1756 Obernai 6E30/84 Marriage Contract Summary**

In front of the undersigned royal notary of Obernai compared in my study here Leyser Levy Jew of Niedernai son of deceased Samuel Levy Jew in the same place, as new husband on one side. And Sara Jewin daughter of deceased Aaron former Jew in Valff, assisted by Leyser Jew in Soufflenheim, her cousin, as bride, on the other side.

And the named Leyser Levy declares that Sara bride and him had a contract written in front of the Rabbi who married them, and this contract has been produced in original in front of the notary and signed, has been brought into the union a sum in money of three hundred thirty-six gulden. This sum has been placed by him Leyser Levy for needs of Sara as usual between Jewish husband and wife, presented and accepted as total full property with a supplementary amount of two hundred sixty gulden for the celebration of the marriage, so six hundred gulden total for her personal property, also clothes, as privilege which cannot be contested in any way. For better assurance of this a general mortgage has been placed by him Levy to be used if any need.

The complete declaration has been ratified in form of the law in presence of the undersigned and witnesses Ignatz Simonaire, Johann Michel Daigue. Passed in Obernai 05 February 1756. Signed: Daigue, Peter Huber, Simonaire, Huzinger.

### **LEYSER LÉVY & SARA DAUGHTER OF DECEASED ARON**

#### **05 February 1756 Obernai Notary Marriage Contract Abstract**

Obernai Notary. 05 February 1756. Passed the 4th in Niedernai. Leyser Lévy son of deceased Samuel in Niedernai. And Sara daughter of deceased Aron in Valff. Assisted by Leyser in Soufflenheim. Dowry: 336 Gulden. Ketouba: 600 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel, Page 169 (I).

[Niedernai 1784 Jewish Census: Mentions a couple named Leyser Levy and Sara (without children in the household -- any children they had were probably old enough to have left the household.)]

- **JACOB LEVY & HINDEL DAUGHTER OF AARON**

#### **24 December 1765 Haguenau 6E16/307 Marriage Contract**

In front of the Royal notary of the royal prefecture of Haguenau registered in the Sovereign Council of Alsace undersigned compared Jacob Levy Jew son of Borach Levy also Jew and of Rössel Aaron his wife in Surbourg, on one side, and Hindel, Jewish daughter of deceased Aaron in his lifetime a Jew in Rountzenheim and of Soerel his widow assisted by Feissel Halff Jew in Soufflenheim a parent to her, and also authorized by the mentioned Jacob Levy her present husband, on the other side, this couple has made a deposit in the study of the mentioned notary of a contract of marriage in Hebrew characters which is the marriage contract of Jacob Levy and Hindel, and asked the notary to include it in his registers with usual mention of mortgage, and the required witnesses have undersigned the present record after it has been interpreted in German language, passed in Haguenau the 24 December in year 1765 in presence of Michel Elbel, François Xavier Hallez, lawyer, both in this city, undersigned. Signed: Elbel, Hallez, Hatt, royal notary.

### **JACOB LEVY & HINDEL DAUGHTER OF AARON**

#### **24 December 1765 Haguenau 6E16/307 Marriage Contract Abstract**



24 December 1765 (6th Taveth 5526). Passed in Haguenau. Jacob Lévy son of Barouch son of Klonimous and of Reis daughter of Aron in Surbourg. To Hindel (Rosel) daughter of the deceased Aron in lifetime of Rountzenheim and of Sorelé. Assisted by her brothers Leizer and Isaac living in Valff and by her relative Feissel Half from Soufflenheim. The groom's parents give a house but as a counterpart Jacob will have to give 120 florins. If Barouch requests it Jacob will have to find other lodgings without Barouch having to give him any compensation. Dowry: 300 florins. Ketouba: 600 florins. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Aron Fraenckel, Page 45 (M).

[Surbourg 1784 Jewish Census: The family of Jacob Levy and Hindel Aron is mentioned in the Surbourg 1784 census: #6, Jacob Levy, wife Hindel Aron, sons Aron, Baruch, Calmen, Jonas, Sodig. Feissel Half of Soufflenheim was related to Hindel Aron. There are no families named Feissel or Half in the Surbourg census.]

- **SIMON LÖB & ELE WEYL**

**18 April 1780 Roeschwoog 6E33/118 Marriage Contract Deposit**

Deposit of a Jewish marriage contract in Hebrew. Compared to day the 18 April in year 1780 in Fort Louis du Rhin with the undersigned witnesses Simon Löb, Jew in Fort Louis on one side and Ele Weyl wife presently of the named Simon Löb, assisted by him on the other side, who presented a contract passed the 6th of this month in front of the Sovereign Council of Alsace with mortgage attached, deposit of the marriage contract presented today in presence of the undersigned. Passed in Fort Louis in presence of Nicolas Haaser, Jean Baptiste Rössler, both in Fort Louis, required to this and the royal notary Beunnat.

**MENA”HEM-SIMON SON OF RABBI JUDA “LOEB” & ELIE WEYL**

**18 April 1780 Roeschwoog 6E33/73 Marriage Contract Abstract**

Roeschwoog Notary. 18 April 1780 Roch “Hodech Nissan. Passed in Soufflenheim. Mena”hem-Simon son of rabbi Juda “Loeb” from Harchwitz near Prague living in Fort Louis. And the widow Elie Weyl daughter of Kalman from Surbourg. The husband has acquired the right to settle in Fort Louis. Dowry: 400 Gulden including a house and furniture. Ketouba: 400 Gulden. Source: *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, Andre Fraenckel.

## CEMETERY RECORDS

Burial records at the Jewish cemetery in Haguenau. A database of burials, searchable by community, is found at *Le cimetière Israélite de Haguenau*, Le judaïsme d'Alsace et de Lorraine.

**MIRIAM WIFE OF CHMOUEL** (Miriam Bloch wife of Samuel Leiser)

**06 June 1803 Haguenau Jewish Cemetery Section 19, Tomb 1522**

- Last Name & First Name: Miriam wife of Chmouel
- Sex: Female
- Hebrew Name: Miriam wife of Chmouel [Samuel]
- Date Deceased: 06 June 1803, 16 Sivan 5563
- Place of Residence: SOUFFLENHEIM

Epitath: Miriam, wife of Chmouel of Soufflenheim. Deceased on the 16th Sivan 5563 according the small comput. May her soul be bound to all the living. Amen Séla.

Epitaphe: Miriam épouse de Chmouel de Soufflenheim. Décédée le seize Sivan 5563, selon le petit comput. Que son âme soit liée au faisceau des vivants. Amen Séla

Hebrew: מרים אש שמואל זופלים נ טז סיון תקסג ל נצבה אס

**LEISER SAMUEL**

**11 April 1805 Haguenau Jewish Cemetery Section 14, Tomb 1453**

- Last Name & First Name: Eliezer ben Chmouel
- Sex: Male
- Hebrew Name: Eliezer ben Chmouel
- Date Deceased: 11 April 1805, 12 Nissan 5565
- Burial: 11 April 1805, 12 Nissan 5565
- Place of Residence: SOUFFLENHEIM

Epitath: Here rests Leyzer (Lazare) son of Chmouel (Samuel) of Soufflenheim. Deceased and buried the 12th Nissan 5565 according the small comput. May his soul be bound to all the living.

Epitaphe: Ici repose Leyzer fils de Chmouel de Soufflenheim. Décédé et inhumé le douze Nissan 5565, selon le petit comput. Que son âme soit liée au faisceau des vivants.

Hebrew: פ ט ליזר ב' שמאל זופלים נו"ג יום יב ניסן תקסה לפק תנצבה

**CHMOUEL ZEÉV BAR DAVID** (Samuel Wolf Liebschitz)

**07 October 1841 Haguenau Jewish Cemetery Section 15, Tomb 1515**

- Last Name & First Name: Liebschitz Chmouel Zeév
- Sex: Infant
- Hebrew Name: Chmouel Zeév bar David
- Date Deceased: 07 October 1841, 22 Tichri 5602
- Place of Residence: Schirrhoffen
- Comment: The date is uncertain due to the similarity of the letters (Kaf?) and (Bet) or 1859/10/20.

Epitaph: Here rests the child Chmouel Zeef, son of David Liebschitz of Schirrhein. Died on Chmini Atzeret 602 (or 620 ?) according to the small comput. May his soul be bound to the living. Died on Thursday October 7th, 1841 (if 602) or Thursday October 20th, 1859 (if 620).

Epitaphe: Ci-git l'enfant Chmouel Zeev fils de David Liebschitz, de Schirrhein. Décédé à Chmini Atzeret 602 (620 ?), selon le petit comput. Que son âme soit liée au faisceau des vivants. Amen. Décédé le jeudi 7 octobre 1841 (si 602) ou le jeudi 20 octobre 1859 (si 620).

Hebrew: פ"ט הילד שמואל זאב בר דוד ליבשיטץ שיראן נפטר שמיני עצרת 'תר"ב כ ל' תנצב"ה א

### **FAYECH (FEYSSEL) HALFF (Ulric Halff)**

#### **09 May 1850 Haguenau Jewish Cemetery Section 13, Tomb 772**

- Last Name & First Name: Halff Fayech.
- Sex: Male.
- Hebrew Name: Fayech bar Chmouel.
- Date Deceased: 09 May 1850, 27 Iyar 5610
- Place of Residence: Haguenau.

Epitath: Here rests Feyszel son of the Honorable Schmouel Half of here [Haguenau]. Deceased on the 27 Iyar 5610, according the small comput. May his soul be bound to all the living. Amen Séla.

Epitaphe: Ici repose Feyszel fils de l'honorable Schmouel Half d'ici (Haguenau), décédé le 27 iyyar 610 du petit comput. Que son âme soit liée au faisceau des vivants. Amen.

Hebrew: פ"ט פייסל בר שמואל האלף מפה נפטר כז אייר תרי פק תנצבהה אמן

### **GOETSCH LIEBSCHITZ (Daniel Liebschitz)**

#### **23 March 1874 Haguenau Jewish Cemetery Section 15, Tomb 1487**

- Last Name and First Name: Liebschitz Goetsch
- Sex: Male
- Hebrew Name: Goetsch ben Chmouel
- Date Deceased: 23 March 1874, 5 Nissan 5634
- Place of Residence: Schirrhoffen

Epitaph: Here rests an honest, upright and God-fearing man who kept up and respected the Shabbat and the feasts. Goetchel son of Chmouel Liebschitz of Shirrhein, died on Monday the 5th of Nissan 634 according to the small comput. May his soul be bound to the living. Died on Monday, March 23rd, 1874.

Epitaphe: Ci-gît un homme intègre, droit et craignant D., qui gardait et respectait le Shabbat et les jours de fêtes. Goetchel fils de Chmouel Liebschitz de Schirrhein, décédé le lundi cinq Nissan 634, selon le petit comput. Que son âme soit liée au faisceau des vivants Décédé le lundi 23 mars 1874.

Hebrew: איש תם וישר ירא אלהים שמר וכבד שבת וי"ט געטש בן שמואל ליבשיטץ שיראן נפטר ביום ב' ה' ניסן תרל"ד לפ"ק תנצב"ה

## CENSUS RECORDS

**GENERAL CENSUS OF THE JEWS OF ALSACE**, tolerated in the Province of Alsace, to enforce the Regulation Patent Letters dated July 10th, 1784 of His Majesty Louis XVI.

Commune de Soufflenheim Number 142 (Status: 04 December 1784) :

Family	Title		
Family Number 1	Head	SCHMULEN	Leyser
	Wife	SALOMON	Beylen
	Son		Jacob
	Daughter		Zerlen
	Valet	KOSCHEL	Nathan
Family Number 2	Head	HÄLFF	Feisel
	Wife	JOSEPH	Croennel
	Daughter		Hündel
	Daughter		Reitz
	Daughter		Blümel
	Daughter		Rächel

Family Number 3	Head	LEYSER	Schmulen
	Wife	SCHIELLEN	Maria
Family Number 4	Head	SALOMON	Simon
	Wife	BARUCH	Kayen
	Son		Salomon
	Son		Baruch
	Son		Hirtzel
	Daughter		Sara

## INVENTORIES AND CONTRACTS

The following information lists all Jews mentioned in the Soufflenheim inventory records and contracts, including those living in communities other than Soufflenheim: Eschbach, Fort Louis, Gunstett, Haguenau, Mommenheim, Rountzenheim, Schirrhein, Schirrhoffen, Surbourg, Winckhershein, and Wittersheim.

Year	Name	Community	Record
1693		Eschpach	<p>Maria Würtz Sale 15 January 1693 Haguenau 6E16/58</p> <p>Sold by Maria Würtz assisted by Hans Jacob Schäfter provost in Soufflenheim her husband, to Andres Theuss burgher in Eschpach, and Eva Helmer his wife of one garden of 3 ½ viertel in the village of Eschpach one side the district Velt Garten, second side the common property, and street, up fields, down the common property and Juden Street.</p>

1693	Jäckel	Fort Louis	<p>Hans Friedrich Beller Debt 16 June 1693 Haguenau 6E16/59</p> <p>Hans Friedrich Beller burgher in Soufflenheim receives loan of money from the hands of Jäckel Jew in Fort Louis and Josell Jew in Soufflenheim.</p>
1707	Josel	Fort Louis	<p>Maria Sigler [Sigel] Inventory 29 July 1707 Roeschwoog 6E33/58</p> <p>Debt: To Josel, Jew in Fort Louis: 64 G</p>
1711	Joseph	Fort Louis	<p>Anna Maria Christmann Inventory 04 May 1711 Roeschwoog 6E33/58</p> <p>Debt: To Joseph the Jew in Fort Louis for rest of money due on sale of oxen: 40 Gulden</p>
1727	Isack	Fort Louis	<p>Andres Thomas Debt 23 September 1727 Haguenau 6E16/131</p> <p>Anna Maria Reiffsteck widow in Niederbetschdorf, assisted by Andres Thomas, burgher and potter in Soufflenheim, promises to pay to Isack Jew living in Fort Louis du Rhin, a sum of 150 Gulden on three years and this until end 1728, each Pentecostal day of the year, with 50 Gulden each time, plus 7 gulden 5 schilling interest ; she puts a mortgage on this debt on her house and farm, fields and garden with all dependences attached ; Isack will handle as he likes, use and in free property, in presence of witnesses Adam Schaeffter, provost here.</p>
1729	Salomon Jonas	Fort Louis	<p>Hans Michel Kieffer Sale 01 June 1729 Roeschwoog 6E33</p> <p>Came in front of the notary of Fort Louis: Jean Michel Kieffer merchant, domiciled in this city and Anne Marie Riedinger his wife authorized by him to contract, who both recognized that they have made sale, cession without any trouble or impeachment of any kind to : Salomon Jonas, Jew in Fort Louis and his heirs, of a house in this city, one side Jean Brem, other side Jean Scheen, with all dependences and rights, house which he Jean Michel Kieffer has acquired on the 1st July 1726 for an amount of 424 pounds which sum has been paid in totality and liquidity, sum that he now asks from the new acquirer, in front of the notary of Fort Louis du Rhin, in presence of witnesses Philippe Stromberg and Michel Schlegel, both burghers of the place undersigned with Jean Michel Kieffer and Salomon Jonas. Anne Marie Riedinger declared she cannot sign and made her mark on this document.</p>
1729	Simon Piquert	Fort Louis	<p>Jacques Scheffter Acquisition 16 December 1729 Roeschwoog 6E33/81</p> <p>Were present here Simon Piquert Jew in this city, selling, transporting to: Jacques Scheffter, butcher and burgher in Soufflenheim, of a house in Fort Louis angle Orleans and Huxelles streets near Vincent Cress, master tailor here.</p>
1730	Abraham Dreyfus	Fort Louis	<p>Michel Zettwoog Land Sale 30 October 1730 Haguenau 6E16/120</p>

			Abraham Dreyfus Jew in Fort Louis and Joseph Dreyfus, Jew in Fort Louis his father; both acquire land from Michel Zettwoog burgher in Soufflenheim.
1734	Abraham Dreyfus	Fort Louis	Niclaus Träher Inventory 15 April 1734 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Abraham Dreyfus Jew in Fort Louis letter 27 November 1732 on loan of money in Capital: 60 R
1743	Abraham Dreyfus	Fort Louis	Thomas Schaeffer Cession 17 October 1743 Roeschwoog 6E33/88  Came here Thomas Schaeffter burgher in Soufflenheim assisted by Jacob Schaeffter also burgher there, on one side, and Abraham Dreyfus Jew of Fort Louis, concerning a sum of money loaned on the 12 October 1742, and the named Thomas Schaeffter has not paid the remaining three hundred forty-one florins, and has been condemned to do so by the justice court of Haguenau on the total capital of seven hundred fifty florins.
1747	Abraham Dreyfus	Fort Louis	Maria Träher Inventory 15 November 1747 Roeschwoog 6E33/61  Debt: To Abraham Dreyfus Jew there [Fort Louis] also for loan of money: 18 R
1747	Schayen	Fort Louis	Maria Träher Inventory 15 November 1747 Roeschwoog 6E33/61  Debt: To Schayen Jew in Fort Louis for 1 fiertel corn estimated: 6 R
1720	Barach Marcholi	Gunstett	Barach Marcholi Inventory 27 May 1720 Haguenau 6E16/195 Gunstett Inventory Index  Deceased Barach Marcholi, former protected resident in Gunstett. He died on 11 March 1720. 1) Rebecca, his wife, represented by Liebmann Levi, Jew of Winckhershein. Schiele Bäss, Jew in Haguenau. Malgen. Rössel. Other details transcribed in inventory.
1720	Rebecca	Gunstett	Barach Marcholi Inventory 27 May 1720 Haguenau 6E16/195 Gunstett Inventory Index  Deceased Barach Marcholi, former protected resident in Gunstett. He died on 11 March 1720. 1) Rebecca his wife, represented by Liebmann Levi, Jew of Winckhershein, Schiele Bäss, Jew in Haguenau. Malgen. Rössel. Other details transcribed in inventory.
1707	Aron	Haguenau	Maria Sigler [Sigel] Inventory 29 July 1707 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  Debt: To Aron, Jew of Haguenau: 7 G 5 s
1707	Schielen	Haguenau	Maria Sigler Inventory 29 July 1707 Roeschwoog 6E33/58

			Debt: To Schielen, Jew of Haguenau: 6 G
1720	Schiele Bäss	Haguenau	Barach Marcholi Inventory 27 May 1720 Haguenau 6E16/195 Gunstett Inventory Index  Deceased Barach Marcholi, former protected resident in Gunstett. He died on 11 March 1720. 1) Rebecca his wife, represented by Liebmann Levi, Jew of Winckhershein. Schiele Bäss, Jew in Haguenau. Malgen. Rössel. Other details transcribed in inventory.
1727	Reims	Haguenau	Andres Thomas Debt 23 September 1727 Haguenau 6E16/131  An extract is joined dated 28 September 1727 where Reims, Jew in Haguenau, asks complete payment of this debt contracted by Anna Maria Reiffsteck; decision is given.
1728	David Reins	Haguenau	Michel Kilck Debt 23 September 1728 Haguenau 6E16/131  Obligation of Michel Kilck burgher in Soufflenheim, toward David Reins Jew in Haguenau.
1732	Hans Rein	Haguenau	Michel Wagner Debt 30 June 1732 Haguenau 6E16/121  Receipt given to Hans Rein, Jew in Haguenau, by Michel Wagner burgher in Soufflenheim and Barbara Wolff his wife.
1734	David Rein	Haguenau	Anton Götz Debt 15 December 1734 Haguenau 6E16/121  Receipt given by Anton Götz, burgher in Soufflenheim, of 24 Gulden to David Rein, Jew in Haguenau.
1734	Jacob	Haguenau	Niclaus Träher Inventory 15 April 1734 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Jacob Jew there for a horse: 15 R
1734	Samuel	Haguenau	Niclaus Träher Inventory 15 April 1734 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Samuel Jew in Haguenau: 10 R 5 s Wheat: 1 measure
1734	Seligman	Haguenau	Niclaus Träher Inventory 15 April 1734 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Seligman Jew in Haguenau for three billets: 18 November 1732, 03 March, and 02 December 1733: 151 R, and for corn, 2 measures of oat: 3 s



1735	Seligmann	Haguenau (?)	<p>Soufflenheim Une cite: Chapter 4: Anxiousness and Military Concerns</p> <p>In 1735, Seligmann the Jew pays 300 florins in the account of repartition of fodder due by Soufflenheim.</p>
1737	Seligmann Feissel	Haguenau	<p>Joseph Irr Debt 04 May 1737 Haguenau 6E16/122</p> <p>Obligation of 164 Gulden of Joseph Irr, burgher in Soufflenheim, and of his deceased father Hans Irr before him towards Seligmann Feissel, Jew in Haguenau as from earlier documents dated 23 November 1736, 21 July 1732 and 2nd March 1731.</p>
1738	Not Given	Haguenau	<p>Maria Irr Inventory 08 July 1738 Roeschwoog 6E33/59</p> <p>Debt: To a Jew in Haguenau: 15 G</p>
1747	Aron	Haguenau	<p>Maria Träher Inventory 15 November 1747 Roeschwoog 6E33/61</p> <p>Debt: To Aron Jew in Haguenau for one fiertel corn estimated interest on 20 R: 4 R</p>
1747	Aron Moog	Haguenau	<p>Maria Träher Inventory 15 November 1747 Roeschwoog 6E33/61</p> <p>Debt: To Aron Moog Jew in Haguenau for loan of money: 20 R</p>
1762	Hirzel	Haguenau	<p>Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63</p> <p>Debt: To Hirzel Jew in Haguenau: interest due: 5 g</p>
1762	Leyser	Haguenau	<p>Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63</p> <p>Debt: To Leyser Jew in Haguenau: handwritten loan: 10 g</p>
1783	Zadoch Moch	Haguenau	<p>Valentin Eisenkirch Inventory 22 February 1783 Roeschwoog 6E33/67</p> <p>Debt: To Zadoch Moch in Haguenau for loan of money: 66 G. Same to other Jews here: 36 G.</p>
1682	Losser	Mommenheim	<p>Simon Schwartz Inventory 15 December 1682 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>One house in the village of Mommenheim, with barn farming place, house and dependences, near the "Lauben" one side Diebolt Breyssler's heirs, second for</p>

			part Lorentz Oster, and the common property, behind Hans Winkel's share, and for part Lösner, Jew, in front the common street, down on the place: 30 Gulden.
1687	Jackhel	Rountzenheim	Joseph Burckhardt Inventory 02 November 1687 Haguenau 6E16/269  Debt: To Jackhel Jew in Rountzenheim: 24G
1734	Hitzell	Rountzenheim	Niclaus Träher Inventory 15 April 1734 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Hitzell Jew in Rountzenheim
1762	Borach	Schirrhein	Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63  Debt: To Borach Jew in Schirrhein: for loan of money: 23 g 5 s
1762	Götschel	Schirrhein	Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63  Debt: To Götschel Jew in Schirrhein for handwritten loan: 107 g 5 s
1766	Gombert	Schirrhein	Barbara Stäblerin Inventory 06 February 1766 Roeschwoog 6E33/64  Debt: To Gombert Jew in Schirrhein for a horse: 10 R
1766	Göschel	Schirrhein	Barbara Stäblerin Inventory 06 February 1766 Roeschwoog 6E33/64  Debt: To Göschel Jew in Schirrhein according to inventory of Salome Metzler in year 1762 15 January: 107 R 5
1768	Borich	Schirrhoffen	Maria Magdalena Brotschy Inventory 09 September 1768 Roeschwoog 6E33/64  To Borich the Jew in Schirrhoffen for a sold calf left: 1 G 5 s
1788	Leibel Abraham	Schirrhoffen	Joseph Lengert Inventory 28 October 1788 Roeschwoog 6E33/69  Debt: To Leibel Abraham Jew in Schirrhoffen for money: 6 R
1801	Jacques Leiser	Schirrhoffen	Laurent Kieffer Senior 08 February 1801 Roeschwoog 7E44/18  Obligation in Soufflenheim for 160 francs. Laurent Kieffer Senior husband of Marguerite Renck, towards Jacques Leiser [formerly of Soufflenheim], merchant in Schirrhoffen. Sale of cereals the 28 Pluviose year 9 by Antoine Renck, guardian of Barbe Kieffer.

1681	Löbel	Soufflenheim	<p>Odilia [Wife of Lorentz Schäßfter] Inventory 15 April 1681 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: To Löbel the Jew who has furnished 2 1/2 sester of salt: 3 R 5 s</p>
1681	Not Given	Soufflenheim	<p>Odilia [Wife of Lorentz Schäßfter] Inventory 15 April 1681 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: The garden still owes to the Jew who has made a loan of money to buy dresses to the daughter: 6 R</p>
1682	Götschel	Soufflenheim	<p>Simon Schwartz Inventory 15 December 1682 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: To Götschel, Jew in Soufflenheim: 1 G 5 s</p>
1682	Hirtzel	Soufflenheim	<p>Simon Schwartz Inventory 15 December 1682 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: To Hirtzel, Jew in Soufflenheim: 3 G 3</p>
1685	Jösel	Soufflenheim	<p>Jacob Walter &amp; Margaretha Sale 25 September 1685 Haguenau 6E16/311</p> <p>Sale for 40 Gulden. Jacob Walter, burgher here in Soufflenheim and Margaretha his wife, sale to Josel, Jew here in Soufflenheim, and Jüdel his wife, of one small house in Soufflenheim one side near Philips Kieffer, second side Hans Siegel's heirs, down and in front the common property street, pays yearly 10 gulden capital to the church, except this in all free property.</p>
1691	Jösel	Soufflenheim	<p>Hans Thomen Inventory 01 August 1691 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: Due to Josel Jew in Soufflenheim: 12 Gulden</p>
1691	Not Given	Soufflenheim	<p>Friedrich Kalckbrenner Inventory 17 March 1691 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: To the Jew here: 1 Gulden 4 s</p>
1691	Jösel	Soufflenheim	<p>Hans Ertz Inventory 29 October 1691 Haguenau 6E16/269</p> <p>Debt: Due to Jösel, Jew here, for a sold cow: 22 1/2 G</p>
1693	Jösel	Soufflenheim	<p>Hans Friedrich Beller Debt 16 June 1693 Haguenau 6E16/59</p> <p>Compared in front of us royal notary Hans Friederich Beller burgher in Soufflenheim declared that he became indebted for a pair of oxen of a sum of 45 Gulden to Jäckhel, Jew in Fort Louis and Josell Jew in Soufflenheim, promises to repay this sum next Christmas 1693, which has been agreed by the present</p>

			persons and witnesses Johann Albrecht Alberthal and Johann Paul Wolff, undersigned 16 June 1693. Signed: Bernauer, notary.
1693	Jösel	Soufflenheim	Andreas Goetz Inventory 08 February 1693 Roeschwoog 6E16/269  Debt: To Jösel, Jew here: 1 G 5 s
1694	Jösel	Soufflenheim	Soufflenheim Une cite Chapter 3: Communal Accounts  In 1694 the commune pays to Jösel, the Jew, 24 florins and 5 sous interest.
1696	Not Given	Soufflenheim (?)	Hans Leffler Inventory 10 February 1696 Haguenu 6E16/269  Debt: To the Jew: 2 s
1701	Joseph	Soufflenheim	Hans Jacob Kieffer Inventory 15 June 1701 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  Debt: To Joseph the Jew: 2 G 8 s
1707	Jösel	Soufflenheim	Maria Sigler Inventory 29 July 1707 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  One house with yard and dependence in the village of Soufflenheim, first and second side the common street, in front the road, on the back Jösel the Jew, has been estimated: 100 Gulden. NB: The present house and dependencies has been given on auction to the widower [Mathis Kieffer] and his present wife, Maria Irr.
1707	Joseph	Soufflenheim	Hans Philipps Kieffer Inventory 13 January 1707 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  One house, yard, and dependences, one side and the other the common land of Soufflenheim, on the Common street, near Joseph the Jew, and behind the common land, estimated only in the construction, as the widow owns the piece of land and soil.
1711	Hirtzel	Soufflenheim	Hans Jacob Becker Inventory 03 May 1711 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  Debt: Due to Hirtzel the Jew: 1 G 6 d
1711	Joseph	Soufflenheim	Hans Jacob Becker Inventory 03 May 1711 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  Debt: By Joseph the Jew: 6 G 5 s. Has been asked for payment.
1711	Schiehler	Soufflenheim	Hans Jacob Becker Inventory 03 May 1711 Roeschwoog 6E33/58

			District near Geissmatten, Properties Upper Part of Bartel Georg, and down Martz Untz: One and 1/2 viertzel and a third viertzel, one side Catharina daughter, second side Georg Irren's heirs, upper part is Schiehler, Jew here, down is an ending. Page 148 of land record. To Mathis.
1724	Hirtzel	Soufflenheim	Barbara Kieffer & Hans Georg Metteweg Inventory 05 April 1724 Roeschwoog 6E33/58  Fields: District Im Gefäll, Section Unten Uff Den Betschdorfer Weeg (On the Path to Betschdorf): 1 acre 2 1/2 field and 4 feet. One side is Hirtzel, Jew, the other side the forest, above is Hans Seyler, down is the forest. To Antoni and Oillia.
1738	Martin	Soufflenheim	Maria Irr Inventory 08 July 1738 Roeschwoog 6E33/59  Debt: To Martin, Jew here: 1 G
1758	Martin	Soufflenheim	Joseph Wilhelm Inventory 21 April 1758 Roeschwoog 6E33/62  Debt: To Martin, Jew of this place, for loan of money: 6 R
1762	Leyser	Soufflenheim	Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63  Debt: To Leyser, Jew here, for corn: 3 g
1762	Martin	Soufflenheim	Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63  Debt: To Martin, Jew here, for a pair of oxen he has sold him and still promised to pay: 18 g
1784	Feissel [Halff]	Soufflenheim	Andre Eisen & Maria Anna Schwartz Marriage Contract 23 January 1784 Roeschwoog 6E33/122  House: One side Philipp Kieffer, other side: Michel Vögele. [Front] on the road to Haguenu, behind Feissel, Jew.
1762	Nachmann	Surbourg	Salome Metzler Inventory 19 January 1762 Roeschwoog 6E33/63  Debt: To Nachmann Jew in Surbourg for a pair of oxen he sold for him: 144 g
1766	Männel	Surbourg	Barbara Stäblerin Inventory 06 February 1766 Roeschwoog 6E33/64  Debt: One pair of oxen estimated 60 R left to the widower for this amount and paid only partly to Männel, Jew in Surbourg, so that one part of the amount is paid 33 R and the rest to pay is now: 27 R

1720	Liebmann Levi	Winckhershein	Barach Marcholi Inventory (Gunstett) 27 May 1720 Haguenau 6E16/195 Inventory Index  Deceased Barach Marcholi, former protected resident in Gunstett. He died on 11 March 1720. Rebecca his wife, represented by Liebmann Levi, Jew of Winckhershein. Schiele Bäss, Jew in Haguenau. Malgen. Rössel. Other details transcribed in inventory.
1707		Wittersheim	Diebold Kieffer Tax 11 February 1707 Haguenau 6E16/17  Wittersheim: Taxes paid by the Jewish community there in presence of the mayor of the place and several members of the community; among them: Diebold Kieffer signs.

## APPENDICES

18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace

The Marriage Contracts of Wissenbourg in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century

## 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY JEWISH MARRIAGE CONTRACTS IN ALSACE

*Les Contrats de mariage Juifs du 18ème en Alsace*, by Andre Aron Fraenckel, Strasbourg, 1997, Edition du Cedrat. Le judaïsme d'Alsace et de Lorraine.

Abstracts of all Alsatian Jewish marriage contracts from 1701-1791, over 5,000 total, are found in the book *18<sup>th</sup> Century Jewish Marriage Contracts in Alsace*, by Andre Aron Fraencke. Seventeen records pertain to Soufflenheim.

Andre Fraenckel writes:

“This book presents a set of more than 5,000 marriage contracts concerning the Jews of Alsace and covering most of the 18th century. The first date is 1702, the last of 1791. These two dates are the extreme poles of our research: On the one hand, on 21.1.1701, a judgment of Louis XIV ordered that the minutes of the marriage contracts of the Jews of Alsace passed before their rabbis be deposited 15 days later with notaries or other public officers. On the other hand, in 1791 the Jews participate in the common law and from that moment there are few contracts of marriage filed before a notary. Because of the royal judgment of 1701, we today have the extraordinary opportunity to be able to follow the Jewish families in

Alsace throughout the 18th century, through the thousands of marriage contracts, scattered in the registers of the notaries of the 18th century and stored in the repositories of archives of Bas-Rhin, Haut-Rhin and the territory of Belfort. We have consulted hundreds of notaries with the idea to group all of their contracts in the same bundle. After 1800, notaries recorded marriage contracts written in French, whereas in the 18th century most were found in the original Hebrew.

The notaries of the time were obviously not reading Hebrew; The repository text of these often specifies that "Such day, such Jew and the Jewish one have come to deposit what they say is their marriage contract written in Hebrew language." Rare are the notaries who demanded a full translation of the Act, but some of them recorded a summary of it in German or French; This is the case of most of the contracts from the notariats of Obernai and Landser.

We don't know the exact circumstances in which the decision of Louis XIV was enacted, but we can imagine them quite easily if we consider some basic data of the Hebrew law:

According to Jewish law, the woman is not heir to her husband; in case of death of the husband - possessions pass to his children, or in the absence of descendants, his ascendants or collateral. To ensure the future of married women, Hebrew law provides that in case of divorce or death of the husband, the wife will be entitled to a dowry (1) secured by an official act, the Ketubah. In practice, in countries "Ashkenazi", the dowry was made up of the "increased by one-third" contributions to the woman by the husband (2): so a 1000 guilders dowry given to the bride was a dowry of 1500 guilders. In common parlance, the word Ketubah means both the dowry and the Act which guarantees this. The Ketubah represents a claim on the property of the husband and the wife is recognized as the first creditor up to the amount provided for in her Ketubah.

The Jews of Alsace had internal autonomy, in particular with regard to the marriage law, and the Ketubah could be opposed to any creditor of the husband, Jewish or non-Jewish. Before the order of 1701, a Jewish debtor could declare to his creditors that all his property was mortgaged by the Ketubah to his wife.

One can then imagine such a debtor having written a new Ketouba where the dowry promised to the wife would appear as much more important than originally intended! It is undoubtedly to avoid this that the administration of Louis XIV had demanded that the marriage contracts of the Jews of Alsace be deposited with the notary.

So, these are the Jews of Alsace who, little by little, take the habit of filing their marriage deeds by notary; However, for the first years, from 1701 to 1720, we have only found 3 registered contracts, then 51 for the next period, from 1720 to 1730. After 1730, the number increases tremendously, no doubt as a result of a call to order from the authorities or, perhaps because unregistered Ketouboth resulted in injury to a widow or a divorcee. It must be added that, between 1701 and 1791, the number of Jews in Alsace grew from 3,000-3,500 to about 20,000.

We have used the word Ketouba although this term is not entirely accurate; According to the custom of the Rhineland Jewish communities known as the Choum Takanoth (Speyer, Worms, Mainz), all Ketouboth read in public should include the same amount: 1200 florins for a girl, 600 guilders a widow or a divorcee. The given reason is extremely interesting: "Kedey chelo levayech mi cheeyn lo" (to not shame him who has nothing). Of course, it had to be another act to report on the actual situation and, in particular, the respective contributions of the spouses: these are the Tenaim, literally "conditions", whose purpose is the claim of the wife on the property of the husband as well as other conditions specific to each family, sort of an addendum to the official Ketubah.

The Tenaim richonim (3) were established at the time of the conclusion of the agreement between the families, at the time of the engagement, specifying the respective contributions, including the place and date of marriage and fine (Knass breakdown).

The Tenaim a'haronim (4) were established at the time of marriage, most often taking the conditions of the Tenaim richonim and attesting that the amounts were paid. A few exceptions, the Tenaim recorded and retained by the notary are a Tenaim a'haronim.

The rabbis or scribes that wrote those contracts had models; Therefore, all have an identical structure.

**Thus:**

Mazal tov ytsma 'h vey'a' aleh kegan ratov 'ad lema' lah ("That good luck germinates and grows as a Green Garden").

Conditions between the parties at the time of the 'Hupa between... Moïse Bloch, son of Alexander of Wintzenheim in Haute-Alsace, on behalf of his son Goetschel on the one hand, and Mordekhay nicknamed Siessel, son of Yo'hanan Legme, and daughter Gittel of Wintzenheim also. Goetschel married Gittel and the latter received the wedding ring. Moïse Bloch brings to his son a quarter of his house, but the donation is effective only after the death of the said Moses and his wife Keple. Goetschel Bloch will not sell, rent or Exchange its share of House during the life of his parents.

Parents are committed to bequeath 100 reichsthalers after their death; In addition, Moïse Bloch brings a place in the synagogue, to the right of the Ark of the Covenant.

Jeckel, brother of Coetschel, is committed to give the 'Halitsa (5) free in case of need and the father undertakes that the minor son give the commitment of 'Halitsa when they arrive at their majority.

Siessel, father of Gittel, brings 1000 reichsthalers (1500 guilders), or 200 in cash, an obligation of 400 reichsthalers to be paid in a year and a claim of 400 reichsthalers on Jacob chops at Oberbergheim of which Siessel vouches.

An obligation of 400 reichsthalers to be paid in a year and a claim of 400 reichsthalers on Jacob chops at Oberbergheim of which Siessel vouches.

It is expected that his daughter will have a share of the inheritance [in Talmudic law, girls do not inherit in the presence of boys]. In addition, Siessel is committed to giving free living and cover for three years. From this moment the couple will live in love and affection, without hiding anything from one to the other, without removing or closing anything; they will manage together at equal rights.

If Goetschel behaved towards his wife in an unbearable way for her ... Ketubah : 1500 reichsthalers [although the Ketubah read publicly surrendered only 800 reichsthalers]. The wife shall will also take priority of her wedding ring, her clothes and gifts.

Made in Wintzenheim, Wednesday 13 Kisslev 5505, 18.11.1744, recorded 3. 12.1744.

Notes: 1) Dower: Right of the surviving spouse on the property of her husband. 2) Formulation usual in the Talmud which means here that the amount brought in dowry by the bride corresponds to two thirds of the one she expected to reach in the case of divorce or death of her husband. 3) Tenaim richonim, "First conditions": contract engagement. 4) Tenaim a'haronim, "conditions". 5) ' Halitsa: Ceremony whereby a widow without children is clear links of the levirate and becomes free to marry any other than his brother-in-law."



## MARRIAGE CONTRACTS OF WISSENBURG IN THE 18<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY

*The Marriage Contracts of Wissenbourg in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century*, Max Warschawski, Le judaisme d'Alsace et de Lorraine.

The following excerpts from *The Marriage Contracts of Wissenbourg in the 18<sup>th</sup> Century* by Grand Rabbi Max Warschawski relate directly to marriage contracts in Soufflenheim. Wissenbourg is just 18 miles north of Soufflenheim, and both were in the jurisdiction of the rabbi with authority over lower Alsace, who sat in Haguenau. The language, structure and contents of the contracts would have been similar in both communities.

“The marriage contract followed the nuptial ceremony. The marriage contract (Tenaim A'haronim) was a notarial Act, written by a Rabbi or, failing a Rabbi, by a letter (officiat or other). Signed by the spouses, their parents and two witnesses without any relationship to the two families, these contracts were valuable, because they had an indisputable legal value. Twenty-nine marriage contracts from the 1700's were studied. The people in the contracts were essentially from the communities around Wissenbourg located either in Alsace, or in the part of the Palatinate that was then part of Alsace. The contracts deposited with the notaries of Wissenbourg have been drawn up for Jews domiciled within the jurisdiction of these notariats and married in the communities of this same region.

Fifteen contracts among those of Wissenbourg contain commitment for one of the parties, to obtain the right of residence: ('Hezkath Yishuv). This term, in the Middle Ages, applied to a rule instituted by Jewish communities. To prevent commercial competition and to protect families tolerated in a locality against the authorities of guardianship (city, lord, bishop), who could have admitted, for a fee, other Jews, to the detriment of the first, the leaders of the communities had instituted the 'Hezkath Yishuv, right of residence. Any Jew wishing to settle in a community had, beforehand, to obtain the agreement of his co-religionists by means of certain taxes and by committing to participate in the common taxes. In our contracts, it is not a question of this Community right, but of the obligation of the Jews to ask the civil authorities for permission to stay in the locality before founding a home. Depending on the time and place, this authorization was more or less difficult to obtain because the number of tolerated families was limited. It often took the death of a head of the family for a new couple to be allowed to settle in the locality. From 1751, the regulations, still more draconian, sought to prevent the installation in Alsace of new Jewish families coming from abroad. That's why the Hezkath Yishuv was precious and often expensive. In our contracts, obtaining the right of residence is, in general, left to the husband or his family who undertake to obtain it at their exclusive expense. There are only two contracts in which the bride's family undertakes to obtain this right of residence. Eleven contracts mention the right of residence in Wissenbourg. Three contracts mention the right of residence in Riedseltz. One contract states the right of residence in Lembach. The fourteen remaining contracts do not mention this right of residence, either because the fiancé already owns it or because there is no problem in obtaining it.

In eleven contracts there are apartments or houses. With two exceptions, it is the husband to bring the housing for the couple. This dwelling is sometimes a whole house given by the parents of the fiancé or the fiancée, more often a half-house that the parents give to their son. In several contracts, the father of the fiancé agrees to give the couple an apartment in his house for a given time, or to participate in the

rent of an apartment for a variable duration of 3, 5, or 8 years (three contracts). We note that only two contracts, which refer to housing, concern localities other than Wissembourg. All the others concern Wissembourg itself and among them, seven are contracts of the Dreyfus family.

It used to be the practice for parents or parents-in-law of a young couple to provide food for their children during the early stages of marriage until their situation is stabilized. This is called Mezonoth (food). This commitment is also included in seven of the contracts.

There are finally some cases in which the contract ensures a situation to the fiancé. It is usually a business association with his father, but limited association only a few years. The marriage contract will stipulate these provisions and will fix the terms and conditions. Of the twenty-nine contracts, therefore, there are only five which provide for a commercial association. They all concern Jews living in Wissembourg.

The central part of marriage contracts concerns cash contributions by both spouses: dowry or donation (Nadan, Nedounya). In the Wissembourg contracts, the financial clauses obviously occupy the essential place. It must not be forgotten that according to Jewish law, women cannot inherit from their husbands. In the event of the death of the latter, his property belongs to his children and, in the absence of direct descendants, to his family. The Talmudic tradition has therefore provided for the future of the woman, the modalities of Ketuba, namely: the dower (Mohar), guaranteed by the law and those of the dowry (Nedounya), that the husband doubles by the counter-dot (Tossefeth). The material details contained in the contracts, concern especially the case of rupture of the union by the death of one of the spouses or by the divorce. In the contracts, the dowry brought by the husband always appears first, followed by that of the wife.

- Dowry of the husband: When it is the father of the fiancé who appears in the contract, he brings for his son a cash sum or an acknowledgment of debt. When the fiancé engages himself, there are never any figures expressed. He brings "kol asher lo", all he has, without any detail.
- Dowry of the wife: There is no contract that does not include a dowry of the wife, endowed with a variable amount of course. Payment was either immediate or staggered. It sometimes happens that the dowry is supplemented by a sum paid at the birth of the first or first two children. A single contract states that the widowed wife brings the furniture from her first marriage.
- Amount of dowries: This amount is very variable. The promised sum is sometimes divided into two parts. A first sum returned on the spot, the rest to pay in a period of six months to three years. In two contracts, the dowry is guaranteed by the sons born of a first marriage of the woman.

Some of the Wissembourg contracts concerned wealthy families. This explains why these contracts were registered with the notaries while the more modest families were satisfied with the document signed before the rabbi or the scribe of the communit