

Mennonite Deaths in the Civil Records of Culm, West Prussia: 1813 and 1814

LDS film#1194759

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All of the church records for the Old Flemish Mennonite congregation and nearly all of the church records of the Frisian Mennonite congregation of [Schoensee](#) were destroyed at various times – mostly during or at the end of World War 2. Fortunately, the French introduced the [Napoleonic civil code](#) into this area in 1807-9. These records were kept by the local Catholic clergy. Many of the Mennonites in this area lived in the parish of Culm and their births, marriages and deaths are included in the Culm civil registers.

The translations were done by a professional translator. It should be noted that some of these records were extremely hard to read and some words were simply unreadable. Also, at no point in any of these records are the people listed below called Mennonites. The records below were chosen based on family name and location. My comments are in square brackets. I have added numbers (GM#) from the [GRANDMA](#) database only to the extent needed to identify the deceased and their family.

House/property numbers are also given. These will be tabulated, together with those obtained from other records, and appear separately.

Below are a few Polish terms which appear in these records:

Gospodarz = a farmer or farm owner

Gbur – certain kind of a farmer

Chalupnik – a minor farmer with a house and a small garden.

obywatel miasta = citizen of the town

stanu pracowitego = of the peasant status

Peter Arendt

Entry 15. Death record of Piotr Ahrendt from Podwiesk [Podwitz], 18 May 1813

On 18 May 1813 at 3 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Szroeder, age 49, *gospodarz* from Podwiesk [Podwitz], house # 17 and Henryk Unrau, age 50, *gospodarz*, from the same village, house # 18 and declared that yesterday at 5 pm died Piotr Ahrendt, age [*mie...poł piąta?* 15 or 50?] son of the late Henryk Ahrendt and Ewa Tjart a widow, age 33. This document was read, and it was signed by us because the witnesses are illiterate. Rev. [illegible].

Eva Bartel

Entry 27. Death record of Ewa Bartel from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], 8 June 1813

On 8 June 1813 at 11 am. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Bartel, age 55, *gbur* from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 46 [3?] husband of the deceased and ??? Penner, age 37, *gbur*, from the same village, house # [2?], a brother of the deceased and declared that on 6 June at 11 pm died Ewa Bartel nee Penner, age 46. She left behind a daughter Elżbieta. This document was read, and it was signed by us because the witnesses are illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Martin/Matheus Brandt

Entry 29. Death record of Maciej Brand from Szönych [Schoeneich], 9 June 1813

On 9 June 1813 at 9 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Piotr Gertz, age 24, *gbur* from Brankówka [Jamerau], house # 7 and Jan Tjardt, age 28, *chalupnik*, from Szynych [Schoeneich], house # 20, and declared that the day before yesterday at 7 pm died Maciej Brandt, age 48, *gbur* in Szynych [Schoeneich], house # 17. He left behind two children Sara and Elżbieta. The wife Sara nee Tjardt died years ago. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich. P. Gortz, J. Jaradt.
[He may not have been a Mennonite, but his wife may have been GM#310521]

Johann Eckert

Entry 159. Death record of Jan Ekert from Podwiesk [Podwitz], 2 March 1814

On 2 March 1814 at 1 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Grodt, age 36, *chalupnik*, house # 4 and Jakob Wolfram, age 43, a carpenter in Chełmno [Culm], house # 302 and declared that on 28 February of the current year at 12 at noon died Jan Ekiert, age 60, a miller *Kasznik?* in Podwiesk [Podwitz], house # 44 *nad Tamą przewaną* [= over the defeated / interrupted Dam; possibly a location in the village]. A husband of the surviving Maria nee Arendt. He left behind six minor children: three sons, Jan, Jakob, Henryk; three daughters, Elżbieta, Wilhelmina, Katarzyna. This document was read, and it was signed by us because the witnesses are illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Anna Ewert

Entry 152. Death record of Anna Ewert from Wielkie Łunawy [Gross Lunau], 12 March 1814

On 12 March 1814 at 1 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Ewert, age 50, *gbur* from Wielkie Łunawy [Gross Lunau], house # 13, a father of the deceased and Kornelius Wichert, age 40, *gbur*, from the Wielkie Łunawy [Gross Lunau], house # 5 and declared that the day before yesterday at 3 pm died Anna Ewert, age 3, daughter of the above mentioned [Henryk] Ewert [GM#1122871] and Maria nee Bartel. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Heinrich Ewert, Cornelius Wichert.

Heinrich Fleming

Entry 47. Death record of Henryk Fleming from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 8 July 1813.

On 8 July 1813 at 7 pm. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Fleming [#311588], age 48, *gbur* from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 4 and Frydryk Wolff, age 50, *obywatel*, house # 208 and declared that yesterday at 8 am died Henryk Fleming, age 10 years and 12 weeks, son of the above mentioned [Henryk] Fleming and the late Anna nee Bartel. The child died in the house of the father. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich. Fleming, Wolff.

Anna Franz

Entry 31. Death record of Anna Frantz from Sosnówka [Schoensee], 12 June 1813.

On 12 June 1813 at 11 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Frantz, age 52, *gbur* and a neighbor from Sosnówka [Schoensee], house # 1, a father of the deceased and Siewert Tjardt, age 22, *gbur* in Sosnówka [Schoensee] house # 2 and declared that on 6 June at 9 pm died Anna Frantz, age 12, daughter of the above mentioned [Jan] Frantz and the late Katarzyna nee Frantz. She was residing together with them. The child died in the house of the father. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Johan Frantz, Siewert Tiaht

Jacob Franz

Entry 57. Death record of Jakub Frantz from Wielkie Łunawy [Gross Lunau], 28 July 1813.

On 28 July 1813 at 8 am. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Frantz, [GM#1442692] age 36, *gbur* in Wielkie Łunawy [Gross Lunau], house # 12, a father of the deceased and Siewert Tjardt, age 21, *gbur* in Sosnówka [Schoensee] house # 2 and declared that on 20 July at 5 am died Jakob Frantz, age 10 weeks, son of the above mentioned [Henryk] Frantz and the late Maria nee Frantz. The child died in the house of the father. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Heinrich Frantz, Siewert Iiaht

Helena Franz

Entry 13. Death record of Piotr Frantz from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 15 May 1813. A wife Helena Petronela Frantz.

On 15 May 1813 at 10 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Piotr Frantz [GM#1013826], age 30, *chałupnik* in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 9, a husband of the deceased, and Heinrich Gerz, age 29, *gbur* in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau] house # 11 and declared that today at 1 am died Helena Petronela Frantz nee Frantz, in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 9, age 34. She did not leave any

children behind. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses.
Rev. Weinreich.
Heinrich Gertz, Peter Frantz.

Gerhard Gede

Entry 37. Death record of Gerard Gede from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 24 June 1813. A child.

On 24 June 1813 at 3 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Piotr Gede, age 42, *chałupnik* from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 25, *stanu pracowitego*, a father of the deceased and Michał Gasikowski, age 53, *Kopacz kościoła Chełmna* [grave digger of the Chełmno [Culm] church] and declared that yesterday at 3 am died Gerard Gede, age 6, son of the above mentioned [Piotr] Gede and the Maria nee Klierer, age 32. This document was read, and it was signed by us only because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Johann Gede

Entry 112. Death record of Jan Gede from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 15 December 1813.

On 15 December 1813 at 11 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Piotr Gede, age 42, *chałupnik* from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 8, *stryj zmarłego* [brother of the father of the deceased] and Michał Gasikowski, age 53, *Kopacz kościoła Chełmna* [grave digger of the Chełmno [Culm] church] and declared that the day before yesterday at 4 pm died Jan Gede, age 2, son of Jan Gede [GM#2449], *chałupnik* in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 18 and the Katarzyna nee Nickel. This document was read, and it was signed by one of the witnesses because the second one did not know how to write. Rev. Weinreich.
Peter Gede.

Eva Goertz

Entry 11. Death record of Ewa Goerz from Dorposz [Dorposch], 10 May 1813.

On 10 May 1813 at 9 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Zacharyasz Ewert, age 47, *gospodarz* in Dorposz [Dorposch], house # 9 and Franciszek Gerz, age 37, *gospodarz* in Brankówka [Jamerau], house # 1 and declared that the day before yesterday at 2 pm died Ewa Goerz nee Jonasz? Gorz, age 27, a widow after deceased Jakob Gorz, *gospodarz* in Dorposz [Dorposch], house # 8. She left behind minor children Jan, Ewa and Marya. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Zacharias Ewert, Frantz Goertz.

Petronella Goertz

Entry 74. Death record of Petronella Gorz from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 13 August / September 1813. A child.

On 13 August / September 1813 at 10 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Gerz, age 24, *chałupnik* in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 16, *stanu pracowitego*, a father of the deceased and Michał Gasikowski, age 52, a grave digger of the Chelmino [Culm] main church and declared that the day before yesterday at 4 am died Petronella Gerz, age *póltrzecia lat* [two months?], a daughter of the above mentioned [Jan] Gerz and Marya nee Plenitz [Plenert], age 35. This document was read, and it was signed by us only because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Maria Jantz

Entry 89. Death record of Maria Derks nee Jantz from Klamry [Klammer], 26 October 1813.

On 26 October 1813 at 11 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Derks, age 54, *gbur* from Klamry [Klammer], house # 2, a husband of the deceased and Jan Bartel, age 52, in Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 3 and declared that on 23 October at 2 pm died Marya Derks nee Jantz, age 45, wife of the mentioned above [Henryk] Derks. She did not leave behind any children. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Heinrich Dierks, Johan Bartel.

Kornelius Kliwer

Entry 92. Death record of Korneli Kliwer, *chałupnik* from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], 15 November 1813.

On 15 November 1813 at 10 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Michał Walter, age 31, *gospodarz* from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 9 and Dawid Orłowski, age 30, house # 23 and declared that the day before yesterday at 4 pm died Korneli Kliwert, age 38 [GM#1443649], *chałupnik* in Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 4. He left behind a wife Marya nee Bartel and five minor children Piotr, Anna, Marya, Katarzyna and Agnieszka. This document was read, and it was signed by us only because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Anna Plenert

Entry 20. Death record of Anna Plenert from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 29 May 1813.

On 29 May 1813 at 6 am. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Gerz, age 52, *gospodarz* from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 19, and Jakob Bartel, age 22, in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 18 and declared that the day before yesterday at 4 am died *felerna* Anna Plenert [The word *felerna* in Polish means flawed. It likely means that she was physically deformed], age 6 months, Daughter of the late Dyrks Plenert [GM#524367] and living Maria Ekert, residing in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 20. This document was read, and it was signed by us because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Maria Ratzlaff

Entry 93. Death record of Marianna Raclaw from Granica [Grentz], 15 November 1813.

On 15 November 1813 at 11 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Raclaw, age 30, *gbur* from Granica [Grentz], house # 30, father of the deceased and Jakob Szmitt, age 40, *gbur* in Granica [Grentz], house # 32 and declared that yesterday at 11 am died Marianna Raclaw, age 2, daughter of the above mentioned [Jan] Raclaw and Anna nee Foth. She died in their dwelling. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Peter Ratzlaff, Jacob Schmit.

Heinrich Schroeder

Entry 6. Death record of Henryk Schroeder from Podwiesk [Podwitz], 5 May 1813.

On 5 May 1813 at 10 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jan Schroeder, age 40, *gbur* from Podwiesk [Podwitz], house # 49, and Michał Gasikowski, a grave digger of the Chełmno [Culm] main church, and declared that yesterday at 4 am died Henryk Szroeder, age *pól ósma* = [half of the eight?], son of the above mentioned [Jan] Szroeder and Anna nee Tjardt, age 32. He died in their dwelling. This document was read, and it was signed by us because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Petronella Schroeder

Entry 78. Death record of Petronella Szroeder married to Fott from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], 25 September 1813.

On 21 [5?] September 1813 at 3 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryk Görz, age 29, *gospodarz* from Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 11 and Michał Gasikowski, age 52, Chełmno [Culm] main church grave digger, and declared that yesterday at 6 pm died Petronella Fohtt nee Szreider, age 59, wife of Jędrzej Fohtt, *chałupnik* in Małe Łunawy [Klein Lunau], house # 14. She left behind a son Henryk and daughter Elżbieta, both of age. This document was read, and it was signed by us and one of the witnesses because the second witness was illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.
Heinrich G[...]

Sara Tjart

Entry 119. Death record of Sara Jar dt, Sosnówka [Schoensee], 28 December 1813.

On 28 December 1813 at [?] o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Piotr [Niekel?], age 45, *gbur* from Sosnówka [Schoensee], house # 81, and Henryk Frantz, age 36, *gbur*, house # 12 and declared that on 26 December, at 11 at noon died Sara Tjardt, age 6, daughter of the late Siewert Tjardt [#1071515] and also late Sara nee Niekel, both *gbur* in Sosnówka [Schoensee], house #2. She died in their dwelling. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Peter [Niekel?], Heinrich Franz

Maria Voth

Entry 121. Death record of Marianna Fohtt from Sosnówka [Schoensee], 29 December 1813.

On the day and month as above [29 December 1813] at 10 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Jakob Fohtt, age 35, *gbur* from Sosnówka [Schoensee], house # 6, father of the deceased and Jan Pomplun, age 47, *gbur* in Górne Wymiary, house # 73 and declared that 14 December at 12 noon died a child Marianna Fohtt, age 4, legitimate daughter of the above mentioned [Jakob] Fohtt [#1018004] and Katarzyna nee Ewert, age 37. This document was read, and it was signed by us and the witnesses. Rev. Weinreich.
Foht, Pamplon.

Andreas Wedel

Entry 115. Death record of Jędrzej Wedel from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], 24 December 1813.

On 24 December 1813 at 9 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Henryck Wedel, age 25 from Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 7, and Dawid Orłowski, age 31 in Dolne Wymiary [Nieder Ausmaas], house # 23 and declared that [today?] at 8 pm died Jędrzej Wedel, age 8, son of both late Jakob Wedel [#106688 or #106675] and Katarzyna. This document was read, and it was signed only by us because the witnesses were illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.

Peter Wedel

Entry 160. Death record of Piotr Wedel from Brankówka [Jamerau], 12 March 1813.

On 12 March 1813 at 9 o'clock. In front of us, as listed above. Came Detrych [Diedrich] Balcer, age 24, *gospodarz* from Brankówka [Jamerau], house # 6, and Michał Gasikowski, age 52, a grave digger of the Chełmno [Culm] church, and declared that yesterday at 12 noon died Piotr Wedel, age 33, son of the late Jakob Wedel [#106675] and Katarzyna nee Izaak still living in Brankówka [Jamerau], house # 6. This document was read, and it was signed only by us and one of the witnesses because the second witnesses was illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.
D...k Baltzer.

Johann Wichert

Entry 50. Death record of Jan Wichert from Brankówka [Jamerau], 12 July 1813. A child.

On 12 July 1813 at 6 pm. In front of us, as listed above. Came Paweł Wichert, age 52, *gbur* from Brankówka [Jamerau], house # 8, father of the child and Michał Gasikowski, age 49, a grave digger of the Chełmno [Culm] church, and declared that yesterday at 5 am died Jan Wichert, age 11 days, son of the above mentioned [Paweł] Wichert [#781335] and Sara nee Gertz, age 20. He died in the parent's dwelling. This document was read, and it was signed only by us and one of the witnesses because the second witnesses was illiterate. Rev. Weinreich.
Paul Wichert.

Heinrich Wilhelm

Entry 22. Death record of Henryk Wilhelm from Sosnówka [Schoensee], 30 May 1813.

On 30 May 1813 at 9 am. In front of us the priest and the Civil Records Keeper of the Chełmno [Culm] county etc. Franciszek Weinreich. Came Piotr Wichert, age 55, *gbur* from Sosnówka [Schoensee], house # 3 and Dawid Unrauch [Unrau], age 40, *gbur* from Dorpasz [Dorposch], house # 5, and declared that the day before yesterday at 9 am died Henryk Wilhelm, age 37. He left behind his wife Anna [Eckert?] and two children whose names are not known. This document was read, and it was signed only by us because the witnesses were illiterate.
Rev. Weinreich.

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