

THE
BLYENBECK AND AFFERDEN
BRANCH
OF THE FAMILY OF
SCHENCK VAN NYDECK.

FROM THE
FAMILY OF
SCHENCK VAN NYDEGGEN.

COLOGNE,
1860.

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THE FAMILY

OF

SCHENCK VAN NYDECK

The first of the family was Christianus, (a younger son of Reynier Schenck, Baron van Toutenburg,) cup-bearer to the Count van Julich, whose residence was the famous castle of Nydeggen.

He was called Christianus Pincerna,¹ and his name is to be found as witness to various records of Julich, (1225-6-7, '32-3-7, and 1246.) In 1230-3, he is called "Christianus Pincerna de Nidke," and in 1234² Count Wilhelm van Julich expressly mentions him as "Pincerna noster," (our cup-bearer). He was held in great esteem by the Count who, on Sept. 10th, 1250³ appointed him, together with Gottfried Marschall van Kelsse and Renad van Druse, a court of justice to settle all quarrels and disputes between the Count and the Archbishop of Colone, Conrad van Hochsteden, who also appointed three judges.

In 1260,⁴ we find him again holding the office of bailiff of Count Froitzheim, together with his son Wilhelm.

In 1275⁵ Theodore, Lord van Henisberg, took him into his service for the consideration of ten marks annually.

1. Christianus Schenck van Nydeck had *issue* :

2. I. Wilhelmus m. Mechtildis—She d. 1271. he d. bef. 1292.

Wilhelmus, Pincerna de Nideggen, appears in 1275,⁶ and 1287, as witness, and in 1275,⁷ as justice of the peace between the monastery at Kerpen and the Lord of the castle. He was also called 'Whetstone.'

Himself and his sons Ludolfus, Christianus, Arnoldus, and Hermanus, sell April 1, 1279,⁸ all estates in the county or district of "Geyen," namely: "one manses cultivated land, the decram, (or tenth part of everything raised on their land by tenants) and their right and privileges of patrons of the church of Geyen, to the church syndicate of Colone.

1. Lacomblet, I, 494.

2. Krember, Academic Letters, I, 17.

3. Lacomblet, Records Book, I, 668.

4. " " " I, 832-3, 936.

5. " " " I, 724.

6. " " " I, c II, 668.

7. " " " II, 832.

8. " " " II, 833.

Wilhelm was married to Mechtildis—but to what family she belonged does not appear. She died in 1271, and was buried in the New Cloister, Graevendael, near Goch. In memory of her Wilhelm presented to the convent an annual revenue from his estates at Heyen of a large amount of barley and oats under the condition, or rather stipulation, to commemorate the anniversary of her death. The document recording this memorial present bears the date of the 13th day of March, 1271, and attached to it by red silk threads are the seals in green wax.

2. Wilhelm Schenck van Nydeck, m. Mechtildis—, she d 1271.

Issue:

3. I. Ludolphus Melis. Living as late as 1293.
4. II. Christianus. Living in 1301.
5. III. Arnoldus. Living in 1301.
6. IV. Hermanus.
7. V. Johann. Living in 1301.
8. VI. Werner. Living in 1301.

Ludolphus, Knight, son of the late Schenck van Nydeggen, vowed a promise Feb. 9, 1292,⁹ to dedicate in future, only to the convent of Rellinghausen, the revenues of the court of Blyrshem. In 1293,¹⁰ he placed his seal to the document recording the division of the castle and property of Rede between Johann, called Schieifprt, and his relatives, and the brothers Johann and Werner, Arnold and Christian appear as late as 1301.¹¹

After this date the records of the family cease until 1346, when there appears 9 Heinrich Schenck van Nydeggen, Lord of Afferden,¹² presumably a grandson of 2 Wilhelm, whose estates were at or near Heyen, a neighboring village to Afferden, but which of the sons of the latter was the father of Heinrich does not appear.

In the year 1359¹³ the lords, knights, yeomen and towns of the counties of Geldern and Cleve concluded a treaty, in which Hienrich was assessed "four men and horses, completely equipped and armed" if necessary.

January 13 1379,¹⁴ he offered to the Duke of Cleve the privileges of his castle of Afferden. In this document as well as in others, he is called Heinrich Schenck van Nyetdeicken, or called van Florshem, Knight.

July 12, 1389,¹⁵ he sold to Elbricht van Eyll, son of Evert, the court of Munster, afterwards called Munster Mannshof, situated in the county of Geldern, belonging to the Duke of Geldern.

9. Lacomblet, Records Book, II, 724.
 10. " " " I, c II, 836.
 11. Original Record at The Hague.
 13. Myhoff, Memoirs, II, No. 89.
 14. Lacomblet, I, c III, 829.
 15. Communications of Dr. Bergrath.

Besides being Lord of Afferden, Heinrich was also Lord of Walbeck. In the year 1381¹⁶ he made a compact with the Duke of Gelden Wilhelm van Julich, viz: he gave to Wilhelm during four years, beginning 1381, one-half of all the revenues, &c, of Walbeck, for which consideration he, the Duke was to protect and defend the village and parish of Walbeck as if his own. At the same time the Duke acknowledged or deposed that neither himself nor his heirs had any claim whatever to the high or low courts of justice or the estate of Walbeck.

9 Heinrich Schenck van Nydeck¹⁷ m. Aleid van Rayde, (Raede), heiress of Walbeck. *Issue:*

10. I. Wynand m. Aleid van Bellinghoven.

11. II. Heinrich, m Aleide van Goen van Keldenbrock.

12. III. Lisbeth, a nun at Graevendael, d. 29 Sep., 1443.

The daughter Elizabeth provided annually for the convent of Gaesdonk, thirty-three pairs of shoes upon condition that they be given every year on St. Martins by the prior and the convent to the poor, namely: eleven pairs to poor males, eleven pairs to poor females, and eleven pairs to poor boys or girls to the age of fifteen years.

For this she gave the convent in the following years seventy gold guilders.¹⁹

On Dec. 31, 1403,²⁰ the family estates were divided. Wynand got Afferden, and was also patron of the church of Heyas, and the estate of Ottersum, while Heinrich received some money revenues and the court Ten Broke, in the county or province of Kampen.

In reference to Walbeck and the other estates not mentioned in the division, the parents declared that they were to go after their death to their sons. But Wynand renounced and gave his share "of the house Walbeck with its outhouses, orchards, gardens, just as it stands and is situated within its ditches and limits," at once to his brother Heinrich.

Wynand, who had purchased Blyenbeck in 1405, had one son Heinrich, who, it seems, had died young, and therefore Wynand's estates went to his brother Heinrich, who, consequently, became Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck and Walbeck.

10. Wynand Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden and Blyenbeck, Knight m. Aleid van Bellinghoven. *Issue:*

13. I. Heinrich, who died young without issue.

16. Records at The Hague.

17. Ferban, 34.

18. Slichtenboist, 104.

19. Original Records at The Hague.

20. Cor. Dr. Bergath.

11. Heinrich Schenck van Nydeck,²¹ Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, Walbeck, Feoffer of Wachtendonk, Bailiff of Geldern, Knight, &c., died Dec. 8, 1452. He married Alheid van Goen van Keldenbrock, daughter of Allard, Lord van Keldenbrock, and Anna Monfoort.²²

Heinrich and his wife Alheid, were, as especial benefactors of the convent of Gaesdonk, declared to be entitled to all the good offices on the part of the convent, and promise was given them that holy mass was to be read daily for all time and eternity, for the benefit of their souls. They had *Issue*:

14. I. Diederich,²³ m. Aleid van Buren. He died 1487.
15. II. Johann, Lord of Walbeck, Mayor of Middlelaer, 1491, m. Inugard van Schonan. His son Arnold m. Isabella van Oest, heiress van Hillenrath, and was the head of that branch of the family.
16. III. Alheit, m. Engelbert van Brempt, Mayor of Straden.

Branch of Blyenbeck and Afferden.

Diderick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, Walbeck, Arssen, Velden, Knight, &c., became possessed of very considerable property, consisting of many smaller estates besides those above named. He added to these, as heir to the Knight Goesen Stek, the house Cradenborch and appurtenances and all of his estate with their entire and complete rights and privileges.

Diderick was counted among the benefactors of the convent Gaesdonk. June 1, 1443, he gave to the prior and convent the "Hazenget" in Baerls, the revenues of which were to be used for the benefit of the convent, and May 23, 1450, he gave the convent the title to one and one-half acres of land in Shalde.²⁴

14. Diderick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, &c., Knight, d. 1487; m. Aleid van Buren, heiress of Afferden, daughter of Johann van Buren and Aleid van Arendahl. *Issue*:

17. I. Winand, Lord of Arssen, m. Johanna van der Donk. He d. before 1515.
18. II. Johann, d. before 1515. Lord of Blyenbeck and Afferden.
19. III. Roelmann, d. before 1515. Lord of Walbeck.

21. Ferban, 34.

22. Slichtenhoist, 104.

23. Kok patre Lexicon.

24. Com. Dr. Bergrath.

20. IV. Derick, d. at Blyenbeck 3, Aug. 1525. Lord of Blyenbeck, Afferden, etc., Knight, m. Alheid Custers.
21. V. Heinrich, Lord of Horst.
22. VI. Petronella, m. 5 Feb. 1458, Frederick van Huls.
23. VII. Otto. He was a monk at Leigburg.
24. VIII. Thomas, He was a monk at Corneli Munster.
25. IX. Alheid. She was a nun in the convent of Grafenthal.²⁵
26. X. Anna. She was a nun in the convent of Grafenthal.²⁶
27. XI. Elizabeth. She was a nun in the convent of Nazareth in Gelden.

The whole of the property left by Diedrich was divided August 7, 1487, by friends selected by the heirs, who received according to this division:²⁷

1st. Winand, the eldest, the castle of Arssen, the villages of Arssen, Velden and Shaulo, with all their appurtenances.

2d. Johann, the castle of Blyenbeck and Afferden with their appurtenances, the estate of Ottersum, (a feife of Cleve,) the four courts of Blyenbeck, viz: Aldenhof, Vogehshegge, Balshese and Hyn Cronens, now Vasshoff.

3d. Roelmann, the half of Walbeck and the estate of Pleze.

4th. Derick, an estate in the county or province of Geldern, the estates of Nyfterich, Myllingen and Loet, and the court Ter Niersan near Hurst, and divers revenues in money.

5th. Heinrich, the castle of Horst near Weeze, with grain and oil mill and tannery, and five courts, also the patronage of the church of Weeze, and the court of Augen Eynelt at Afferden.

6th. Petronella divers revenues in money.

However, Johann thought that he got the worst of the bargain, and consequently requested Wilhelm, brother of Egmont, Lord Boxmeer and Haeps, to investigate the case. Another day was appointed; the above mentioned friends being present, and in 1488, with the consent of the brothers, reached this conclusion:

"That Johann should receive in addition to Blyenbeck, the excise of the beer, chickens and capons, which in the beginning had been allotted to his brother Roelmann, and that he and Roelman should use together the water and horse-power mill at Afferden."

Johann also received part of the estates, inherited by his father from the Knight Goesen Steck, to which he added later by purchase or acquisition, the remaining parts held in possession by his brothers. He eventually sold the whole estate or estates, first mentioned as inherited by his father from the Knight, to Jost, Count van Holstein and Schanenburg, Lord of Guren, and Maria the Count's wife. Johann, Duke of Cleve, gave to him in favor. in 1492,²⁸ Saturday af-

25. Original Records at The Hague.
 26. " " " " "
 27. " " " " "
 28. " " " " "

ter St. Victor, his jurisdiction, high and low, and mastership, of Scuengervatt, situated near the convent of Gaesdonk (in the township of Goch) and consisting of "six lots for laborers' dwellings and one court," for which he gave the Duke, on February 18, 1492, a receipt.

17. Winand Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Arssen and Velden, d. before 1515, m. Johanna, van der Donk, daughter of Claes, Lord of Obpicht and Papenhoven and Oy van Petersum, the marriage contract being dated in January 1489.²⁹ *Issue:*

28. I. Adelheid, who became heiress of Arssen, Velden and Schanlea, m. 1st 1503,³⁰ Reyner van Gelre,³¹ natural son of the Duke Adolph van Geldern. He d. toward the end of 1522. m. 2nd 1529-30, Diderick van der Lippe Lord of Betgenhausen.

This Diderick van der Lippe was a trusty retainer of the Duke Carl van Egmont, and no sooner had he secured the hand of the widow than he began his designs against the estates of her family, and in which he was aided by one Godart Haes, who was a retainer of the Archbishop of Cologne, and who had married Catharine, Lady van Hules, a daughter of Petronella Schenck van Nydeck, through whom Godart also claimed to be heir to the estates of Diderick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, etc. These two men possessed no honest scruples, and backed by the powers of their great feudal lords, caused no end of trouble to the Schenck family.

18. Johann Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Blyenbeck and Afferden, d. before 1515, is reported as having died unmarried, but as having left *Issue:*

29. I. Heinrich, Priest at Afferden.
 30. II. Christian, b. before 1515, m. Johanna ——.
 31. III. Lambert, b. before 1515, Judge at Afferden, m. Byhen ——.
 32. IV. Johann, b. before 1515.
 33. V. Johanna, m. Albert van Redinkhoven.
 19. Roelmann Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Walbeck, d. before 1515. Said to have died unmarried, but left *issue:*

34. I. Johann, b. about 1481.
 20. Derick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Blyenbeck, Afferden, etc., Knight, d. at Blyenbeck, 3d Aug., 1525. About 1515, after the death of his brothers, he fell heir to the above and other titles and estates. He is said to have lived with Catherine Rutgen, and Gertgen Brugers, (by the latter having a natural son, Otto, who lived at Goch,) and Alheit Custers, all of Arssen, having married the latter, and by her had *issue*, eight children.

29. Original Records at The Hague.
 30. " " " "
 31. " " " "
 32. Myhoff Memoirs, V.

The author from whom these records are taken, (his work was published at Cologne in 1860, but does not bear his name,) now devotes a great many pages toward showing that, first, this marriage was, according to the ecclesiastic law null and void, from the fact that Alheit Custers was related in the third degree to Gertgen Bruges, by whom Derick had had a son; second, that a dispensation from the Pope legalizing this marriage in so far as it might have infringed the church laws, was a forgery, or rather had been dated back to cover the supposed case, and finally that there was no marriage anyhow, and that the children were illegitimate, and had no right and title to inherit the estates of their father. Fortunately he produces enough of the historical facts to enable judgment to be formed respecting the merits of the case, although he is very careful not to give the dates of many of the documents quoted, and which were produced before the courts to establish the claims of the heirs, and also to exclude with even greater care, much of the other testimony adduced in their behalf, though such is not the case when it is found to be in favor of the other claimants. And it will be seen further, that he relies upon, not the courts of first instance and of the vicinage (either civil or ecclesiastical) which first tried the case and examined the witnesses and documents when the former had the facts yet fresh in their minds, and were not yet brought under fear of the great feudal lords who interested themselves therein; but reliance is rather placed upon the decisions of "commissions" appointed by these lords, in their decrees and orders, or in those of the Pope and the Emperor, rendered many years after the event, so manifestly unjust, and rendered upon testimony so evidently suborned, or given under fear, that to accept them as legal and just seems utterly absurd.

Respecting the marriage of Derick Schenck van Nydeck to Alheit Custers, it first appears that the Archbishop of Cologne had issued an order to the Priest, Peter Ephagen, "to pronounce bans, etc., providing there were no obstacles existing why they should not marry."

The Priest performed the marriage ceremony, Derick being sick at the time, and it is stated that the notary and witnesses had to climb a ladder up to the door of the chamber, in order to look through a small window, and witness the proceedings. As there were three or more of these witnesses, this story does not seem probable, nor is it claimed to have been told when the case was first tried.

When the long contest began for the estates of Derrick, it was first sought to prove, not that this marriage had not actually and properly taken place, but that it was illegal and void because of relationship in the third degree between Alheit Custers and Derick's former mistress, Gertgen Burgers, by whom he had had a son, and *consequently* a relationship in the fourth degree between the contracting parties to this marriage. It is distinctly stated that at this time this marriage was generally known and conceded.

This first attempt was met by a dispensation from the Pope exactly covering the point raised. This document is quoted, but as it is to be challenged, care is taken not to give its *date*, not the usual custom of the author. "Lambertius, Cardinal priest, etc., according to an application Derick Schenck and Alheit Custers married each other, not knowing that any obstacle existed to their doing so, and they also consummated their union in the flesh, afterward. Although, discovering that they were related in the fourth degree, Great scandal would arise if they were divorced and therefore they have prayed for a dispensation. In order to secure the eternal welfare of the souls of the petitioners and avoid scandal, WE hereby order, that, should this be so, the persons named can remain married and dispensation is hereby given."

When trying to overthrow the decree of the courts of first instance, given in favor of the heirs, it was sought to prove in 1538, thirteen years after the death of Derick, that this document was forged, or rather that it had been dated back by the heirs in order to cover the case, but we shall soon see before what kind of a court, and under what circumstances this attempt was made at that late date.

It is stated that after Derick's death his children retained, *by resistance and force*, possession of the inheritance, to which they claimed the exclusive right and title as the legitimate children of their father.

Godart Haes, (husband of the Lady van Huls, daughter of Petronella, Derick's sister) contested the validity of the marriage, and applied to the Duke, Carl van Egmont, who appointed a day on which all the disputed points should be deliberated in an amicable manner. He also sent the question of the marriage to the regular and lawful judges.

It could not be ascertained if any agreement was reached or the appointed day kept, but it is more than probable that nothing of the kind took place. For the case was soon after *decided by the court in favor of the heirs*. This was the regular court of the vicinage, most, if not all of the witnesses were yet alive, and their testimony was taken under oath before the court, and at some considerable time before 1529, but after Derick's death in 1525, as appears by the context, though due care is taken to suppress the date of this decision, and no part of the testimony of any witness as given before this court is to be found, given in favor of the heirs.

At this time the Duke believed the marriage valid, and seems to have been friendly to the heirs, as he issued an order to his officers to see that they retained their estates and were not molested. But the Archbishop of Cologne now appeared upon the scene in favor of *his* retainer, Godart Haes, and prohibited the heirs under

threats of excommunication and a fine of one hundred gold florins "to alienate, to sell, to spend, to burden, or to ruin the estates," and also prohibited the parishioners of Afferden from meddling in any way with the children, to buy from them, etc. It seems that the case had not yet been decided in the ecclesiastical court, which was under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop, and in his opinion without doubt, of more consequence than the civil court.

The Schencks nevertheless, mocked at the prohibition. Peter, one of them, declared publicly that he regarded the ban no more than the young raven, that he had in his hand at the time.

It is probable that the relations of this family to the church of Rome, and to the Emperor Charles V, had more to do with their decisions in this case, than did any of the facts relating to the marriage, or the rights of the heirs.

In 1530, after Diedrick van der Lippe had married the widow Adelheid, daughter of Winand Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, he, being then councillor for the Duke Carl van Egmont, seems to have been able to have presented matters to his lord in a different light, for the Duke issued a decree to the effect that, as * * * * "Blyenbeck and Afferden were his feudal tenures and the right of pre-emption was his due, as sovereign and feudal lord, and he therefore ordered that they (Lord Eyern and Franz van Schwarzenberg) with Derick van der Lippe, Lord of Gibbervoort, should betake themselves to Blyenbeck without delay or refusal, and to demand the castle for him, the Duke. Should the Schencks refuse, then they should find means to take possession of the castle and settle the bargain accordingly. The heirs could summons to the sale their friends and relatives, in order that it be conducted fair and open, as it was not his intention to deceive the children, but he only wished that the estates should not fall into the hands of strangers."

It does not appear who these "strangers" were, but it does appear that these estates were on or very near the boundary, and that van der Lippe strongly represented to the Duke that the Schencks were not to be relied upon to defend them, and therefore, some one else should be placed in possession. "The "strangers" was no doubt Herman. By the grace of God Archbishop of Cologne, Lord High Chancellor of the Holy Roman Empire, and Elector, Duke of Westphalia and Eyern, Administrator of Paderborn, &c., &c. This "cannon" of the church was of pretty heavy calibre for the Duke's neighbor, and perhaps the latter was justified in looking after his boundaries with great care and attention. But he does not seem to have relied upon any pretended claims of illegal marriage, to oust the Schencks from their estates, but he exercised his right of pre-emption, and purchased the property, and his trusty councillor seems to have convinced him that he, van der Lippe, was the proper man for the place.

At any rate the above order was already executed on the 26 of March [1530,] the two Magistrates, Detrick van der Lippe, and some armed men took possession of Blyenbeck and the lordship of Afferden on the above mentioned day, without meeting with any resistance, but the children would not consent to the sale, and here begins a fine illustration of

“That good old plan
That he shall take who has the power,
And he shall keep who can.”

On the 28th of March the Duke gave his officers orders to “assemble on the following day at a convenient place, and to summons the children for the purpose of negotiating with them [to the advantage of the country] about the transfer of their castle of Blyenbeck and the lordship of Afferden to him, for a sum to be agreed upon.”

The Duke also informed hereof his Eminence the Archbishop of Cologne.

The bargain was now brought about between Dietrick van der Lippe and the children, but was not yet closed. Dietrick having previously informed the Duke thereof, who nevertheless sanctioned the bargain, and May 14, 1530, ordered that the evacuation of the castle be put at the disposal of the magistrates of Kessel. On the 24th of May the bargain was concluded, and it was stipulated that for the sum of 3500 single gold guilders [of which 600 shall be paid immediately, etc.,] Derick Schenck van Nydeggen [oldest child] and Maria van Galen, his wife, shall sell to Derick van der Lippe, and Alheit Schenck van Nydeggen his wife, and their heirs, the whole lordship of Afferden and the castle of Blyenbeck with all its sovereignties, church-revenues, feudal-tenures, poll-taxes, annual revenues, interests, estates, rights, etc., which belonged thereto and heretofore were enjoyed (possessed by the brothers Johann and Derick Schenck) besides everything that had been sold, etc. Also all the documents and records in the possession or the sellers concerning the Lordships and estates, etc.” The only exception being the estate leased from Derick Schenck in Hockelum. It is stated that this contract did not become legal until August 20, 1530. As a matter of fact it is questionable whether it ever became, or could have become so. even during those troublesome times, and under their arbitrary customs van der Lippe's name appears as proprietor instead of the Duke. And it is further recorded that after the payment of the 600 gold guilders, a deed was drawn up, and a clause was added, “that in case the verdict of the lawsuit pending in Cologne between the Lord of Huls and the children, on account of the illegal marriage, be against the latter, the sellers and their heirs should have no further claim to the remaining prime cost of 2,900 gold guilders or the 150 gold guilders annual revenues; on the other hand they should not be obliged to return the sums they had received up to that time.”

This so-called bargain was concluded with Derick Schenck van Nydeck and his wife, the armed retainers of the Duke and of his well beloved councillor van der Lippe, being then in forcible possession of his castle, but the other heirs repudiated the sale, and soon after attacked van der Lippe in the castle of Blyenbeck, whereat the Duke interfered with his forces in favor of his subservient retainer, and the Schencks were forced to desist for the time.

About this time Derick Schenck van Nydeck was required to make division among the heirs of his receipts of this sale, as well as several estates formerly belonging to the father, from which it appears that no attempt (at least successful) had been made to secure these estates by the Duke, van der Lippe, or Huls, and they were divided among the heirs. The castles of Blyenbeck and Afferden seem to have been the objective points, and, once in possession of these strong positions, they no doubt expected to become masters of the situation, and, after the delectable fashion of the robber barons of the age, in due time to gain further possessions without other payment than the current coin of good sword blows. But we shall see that the issuing of such "fiat" currency was a game at which two could play.

During all this time the Lord of Huls had been contesting the validity of the marriage before the ecclesiastical courts, which were under the jurisdiction of his feudal chief, the Archbishop of Cologne, Duke of Westphalia, &c., &c. But, as was the case in the civil suit, the first judgment at Cologne was in favor of the heirs, affirming the validity of the marriage.

As nothing was to be obtained through the regular courts of the vicinage, either civil or ecclesiastical, at that time, recourse was had to a very different policy, and a "Commission" was appointed (by whom does not appear), which rendered a decision at Coblenz Nov. 26, 1533, which annulled the "first judgment," which one, whether the civil or ecclesiastical, is not stated. At any rate the Duke did not place any reliance upon this judgment, and now took up the question of the marriage and started to settle it after his own fashion. He also appointed a "Commission," consisting of several of his loyal and right trusty councillors, to investigate the validity of the marriage; among others the Knight Jacob van Dornburg; Johann van Wittenhorst, Lord of Horst; Dr. Werner van Bördberg, and Johann Schenvill. In 1534 they went to work, and examined witnesses, the two principal ones being the then priests at Afferden and Well, viz.: Heinrich, the son of 16 Johann Schenck van Nydeck, and Thomas Helden, both for years enemies of the heirs, and at this very time in the service of their oppressors. The witnesses named all seem to have been similarly employed, and not one, not even one of the heirs,

is quoted as having said a word in their defence before this "Commission,"—rather a strange omission, after they had been contesting this case for nearly ten years already, and continued to do so for more than two generations afterwards.

Before this Commission of the Duke, these witnesses retracted what they had previously testified to under oath before the regular courts, and testified to very different stories. And upon its report the Duke issued the following decree :

" WE herewith make known, that we are informed of the unheard of duplicity and deceit that were practiced in the lawsuit against our dear and loyal Dederick van der Lippe, Lord of Grebben and Afferden, and his brother-in-law, the Lord of Huls, with the deceased Derick Schenck's children. The former two have since been deprived of the inheritance of the late Derick Schenck through the children, and it is our duty as reigning prince and liege-lord to look after said things and remit them. We order for that reason that to Dederick van der Lippe and his brother-in-law take possession of all the estate and property left by the late Derick Schenck, excepting those which he had bequeathed under seal and in letters to his children ; but of which we take for the present charge on account of the incurred penalty.

" WE also order herewith our dear loyal councillor Lord Jacob van Dornburg and all our sheriffs and subjects of the district of Ruremond (in which the above mentioned estates are situated) that you put our dear and loyal Dederick van der Lippe and his brother-in-law in possession and use of the named estates. This is our will and desire."

Two days later, April 22d (1534), the Duke sold to Dederick van der Lippe and his wife all the estates which fell to *his* share !

Although no decisions of the regular courts are given, such acts as these are freely quoted. But, in fact this seems much more business-like than the affairs of the ecclesiastical "commission;" the case soon tried, judgment rendered for the friend of the judge, who at once pockets, in ready money, what falls to his share as the result thereof. The decrees of the regular courts, either civil or ecclesiastical, receive no consideration whatever.

But the will of "Karl, by the Grace of God Duke of Geldern, and Julich, Count of Zutphen," &c., &c., backed by the force at his command, was without doubt a matter of serious consequence, and before which the Schencks had for the time to give way.

To consider these decisions and orders as legal, and these actions as lawful and just, is simply absurd. The former were gotten up to cloak the latter, and it is clearly evident that the "good old plan," the law of force, is the only one recognized as efficient under the circumstances, at least by those who now profited thereby.

The ecclesiastical side of the case had been appealed to Rome, and Dr. Adolph Nolden, surnamed Creveldia, of Cologne, had gone thither on behalf of the heirs, and, it appears, was likely to carry the case in their favor. But in December, 1535, "with the grace of God and the aid of the Virgin Mary, and under the guidance of the Three Holy Kings," Otto Wachtendonk arrived safely in Rome on the part of van der Lippe and the Duke, where he found that the heirs had indeed the advantage. He was compelled to employ all his powers and energy against Creveldia (who rendered the case very difficult and protracted it to a great extent), and the many secret well-wishers and friends of the children, to turn the process in favor of his clients. For the which the Duke, January 10, 1537, notified the officials of Cologne that Creveldia had "prejudiced his ducal honor," and that they were to treat him as his enemy and not allow him to remain in the city of Cologne. To which the magistrates quickly replied, January 15, 1537, "that they had reprimanded Creveldia for his conduct, and that he was now willing to drop the matter."

Herman, by the Grace of God Archbishop of Cologne, Duke of Westphalia, &c., &c., also attacked the poor advocate, and in reference to him and others: "* * * therefore orders and permission to arrest the above mentioned malefactors, within our domain, even on sacred ground, may it be in the church or convent, to punish them as an example to others.

"Given at Poppelstorf, April 28, 1557."

Following this, on the 7th of the next month, the Duke also issued his warrant for the arrest of Creveldia. It was evidently not a safe place for the advocate of the Schencks, so he quickly went back to Rome to conduct their case there.

The cause of all this trouble was the fact that, to state it concisely, Creveldia had characterized His Eminence and the Duke, and their conduct and actions toward the heirs as being no better than pirates, and that too of the very worst kind.

About this time the domain of Geldern was in an uproar. The Duke, Charles, of Egmont, whose marriage with Elizabeth of Limberg had remained without issue, had in 1534 secretly ceded his whole domain to the King of France, out of spite against the Burgundian, who should be his heir. Charles died August 31, 1538, and the heirs brought their case before the Diet assembled at Ruremond in that year. After examination of the documents and counter-writs produced by both parties (the counter-writs covered thirty-six pages folio, not counting a large volume of evidence), the deputies decided, in September, 1538, that they could not give judgment in the case because it was still pending before the clerical tribunal.

On the 6th of July, 1541, the authorities at Rome rendered decision, confirming the judgment of the so-called court of *second* instance. But from this judgment the heirs appealed.

A letter to van der Lippe, from his advocate Wachtendonk, in Rome, is very instructive in connection with this decision from that famous old city. He wrote: "I have received the sentence of July 6th. I also paid the notaries, advocates, &c. I have also satisfied the judge. But as we still need him, and as his good-will will be useful to us, on account of the appeal *pro defennone sententie sue*, I have promised to have sent him from our country several presents for the table, as napkins, table-cloths, &c. He is a capable and learned man, whose good-will and friendship it is necessary to preserve for us.

"The judge and notary, besides all *Auditors Rolae*, once more read over the documents and records (over 8,000 pages). We are compelled to begin a new process in all points, before the same. We have, thank God, the advantage, but we dare not spare either money or time."

Creveldia again undertook the case for the heirs in the new process. The examination dragged slowly along until May 20, 1546, when a second and final judgment was given in Rome, which confirmed the first one rendered there.

When the peace of Venlo was proclaimed, September 12, 1543, which resulted in the renunciation, by William of Clives, of his right to the sovereignty over Geldern, in favor of the Emperor, Charles V., the Schencks, in 1544, applied to the Emperor for the restitution of their inheritance. But the Emperor declined to decide the case while pending in Rome, but he ordered Dederick van der Lippe and Godart Haes to pay the heirs 200 Carolus guilders pending the suit.

Godart Haes had attacked the title of the estate of Heinrich Schenck van Nydeck (son of Derick), at Haussen, in the domain of Goch. His son Peter Schenck van Nydeck, as his heir, carried on the suit, which was decided in his favor, and Haes was sentenced to pay him the rents due for twelve years.

At the convent of Nazareth were preserved several boxes containing "insignificant articles," valued at 100 guilders, and belonging to the late Derick Schenck van Nydeggen. Aleid Schenck van Nydeggen, Lady of Arssen (wife of van der Lippe), and Catharine, Lady of Huls (wife of Huls), took possession of these as Derick's lawful heirs. But the Lord of Huls was now, according to judgment of the court, sentenced to pay for these "insignificant" articles 2,000 "Rounoblen."

Here we have another decree of a civil court of the vicinage, based upon the same point, viz. : the validity of the marriage so long in question, this court also holding that Aleid, Lady of Arssen, and Catharine, Lady of Huls, were not the lawful heirs of Derick Schenck van Nydeck; consequently the court must have held that his marriage had been a valid one.

Rome had rendered its final decision in 1546. On the 21st of October the Emperor also rendered his, and in which he names all of the parties to the suit, and “* * * declared the lawsuit at Cologne and its sentence is made void,” and also that the children are pronounced illegitimate. * * * WE also order the children of the late Derick Schenck to comply with the sentence passed at Rome and desist from disputing the estates, &c.

“Given in our imperial capital, Spain, the 21st of October, in the year of our Lord 1549.”

Charles V. was not the ruler to pay much attention to the decrees of the courts of the Netherlands, especially as against those of Rome.

Herewith seems to have ended all so-called legal recourse. There can be no doubt but that the heirs were in the right according to the present ideas of law and justice, or even those of their own times and country as interpreted by their own courts. But the “law of might,” under shadow of arbitrary decrees, was for the time too much for them. But the Schenck family seem to have bided their time, and not to have given up hope. On Christmas night, 1559, Dederick Schenck van Nydeck of Goch, son of 36, Derick, made an unsuccessful attack upon the castle of Blyenbeck. Dederick van der Lippe sued his assailant, but the result was only to open anew the already long contested case, but, on March 29, 1560, an amicable settlement is said to have been brought about.

No further serious attacks seem to be recorded until that of Martin Schenck van Nydeggen in 1576. He was the son of Dederick, and grandson of 36 Derick and Maria van Galen, and was born at Goch in 1543. Amid those troubled times, he early took up the profession of a soldier, serving first under Captain Enkhuisen, and afterwards as Squire to Christoffle, Lord of Isselstein, in the service of the Netherlands. He had always maintained claim to Blyenbeck as his lawful property, and on the 15th April, 1576, he wrote from Goch to Caspar van der Lippe, then in possession of that castle, demanding the rents from Betgenhausen since 1530, and stating that he would no longer suffer wrong at the hands of those who held possession of his rightful inheritance. To which demand Caspar returned an ironical answer, coupled with a demand to know upon what grounds Martin based his claims. For which insolence Martin soon paid him a visit in person; with a few of his friends and retainers he surprised Blyenbeck and wrested its possession from the hands of the intruder. Among Martin's forces were two of his cousins, Derick and Bernhard Schenck van Nydeggen, Conrad and Wilhelm Camphuys, Johan van Galen, Matthies Ryder, Hildebrant van Munster, and two men named Boerhaus and Blutsuper, all of whom remained in the garrison after the capture of the castle.

Caspar van der Lippe applied to the Estates General of the Netherlands for the restitution of his so-called rights, but the Estates would give him no effectual aid, other than an act dated 19th Nov., 1577, authorizing him to raise men with which to make good the rights claimed! the which he proceeded to attempt. * * * *
 "Bertram van dem Bylant van Walbeck, Peter van Stepradt, and Diderick van Westrum pledged themselves to furnish Caspar with twenty-five men-at-arms each, under promise of rations, powder, lead, &c., and 225 florins to each warrior," from Caspar, who made an attack upon the castle of Blyenbeck, but was shamefully defeated.

Phillip, Count van Hohenlo, a colonel in the service of the Estates, about this time complained that Martin had gained by bribery Phillip's soldiers to his service, &c., which charge Martin emphatically denied, stating in a letter to the Estates "that the birds under the heavens knew that his forefathers had been despoiled of their rights, and it was commended to him by divine Providence to regain said loss, &c."

Not being able to realize anything out of the act of the Estates authorizing him to use force, by his own exertions and commands, Caspar van der Lippe, in August, 1578, applied to Count van Nassau, Governor of Gelders, for aid, upon which the Count issued an order to the captains at Venlo to take Blyenbeck at all hazard, but after making a reconnaissance of the castle, it was deemed advisable not to make the attack, and Hohensachsen, in command at Venlo, on Oct. 9, 1578, issued an order suspending for the time the enterprise, and shortly afterwards he issued another to the effect that if "enterprising soldiers or other good persons could be enlisted for Caspar's cause they would fight independent of him, but this order was entirely ignored by the captains, and Caspar was again forced to appeal to the Count of Nassau.

Martin Schenck van Nydeggen now found himself in a very precarious situation. The estates and the Governor of Gelden sided with van der Lippe, demanded the restitution of Blyenbeck, and then authorized and levied war upon Martin, and endeavored by force of arms to dispossess him of his estates.

The Spanish troops being near at hand, Martin entered their service, as did many another Netherlander of every rank and station in life, and prepared to defend his inheritance against all comers.

In 1578, Caspar van der Lippe again appealed to Johann van Nassan as follows:

"To his Exelency the Governor of Gelden, Count Johann van Nassan, etc,

Your Grace will no doubt remember my appeal to you, regarding the castle of Blyenbeck, now in the possession of Martin Schenck, which by right of a decree of Rome is my lawful property. You will

also remember the peremptory order your Grace issued to the captains of Venlo to defend my rights, but which has hitherto been refused by them.

In concert with some of my adherents, two of the captains of Venlo, disguised as peasants, had been detailed to inspect the walls of Blyenbeck, to report the most favorable point whence a salley could be effected in scaling the walls, but owing through rising difficulties, especially the change of religion in the good city of Venlo, from the Catholic to the reformed faith, the execution has been delayed. Although it has been inspected at the hazard of life, by one of the captains, he excused himself that owing to other orders he received through your Grace's commands, he was lack of sufficient forces. Having commissioned one of the Lieutenants of the absent Captains to inquire in my behalf, and having laid myself liable to pecuniary expenses by that act, I received, to my great surprise and chagrin, that the execution was ordered a stay of proceedings.

In one of your Grace's temporary absences, I again appealed to the noble Count van Hohensachsen, who again urged the Captains to the execution of your order. During the delay of the last four weeks from the promulgation of your order, Martin Schenck has deserted the Estates General, and taken up his abode in Blyenbeck.

Schenck having joined the Spaniards, will through his allies in the adjoining lands give firm footing to our mortal foe, the Spaniards, by which act he will not only injure the Principality, but the courts of Nimeguen and Ruremonde as well as the lands of Cuick. It is therefore my earnest prayer, that your Grace will not hesitate in allowing this marauder to prevail in his illegal action, as it is my honest opinion, that a quick and determined movement would save the Principality as well as the adjoining lands from fearful bloodshed.

[Signed] Caspar van der Lippe.

Caspar makes no claim to Blyenbeck as his property by right of inheritance, or of any decree of the courts of his own country, but that it was his by virtue of a "decree of Rome." To this appeal, the Count replied that the circumstances forbid for the present, his affording the aid requested the enemy being already in possession of Ruremonde, and the garrison of Venlo being very meagrely garrisoned with troops, it was impossible to withdraw even one man.

Meantime Martin held possession of Blyenbeck and its surroundings, and in 1580 strongly fortified Well. The war was a bitter and a bloody one upon the part of both sides, and each suffered greatly. Martin's foraging parties exacted heavy tolls from the country in which his military operations were carried on so successfully. During the winter of 1579, the Count of Nassau with ten companies of infantry, several squadrons of cavalry, with other troops, made a determined attack upon Martin Schenck van Nydeggen and his strong-

holds. Well soon fell before this force, but the strong walls of Blyenbeck were too well defended to be carried by even this great display of troops, and the Count applied for a re-inforcement of ten companies, five hundred horse, and two hundred pioneers, with which to continue the siege of Martin's strongholds of Blyenbeck and Stralen. But, although Nassau pressed the siege of Blyenbeck vigorously, he was forced to abandon it. Shortly afterwards, in 1580, Martin's forces having been reinforced to a total strength of some 3,500, but without any artillery, his enemy having 1,800 infantry, 1,400 cavalry and 5 pieces of artillery, was met and totally defeated and routed from the field at Hardenburg Heath, losing all of his artillery, baggage, and very large numbers in killed, wounded and prisoners.

Martin Schenck van Nydeggen about this time captured the castle of Nyenwegen, into which he threw a garrison. He also thoroughly repaired and strongly fortified Blyenbeck, which he made his headquarters. He soon brought pretty much all of the surrounding country into his power, fortified all of the strong positions, and furnished them with the necessary garrisons, and successfully held them against all efforts of the enemy.

On the 23d of July, 1681, George van Laaing, Count of Rennenburg died at Groneningen, having been Governor of that section of the country and Martin, who had been its chief and most successful military defender, expected to succeed him as Governor. But the Prince of Parma appointed one Francis Verdugo, a former stable-boy of Mansfeld, a Spaniard who had risen to high rank was appointed Governor of Friesland instead of Martin.

Caspar van der Lippe had not ceased his endeavors to regain possession of Blyenbeck and Afferden, but as he could gain no assistance from the estates, he now deserted to the Spaniards and applied to the Prince of Parma who was then approaching with his army. He also applied to the Duke of Cologne, Gebhart Truchsess, who, on the 11th of September, addressed a letter to Parma in favor of van der Lippe.

It is not known what action Parma took in the case, but it was quite certain that he could not grant this request, as Martin was one of his own officers.

On the 24th of April, 1582, Martin was in the city of Xanten, on neutral ground, transacting private business, and believing himself safe from attack. But Hans Ulrich van Hohensachsen, Governor of Geldern, hearing that Martin was in Xanten, thought it a good opportunity to effect his capture, and when Martin left the city he was made prisoner and carried to Geldern. His capture caused great rejoicing, and petitions were sent to the authorities to the effect that Martin should not be ransomed but held close prisoner. In August,

1582, the Governor issued an order that he would ransom his prisoner for the sum of 150,000 florins. This sum was nearly 100,000 florins greater than the total amount which Martin had demanded for several of the most prominent officials of the estates, whom he had recently captured, and by this measure as a standard, Martin was by far the most famous prisoner in the country.

But Martin's wife was at Blyenbeck in the meantime, where she held in custody several high officials of the estates, whom she would not ransom nor permit at liberty until her husband received due consideration. The friends of these prisoners protested to the estates, that if van Hohensachsen would not come to reasonable terms, they would ransom Martin in a different manner. In June, 1584, he was released, having agreed to return the prisoners at Blyenbeck and pay a ransom of 15,000 florins to Hohensachsen. To secure this sum, he offered his valuable house at Goch, and some other property belonging to him, which was for a time received by the Overysel nobility, but afterward hostages were demanded from Marten. These were Martin's brother, Peter Schenck van Nydeggen, both of his cousins Berndt Schenck van Nydeggen and Johann van Cleet, the latter of whom died before the ransom money could be paid. Martin was released on St. John's Day and left Nymeguen for Blyenbeck.

On the 25th of August, 1582, Casper van der Lippe joined the Spanish cause, and took the oath of allegiance thereto, and avowed his adherence to the Roman Catholic faith, this question of faith having now become the overshadowing one in the contest between the Netherlands and Spain.

In 1585, Martin had secured the surrender of the great city of Nymeguen to the Spanish cause. But Parma utterly regardless of his claims to consideration, appointed Haultpenne, Martin's enemy to the governorship. He would no longer put up with the rebuffs and injustices of Parma and the Spanish authorities, who treated him with continual distrust and injustice.

Gebhardt Truchsess van Waldburg, Archbishop and Prince of Cologne gave adherence to the Protestant faith in 1582, and married the Countess Agnes van Mansfeld, for all of which of course the Pope promptly excommunicated him and his, and the Roman Catholic forces were turned upon him to wrest from him all of his honors both ecclesiastical and temporal, and he was soon forced to join hands with the Netherland forces.

Martin Schenck van Nydeggen seems to have adhered to the Protestant faith, and to have been friendly to Truchsess in his troubles, and to have decided to join his cause and that of the Netherlands, and on the 19th of May, 1585, he, with five men met in Geldern, the Count of Neuenar and other envoys extraordinary of the Estates and of Gebhardt Truchsess, Prince of Cologne, and the following articles were agreed to:

1. That it is the express will of Martin Schenck; Blyenbeck to be occupied by the troops of the United States of the Netherldans, that in exchange he will receive a castle in Holland or Zeeland; that in case of his demise his widow or heirs are under the protection of the Estates, and after peace is ratified, he or his heirs to receive the castle of Blyenbeck, etc., as his property, and if such occur, that they must restitute the estate and castle in Holland or Zeeland to the government of the United Netherlands.

2. That said Colonel Schenck shall receive the same privileges as in the service of the King of Spain, and be promoted to the grade of Field Marshal.

3. That Colonel Schenck in case of being captured, be ransomed by money or other means.

4. If peace is signed between the King of Spain and the United Netherlands, he shall receive Blyenbeck and all the property there-to at once.

5. That Colonel Schenck demands the return of those nobles of Overgissel captured and confined since 1584.

6. That Colonel Schenck demand all serving under him be arranged in grades according to their qualifications, and that to the Lieutenant commanding Blyenbeck, a company should be sent.

7. That Colonel Schenck demands recompense for the twelve guns captured by him, while in the service of the King of Spain, for the Estates.

8. In case of peace Colonel Schenck demands Blyenbeck and property, to be free from all taxes.

9. That Colonel Schenck shall be recompensed for the outlay of the fortifications of Mellinge, which had been promised to him from the headquarters of Geldern and Kerick, amounting to 24,000 florins.

This document, which is now in the archives at the Hague, was signed May 10th, 1585, and Martin immediately surrendered his stronghold to the Estates, and entered their service, serving them faithfully and the most efficiently of any officer in their service up to the time of his death in 1589. The Estates ratified these articles of agreement, with some slight changes. Article 9 was modified, the Estates giving the lands of Limberg, Groneningen and the castle of Herzogenback, instead of the money. His rank was established as Lieutenant to the Count of Neuenar, with the pay of 1200 florins and 40 "gertes," and Field Marshal to the Prince of Cologne. The following day he took the oath of allegiance to the Estates, and the reformed religion, before the representatives of the Estates-General. His services were now the most brilliant in the annals of this war, and on the 23d of April, 1586, he received the honor of knighthood.

In January, 1589, the Spanish forces had advanced to the walls and laid siege to Blyenbeck, as Caspar van der Lippe seems to have add a hand in the movement, the Marquis of Varambon being in command of the Spanish forces, Sir Martin Schenck van Nydeggen at the time being at the Hague in the service of the Estates; He heard of the siege of his castle and reported the fact to the Estates-General on the 8th of May, and asked for troops to relieve it. By the 3d of June he had secured a command and took his leave, but in the meantime Blyenbeck was hard pressed by Varambon, who had his camp in a valley near the mill of Blyenbeck, and extended to Rhympdt, or later called Lagerberg. He environed Blyenbeck with his works crowned with artillery, and commenced the bombardment Friday and Saturday, and more than a thousand shot are said to have been fired against the castle without result on account of its great strength and the breaches being promptly repaired. Varambon now ordered that an assault be made, and Col. Alex. del Monte, on an elevated piece of ground was to protect the artillery. While the noble Engineer Piatto was building a bridge across the moat, the besieged made a sally in which both parties lost heavily. The beseiged after losing their commander retreated to the castle, the Spaniards having to regret the loss of Piatto. Discord arose in the castle after the loss of its commander, and after a siege of two months on the 25th day of June at noon, Blyenbeck was surrendered to Varambon, the garrison being permitted to leave with the honors of war. The day Blyenbeck surrendered Sir Martin Schenck van Nydeggen was near Cleve, and very close upon Blyenbeck, but he was too late, and Blyenbeck was again lost to him.

After the death of Sir Martin in his assault upon Nyemegun on the night of August 10th, 1589, Caspar van der Lippe renewed his demands for Blyenbeck, it being then in Spanish hands, and in 1590 applied to Bicoqua, then governor of Ruremond, who went to Brussels and after many fruitless endeavors at last got an order from Parma that the Spanish garrison should leave Blyenbeck and return it to Caspar van der Lippe. Moro, the commander, was ready to obey the order, but asked indemnity for improvements made. Through the intercession of Phillip of Valadolid, the contract between Caspar and Christoffel Schenck van Nydeggen, his son-in-law, (he married Caspar's daughter in 1596) to pay Moro four hundred florins was agreed to, and the castle of Blyenbeck again came into the possession of Caspar van der Lippe.

But during the next four years the victorious young Prince Maurice and his Netherland forces were pushing the Spaniards to the wall, and forced them to the confines of the Estates, and in the Duchy's of Cleve, Berg and Juliers and vicinity they now (beginning to lose all hope of holding the country) committed outrages and

atrocities whose equal is hardly to be found in the history of any country, and amid these scenes in 1595, Derick Schenck van Nydeggen killed Caspar's son near Blyenbeck. He afterwards joined the great Dutch fleet, and served at sea in the naval expeditions of the times.

Here ends the record of the contest for the possession of the Schenck estates so far as is given by the author, which had been carried on for seventy years, and in which the van der Lippe's had relied on arbitrary foreign decrees and foreign enemies of the country to secure them in the possession of their usurpations. Adelheid van der Lippe, daughter of Caspar, became heiress to his estates, and by her marriage to Christoffle Schenck van Nydeck, Lord van Hillenrath, carried the ancient estates to that branch of the family.

20. Derick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, Walbeck, etc., Knight, d. at Blyenbeck, 3d Aug., 1525. He had a natural son Otto by Gertgen, and by his wife Alheit Custers had *issue* eight children:³³

35. I. Otto, b. before 1485. He lived in Goch.
36. II. Derick, b. about 1485, m. Maria van Galen.
37. III. Peter, b. about 1487. He was Bailiff of Gibberfort.
38. IV. Heinrich, b. about 1490, m.—.
39. V. Johann, b. about 1495—9.
40. VI. Winand. He was a Priest.
41. VII. Adelheid.
42. VIII. Maria.
43. IX. Margaretha.

21. Heinrich Schenck van Nydeck, (1517-18) Lord of Horst, is stated to have died unmarried, but by Alheidis Heigeraidt to have had *issue*:³⁴

44. I. Derick, b. before 1518. Priest, Vicar at Weeze.
45. II. Johann, b. before 1518.
46. III. Gysbert, b. before 1518.
47. IV. Otto, b. before 1518.
48. V. Alheidis, b. before 1518.
49. VI. Catharina, b. before 1518.

24. Petronella Schenck van Nydeck, married 5th Feb., 1458, Frederick van Huls, son of Frederick and Johanna van Boedberg. Herman, Archbishop of Colone, Elector, Duke of Westphalia, etc., Johann van Boedberg marshal by inheritance, Frederick and Gottschalk van Hulse of Reade, Luther van Stemhein, the brothers of the bride, their uncle Johann Schenck van Nydeggen, Lord of Walbeck, Johann Herr van der Brock, Reyner van Holtbergesen and Engelbrecht van Brempst affixed their seals to this marriage contract.

33. Seipmacher, 189.

34. Mentioned, Records of Goch, June 27, 1518.

Two sons were the *issue*: Frederick and Herman, who both died young without issue, and an only daughter, Catherine, (the Lady of Huls) who married Godart Haes, Lord of Huls, who, through his wife's mother, claimed his right in the estates of Derick Schenck van Nydeck, as has heretofore appeared more fully.

30, Christian Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1515, m. Johanna —, *issue*: (?)

31, Lambert Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1515, Judge at Afferden, m. Byhen —, *issue*:

50, I. Johann, m. Anna van Hatthuysen.

50, II. Derick, m. Agatha —.

32, Johann Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1515, *issue*: (?)

34, Johann Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1481, *issue*: (?)

35, Otto Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1485, and lived at Goch, *issue*: (?)

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36, Derick Schenck van Nydeck, Lord of Afferden, Blyenbeck, &c., b. about 1485, lived at Goch, m. Maria van Galen, *issue*:

52, I. Dederick, b. about 1507, m. Anna van Berlaer. He lived

at Goch.

37. Peter Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1487, Bailiff of Gibberfort, *issue* :

53. I. Martin, b. about 1510.

38. Heinrich Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1490, m. —, Lord of Haussum, in the domain of Goch, *issue* :

54. I. Peter, b. about 1515. He lived at Goch.

39. Johann Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1495-9, *issue* : (?)

45. Johann Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1518, *issue* : (?)

46. Gysbert Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1518, m. —, *issue* :

55. I. Stephan. He lived at Uedem.

56. II. Arnt. He lived at Uedem.

47. Otto Schenck van Nydeck, b. before 1518, *issue* : (?)

50. Johann Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1535, m. Anna Hatt-huysen, *issue* : (?)

51. Derick Schenck van Nydeck, b. about 1535, m. Agatha —, *issue* : (?)

52. Dederick Schenck van Nydeck, m. Anna van Berlaer. He lived at Goch, *issue* :

57. I. Martin, b. Goch, 1543, killed at Nimeguen, 11th August, 1589, m. Maria van Geldern, *issue* : *Frederike*.

58. II. Peter, b. Goch, 1547, m. Doesburg. 17th May, 1580, Johanna van Scherpenzeel.

59. III. Johann. who had *issue*. He was a colonel in the Spanish service.

60. IV. Maria Margaretha, m. 1st Christoffle van Munster, m. 2d Adrian van Camphausen of Glinhorst, m. 3d Anton van Vorst.

61. V. Maria Magdelina.

53. Martin Schenck van Nydeck, *issue* :

62. I. Theodore. He was Bailiff of Kessel, and had a son.

Martin, b. 1633, who held the same office. He m. Maria Margaretha de Bockhorst, she d. 12th April, 1688. and had a son.

Johannes Schenck, born 19th Sept., 1650, m. Maria Magdelena, daughter of Hendrick and Maria de Haes, b. 7th Oct., 1660, who came to America in 1683, and settled on Long Island New York. His descendants are now numerous in the United States.

58. Peter Schenck van Nydeck, m. 17th May, 1580, Johanna van Scherpenzeel, *issue* :

63. I. Wilhelmina.

64. II. Martin, b. Doesburg, 7th Aug., 1584, is said by Col. van der Dussen, Netherlands Army, to have come to America with his children. He had *issue* :

1. *Roelof*, b. Amersfoort, 1619, d. L. I., 1704.

2. *Jan*, b. prob. Amersfoort.

3. *Antje*, completes record.

All of these children came to the Nieu Netherlands, now New York, in 1650, and settled at or near Flatlands, Long Island. Their descendants are now very numerous in the United States.

The information necessary to complete the history of this family must, no doubt, be sought for in the archives at the Hague, Doesburg, Nimeguen, Grave, Horst, &c., in the Netherlands, and in those of Goch, Geldern, Cleves, Kevelaer, Venlo, Reuss, Julich, Duren, Nideggen, and other cities and towns of Rhenish Prussia.

The principal works of reference are : Ferben's History of the Family of Schenck van Nydeggen ; Fahne's History of Cologne ; Julich and Bergschen Families ; Slichtenhorst's History of Guelderland ; Poutanu's History of Geldria ; Baron D'Ablaing van Grisenburg's Body of the Knights of Veluwe ; van der Luwe's Military Lexicon ; Arkst's Nimeguen ; Fahn's History of the Bochtoltz Family ; Kok's Patriotic Lexicon ; Baron Herkenode's Collection of

Epitaphs. &c. ; also his Records of the Netherlands, and County of Burgundy ; D'Altenstein's Nobility of Belgium ; van Hanelt's History of Guelderland ; Lacomblet ; Krenner ; Myhoff's Memoirs ; Dr. Bergrath's Communications ; Meteren ; Strada ; Nederl. Mannen. ; Bor ; Bentivoglio ; Wagenaar ; Coloma. By unknown authors : The Mirror of L'Esbay ; Family Memorandum Book of Afferden and Blyenbeck ; MS. Genealogy of the Schenck Family from 1500 to 1580 ; MS. Genealogy of the Bylund Family from 1100 to 1870.

Fort Warren, Mass., May 16, 96.

The Librarian

N. E. Gen. & Hist. Soc., &c.

Sir;

Enclosed please find Sup. Pump. to
take place of pp. 20-23, "Rev. Wm
Schuch his Ancestry & his Descendants,
sent to your library some years
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The data is taken from the
'History of the Schuch van Nyddeggen
(Nyddek). Leiden, 1860. The author
which was Der Van Heeren, as I am
informed. Copy procured from
an Doorn & Sons, D. Draven Hague,
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Thanking you sincerely for the
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