

Early Swabian Kastlers

Pastor Siegfried Kastler

2003

(English translation by Harald Kastler)

65136 **Christian Kastler** & 65 136

* ca. 1410 Asselfingen (?)

+ ca. 1475 Asselfingen

Peasant and day-laborer

K.[child/children?]: Hanns ca. 1440-1500

E.[parents?]: -?-

In the records of Ulm (Lagerbuch "Sammlung Ulm") of the year 1438, the following farmstead is listed (p. 38): "Item Paulin Hiselin git uß seiner Söld 5 sh.Haller und 6 sh. für. die vier Dienst und git auch 50 Eier und 2 Herbsthühner und 1 Fastnacht Henne." [A certain Paulin Hiselin paid us 5 sh. haller and 6 sh, as well as 50 eggs, 2 chicken and 1 hen.]

The name Paulin Hauslin is crossed out, as well as the names "Wilhelm" and "Ulrich Fetzter", "Stubelin" and "Hans Schwenck". Above all of them is written the name "Cristen Kastler".

This indicates that Christian Kastler bought this farmstead some time after 1438. This farmstead will later be owned by Hanns Kastler. Since Hanns Kastler is listed in the records of Königsbronn in 1471, and since these properties were not part of the "Sammlung Ulm", it can be concluded that the Kastlers owned multiple properties before they bought the above mentioned farmstead - maybe around 1460 - and that son Hanns was already in charge of the farm. Maybe Christian was already dead at the time. It is unlikely that he lived much past this date. This other property could have come from the Besseren family. Maybe Christian handed over his farm to his son Hanns, when he, Hanns, bought the farmstead.

In 1570, the farmstead belonged to a certain Hanns Mayer. On page 284 it says: "Hanns Mayer owns a farmstead which, before him, had been owned by Caspar Neydlinger, and before him Hanns Hartlin's widow, and in the latest court record **Christian Kaster**, but in the oldest records Paulin Hauslin; it consists of a house with a thatched roof, a barn with a thatched roof, a small orchard and a farmyard which are together the size of about 1/2 acre between the farmstead of Peter Ott's widow and the farmstead of Theus Welling, in the back adjoined by Peter Haußmann's property and in the front by a property owned by Frau Maisterin. Dues: 5 sh.hl.zins 6 sh. land and property tax according to Ulm standards: 1 hen, 2 chicken, 50 eggs, assessable by and payable to Frau Maisterin."

32568 **Hanns Kastler** & 32 569

* ca. 1440 Asselfingen

+ ca. 1500 Asselfingen

Peasant and day-laborer

K [child/children?]: Hanns ca. 1470 -1550, possibly Paul ca. 1470- ?

E [parents?]. Christian ca. 1410-1475

Hanns is mentioned in the records of Königsbronn of 1471 as owning at least two fields in the community. Both fields are still owned by the family after 1583 and 1607. One field was located "am Ellinger (Öllinger) Weg", the other "am Wiesenbühl" (or "am Kleinen Bühl"). The farm in Königsbronn is owned by Hanns Wernher at that time.

In 1500, **Hanns Kastler** is mentioned as the owner of a piece of land adjacent to the Kraft family (24-Dec-1500, 6/3/9). This Hanns was either the father or the son. We can safely assume that Hanns Kastler took over the farmstead from his father Christian. In the records we find "**Hans Casteln**" next to the name of his father, but the ink is different and this was probably added at a later date. After that it says: "Said **Hanß Kaster** with a Pfadermiller daughter." It seems that son Hanns (16 284) was married to a woman of the Pfadermiller family. The farmstead which father **Christian** had bought was listed in the records of Ulm.

Hanns may also have had a son named Paul. In the records of 1570, the following farmstead is mentioned: "Moritz Haussner, sacristan in Asselfingen, owns a farmstead which had been owned by Michel Paur before him, and before him by Paul Castler, in the latest record (i.e. 1471) owned by Greth Federlein, in the oldest record (i.e. 1438) owned by Ulrich Fezer. House (thatched roof), barn (thatched roof), enclosed orchard 1/2 acre between Caspar Neydlinger's barn and Lienhard Eberhard's orchard and house, in the back Martin Weber's house, in the front communal properties. Dues: 14 sh. hl 1 henn, 2 chicken 50 eggs."

It is further possible that said **Paul Kastler** had a son named Lienhart, because in the records of 1570 the farmstead of a certain Christian Federlin is mentioned, "located near the stables of the old castle, which had been owned by **Lienhart Kastler**, before him by Thoman Hayder, in 1471 by the Amann, and in 1438 by Claus Schneyder (house with orchard between Jacob Werlin's farmyard and the old castle, and between Thomas Käslint's farmyard behind Hans Pierlin's and the communal hayfield. (Dues: property tax 1 Pfd Heller u.W. 1 FH 2 HH 50 eggs)"

This Kastler line seems to continue, because in 1681 a Hans **Jerg Kastler** is mentioned, and in 1693 a **David Kastler** (p.321).

16 284 **Hanns Kastler &**

* ca. 1470 Asselfingen

+ ca. 1550 Asselfingen

Farmer

K.[child/children?]: Hanns * around 1500

E.[parents?]: Hanns Kastler ca. 1440-1500

This Hanns Kastler cannot be positively identified. But there are a few clues as to his existence: in the records of Königsbronn (1471) concerning the village of Asselfingen, a Hanns Kastler is mentioned who owned some farmland there. These properties remain in the possession of Kastlers, because in 1583 they are held by Michael Kastler, and in 1607 by his son Michael Kastler.

* in 1500, a Hanns Kastler is mentioned in a document concerning the Kraft family

* likewise in the year 1519 and 1520

* in 1528 Hanns Kastler purchased a share of the "Biesenhof", which, in 1570, is owned by Michael Kastler, his son!

* in 1549 Hanns Kastler the younger sells 2 farmsteads

* in 1552, 1558 and 1566 a farmer named Hanns Kastler is mentioned several times.

We can speculate that in 1549 there were still two Hanns Kastler, i.e., father and son, and that the father probably died around 1550. But if said Hanns Kastler was already a farmer in 1471, he must have been born before 1450. This seems unlikely, though. It is safer to assume that there were three Hanns Kastler - grandfather, father and son. Hanns Kastler, in 1528, bought half of a quarter share of the so-called "Plesenhart Farm" from Hans Hausladt (?). The dues were: 5 fourths of rye, 6 fourths of oats, "hay money" (?)

It is very likely that there were three Hanns Kastler

1) ca. 1440-1500

2) ca. 1470-1550

3) ca. 1500-1570

1) 1471 farmer in Königsbronn

2) 1500 farmer in the Krafft document

1519 dto

1520 dto

3) 1528 purchase of the Plesenhart

1538 farmer Anhausen

1549 sale of tow farmsteads

1552 "Fremdherrnsteuer" [a tax]

1558 Farmer's Tax

1566 Servants' Tax

8 192 **Hanns Kastler** &

* ca. 1500 Asselfingen

+ ca. 1570 Asselfingen

Farmer

Children: Michael ca.1540-1600 &

2. Anna ?

Parents: Hanns Kastler ca. 1475-1550

8 193 ? Schwenck

* ca. 1500 Asselfingen

+ ca. 1570 Asselfingen

I.Maria Tropfer

Lorenz Schwenck ca.1475 - 1548/4S

This Hans probably took over the properties of his father around 1530/40. The date cannot be determined for certain.

The purchase of the "Plesenhart Farm" was probably concluded by the father. In 1538, in the records of Anhausen regarding the village of Asselfingen (p.218a/222a), Hanns Kastler is mentioned as a farmer. That could have been the son or the father. Eventually, the share of the "Plesenhart Farm" went to a certain "Christping Schwenck". Maybe he was the brother of the above mentioned wife. Either way, eventually the farm was owned by Michael Kastler. In 1570, Michael Kastler was already the owner of this farm.

Then we read: "Michel Kastler of Asselfingen owns and farms half a share of Hans Mezger's quarter share of the Plesenhart Farm, of which ...said "Hauslaib" [?] bought half of the quarter share, [from?] above mentioned Michel Kastler's father Hans Kastler, from which it had come to Christping Schwenck and from him to Michel Kastler. Said share of the Plesenhart Farm, together with the properties and tenure of the Frau Maisterin, belonged to the Ladies' Convent of the city of Ulm."

With the purchase of the share of the Plesenhart Farm, Hanns probably belonged to the lower middle class, socially somewhere between a farmer and a peasant.

The Plesenhart Farm (also known as Biesenhart or Blienhart Farm) is located 1-2 km north of Asselfingen. It used to be a farm near Lindenau. It was owned by the Rammingers, then by the Gültigens and von Neusecks (?) and finally by the city of Ulm. The farm was abandoned in the 14th/15th century, probably because of lack of water, among other reasons. Since then it has always been only a "Feldlehen" [agricultural land without farm buildings]. In the records of the "Sammlung Ulm" of 1438 it is listed as consisting of 50 Jauchert [about 16.5 hectares] arable land divided into 3 Öschen [parcels]. The tax, or "the tenth", was payable to the Wiesensteig monastery.

Hans Hausladt bought one of the four quarters of this tenure. Half of that he sold to Hanns Kastler under the condition "...that Kastler will pay Frau Maisterin and the convent in addition to the annual rent only 5 quarters of rye and 6 quarters of oats but no money."

The details of the properties are as follows:

In the first parcel: 10 Vrt.Jauchert bei der Grub ("Steingrub"),

3 Vrt. / 3 Vrt.(in the old Urbar 1 Jcht.)

In the second parcel: 1/2 Jcht. (... adjoining Setzinger Weg) 1 Jcht. / 1/2 J./ 1 Vrt.

In the third parcel: 1 Jcht. / 1 Jcht.

Together this is less than 2 hectares of arable land. (In comparison: a large farm consisted of about 60 Jcht [about 20 hectares]. Smaller farms still about 20-30 Jauchert [6.6-9.9 hectares].

On the other hand, Hanns Kastler must have had additional properties, because later he sold the share of the Plesenhart Farm. In addition, he is mentioned as the adjoining owner of other fields.

In 1552, Asselfingen started records concerning "Fremd Hern Steuer" [taxes for foreign land owners]. Hans Kastler is mentioned in it: "er steur nit mer dan ain Gutlin daher und ander kains harin". [the quote seems to be in Middle High German which I cannot translate]. That means that Hans Kastler was the owner of a property at that point. However, it is not clear what it was. Other properties for example belonged to Anhausen, Herbrechtingen, Stotzingen.

In 1558, the "Farmers Tax" was introduced in connection with the "Türkensteuer" [a tax to finance the defence of the Empire against the Turks] (OA As.Nr.2). Hanß Kastler is listed there. His assets are estimated at 200 "Pfund" [pounds] and he has to pay 1 "Pfund", 13 "Shillings" and 4 "Heller". There are 38 persons listed there. Assets: between 1,500 "Pfund" and 2 "Pfund".

For example: 1,500 Pfd.(2) 900 Pfd. (3) 700/600 Pf d.(5) , 500/400 Pfd (7) 300 Pfd.(3) [20] 250/200 Pfd.(3), 100 Pfd.(6), 50-100 Pfd.(2), 0-50 Pfd. (7) [18]

8 192 /2 These numbers show that Hanns Kastler belonged to the middle class in the village. In another list of servants dated 1566 (OA As. Nr 4) Hanns Kastler is listed as well. However, there are no servants listed under his name. In general there are very few servants listed (8 farmhands, 10 maidservants, 2 youngsters) [I assume this refers to the list as a whole; transl.]

As early as 1549 Hanns Kastler is mentioned in connection with a sale. From this document it can be deduced that he was married to a woman of the Schwenck family. "Hanns Kastler the younger, together with Abraham, Martin, Apollonia and Stoffel Schwenck, sells two "Sölden" [0.66 hecatres] in Asselfingen to "Frau Maisterin". We read: "... our two "Sölden" have been bequeathed to us by our dear and departed father and father-in-law Lorenz Schweck...".

We can deduce, therefore, that Lorenz Schwenck was the father-in-law of Hanns Kastler. This also gives us some hints about the generation prior to him: since Hanns Kastler is called "the younger", it follows that his father was either still alive or had died just recently. Stoffel Schwenck lives in Bissingen at the time. He moved there, so we have to assume that he was at least 30 years old. That means that Lorenz Schwenck (and therefore Hans Kastler as well) was at least 60 years old. Conclusion: he was born before 1490.

4 096 Michael Kastler
* ca. 1540 Asselfingen
+ 27-Feb-1600 Asselfingen

&

4 097 Anna
* ca. 1545 Asselfingen (?)
+ 18-Mar-1603 Asselfingen

Farmer

Children:

Elisabetha ca.1573

&

Paul Ott

Michael ca. 1575 -*1635

&

Elisabetha Veith

Peter ca. 1580 – 1653

Jacob ca. 1585 – 1654

Hanns (?) ca.1588 (1605: Michael Kastler is the caregiver of the child Hanns Kastler)

2 048 Michael Kastler
* ca. 1575 Asselfingen 10-Feb-1618
+ ca. 1635 Asselfingen

&

3rd marriage 2 049 Elisabetha Veith
* 9-Jan-1595 Asselfingen
+11. 8.1633 Asselfingen

Farmer

Children:

Michael 25-Oct-1623-31-Mar-1698 &

Ursula Werner

Jacob 9."Weinmonat" [October] 1626 +

1024 Michael Kastler
* 25-Oct-1623 Asselfingen
+ 31. 3.1698 Brenz

&

1660 1025 Ursula Werner
* 4-Jan-1627 Asselfingen
+ 15. 8.1700 Brenz

"Halbbauer" [a small farmer with less than 8.35 hectares of land]

Children:

Michael 29. 5.1665-11-May-1748 &

1698 Barbara Schatzmeier

512 Michael Kastler
* 29-May-1663 Brenz * ?
+ 11-May-1748 Brenz + ?

&

8-Oct-1698 513 Barbara Schatzmeier

Weaver and member of the municipal council

Children:

Margaretha 22-Sep-1699+

Matthäus 7-Jan-1701-10-Apr-1763 &

1725 Maria Ortlieb

Christian 11-Mar-1703

Ursula 8-Oct-1704-1757

256 Matheus Kastler
* 7-Jan-1701 Brenz
+ 10-Apr-1763 Hermaringen

&

5-Oct-1725 257 Maria Ortlieb
* 30-Feb-1692, Hermaringen
+ 10-May-1738, Hermaringen

Farmer and member of the municipal council

Children:

Michael 17. 4.1724+

Zacharias 8-Jun-1726 -1773 Bauer &

1757 Anna Maur (no male descendants)

Michael 10. 8.1727+

Christian 4-Jan-1729-1809 tailor and "Heiligenpfleger" [a church administrator and custodian of relics]
&

1752 Anna Barbara Schitzler (no male descendants)

Matheus 17. 9.1731

&

18-Apr-1758 Elisabetha Bayer (there are male descendants up until today)

Johannes 14. 9.1732 - 5-Nov-1792 &

1761 Angelika Willer, Heuchlingen

Georg 17-Oct-1733+

2nd marriage: Barbara Würth 4-Nov-1758

128 Johannes Kastler
* 14-Sep-1732 Hermaringen
+ 3-Nov-1792 Heuchlingen

&

7-Jul-1761 129 Angelica Willer
* 29-Jul-1735 Heuchlingen
+ 16-Dec-1798 Heuchlingen

Died from „Nachlaß der Natur“ [it is unclear what this means, possibly from German "nachlassen"="weakening" of vitality, or, in modern terms, "from natural causes"]

Weaver

Children:

Barbara 25-Aug-1762+

Matthäus 28-Nov-1763 &

1796 Barbara Majer, Dettingen

Maria 23-Apr-1765+

Anna Magdalena 28-May-1766+

Jakob 16-Jul-1768+

Johannes 9-Aug-1770- 31-Mar-1821 &

Waldburga Monz

Anna Barbara 24-Jan-1772+

Johann Georg 20-Jun-1773

Angelika 29-Sep-1775+

4 096 Michael Kastler
* ca. 1540 Asselfingen
+ 27-Feb-1600 Asselfingen

&

4 097 Anna
* ca. 1545 Asselfingen (?)
+ 18-Mar-1603 Asselfingen

Farmer

Children:

Elisabetha ca.1573

&

Paul Ott

Michael ca. 1575

&

Elisabetha Veith

Peter ca. 1580 – 1653

Jacob ca. 1585 – 1654

Hanns (?) ca.1588 (1605: Michael Kastler raises Hanns Kastler)

Parents: Hanns Kastler ca.1500-1570

? Schwenck

There are quite a few references to Michael Kastler in the records. His date of death is registered in the death registry of Asselfingen. In the records of the city of Ulm, his farm is mentioned as a share of the Plesenhart Farm (1570): "Michel Kastler's half share of a quarter of the Plesenhart Farm. Michel Kastler owns and farms a half share of Hanns Mezger's quarter share of the Plesenhart Farm; after Hanns Mezger this half share was owned and farmed by Hans Haußladt, who sold half of the quarter share to Hans Kastler, father of Michel Kastler, which then went to Christping Schwenck, and from him to said Michel Kastler. Said half quarter share of the Plesenhart Farm belongs to the honorable Frau Maisterin and the Ladies' Convent of the city of Ulm".

It is an entail. The convent of Ulm receives 5 quarters of rye and 6 quarters of oats measured according to Giengen standard measurements. In case of "changes" [inheritance, exchange, handover] the convent receives 10 shilling within 2 months after the event. In case of a sale the convent receives a tenth of the price of sale. The property consists of 6 Jauchert [1.99 hectares] arable land in 3 parcels. According to the "Lagerbuch" [registry] started in 1471 (StAU A 7110, p.III) the sale happened in the year 1528. The owner is confirmed by an entry in 1587 (StAU A 7122, p.30).

Michael is also mentioned in other records: the "Lagerbuch" of Königsbronn of 1583 mentions some of his land as adjoining those of a certain Hanns Fetzer. These properties had already been mentioned in 1471. Owner: Hanns Kastler. In 1607, when these lands in Königsbronn go to Ulm, the listed owner is Michael Kastler (the son). One example would be the fields on "Ellinger Weg". Since the fields in Königsbronn are not connected with the Plesenhart Farm, it is therefore proven that the Kastlers had more properties other than the share at the Plesenhart Farm. It could, however, not be established who the actual landlord had been.

Michael Kastler is mentioned in the "Turkish Tax Lists" of 7-Jul-1578 and of May 1580. In both cases he is next to the records of "Frau Maisterin". His assets are valued at 200 fl [florin] and he had to pay 2 fl in taxes. In 1595 he is also listed in the tax records. Now his assets are valued at 550 fl. He is frequently called a "care-giver". The difference between the 200 and 550 fl could

stem from the fact that in 1595 all of his assets were included, while before only the ones of the Ulm records.

After Michael's death in 1600, his assets were probably divided up. In the "Turkish Tax Lists" of 1605/6 there are three Kastlers: Peter (600 fl.), Hanns (200 fl.) und Michael (100fl.). Jacob is not mentioned.

There were certainly more Kastlers in those days, but they probably had no or very little assets. Maybe Jacob was from one of these branches. It is unclear what caused this unequal distribution of assets.

We find the following entry in the tax records of 1605/6: "Peter Kastler's Michael Kastlers seeligen Sohns Pfleger als Claus Fetzler 600 fl. Hanns Kastlers seeligen Kinderpfleger als Hans Mayer u. Michael Kastler" [I cannot explain what this means in German, let alone in English; suffice to say that Pastor Siegfried deduces the following, transl]: From this we can conclude that Peter and Hanns were still minors in 1605.

2 048 Michael Kastler &
* ca. 1575 Asselfingen 10-Feb-1618
+ ca. 1635 Asselfingen

3rd marriage 2 049 Elisabetha Veith
* 9-Jan-1595 Asselfingen
+11. 8.1633 Asselfingen

Farmer

Children:

Michael 25-Oct-1623 & Ursula Werner
Jacob 9.Weinmonat [October] 1626 +

Parents: Michael Kastler 1540-1600
Anna ? 1545-1603

Jacob Veith ca.1565-
Barbara Gassenmayer ca.1565-

Michael was married in first marriage to Maria Tröpfer (9-Jun-1600)

The children from this marriage are:

Johannes 1-Jul-1606+
Catharina 4-May-1609+
Johannes 11-Jul-1610+ 1610+
Elisabetha 28.5. 1611+

All children died.

He married Margaretha Schreier (2-Jun-1612) in second marriage.
She died on 7-Sep-1617 while giving birth.

On 10-Oct-1626 Michael is mentioned on a list of military enlistees under the category "Halberds and Burgonets" (the name is misspelled as Michael Gastet). On the same list Jacob Kastler (Castner) is mentioned. He may have been a brother of Michael. Not mentioned are Peter and Hanns Kastler.

In 1608 Michael is mentioned in a document regarding a certain Barbara Mundtbättin. He was indebted to her for the amount of 70 guilders (interest for half a year: 1 guilder 45x - meaning 5 p. A [it is unclear what "x" stands for, probably a smaller denomination of the guilder, like dollars and cents; also, it is unclear what "5 p.A." stands for: if the interest is 1.45 guilders for half a year, the whole year ("per annum"=p.A.) should be 2.9 guilders; if it is meant to be a percentage, it should be 4.14%, transl]. Michael and his wife died during the Thirty Years' War, probably from one of the ubiquitous epidemics.

In 1623 Elisabetha received an inheritance (OA As Teilung Nr.7). Together with Hans Veith she receives 1.5 hectares arable land: one hectare located on Marcktweg, and half a hectare on Heusteig. Value: 500 fl. Received in advance 300 fl.
Michael Kastler was due 238 guilders, 20 x. He received 250 guilders.

Michel Kastler inherits debts:
For Ulm: 100 guilders.
More for his children: 110 guilders

For Jerg Veith: 38 guilders
Hans Bechlens Ww: 14 guilders

1024 Michael Kastler
* 25-Oct-1623 Asselfingen
+ 31. 3.1698 Brenz

&

1660 1025 Ursula Werner
* 4-Jan-1627 Asselfingen
+ 15. 8.1700 Brenz

"Halbbauer" [a small farmer with less than 8.35 hectares of land]

Children:
Michael 29. 5.1665

E.[parents]: Michael Kastler ca.1575-ca.1655
Elisabetha Veith 1595-1655

Christian Werner ca.1580-
Afra Fetzer ca.1580-?

1st marriage: 15-Nov-1652 with the widow Barbara Blöss, Brenz

256 Matheus Kastler &
* 7-Jan-1701 Brenz
+ 10-Apr-1763 Hermaringen

5-Oct-1725 257 Maria Ortlieb
* 30-Feb-1692 Hermaringen
+ 10-May-1738 Hermaringen

Farmer and member of the municipal council

Children:

Michael 17. 4.1724+

Zacharias 8-Jun-1726 -1773 Bauer &

1757 Anna Maur (no male descendants)

Michael 10. 8.1727+

Christian 4-Jan-1729-1809 tailor and "Heiligenpfleger" [a church administrator and custodian of relics)

&

1752 Anna Barbara Schitzler (no male descendants)

Matheus 17. 9.1731

&

18-Apr-1758 Elisabetha Bayer (there are male descendants up until today)

Johannes 14. 9.1732 - 5-Nov-1792 &

1761 Angelika Willer, Heuchlingen

Georg 17-Oct-1733+

Parent: Michael Kastler 1665-1748

Zacharias Ortlieb [?] 1657-1757

Barbara Schatzmeier

Catharina Dax

2nd marriage: Barbara Würth 4-Nov-1758

128 Johannes Kastler
* 14-Sep-1732 Hermaringen
+ 3-Nov-1792 Heuchlingen

&

7-Jul-1761 129 Angelica Willer
* 29-Jul-1735 Heuchlingen
+ 16-Dec-1798 Heuchlingen

Died from „Nachlaß der Natur“ [probably: "from natural causes"]

Weaver

Children:

Barbara 25-Aug-1762+

Matthäus 28-Nov-1763

Maria 23-Apr-1765+

Anna Magdalena 28-May-1766+

Jakob 16-Jul-1768+

Johannes 9-Aug-1770- 31-Mar-1821 &

Anna Barbara 24-Jan-1772+

Johann Georg 20-Jun-1773

Angelika 29-Sep-1775+

&

1796 Barbara Majer, Dettingen

Waldburga Monz

Parents: Mathäus Kastler 1701-1763

Maria Ortlieb 1692-1738

Jacob Willer 1695-1762

Barbara Betz 1694-1747