2. Rādavan/Ratdwin/Rudwin/Rauðvin/Ruthven/Radwan/Radovan/Radvány

It is difficult today to place those earliest Bagaturs precisely in time. We may suspect, however, that their tribe reached the Transylvanian Plateau immediately after nomads from the Pontic–Caspian steppe took control of the Pannonian Basin at the turn of the fourth and third millennia BCE. From there, the Bagaturs most likely returned to the steppe by a northern route, accompanying their people's subsequent migrations or joining them in their final stages. They reached the lands where the Sintashta–Petrovka culture was developing, then dispersed in the wake of that militaristic civilisation's conquests, finding their way, among others, into the emerging Iranian peoples.

Apparently, a Bagatur now known as Radwan or Ruthven returned with the Alans to this migration route north of the Carpathians during the Migration Period. He settled in lands then inhabited by the Lugii, north of the western Carpathians and the Sudetes.

The language of the Lugii is unknown to us, but it may have preserved the Bagatur's Iranian name, reconstructed as Rādavan ("possessing a gift," "endowed with generosity"). The Germanic peoples (Suebi) and Slavs who later entered these lands adopted it in two different forms. We know that the name recurred frequently among his descendants well into the Middle Ages. We therefore need not assume that this was the first of the Rādavans, still capable of fathering children. Written history remembers that one as a Cainite. Yet no revenants of this line are recorded anywhere whose origins lie outside Europe. Whoever founded it must therefore have done so at that time and place. If we pursue the speculation about the Bagaturs' symbiotic nature, we might suppose that this was when the current host finally fused with the symbiont passed down over thousands of years. Perhaps him fathering children in such a state explains the emergence of the first of the two oldest indisputably attested revenant lineages.



His memory survives in the Silesian legend of the mountain spirit, the shapeshifting Rübenczal, whom the oldest layer of the tales depicts in his terrible battle form. Curiously, he also appears in a Serbian ballad now known through Gotlob-Werner von Skschypischtschentschkowitz-Lalenburg's translation, published in his *Sagen und Volkslieder aus dem unteren Mürzthale in der Übersetzung* in 1820.:

Three Oaths

I. Sarteana and Semnon

When Lugian chief had burned each stead;
The ancient tribes to highlands fled.
There Rübenzal, in walls of stone,
Kept all the waters for his own.

His daughter, Sarteana, grew,
And dreamed of lands she never knew.
The deer had led Semnon astray;
Then door shut out the light of day.

“Bring water hither in this sieve;
Drench all these beds, and you shall live.
If dawn still finds the garden dry,
The axe shall teach you how to die.”

At night she showed the secret sluice,
And set the prisoned waters loose.
She led him through the old stone drain;
He clasped her hands upon the plain.

“Among men, leave my birth untold;
My blood can rouse the greed of old.”
He swore; the marriage doors stood wide,
And through them stepped his willing bride.

Two sons she bore him, and a girl.
The wind unwound the cloud's last curl;
At empty troughs the cattle cried,
And mothers prayed for streams long dried.

Sarteana spoke of the lake,
And all the water she could wake.
“Lift but the little gate,” she said;
“Leave all the dam intact instead.”

He spoke of waters locked in sleep,
The sluice inside the giant's keep.
“You send us there to dig our grave!
No one will go, however brave!”

“My wife is his daughter and heir!”
“Then he keeps all our water there!”
With crowbars up the hillside ran
The mob: “Break down his wall, each man!”

“Stand back! The dam will fall!” he cried.
A loosened boulder struck his side.
The broken rampart poured its store;
The whirlpool took him evermore.

At dusk they brought his shield; that night
The mother took her brood to flight.
Her daughter Lindrun learned the sign
That showed where hidden pathways twine.

II. Lindrun and Lambach

Young Lindrun by the spindle grew;
A foreign lord her borders drew.
Lambach, the Suebian chieftain, sent
Two tangled threads of one intent.

He sought a wife of wit and worth;
Matchmakers flocked from all the earth.
She who could meet the task's demand
Would rule his hall and win his hand.

Not naked nor dressed must she go,
Not walking nor riding, and so
The Semnon's daughter, hearing, cast
A net about her shoulders fast.

She rode a goat sidesaddle; one
Foot touched the dust beneath the sun.
“Among men, leave my birth untold;
My blood can rouse the greed of old.”

He swore; the marriage doors stood wide,
And through them stepped his willing bride.
Three sons came; Albrun was their girl,
And watched the roots in amber curl.

Three roots within the amber lay;
The sign locked blood and speech away.
The eldest son went out to war;
Dread tidings sounded at the door.

The Lugii bound him to a stake;
No spoil could slake their ancient ache.
His father brought a ransom's store;
They flung his silver on the floor.

At dusk the boy must lose his head;
His father weighed the words unsaid.
“Semnon's grandchild! And Lindrun's son!”
The elders' eyes lit, one by one.

The bonds fell off; his son was free;
They saw in him the kingdom's key.
With wreaths they knelt and kissed his hands,
And dreamed of their ancestral lands.

From ancient steads the people came;
They hailed him lord by right of name.
His father rode with hope renewed;
Behind the child rode ancient feud.

The Suebi counted fields and grain;
They heard their fetters clink again.
“This boy will claim our hearths and lands,
And arm our foes with his commands!”

“Disown the boy! Give up the rest!”
Lone Lambach came at their behest.
Before his own he stood alone:
“No child for parent shall atone.”

Without a word they struck him dead;
The grass received his severed head.
They took his sword, his armour bright;
Each claimed his plunder as his right.

Lindrun held children in the cart,
And would not let one child depart.
Beneath the funeral cloth lay four;
A borrowed name their blood now wore.

The burial road should lead them straight;
She turned to woods beyond the gate.
Her hand smoothed down the linen white;
“Be still, my Albrun, through the night.”

III. Albrun and Artachis

Thuringian guards took hall and field;
The Suebi sought the forest's shield.
Albrun was making strangers' bed,
And knelt to rake the embers red.

Artachis sought the lands of old,
And called his kin back to the fold.
From Constantinople he came;
The dark North whispered not his name.

Alboin called his cousin forth;
The Lombard king would bind the North.
He bore his cousin's high decree:
Prince Amalafrid's son was he.

The feast was lit; she swept the floor,
No place was hers beyond the door.
A dyer lent her mother's dress;
She felt late Lindrun's lost caress.

Beside the hearth he held her hand;
Her eyes the doors and exits scanned.
She ran back to the kitchen's dark,
Lest anyone her absence mark.

He caught her cloak; the clasp gave way;
One amber half in his palm lay.
A dark vein through the fragment ran;
The girl retained its other span.

His servants sought her hall by hall,
And showed the broken brooch to all.
To win the prince meeting this test!
Each mother searched her jewel chest.

In vain the other jewels gleamed;
Her halves joined where the black vein streamed.
Alone, she told whom she had been,
Her father slain by his own kin.

“Among men, leave my birth untold;
My blood can rouse the greed of old.”
He swore; the marriage doors stood wide,
And through them stepped his willing bride.

A son and daughter came one day;
Dust floated through the golden ray.
He sought his wife's dispersed relations;
The oath still bound his invitations.

He gave her kindred beds and bread;
“The ash tree marks my kin,” he said.
The night-watch knew the ash by sight;
Its bearer entered as of right.

Again he led the wandering bands,
And crossed the Suebi's former lands.
Since westward they had bent their way,
Most lands were under strangers' sway.

The wagon train was headed south;
The foe encamped at the road's mouth.
Behind, they heard the horses' beat;
No dawn could save them from defeat.

The Suebi hid their reedy track:
“Let strangers find their own way back!”
“My wife is Lambach's daughter! See
Your blood, your birthright, in this tree!”

He raised the brooch; the sign was shown;
A spy made all its carving known.
The wagons all escaped their plight;
But foreign eyes had read it right.

The Wendish chief was robbed of gain,
And swore the prince must now lie slain.
He gave his spies the bane, and said:
“Gold for the man who brings his head.”

On wood they cut the sign of kin;
The wardens saw, and let them in.
The prince, delighted, bade them dine;
A guest poured poison in the wine.

The poison crept along his vein;
He fell beside the cup's last stain.
Albrun has laid the amber there;
It should betray no other heir.

She took both children into night;
A fisherman aided their flight.
He cleft the river with his oar;
Her daughter faced a stranger shore.

Thuringian blood still beat within
The girl, who hid her name and kin.
She vowed her silence, and her claim
Lay hidden with her father's name.

Moral

Give someone's name into the air:
You cannot know who hears it there.
Keep what’s entrusted to you sealed;
A rumour ranges field to field.

One can only regret that the translator did not include the kind of linguistic commentary found in his earlier *Sagen und Volkslieder aus dem oberen Mürzthale*. Without it, we cannot know how Rübenzal's

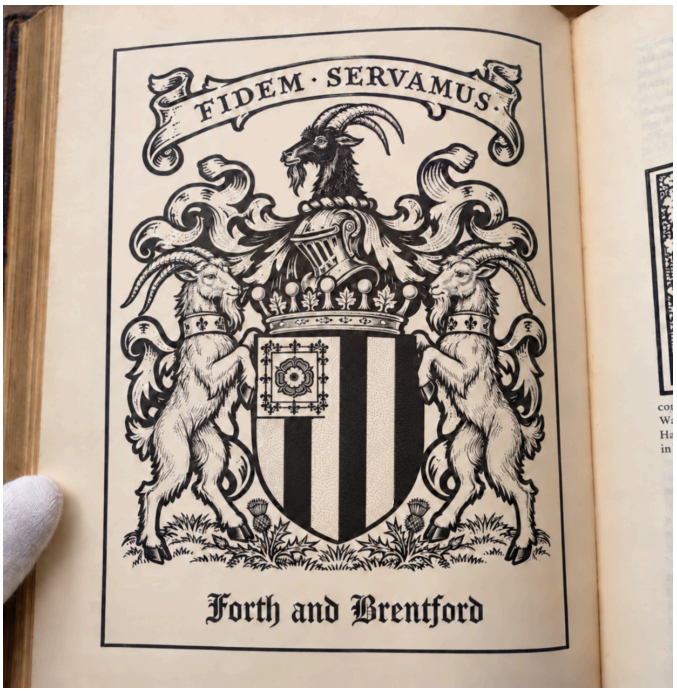
name appeared in the Serbian original. In any case, 12th-century medieval sources attest to an evolution of the name into increasingly simplified forms: Radwin/Radewin ~ Ragewin/Rahewin ~ Rewin ~ Rīwin—from which it is but a short step to Rīben/Rüben. The second element of the name is easier to reconstruct: tracing it from Zabel (borrowed from the Greek ζάβολος/ζάβολον) ~ Zawel ~ Za'el ~ Za'al. Thus, we arrive at Radewin-Zabel (i.e., "Rādavan the Fiend") ~ Rüben-Zal.

Here the hypothetical reconstruction of the history of the Bagaturs named Rādavan ends, and the documented history of revenants bearing related ancestral names begins. The lineage divides into two main branches. The Germanic branch spread early through the German lands, the Nordic countries, and Western Europe, but largely died out during the Middle Ages. The Slavic branch established family seats throughout the Slavic world and the Balkans. Although intermarriage outside the family cost it its distinctive character, it still has living representatives.

2a. Ratdwin/Rudwin/Rauðvin/Ruthven and Raduan/Reduán/Redvan/Redován

The most important evidence for the migrations and expansion of the Germanic Rādavanids lies in personal and place names. As with most of the families discussed here, an ancestral name often gave rise to the name of a new family seat, then became the byname of successive generations and eventually a surname.

Admittedly, we know of no settlement in the former territories of the Suebi or other Germanic tribes whose name derives from Rudwin or Ratdwin. The latter is the most archaic Germanic form of the Rādavanids' ancestral name. In southern Norway, however, there is an old settlement called Rauðvin, from which Thor, son of Sweyn, the Viking forebear of the Scottish clan Ruthven, is said to have come in the early twelfth century. His estates received the Gaelic name Ruadhainn. Surviving accounts and evidence from the High Middle Ages tell us that revenant families lived in both places, although both had lost the Blood by modern times. The last revenants of the Ruthven line were the descendants of John of Ettrickbank (b. 1677), one of the grandsons of Patrick Ruthven, Earl of Forth and Brentford. The senior line and the Swedish branch at Brevick had already lost the Blood in John's generation. The Ruthvens of Ettrickbank are the family's only surviving branch, and still preserve a collective memory of their heritage.



Rauðvin was also the place of origin of the Fiendkvist family, which settled in Finnmark and adopted that surname during the witch hunts of the 1660s. It was then that the family began to live in considerable isolation. This allowed it to retain the Blood into the twentieth century, but also caused its Blood-bearing branches eventually to die out under the cumulative burden of genetic load. Only one member of the Fiendkvist family survives today, from a collateral line that did not retain the Blood.

The disappearance of the Rauðvin revenants is surprising. Local legends suggest that their original Cainite patron succumbed to an astral parasite spreading through Scandinavia and became a Draug, bringing about their extinction.



The Germanic Rādavanids may have begun their westward expansion in the fifth century, accompanying the expeditions of a tribal coalition led by the Vandals, who had come from Scandinavia to the lands beyond the Oder. The coalition also included Alans and Suebi. One clue to such an early expansion is the existence of an old revenant branch in a Spanish town near Alicante. Its name, Redován, derives from the family byname of Abu-I-Nu'Aym Ridwan, also known as Farax Ben Reduán, vizier and general to three successive Nasrid kings of Granada in the first half of the fourteenth century. This commander is known to have been of Germanic origin and to have converted to Islam as an adult. He might therefore have been a distant descendant of the Suebi who reached the region during the Vandal invasions. No historical sources support this hypothesis, however. The only remaining clue is the Blood possessed by families who later lived in the settlement.

These families soon abandoned the surnames "de Redován" and "de Reduanes," which marked them out as Moriscos. They adopted the surnames of local families into which they married, chiefly Santángel, Tapiols, and Navarro, probably falsifying their pedigrees as well. Nevertheless, they preserved in deep secrecy the memory of their origins, giving rise to a kind of *omertà* observed by the "Hijos de Ridwan." Today's revenants of this line display only the traits of the Zantosa/Zandoz families, who arrived from the Toledo region in later centuries and with whom they have extensively intermarried. It is therefore impossible to tell whether they had previously lost the Blood and recovered it through these unions.

2b. Lambach, Lembach, and Limpach

Besides Rudwin, which became a hereditary byname early in the German lands, the Germanic branch of the Rādavanids also used the Suebian ancestral name Lambach in several variants. It apparently reached the height of its popularity only in the High Middle Ages. We know of settlements that took their historical names from it, some of which retain those names to this day.

In the chronicle compiled for Claude de Lembach by his chaplain, Guy (Guido) Klotz, the entry for 1608, marking Claude's marriage to Anne-Madeleine, heiress to the Lembach estates and the vidamcy of Bugey, quotes a poem supposedly composed for the wedding of Claude's ancestors, Conrad von Lambach and Margarethe von Lembach. Klotz's version reads as follows:

Their hooves sank deep in the Danube clay;
On Suevic temples the frost lay white.
Rudwin and Lon rode the Rhineward way,
Till the river mist hid them from sight.

Centuries pass; Lono hews the beech;
First smoke lifts over the furrows bare.
"Lonenbocho" lives in children's speech;
His is the name the new houses share.

Lantbert kept watch in the abbot's wood;
Rudwin, his son, keeps watch at the ford.
Lambach rides from where his father stood
For his own sill and a strip of sward.

Lambach drives oak piles deep in the mud
On Chiemsee’s low Bavarian shore.
As his axe bites the trees, houses bud:
“Lambach,” the name they bear evermore.

Hugo comes back to the beechwood glade:
An Alsatian hall for watch and ward.
The name he brought from the lake will fade —
Now Hugo of Lembach guards the ford.

Henry still holds his Alsatian land;
To Belley’s bishop Dietrich now bows.
He takes the key and its weight in hand;
To guard the fords as vidame he vows.

At Langenbecke they dug the ore;
Hans of Dürkheim’s brother builds a hall.
The village took the name Lambach bore;
His nephew Konrad inherits all.

Konrad lays down his sword at the sill;
Margarethe gives her hand to him.
They give God their word; the church is still —
From two trunks one linden lifts its limb.

The chronicler explains the poem as follows. Rudwin and Lon (or Lono), "of Lambach’s line" or "from Lambach," joined the entire Suebian contingent accompanying Gibuld, king of the Alemanni, on his expedition into western Gaul. This would have taken place around 470. The brothers are said to have established a foothold for the family west of the Rhine, on what would later become the border between Alsace and the Palatinate, where their descendants collected tolls at the crossings for several centuries.

In the second quarter of the eighth century, their descendant, also named Lono, is said to have founded a settlement on the Sauer (Soar), at the edge of the beech forest. His heir donated this settlement, known as Lonenbocho, to the Benedictines of Wissembourg, who then granted it back to him as a fief.

Lantbert, the preceding man's son, was the father of Rudwin, who remained on the Rhine, and of Lambach. The latter joined the retinue of one of Louis the German's magnates, then settled by Lake Chiemsee around 840 as a vassal of Frauenwörth Abbey. His descendants' ancestral seat took its name from him.

After Lambach, the chronicler lists Rudwin I, Engilbert, Lambach II, Lonon, Rudwin II, Lambach III, Werner, and Rudwin III, born around 1063, the first to be recorded with the byname "de Lempach." This last had two sons. The elder, Lambach IV "de Lampach," inherited his Bavarian estates. His son, Lambach V "de Lampach," accompanied Emperor Henry V on his campaign against the Frisians. At the Battle of Andernach in 1114, he was gravely wounded and rescued "half dead" by a "knight of Calre."

Rudwin III's younger son, Hugh, travelled to the Rhine to enter the service of the abbot of Wissembourg around 1125. This service had previously been performed by the descendants of Rudwin, son of Lantbert, whose line ended with the death of Lambert de Lunenbuoch during the siege of Worms in 1124.

After Hugh, the chronicler lists Werner II, Conrad, Heinrich I, and Ulrich I, all now recorded with the byname "de Lembach." The last of these is likewise said to have had two sons. The elder, Heinrich II, remained on the Sauer, while the younger, Dietrich, entered the service of Edward the Generous, Count of Savoy. Through his patronage, Dietrich received the vidamcy from the bishop of Belley in 1324. His marriage to Isabeau de Valcroix the previous year had strengthened his position. From this point, he appears in the family's documented history as Thierry I de Lembach, vidame de Bugey. The



DE LEMBACH,

VIDAMES DU BUGEY,
EN ALSACE ET EN BUGEY.

PRO FIDE ET JURE

ARMES : *D'azur, à la fasce ondée d'argent, accompagnée de trois étoiles d'or, deux en chef et une en pointe.*

L'écu timbré d'un casque taré au tiers, sommé de la couronne de vidame ; lambrequins d'azur et d'argent. Supports : deux griffons d'or, becqués, armés et lampassés de gueules. Cimier : un griffon issant d'or. DEVISE : PRO FIDE ET JURE.

La maison de LEMBACH est originaire de la Basse-Alsace, où elle possédait anciennement plusieurs fiefs. Une branche vint s'établir dans le Bugey au commencement du dix-septième siècle. Elle y recueillit, par alliance, les terres attachées au vidamé, dont la transmission fut autorisée par lettres royales. Les fonctions de cette dignité avaient pour objet la défense des droits temporels de l'église de Belley. Après l'abolition des droits féodaux, le nom de vidame demeura parmi les qualités héréditaires de la famille. Reconnu sous la Restauration, ce titre était encore porté, en 1870, par le chef de la branche aînée, qui avait conservé les armes anciennes de sa maison.

(1) La couronne du vidamé est relevée de quatre croisettes pattées, dont trois paraissent dans le dessin.

SUPPLÉMENT. — 1870. 1

chronicler traces his descendants down to Anne-Madeleine de Lembach et de Bugey (1587–1710), daughter of Pierre de Lembach, the last vidame de Bugey of this line, who fell in 1600 in a clash with the forces of Marshal Charles de Gontaut, first Duke of Biron.

In 1608, Anne-Madeleine married Claude de Lembach (1576–1621). Claude received investiture in the vidamcy, confirmed in 1609 by King Henry IV of France, and became Vidame Claude I de Lembach et de Bugey. A line descended from him survives today.

Heinrich II de Lembach is said to have become a vassal of the Fleckensteins in 1327. This lends weight to the hypothesis that the knight Werner, named in a charter of 1183 as a vassal of the Ettendorfs, was his ancestor Werner II de Lembach, since the Fleckensteins received the former Ettendorf estates as a fief. From this point, successive members of the line can be traced through the Fleckenstein records and the proceedings of a lawsuit brought by the burghers of Haguenau against Conrad II de Lembach. Conrad allegedly extorted payments from them and terrorised them with raids by his retinue. The same records preserve the knight's seal, bearing the oldest surviving depiction of the Alsatian Lembachs' coat of arms. The dispute ultimately cost Conrad II a considerable part of his estates.

The last male representative of this line was Johann de Lembach, who fell at the Battle of Guinegate in 1479. That same year, his daughter Margarethe married Conrad von Lambach, thereafter known as "Konrad III von Lambach zu Lembach genannt Rudwin." Conrad's eldest son, Dietrich von Lambach, remained on the Soar. After his mother's death in 1526, he received final confirmation of his succession, together with the right to use the surname and full coat of arms of the former house of de Lembach. Anne-Madeleine de Lembach et de Bugey's line descends from him. Conrad's middle son, Friedrich, settled on his father's estates. The youngest, Rudolf, moved to Luxembourg as an administrator of imperial estates.

The chronicler presents Conrad III's genealogy as follows: The forefather of the Rudwin family was supposedly Lambold the Half-Headed, a companion of Dietrich of Bern (Theodoric the Great). With a band of warriors, he joined Dietrich's expedition to Italy, which he left after being gravely wounded in battle, settling at the eastern foot of the Haardt. After him, the family chronicles list Rudwin, Lantwin, Lambold, and Lambach, whose son was supposedly Ruodwin the Elder of the Haardt, a man-at-arms in the bishop of Speyer's retinue at the diet of 1024, where the princes of the Empire proclaimed Conrad II the Salian as king. This leaves only four intervening generations between Lambold and Ruodwin the Elder, spanning the fifth to the eleventh century. It may mean that the family tradition recorded ancestral names rather than specific individuals. It may also, however, testify to the strength of the Blood in this revenant line during the Early Middle Ages.

Ruodwin the Elder's sons are said to have been the founders of three important branches of the family: Rudwin the Younger, Lambach, and Lantwin. Conrad III de Lambach descends from Rudwin the Younger, who inherited the paternal estates. Between them come, in succession, Rudwin (IV), Werner (I), Lambold (III), Rudwin (V), Lantbert, Heinrich (I), Rudwin (VI), Werner (II) "son of



Rudwin," Lambach (II) "Rudwin," Conrad (I) "Rudwin," Werner (III) "Rudwin," Heinrich (II) "Rudwin," Lambold (IV) "Rudwin," and Hans "Rudwin." The last can be identified with near certainty as the knight Hans (Johannes) Rudwin of Dürkheim (sometimes also recorded as "Rudvyn," "Rüdwin," or "Rudewin"), co-heir to the Marienfels estates, Vogt of Diebach in the Rhenish Palatinate, and vassal of Frederick I of Wittelsbach. Hans's coat of arms survives beside entries dated 1453 and 1468 in Frederick's register of fiefs.

According to Klotz, Hans had two brothers: the elder, Lambach (III) "Rudwin," who settled on a parcel of land purchased by Lambold IV near Marienheide and founded a settlement there that took its name from him; and the younger, Heinrich (III) "Rudwin," steward of the Count of Katzenelnbogen's estates at Marienheide. Lambach III died childless, leaving his property to his nephew Conrad, hence the latter's byname "von Lambach."

Hans Rudwin's grandson, Conrad's elder son Dietrich "von Lambach genannt Rudwin,"



inherited his mother's Alsatian estates. He was the great-grandfather of Claude de Lembach, the vidame de Bugey who died during the siege of Montauban.

It is worth adding here that the last member of the line descended from Dietrich's brother Friedrich (von Lambach) was Urs, Count von Lambach (1628–1671), son of Johann Rudolf von Lambach (1577–1667), an imperial supply commissioner and diplomat during the Thirty Years' War, who was raised to the rank of Imperial Count by Ferdinand II in 1636. Urs, an only child, contracted syphilis before he could marry and fathered no children. When the advancing disease threatened to leave him permanently disabled, he was Embraced and admitted to House Ruthven (then Radvány). Lambach near Marienfels, meanwhile, passed to the sons of Heinrich (III) Rudwin (d. after 1550), Hans's younger brother. They founded a network of families of the lesser nobility, among whom a few branches still retain the Blood.

According to Guy Klotz, all this information came from old family trees once held by the family but



no longer extant. It is worth supplementing it with a more detailed account of the most successful line of the Rudwins of Marienfels, whose success came beyond the borders of the Empire. One of Heinrich III's sons, Albrecht (b. c. 1488, d. before 1600), had a son, Johann (II), who was born in 1523 or 1526 and died in 1649. Around 1550, Johann came to Chlewiska in the Radom district of the Kingdom of Poland as a specialist in logistics and wagon trains. In 1558, he married Dorota Chlewicka, of the Odrowąż arms. In 1593, he and his sons Rudolf (b. c. 1560) and Stanisław (b. between 1565 and 1570) received the *indigenat* and were admitted to the rights of the nobility of the Polish Crown. The same act confirmed their coat of arms, known as *Odrowąż odmienny* (a variant of Odrowąż) or *Rudwin*. After this date, Johann Rudwin appears in the records as Jan Rudwin, of the Odrowąż arms.

His son Rudolf took part in Stephen Báthory's Muscovite campaigns, during which this branch of the family became associated with House Darabos (later Báthory-Nádasdy) and the Sabbat. Rudolf's son Stefan (b. 1583) travelled to the Kingdom of Hungary and even became one of the Black Bey's ghouls. Their descendants survive today, although the family's revenants now display the traits of the Bratovitch, with whom they have interbred.

Except for the earliest ancestors, who appear in no other source, the genealogies quoted by Guy Klotz agree with the genealogical extracts in the archives of the counts von Wels und Lambach. These extracts also contain information on the families descended from Rudwin the Elder's two other sons.



The first is Lantwin's branch, whose members crossed the Rhine to settle on the Alb, in what is now Karlsruhe. They built a tower on a hill there, recorded in the sources as "Clozturn," with the adjoining lands known as "Clozdorf." The tower's keeper in the second half of the eleventh century was "Rutvyn de Cloze," probably Lantwin's son or grandson. We know of him through complaints by the Benedictines of Wissembourg, who owned the adjoining villages of Beiertheim and Bulach, regularly plundered by Rudwin's retinue. The monks recorded these raids in the same chronicle that also provides information on the descendants of Rudwin of Lunenbuoch.

Rudwin of Cloz's depredations ended only when the counts of Hohenberg built their ancestral castle in the immediate vicinity, halting the family's expansion. Its final loss of independence can be dated to 1286, when Heinrich von Klotz (d. 1301), burdened by debt and embroiled in lawsuits with his neighbours, surrendered to the margraves of Baden the right to maintain a fortified residence in exchange for the cancellation of part of his debts and a guaranteed income for the family. The tower is said to have been demolished a few years later. In the following centuries, the hill itself was levelled, but local memory of the family endured. It resurfaced when an artificial mound created on the site in the twentieth century was nicknamed "Mount Klotz."

Two sons of Heinrich are known. Rudwin (d. 1329) served as steward to Margrave Rudolf III and later as a court official to his nephew, Rudolf Hesso. His descendants retained their noble status but became firmly established among the administrative classes, while some entered the clergy. Guy Klotz, chaplain to Claude de Lembach et de Bugey, came from this line. A few of its descendants survive today, but they have not retained the Blood. Heinrich von Klotz's other son, Conrad (d. 1349 during the Black Death), sold the remaining shares in the family lands and settled in nearby Durlach. Within a few generations, his descendants had joined the ranks of burghers, craftsmen, and prosperous farmers. They settled in the Margraviate of Baden, the Rhenish Palatinate, the Bishopric of Speyer, Wissembourg, and the County of Leiningen. Several branches of this family still exist and retain the Blood. Dr. Otto Klotz of the House of the Elenads descends from one of them. Among the descendants of branches that did not retain the Blood was Günther Klotz (1911–1972), mayor of Karlsruhe.

The line descended from Lambach, the third of Rudwin the Elder's sons, attained the highest status. By 1043, Lambach's son Rudwin (I de Lambach) already held land on the River Mürz in Styria. A small timber fort named after his father stood there. In 1043 and 1048, Rudwin sold parts of this property to Count Arnold II von Wels und Lambach, who had become margrave of the March on the Mur in 1035. We learn this from a copy of the deed of donation issued by St. Adalbero, who inherited the estates of the counts of Wels-Lambach in 1056 and gave most of them to endow a Benedictine monastery. The monastery chronicle preserves a copy of this deed with the annotation "*ad allodium Rudvyni*," marking one of the boundaries of the donated estates.

Rudwin's son Werner (I de Lambach) appears in the documents of the counts von Wels-Lambach as steward of the household of Arnold II's grandson, Otto "der Lale," at what later became Lalenburg, and after 1075 also as holder of the hereditary allod. This suggests that his father was already dead by then.

In 1075, Werner appears as a witness to the marriage charter of Otto von Wels und Lambach (c. 1047–1112) and Berta de Pistoia (c. 1055–1154), of the family known in later centuries as Grimaldi di Roccaselva. The marriage began a series of scandalous lawsuits over Otto's inheritance, which Berta pursued first against Bishop Adalbero (d. 1090), then against the Bishopric of Würzburg and the counts von Traungau. Werner de Lambach consistently appears as her witness in the records of these proceedings.

Otto's placement deep in the countryside and exclusion from the succession were no accident. Although Arnold III's firstborn son, he had been described since childhood as "*hebes*," incapable of governing the march or even attending to his own needs. At the household in Lalenburg, Werner did this for him, combining the duties of steward, majordomo, and minder. None of this deterred the enterprising Grimaldis, who saw Otto as a potential heir to considerable estates and dignities, nor did it discourage Berta herself.

Adalbero, who knew his nephew, questioned whether Otto possessed the judgement required to contract a valid marriage. Berta had to defend the validity of her union before the episcopal court in Salzburg. The court apparently sided with the bishop of Würzburg and declared the marriage invalid, which would have made Arnold IV, born in the meantime, a bastard. Berta appealed to the pope, who ordered the case to be reconsidered. In 1109, she and her husband appeared before the new bishop of

Salzburg, Conrad I. The episcopal judgement issued after this hearing survives. Otto's own testimony, and the distinction between the capacity to manage property and the capacity to understand marriage vows, were said to have been decisive. This document, too, names Werner de Lambach and his son Lantbert among the witnesses accompanying Berta and Otto. From then on, the two Lambach families worked closely together.

In 1116, Emperor Henry V confirmed a settlement with the Bishopric of Würzburg securing for Arnold IV and his descendants Lalenburg, the land and buildings in Lambach not included in the donation to the Benedictines, and other estates in Styria. He also confirmed Arnold's and his heirs' right to the titles of counts von Wels and von Lambach. At the same time, he confirmed the authority of the counts von Traungau as margraves of the March on the Mur and regarded the claims of the counts von Wels-Lambach to that dignity as a closed matter.

In 1160, Werner, Lantbert, and Rudwin (II) de Lambach are named as benefactors of the hospice for travellers in what is now Spital am Semmering. It is unclear, however, whether this is still the same Werner. During this period, Lantbert appears in the chronicle of Lambach Abbey as an arbitrator in disputes between the monastery and the local knights. In 1171, he apparently also exchanged some of the land he had purchased for plots adjoining his allod, thereby enlarging it.

In 1192, Rudwin (II) de Lambach and his son Lambach (II) paid homage to Duke Leopold V von Babenberg as the new sovereign of the Duchy of Styria. The church at Lambach preserves a record of a vow made in 1217 by Lambach (II), now styling himself "von Alt-Lambach." In it, Lambach pledged to take part in a crusade and entrusted his wife Carlota di Roccaselva and their minor children, including their son Heinrich, to the care of Count Rudolf von Wels und Lambach (c. 1180–1243).

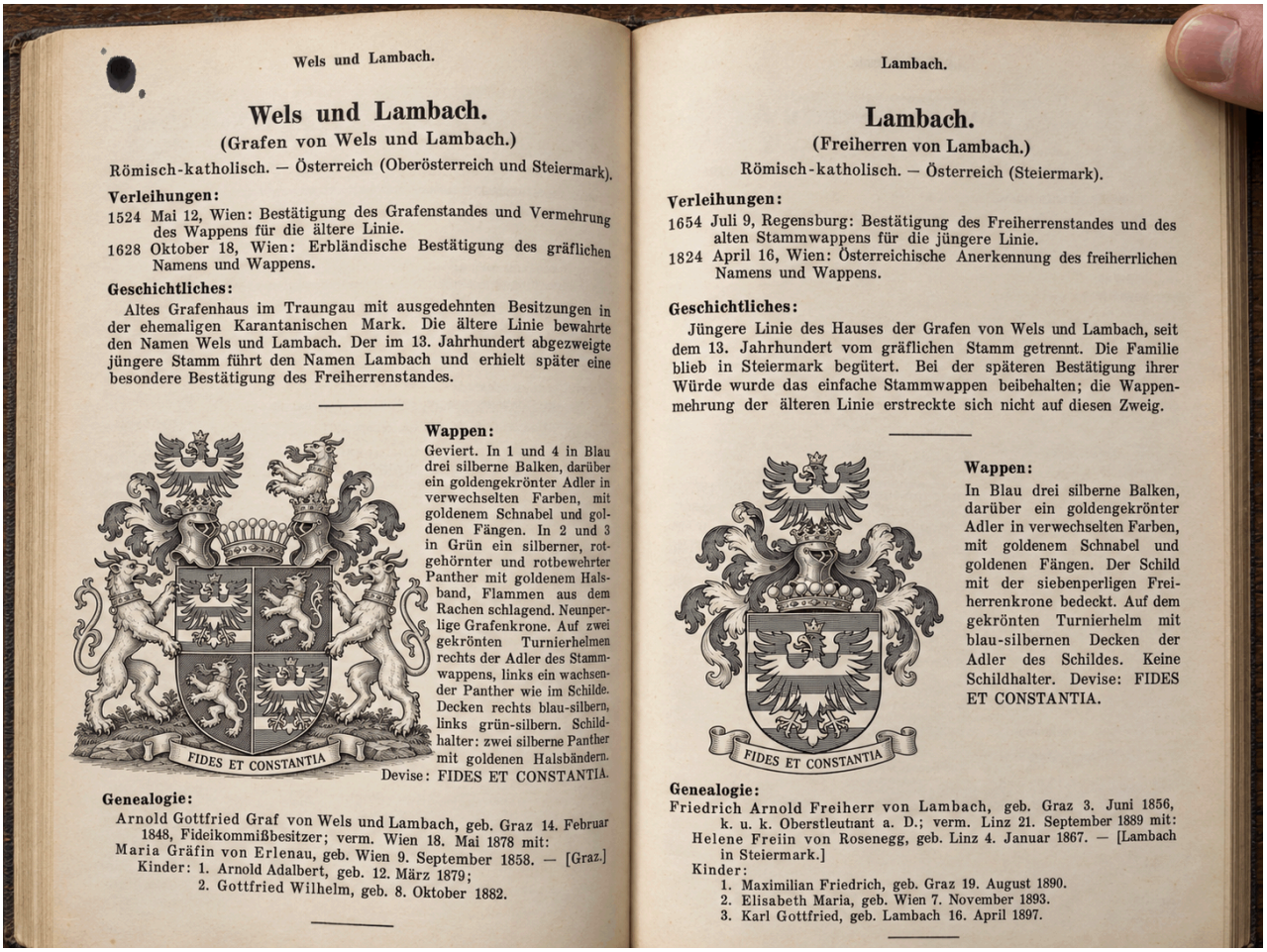
A charter dated 1277 records King Rudolf I of Habsburg's confirmation of the land rights of Heinrich "de Alterlambach, militis et iudicis nostri in Lambach." The document describes him as holding an allod with a manor house, mill, fields, meadows, pastures, woods, and waters.



Heinrich is also named in the 1270 marriage charter of his son Rudwin III von Alt-Lambach (born c. 1238, died 1348) and Adelheid von Wels und Lambach (born c. 1248, died 1315), the only daughter and heiress of Gottfried, Count von Wels und Lambach (c. 1212–1269).

The couple thus united those parts of Lambach that were not ecclesiastical property. In subsequent generations, the name Alt-Lambach, denoting Rudwin's allod, fell out of use. From this point, a much richer body of documents allows us to trace successive generations of heirs to this line, beginning with the marriage settlement specifying the portions contributed by each spouse.

As early as 1267, Rudwin had assigned his younger brother Werner (b. c. 1244, d. after 1315) a hereditary portion with a separate manor house and a fixed income. In 1282, he received confirmation from King Rudolf I that the comital fiefs and rights had passed to him and his descendants by Adelheid, together with the right to use the name Wels und Lambach. Thereafter he was known as Rudwin I, Count von Wels und Lambach.



Wels und Lambach.

Wels und Lambach.

(Grafen von Wels und Lambach.)

Römisch-katholisch. — Österreich (Oberösterreich und Steiermark).

Verleihungen:

1524 Mai 12, Wien: Bestätigung des Grafenstandes und Vermehrung des Wappens für die ältere Linie.
1628 Oktober 18, Wien: Erbländische Bestätigung des gräflichen Namens und Wappens.

Geschichtliches:

Altes Grafenhaus im Traungau mit ausgedehnten Besitzungen in der ehemaligen Karantanischen Mark. Die ältere Linie bewahrte den Namen Wels und Lambach. Der im 13. Jahrhundert abgezweigte jüngere Stamm führt den Namen Lambach und erhielt später eine besondere Bestätigung des Freiherrenstandes.

Wappen:

Geviert. In 1 und 4 in Blau drei silberne Balken, darüber ein goldengekrönter Adler in verwechselten Farben, mit goldenem Schnabel und goldenen Fängen. In 2 und 3 in Grün ein silberner, rotgehörnter und rotbewehrter Panther mit goldenem Halsband, Flammen aus dem Rachen schlagend. Neunperlige Grafenkrone. Auf zwei gekrönten Turnierhelmen rechts der Adler des Stammwappens, links ein wachsender Panther wie im Schilde. Decken rechts blau-silbern, links grün-silbern. Schildhalter: zwei silberne Panther mit goldenen Halsbändern. Devise: FIDES ET CONSTANTIA.

FIDES ET CONSTANTIA

Genealogie:

Arnold Gottfried Graf von Wels und Lambach, geb. Graz 14. Februar 1848, Fideikommißbesitzer; verm. Wien 18. Mai 1878 mit:
Maria Gräfin von Erlenau, geb. Wien 9. September 1858. — [Graz.]
Kinder: 1. Arnold Adalbert, geb. 12. März 1879;
2. Gottfried Wilhelm, geb. 8. Oktober 1882.

Lambach.

Lambach.

(Freiherren von Lambach.)

Römisch-katholisch. — Österreich (Steiermark).

Verleihungen:

1654 Juli 9, Regensburg: Bestätigung des Freiherrenstandes und des alten Stammwappens für die jüngere Linie.
1824 April 16, Wien: Österreichische Anerkennung des freiherrlichen Namens und Wappens.

Geschichtliches:

Jüngere Linie des Hauses der Grafen von Wels und Lambach, seit dem 13. Jahrhundert vom gräflichen Stamm getrennt. Die Familie blieb in Steiermark begütert. Bei der späteren Bestätigung ihrer Würde wurde das einfache Stammwappen beibehalten; die Wappenmehrung der älteren Linie erstreckte sich nicht auf diesen Zweig.

Wappen:

In Blau drei silberne Balken, darüber ein goldengekrönter Adler in verwechselten Farben, mit goldenem Schnabel und goldenen Fängen. Der Schild mit der siebenperligen Freiherrenkrone bedeckt. Auf dem gekrönten Turnierhelm mit blau-silbernen Decken der Adler des Schildes. Keine Schildhalter. Devise: FIDES ET CONSTANTIA.

FIDES ET CONSTANTIA

Genealogie:

Friedrich Arnold Freiherr von Lambach, geb. Graz 3. Juni 1856, k. u. k. Oberstleutnant a. D.; verm. Linz 21. September 1889 mit:
Helene Freiin von Rosenegg, geb. Linz 4. Januar 1867. — [Lambach in Steiermark.]
Kinder:
1. Maximilian Friedrich, geb. Graz 19. August 1890.
2. Elisabeth Maria, geb. Wien 7. November 1893.
3. Karl Gottfried, geb. Lambach 16. April 1897.

After Otto "der Lale," whose title was not confirmed in his lifetime, history records the following counts von Wels und Lambach:

Arnold IV (c. 1080–1145)

Gottfried II (c. 1114–1178)

Otto II (c. 1147–1211)

Rudolf (c. 1180–1243)

Gottfried III (c. 1212–1269)

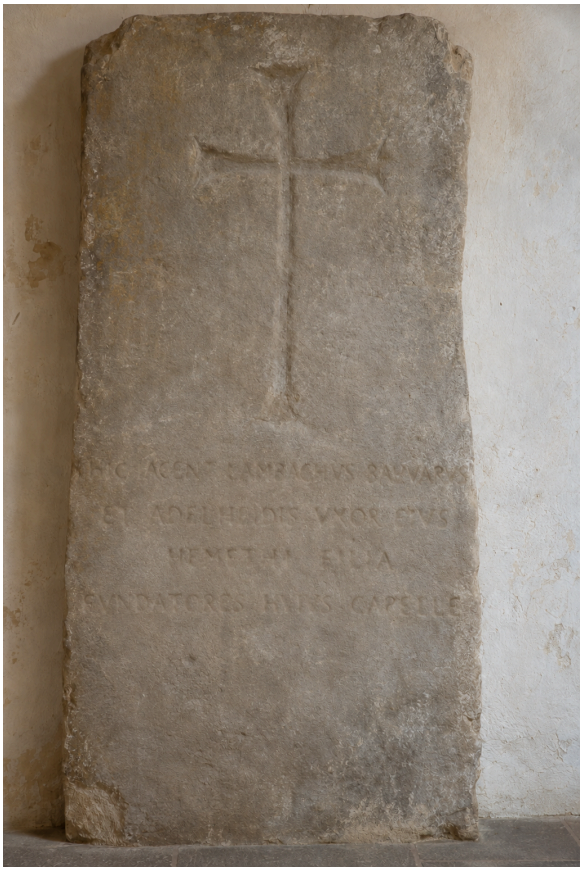
After Gottfried III, the title passed from the Meginhardids to the Lantwinids, whose line survives today.

The line of Werner von Alt-Lambach, Rudwin III's younger brother, also survives. One of its members, Johann Nepomuk Rudolf von Lambach (1581–1703), a veteran of the Battle of White Mountain, purchased the village of Branky and its forest in the lordship of Vsetín in Moravia from Albrecht von Wallenstein. In 1624, Ferdinand II raised him to the rank of baron. These two Styrian branches remain extensively related by marriage.

Finally, we should return to the line of the vidames de Bugey, from whom descended the barons de Limpach, founders of the westernmost Rādavanid seat still retaining the Blood. Before turning to the family itself, however, it is worth examining its home. Limpach in Luxembourg, known as "Lampech" in Luxembourgish, is a veritable palimpsest of the western Rādavanids' history.

The settlement first appears in the sources in 1267 as "Limbach," in a reference to its lords, the knight Bartholomäus and his wife Margareta. The local church of St. Nicholas, however, contains two commemorative stones. The more recent, set into the wall beside a side altar, dates from 1612. Although the present church was built in the late eighteenth century, it incorporated stones from the earlier building. The date 1612 may commemorate an earlier rebuilding or the enlargement of an

older chapel. The older piece of evidence is an Early Romanesque gravestone in the sacristy, bearing a cross and the inscription:



HIC IACENT LAMBACHVS BAVVARVS

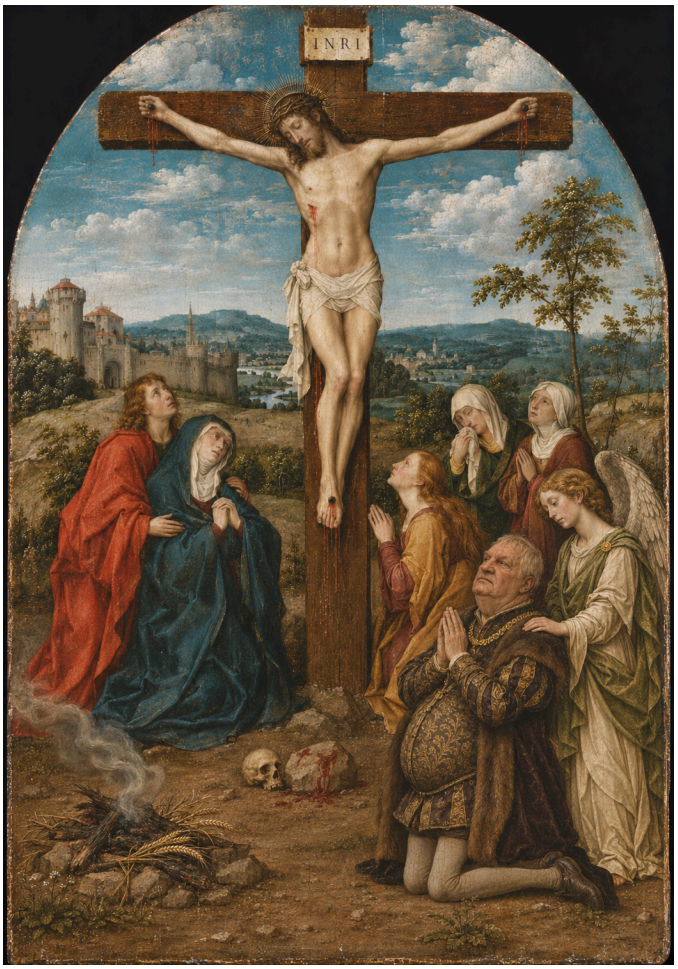
ET ADELHEIDIS VXOR EIVS

HEMETHI FILIA

FVNDATORES HVIVS CAPELLE

We know that when Bartholomäus "de Limbach" assumed patronage of the local church in 1267, the parish, and therefore a church building, already existed on the site. The founding mentioned on the gravestone must therefore be earlier still, dating from the beginnings of the church and possibly of the settlement itself. The probable identity of the "Adelheid, daughter of Hemethis" commemorated on it can be established. The only known Hemethis who could be meant is the lord of Kahler, about 10 km northwest of Limpach, named as a witness in a deed of donation from 1096. The chapel in which his daughter's gravestone was placed must therefore most likely date from between that year and 1267.

Who, then, was this "Lambach the Bavarian"? Here the grounds for speculation are less certain, but intriguing. As mentioned earlier, Lambach V of Lambach on Lake Chiemsee was gravely wounded at the Battle of Andernach in 1114 and rescued "half dead" by a "knight of Calre." "Calre" is the Latin name for Kahler. In the document of 1096, Hemethis appears as "Hemethis de Calre."



Even if "Lambach the Bavarian" was Lambach V von Lambach, we cannot now establish whether the subsequent twelfth-century lords of Limpach were related to him. In any event, their line died out no later than 1468, and the place name settled into the form "Limpach."

This form remained in use until 1530, when Rudolf von Lambach, genannt Rudwin, also recorded as Rudolf Rudvyn von Lambach (b. c. 1490, d. between 1564 and 1599), son of Conrad III, established a manor there and began investing in the estate. Habsburg service brought Rudolf to the Duchy of Luxembourg, after which he settled at Tavigny as steward and leaseholder of part of the local estates. What later prompted him to build a home in the very settlement that his distant kinsman might have founded centuries earlier is unknown. At any rate, a register of noble residences in Luxembourg City from 1562 lists one of the houses as his, describing its

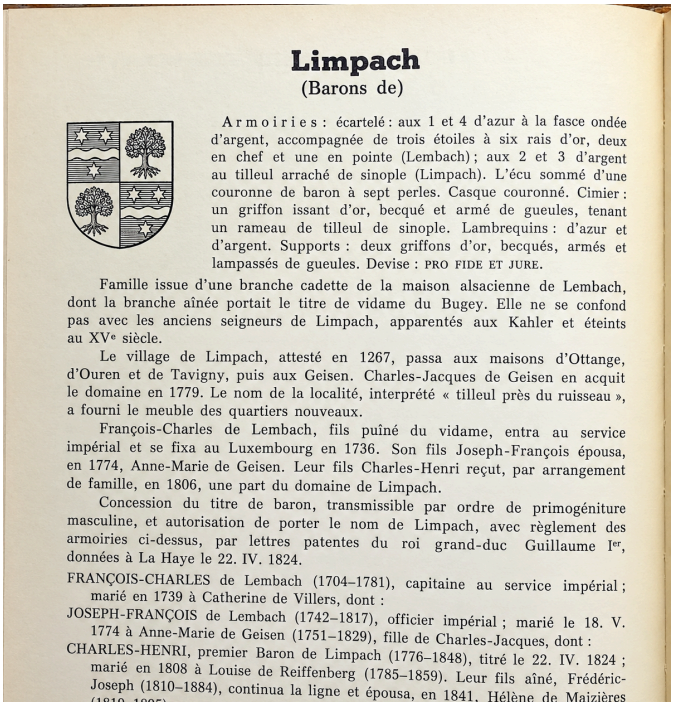
owner as "lord of Tavigny and Limpach." From 1535 onward, the name of Limpach itself was increasingly rendered as "Lambach," presumably after his surname. The collections of the Nationalmusée um Fëschmaart in Luxembourg contain an altarpiece depicting the Passion, donated to St. Nicholas's Church in Limpach by the "de Lambach" family and dated 1564. The donor portrayed in it may be Rudolf von Lambach himself. His descendants retained the Limpach estate for another two generations, until his great-granddaughter Elizabeth brought their holdings and inheritance into the de Villers family in 1639.

The third chapter of Rādavanid settlement in Limpach continues to this day. It began in 1736, when François-Charles de Lembach (1704–1802), younger son of Claude-Amaury de Lempach, vidame de Bugey (1671–1796), arrived in Luxembourg City as a captain in imperial service. Three years later, he married Catherine de Villers (1714–1781), a descendant of Elizabeth Rudwin de Lambach. Their son Joseph-François de Lembach (1742–1822) followed his father into a military career. On 18 May 1774, he married Anne-Marie (1751–1829), daughter of Charles-Jacques de Geisen and his mother's goddaughter. Their firstborn son, Charles-Henri, was born in 1776. Three years later, Charles-Jacques de Geisen acquired the Limpach estates, where the young couple moved together with Joseph-François's relatives.

Revolutionary unrest began in Alsace in 1789. Vidame Claude-Amaury then came to Limpach with his great-grandchildren, the family's most treasured heirlooms, and its archive. In 1794, during the Great Terror, the vidame's son Robert-Amaury (b. 1699), who had remained in Bugey, was executed. Robert-Amaury's son Charles-Thierry (1736–1849) had gone to relatives in Marienfels in 1790, then enlisted to fight on the side of the First Coalition. He returned to Bugey in 1800 and, in the following years, obtained an amnesty and recovered most of the family estates. His children then returned to him from Limpach.

In 1795, the Duchy of Luxembourg was annexed by revolutionary France. Charles-Jacques de Geisen lost his feudal privileges and judicial powers. Maintaining the estate and protecting it from requisition became a challenge. The family's loyalty to the new order gained credibility through Joseph-François's son Charles-Henri (1776–1848), who was conscripted under the recruitment law of 1798 and assigned to the dragoons.

After the establishment of the Consulate, Charles-Henri, by then a second lieutenant of cavalry, decided to remain in the army. He fought against the Third, Fourth, and Fifth Coalitions, earning the cross of the Legion of Honour, then took part in the Russian campaign. Afterwards, in 1813, during the rebuilding of the cavalry, he attained the rank of *chef d'escadron*. He served in the German campaign and the defensive war that followed, then settled at Limpach after Napoleon's abdication. Earlier, in 1806, a family agreement had granted him part of the Limbach estates from Charles-Jacques de Geisen. He appointed his father, already a member of the municipal council, as steward of these estates. In 1808, with permission from the Ministry of War, he married Louise de Reiffenberg. Two years later, their firstborn son, Frédéric-Joseph (1810–1918), was born.



Limpach
(Barons de)

Armoiries : écartelé : aux 1 et 4 d'azur à la fasce ondée d'argent, accompagnée de trois étoiles à six rais d'or, deux en chef et une en pointe (Lembach) ; aux 2 et 3 d'argent au tilleul arraché de sinople (Limpach). L'écu sommé d'une couronne de baron à sept perles. Casque couronné. Cimier : un griffon issant d'or, becqué et armé de gueules, tenant un rameau de tilleul de sinople. Lambrequins : d'azur et d'argent. Supports : deux griffons d'or, becqués, armés et lampassés de gueules. Devise : PRO FIDE ET JURE.

Famille issue d'une branche cadette de la maison alsacienne de Lembach, dont la branche aînée portait le titre de vidame du Bugey. Elle ne se confond pas avec les anciens seigneurs de Limpach, apparentés aux Kahler et éteints au XVe siècle.

Le village de Limpach, attesté en 1267, passa aux maisons d'Ottange, d'Ouren et de Tavigny, puis aux Geisen. Charles-Jacques de Geisen en acquit le domaine en 1779. Le nom de la localité, interprété « tilleul près du ruisseau », a fourni le meuble des quartiers nouveaux.

François-Charles de Lembach, fils puîné du vidame, entra au service impérial et se fixa au Luxembourg en 1736. Son fils Joseph-François épousa, en 1774, Anne-Marie de Geisen. Leur fils Charles-Henri reçut, par arrangement de famille, en 1806, une part du domaine de Limpach.

Concession du titre de baron, transmissible par ordre de primogéniture masculine, et autorisation de porter le nom de Limpach, avec règlement des armoiries ci-dessus, par lettres patentes du roi grand-duc Guillaume Ier, données à La Haye le 22. IV. 1824.

FRANÇOIS-CHARLES de Lembach (1704–1781), capitaine au service impérial ; marié en 1739 à Catherine de Villers, dont :

JOSEPH-FRANÇOIS de Lembach (1742–1817), officier impérial ; marié le 18. V. 1774 à Anne-Marie de Geisen (1751–1829), fille de Charles-Jacques, dont :

CHARLES-HENRI, premier Baron de Limpach (1776–1848), titré le 22. IV. 1824 ; marié en 1808 à Louise de Reiffenberg (1785–1859). Leur fils aîné, Frédéric-Joseph (1810–1884), continua la ligne et épousa, en 1841, Hélène de Maizières

In the autumn of 1815, he returned to service, this time in the army of William I, King of the Netherlands. He helped organise reinforcements and military administration. In 1824, the king raised him to the rank of baron de Limpach by letters patent

recognising his ancient noble lineage, military experience, and service to the monarchy. Charles-Henri retired in 1826. His line still survives.

Let us close this section with a note on sources. In revenant families, a date of death given in official documents may be fictitious, and a death certificate may have been issued many years after the supposed death and backdated. Sometimes such a document was drawn up while the "deceased," already far older than an ordinary human could be, was still alive. When in doubt, such a date should be treated as less certain than a date of birth.