



About Your Translation

✕ This Journey Book includes

- Your original scan
- The transcription into modern German
- The translation into English
- Extras – additional contextual notes & suggested next steps



✕ Notes about your scan and translation

- Your piece was hand-written in *Kurrent*, an older German cursive. Most German speakers stopped using *Kurrent* in the first few decades of the 1900s.
- Letters in **red** indicate a slight question or ambiguity. This translation reflects the most likely one based on context.
- Translations in [] show either:
 - Clarification to help you understand the true meaning
 - An unclear word or name and reflect the most likely translation based on context.
 - That the original word is [illegible]

Thank you!

We love opening the doors to the past. Thank you for entrusting us to unlock your history.

Help others unlock their stories. Tell them about us!



Extras – 1909 Postcards – Real Photo – Robert & Martha

✕ Unlocking Your Translation – Contextual Notes

- These two postcards are an examples of “Real Photo Postcards” or RPPs. They were quite common in the early 1900s. People would go to the photo booths and often get several copies of the same photo printed on postcard.
- These postcard photos were taken at Riverside Park, Chicago, a popular amusement park (1904-1967) on Chicago’s north side.
- Observations:
 - Notice how the writer used the extra space on the front as well as the traditional back for extra writing.
 - These postcards were written before zip codes
 - The second postcard simply says YMCA in Oskaloosa, Iowa without any address

✕ Ideas for Next Steps

- Share this packet with your family members.
- Look up Augusta Giewald’s family. Look for other references to Josef.
- Look for other information about Robert, Martha and Alois Harschnek in your family records or in other genealogical resources.



About Your Translation

✕ This Journey Book includes

- Your original scan
- The translation into English
- Extras – additional contextual notes & suggested next steps



✕ Notes about your scan and translation

- Your piece was printed in *Fraktur*, an older German style of printing. Most German printers stopped using *Fraktur* in the first few decades of the 1900s.
- Letters in **red** indicate a slight question or ambiguity. This translation reflects the most likely one based on context.
- Translations in [] show either:
 - Clarification to help you understand the true meaning
 - An unclear word or name and reflect the most likely translation based on context.
 - That the original word is [illegible]

Thank you!

We love opening the doors to the past. Thank you for entrusting us to unlock your history.

Help others unlock their stories. Tell them about us!



Extras – 1935 Obituary – Louis Barthe

✕ Unlocking Your Translation – Contextual Notes

- The clipping does not indicate what paper published the obituary. Chicago had many foreign language papers at this time. Two of the leading German language ones were *Deutsch-Amerikanische Bürger-Zeitung* and the *Abendpost*, so the obituary may have been in one of these.
- Although the death happened in the United States, this obituary is not only written in German, but it is printed in *Fraktur*, an older style of print not used in English.

✕ Ideas for Next Steps

- Share this packet with your family members.
- Try to find this obituary in one of the German language papers listed above. Be sure to look several days before the burial.
- Look up the cemetery's address to find the city where Louis was buried. You might find more family records in the cemetery or the city records.
- See if you can find a photo of the gravestone (or go in person)
- Look in other family correspondence and records for Louis and his other family members listed.
- Add the date and city of death for Louis to your family tree.



About Your Translation



✕ This Journey Book includes

- Your original scan
- The translation into English
- Extras – additional contextual notes & suggested next steps

✕ Notes about your scan and translation

- Your piece has a mix of *Kurrent*, an older German cursive and *Fraktur*, an older printed version of the German alphabet. Most German speakers stopped using *Kurrent* and *Fraktur* in the first few decades of the 1900s.
- Translations in [] show either
 - An unclear word or name and reflect Unlock Your History's best thinking
 - That the original word is [illegible]
- Additional contextual notes are on the final page.

Thank you!

We love opening the doors to the past. Thank you for entrusting us to unlock your history.

Help others unlock their stories. Tell them about us!



Extras – 1899 Butcher Apprentice Certificate – Hans Bruhn

✂ Unlocking Your Translation – Contextual Notes

- Flensburg 54° 47' N, 09° 26' E is a port city on the German-Danish border on the Baltic Sea; the population was predominantly Danish, but the population shifted to German (both the dialect Low German and standard High German language) in the 1800's and early 1900's.
- Guilds have specific symbolic heraldry, colors and lore associated with them which are not frequently shared with outsiders. Many of the images on the front reflect those traditions.
 - *Obermeister* within a guild could be translated as “Mayor” for those familiar with British guilds. As that translation would likely be confusing for those not in a guild, this translation uses “Superior Master” which communicates the meaning clearly.
- Kreis is roughly equivalent to an American county and here most closely translates as County Flensburg.

✂ Ideas for Next Steps

- Share this record with your family members.
- This record is from Germany. If Hans Bruhn came to the United States, he likely came after this training.
- Look for other family documents mentioning Flensburg.
- Look for family photos or documents about a butcher in the family.



About Your Translation

✕ This packet includes

- Your original scan
- The translation into English
- Extras – additional contextual notes & suggested next steps
- The transcription into modern German



✕ Notes about your scan and translation

- Your piece was hand-written in *Kurrent*, an older German cursive and *Fraktur*, an older printed version of the German alphabet. Most German speakers stopped using *Kurrent* and *Fraktur* in the first few decades of the 1900s.
- Letters in **red** indicate a slight question or ambiguity. This translation reflects the most likely one based on context.
- Translations in [] show either:
 - Clarification to help you understand the true meaning
 - An unclear word or name and reflect the most likely translation based on context.
 - That the original word is [illegible]

Thank you!

We love opening the doors to the past. Thank you for entrusting us to unlock your history.

Help others unlock their stories. Tell them about us!



Extras – Johann Straube Wanderpass / Journeyman Pass

✘ Unlocking Your Translation – Contextual Notes

- This piece refers to *Wanderbücher* and *Wanderpässe*. *Wandern* itself is German for hiking, traveling about, wandering, but in this context, it specifically means journeying as a journeyman, an apprentice who systematically moves from workplace to workplace, gaining expertise from *meisters* at each. In England, they are called journeyman because they journey about.
- To travel about, across the 18 to 300+ countries that made up Germany before 1871, you had to have ID papers, and journeymen had a specific type, two in fact: a booklet called the *Wanderbuch* (“VAHNN-dur-bookh) or a large piece of paper folded in four called the *Wanderpass* (“VAHNN-dur-pahss). Other people received a *Reisepass* (“RI-zuh-pahss”), ‘traveling papers’, which served as an ID and as a passport. Since Europe and even Germany was divided into so many countries at the time, a person could cross a dozen national borders in only a hundred miles.
- Place Names: Note: Silesia is in contemporary Poland. Many names have changed from German to Polish.
 - Streckenbach ([50°53'20"N 15°59'59"E](#), in Polish Świdnik)
 - Cammerswaldau, Lower Silesia (not Waldeau, nor Commerce). Kammerwaldau or Cammerwaldau was a village in Silesia. It is now called Komarno ([50°55'30"N 15°52'09"E](#))
 - Schöna am Katzbach, Lower Silesia ([51° 01' 00" N, 015° 54' 00" E](#) in Polish: likely Świerzawa)
 - Frankenstein, Lower Silesia ([50° 35' 00" N, 16° 49' 00" E](#), in Polish Ząbkowice Śląskie)
 - Schweidnitz, Lower Silesia ([50° 51' 00" N, 16° 29' 00" E](#) in Polish Świdnica)

✘ Ideas for Next Steps

- Share this packet with your family members.
- Look for records or letters referring to your ancestor’s profession, perhaps even in a census record.
- Both this ancestor and his father were from the same town in Silesia. Look for records from this region. Although the cities may now be in Poland, some historical records could be in German.



About Your Translation

✕ This Journey Book includes

- Your original scan
- The transcription into modern Danish
- The translation into English
- Extras – additional contextual notes & suggested next steps



✕ Notes about your scan and translation

- Your piece was hand-written in *Gotiske skrift*, an older Danish cursive.
- Letters in **red** indicate a slight question or ambiguity. This translation reflects the most likely one based on context.
- Translations in [] show either:
 - Clarification to help you understand the true meaning
 - An unclear word or name and reflect the most likely translation based on context.
 - That the original word is [illegible]

Thank you!

We love opening the doors to the past. Thank you for entrusting us to unlock your history.

Help others unlock their stories. Tell them about us!



✕ Unlocking Your Translation – Contextual Notes

- *Madsende* may be a person's name (the second d is silent, pronounced “Madsen”)
- The photo of the house was printed in postcard format, but it was not used as a postcard. Instead, the author wrote the notes about the house on the back, leaving no room for an address.
- *Skyttehus* means house of the shooter, in essence ‘hunter’s lodge’.
- *Grönvang* translates as ‘green pasture’.
- In Denmark and northern Germany, farmhouses tend to have the house on one side of a paved courtyard, with barns on the other three sides, protecting the courtyard against the outside and its winds.
- * The *indhus* (“INN-hoos”) is the farmhouse, and the *udhus* (singular or plural, “OODhoos”) is or are the barns on the other three sides of the courtyard.
- ** *Lærse'd* is particularly hard to read and translate. The sentence might be “It got leased for a mark (currency),” or “It got [unintelligible] for Mark [a person].”

✕ Ideas for Next Steps

- Share this treasure with your family members.
- Look for Madsende in other family documents
- Southern Denmark changed several times between Danish and German rule. Look for family records in both languages.