

# GERMANS IN MALTA IN THE YEARS 1565 - 69

by E.R. LEOPARDI

*Religion des Kreuzes, nur du  
Verknüpfest in einem  
Kranze der Demuth und Kraft  
doppelte Palme zugleich.*

FRIEDRICH VON SCHILLER.

The Military and Hospitaller Order of St. John of Jerusalem formed by the best blood of chivalry — scions of the royal houses of Europe and members of the nobility from countries on the continent, was as close to the ideal of a brotherhood of nations as is possible to imagine. Bound by rules of chivalry and monastic vows the Knights lived in harmony and union of purpose: the defence of Faith against the infidel and the caring of the sick and those less fortunate in so far as worldly goods were concerned.

Until the rule of Grand Master Helion de Villeneuve (1319-1346) when in Rhodes, the members lived a communal life, unseparated in so far as nationality was concerned. The Order throughout the years had grown beyond all expectations and this Grand Master conceived the idea of forming every nationality into a separate branch yet uniting the whole in such a way that the tree of the Order would be strengthened. Not only did such a division make the Order easier to control, but it also produced a friendly emulation between the different branches, every nation wishing to bring honour to its language. Grand Master Helion de Villeneuve has gained the epithet of  *Rettore Felice* . His rule was marked not only for the above reform, but also for the complete union of purpose throughout the Order in his reign.

The original division consisted of seven Languages: Provence, Auvergne, France, Italy, Aragon, England and Germany. In the Chapter General held under Grand Master Fra Pedro Raimondo Zacosta (1461-67), it was decided to create another Language by separating the Language of Castille and Portugal from that of Aragon. It was also decided at this Chapter General to divide every Language into Priories and to assign specific duties to each Language. The head of the German Language, entitled Grand Bailiff, was given the onerous duties of inspection of the outlying fortress of St. Peter, known also as Budrun which was on the mainland in Asia Minor.

When the Knights came to Malta after the loss of Rhodes, no sooner had they settled in their new town, the Bongo, than the old procedure of assignment of duties was undertaken. Since the Grand Bailiff of Germany had originally been assigned the inspection of outlying fortresses, when in Malta he was given the duty of inspection the fortresses of Tripoli and Notabile, and the Gran Castello of Gozo. When Tripoli fell in 1551, the Grand Bailiff retained the responsibility of the two fortresses of Malta and Gozo.

The German Knights were accommodated in an Auberge assigned to them, this was in the centre of the Borgo. When war with the infidel was imminent on May 6, 1565, a general gathering of the Knights was held in which every particular member was inspected for the condition and suitability of his armour. At this battle-dress parade every language was assigned its battle post. It is recorded that to facilitate the above procedure two Knights for every language were selected as inspectors. For the Language of Germany these were: Fra Konrad Schwalbach and Fra Baldassere de Ventimille, Commander of Marseilles.

The battle post assigned to the German Knights was an important part of the fortifications, that part of the bastions at the back of the Hospital — the *Sacra Infermeria* — facing the entrance of the Grand Harbour. As the Grand Bailiff, the head of the Language of Germany was abroad, his lieutenant Fra Konrad von Schwalbach was entrusted with his duties.

The list that follows shows the names of German Knights who were in Malta during the Siege, and those who fell are indicated in the margin:—

Fr. Konrad von Schwalbach, Lieutenant of the Grand Bailiff, Captain of the Post of Germany	survived
Fr. Walther von Heussenstam	survived
Fr. Ulrich von Kamswag	survived
Fr. Herich von Metternich	survived
Fr. Sebastian von Schoeneck	survived
Fr. Walther Hans von Heuneck	killed at St. Elmo
Fr. Johann von Hassemburg	killed at St. Elmo
Fr. Florian Stezel von Otmüt	killed at St. Elmo
Fr. Georg von Hassemburg	killed at the Borgo
Fr. Tuerch von Duelen	killed at St. Elmo
Fr. Telman von Eyssembach	killed at St. Elmo
Fr. N. von Retz	missing
Fr. Georg von Bes	killed at San Michele
Fr. Hieronymus von Rekkuk	killed at the Borgo
Fr. Simon Laskon (Servant-at-arms)	survived

The above names have been taken from *Diario dell'Assedio di Malta: 18 maggio - 8 settembre 1565*.<sup>1</sup> The names of the brave Knights who fell during the Siege also appear on the memorial slab placed in the cemetery of St. John's Conventual Church in Valletta, which was inaugurated by Fra Enrico Montalto dei duchi di Fragnito, Vice Chancellor of the Order of Malta, on the 7th September, 1965, on the occasion of the celebrations of the IV Centenary of the Siege of Malta of 1565.

As the number of German Knights was insufficient for the security of the important post assigned to them reserves were brought in and placed under the command of Schwalbach. In this manner the post was fully manned and well fortified.

The German post was between the defence of England and Castille — England on their left and Castille on their right. When the enemy attacked

1. The *Diario* has been published by The SOVRANO ORDINE DI MALTA, Fratelli Palombi, Roma 1965.

the island in May, 1565, the members of the German Language as well as all the gallant defenders were despatched wherever danger threatened.

It is recorded that Fra Johann von Hassemburg died at Saint Elmo during the first assault by the Turks.

On June 28, 1565, when Don Melchior de Robles arrived with four ships undetected by the Turks, the *Piccolo Soccorso*, as it is known in history, he had among his men three Germans mercenaries who had offered their services in the defence of Christianity. These were:- Georg von Bes; Hieronymus Ruch and Matthies Ulderich Schwarz, and they were with de Robles when this brave Knight entered the Borgo at the height of the Siege at that part of the fortifications defended by Schwalbach.

When the major relief — the *Gran Soccorso* — reached the beleaguered island in September, among the relief were two Germans: Sebastian von Panoutz and Hieronymus von und zu Eliz.

I have already mentioned that the Grand Bailiff of the Language of Germany Fra Georg von Hochenheim nicknamed Bombast was away from the island during the Siege. However, the Grand Master realising how Bombast anxiously awaited news took steps to inform him personally of what had occurred. It is through this that we have an account of the Siege written by La Vallette himself to Bombast. This document is dated September 25, 1565, within the month the Siege was lifted.

The Siege had deeply encroached on the funds of the Order and money was needed urgently — not only to refortify the island but also for the every day needs of the Order, their hospital and the population. It was in this that the Knights of Germany distinguished themselves. The Bailiff of Germany Fra Adam von Shwalbach arrived in Malta accompanied by a group of German Knights and gentlemen adventurers. He gave the Grand Master *una cedola di cambio*, i.e., a money order presented by the Knights of Germany to the sum of 3,000 golden scudi — a very substantial sum for those days. This money order greatly helped the Order to tide over the financial difficulties following the Siege.

I have formulated this short account from details given in the histories of the Siege written by Francesco Balbi and by Giacomo Bosio. Balbi was an eyewitness to this momentous happening in the history of the Knights of St. John: Bosio wrote his account from the records given him by his brother Fra Gio. Otho Bosio who was on the island during the whole time of the Siege.

From research in the original manuscripts of the Archives of the Knights, kept in the Royal Malta Library, I have found additional matter relating to the Siege which is of interest to the student of this period.

In the *Libri Bullarum* covering the half decade following the Great Siege of 1565, under the headings *Salviconductus, et diverse scripture, and Professiones fratrum*, we find the names of several German nationals. These had served in Malta during the Siege or soon after. Furthermore we find the names of German nationals admitted to the Order.

It will be noticed that the spelling of the names of these German nationals is somewhat unorthodox. This is because I have transcribed from the manus-

scripts the names and surnames exactly as they are written therein, and it is obvious that the scribe or scribes were not acquainted with the German language.

\* \* \*

Pro Henrico Lotringher.<sup>1a</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis et singulis presentes nostras litteras visuris, lecturis et auditoris ad quos spectat salutem. Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamus come l'exhibitor delle presenti Henrico loteringher de lorcher hansen Alemano Havendosi nuova certa dall'armata Turchesca venne a questa nostra nuova citta' soldato nella compagnia del magnifico Capitano Asdrubale de Medici pochi giorni avanti della gionta di detta armata Turchesca la quale se conferi qui alli XVIII di maggio MDLXV. Dove nella fortezza nostra di San Michele sempre dal principio insin al fine con l'armi in mani contra Turchi nelli spessi assalti at continui sforzi che nel passato iongo assedio da Turchi ne sono stati dati n'ha servito honorevolmente et da valente et buon soldato molto conforme ponendo in tutti rischi et pericoli sua persona et vita propria per defensione di detta fortezza. Onde a cio che la verita de si fatti suoi buoni servitij in ogni luogo et tempo sempre appari ad instantia sua gli havemo benignamente concedute le presenti. In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera & Datum Melitae & Die XXIX mensis septembris MDLXV.

Pro Joanne Antonio de Metx lotharingo.

Die eadem fuerunt expeditae aliae similes litterae pro Joanne Antonio de Metx, lotharingo.

Pro Mathia a turri.

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis & come l'exhibitor delle presenti Matthia a Turri nominato Weigel havendosi nuova certa dell'armata & nella Compagnia del Capitano fanton pochi giorni avanti della gionta di detta armata & Onde a cio che la verita' & In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die XXIX mensis septembris MDLXV.

Pro Andrea Brunher.<sup>2</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis et singulis presentes nostras litteras visuris, lecturis et auditoris salutem. Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamus come l'exhibitor delle presenti Andrea Brunher de Francfort Alemano, Avanti della venuta dell'Armata Turchesca qual gionse qui alli XVIII di maggio dell'anno presente insin al giorno, e' stato in questa nostra nuova Citta' di Malta al servizio del Venerando Piliero dell'Albergia d'Alemagna et succedendo l'assedio a detta Citta' nostra fattone dalla detta Armata, sempre dal principio insin al fine tanto qui quanto nella fortezza di san Michele et in campagna con l'armi in mano contra Turchi in tutti assalti. et sforsi che da quelli ne son stati dati ponendo a piu pericoli sua persona et vita propria ha a noi molto honorevolmente et a valente et buon soldato assai conforme di continuo servito, sicome del tutto siamo ben informati. Onde acio

1a. *Archives of the Order of Malta in the ROYAL MALTA LIBRARY*: Arch. 430:  
Liber Bullarum 1564-65, f. 261 r.

2. *ibid.* f. 264 v.

che la virtu sua in ogni luogo et tempo sempre appari gli havemo benignamente a sua instantia concedute le presenti. In cuius rei &c bulla nostra magistralis in cera &c Datum Melitae &c Die XXII mensis octobris MDLXV.

Pro nobili Mattheo Huldrico Schwartz.<sup>3</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta &c Universis et singulis principibus &c Notum facimus qualiter lator presentium Nobilis Mattheus Huldricus Schwartz de Augusta germanus sancti sepulchri hierosolimitani miles mense februarij proximo presente intellectu rumore classis Turcicae voluntarie huc Melitam appulit seque contulit et in hunc usque diem semper nobiscum commoratus tempore obsidionis eiusdem classis turcicae in stationibus et propugnaculis nationum germaniae et Castellae cum barbaris dimicando, vitam et personam multis periculis et discriminibus exponendo, viriliter, et fortiter, strenueque se gessit, magnumque specimen et exemplum nobilitatis, et virtutis edidit, ac ostendit. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat, vereaturus &c permitti iubeatis ita quod in suis rebus et negotijs, iustis et honestis, nostro intuitu, ac contemplatione, nullam sentiat difficultatem, rem vobis dignam et iustam &c In cuius rei &c bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra &c Datum Melitae &c Die octava mensis Novembris MDLXV.

Pro sigismundo Talhamar.<sup>4</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta &c Universis &c Notum facimus qualiter lator presentium Sigismundus Talhamar de halstad natione germanus de mense Aprilis proxime praeterito huc Melitam appulit, et se contulit, et postea creatus praefectus stipendiarius cuiusdam manipuli cohortis quondam Religiosi nostri fratris Joannis vagnon in arce et propugnaculo Sancti Elmi viriliter cum Turcis dimicando, et dictam arcem propugnando, multis vulneribus acceptis, pede, et faemore confectus, debilitatus, et mancus remansit. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat, vereaturque ne sibi per diversa loca exterarumque nationes transituro aliquid molestiae &c. In cuius rei &c bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra &c Datum Melitae &c Die octava mensis Novembris MDLXV.

Pro Andrea Held.

Frater Joannes de Valletta &c Universis et singulis principibus &c Notum facimus qualiter lator presentium Andrea Held breisgausensis natione germanus voluntarie et suis propijs expensis huc se contulit de mense septembris proxime praeteriti cum praesidio et classe Catholicae Maestatis pro defensione huius insulae contra exercitum turcicum, misso, ac adducto per Illustrissimum pro regem Siciliae Don Garciam a Toletto. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat vereaturque ne sibi per diversa loca &c Idecirco vos omnes &c In cuius rei &c bulla nostra magistralis in cera &c Datum Melitae &c Die XX Novembris MDLXV.

Die Dominica XXIII mensis Julij MDLXIII.<sup>5</sup> In Palatio Sacre Infirmarie Dominus frater Conrrhardus de Swalbach Commendatarius de francford et sultz Prioratus Alemaniae, ac locumtenens Venerandi magni baiulivi Alemaniae contulit habitum Michaeli Rogio pro fratre armorum servientem Prioratus Boemiae.

3. *ibid.* f. 266 r.

4. *ibid.* f. 266 v.

5. *ibid.* f. 277 r.

Die XVI mensis Aprilis MDLXV.<sup>6</sup> In aede divo Antonio sacra Dominus frater Corrhardus sewalbach commendatarius de francfort et sultz Prioratus Alemaniae, ac locumtenens venerandi magni baiulivi Alemaniae contulit habitum nobili sebastiano schenk pro fratre milite Prioratus boemiae.

Die XXIIa mensis Novembris MDLXV.<sup>7</sup> In aede divo Antonio sacra Dominus frater Conrrhardus de swalbach Commendatarius de francfort, et sultz Prioratus Alemaniae, ac locumtenens venerandi Magni Baiulivi Alemaniae contulit habitum nobilibus Joanni Philippo Iesch, Philippo Riedessel, Huberto de houberg, et scodt de Elverveldt, pro fratribus militibus dicti Prioratus Alemaniae.

\* \* \*

Pro Joanne Petro hancestam.<sup>8</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Et nos Conventus & Dilecto in christo nobis Joanne Petro hancestam germano salutem in domino sempiternam. Cum anno praeterito classe et exercitu Turcico hanc novam civitatem, ac propugnaculum, et arcem Sancti Michaelis obsidente, et meredibilibus oppugnationibus praemente tu qui antea in una Triremium nostrarum inservieras in praefata arce sancti Michaelis cum Turcis viriliter dimicando pluribus vulneribus acceptis manu dextra penitus debilitatus, ac manus remanseris, ita quod ea tibi nulli usui esse potest. Hinc est quod nos vicem tuam dolentes, miserieque tuae compatientes Invicem maturo et deliberato consilio de nostra certa scientia tenore presentium tibi damus, constituimus et assignamus singulis annis tua vita durante pensionem annuam viginti quatuor scutorum ad rationem duodecim tarenorum pro singulo scuto ex pecunijs nostri communis aerarii exolvendam, et numerandam Quae quidem pensio currere incipit a primo die mensis Aprilis proxime futuri Quapropter Receptori dicti nostri communis aerarii in prioratu nostro Germaniae constituto vel pro tempore constituendo tenore presentium committimus, et mandamus ut de pecunijs, eiusdem aerarii per eum receptis seu recipiendis singulis annis in festo nativitatis Sancti Joannis Baptistae visis presentibus, tibi Joanni Petro hancestam, vel quibus legitime commiseris summam praefatam viginti quatuor scutorum ad rationem (ut praefertur) tarenorum duodecim singulo scuto, tua (ut premititur) vita durante, omni contradictione, et excusatione cessante det, solvat, et realiter numeret Mandantes universis et singulis dictae domus nostrae fratribus quacumque auctoritate, dignitate, officioque fungentibus presentibus et futuris ne contra presentis nostras litteras aliquatenus facere vel venire praesumant sed eas studeant observare. In cuius rei & bulla nostra communis plumbea & Datum Melitae & Die XXVI mensis Martij MDLXVI,

Pro Joanne Petro Hancestam.<sup>9</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis et singulis Principibus, Ecclesiasticis et secularibus, Archiepiscopis, episcopis, Ducibus, Marchionibus comitibus Baronibus Capitaneis viceominis prefectis, Castellanis, ac civitatem rectoribus,

6. *ibid.* f. 278 r.

7. *ibid.* f. 279 v.

8. Arch. 481: Liber Bullarum 1565-66-67, f. 240 v.

9. *ibid.* f. 242 r, v.

potestatibus, et magistratibus caeterisque officialibus, et quibuscumque personis cuiusvis dignitatis gradus, status et conditionis fuerint ubilibet locorum et terrarum constitutis salute. Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter lator presentium Joannes Petrus Hancestain natione germanus de mense Julij Anni MDLXIII huc Melitam se contulit, ac in una Triremium nostrarum per novem menses pro milite stipendiario serviverit, et postea Classe et exercitu Turcico hanc Insulam, et novam civitatem obsidente, ac gravissimis oppugnationibus vexante, in arce, et propugnaculo sancti Michaelis prope dictam Civitatem sito, strenue cum barbaris dimicando, multis vulneribus acceptis, manu dextra confectus, ac mancus remansit. Et quia in patriam nunc remeare desiderat, vereaturque ne sibi per diversa loca exteraque nationes transituro aliquid molestiae afferatur nostras sibi patentes litteras fieri postulavit. Idcirco vos omnes et singulos supradictos affectuose rogamus et eundem Joannem Petrum hancestain per omnia et singula loca vestrae Jurisdictionis ad quae eum, sine terra, sine aqua accedere contigerit tuto, libere, et sine aliquo impedimento, et molestatione transire, stare, morari, recedere, et quando ei placuerit redire sinatis vos ipsi, et ab aliis in quos ius mandandi habetis permitti iubeatis nostro intuitu, rem vobis dignam, et iustam, nobisque gratissimam, et pari, multoque maiori quandoque erga vos officio, cum res poposcerit compensandam facturi. In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die octava mensis Maij MDLXVI.

Pro Andrea dorne.<sup>10</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis et singulis presentes nostras litteras visuris, lecturis et audituris salutem. Notum facimus, et in verbo veritatis attestamur quod anno proxime preterito presentium exhibitor Andreas dorne Civitatis Lichttenstad Regni Boemiae Classe et exercitu Turcarum hanc Insulam et novam Civitatem undique tam mari quam terra crudelibus oppugnationibus et insultibus ferme quatuor menses praemente, et obsidente una cum classe Catholice Maiestatis miles stipendiarius cohortis, sive societatis Centurionis, vel prefecti figarola appellati, in auxilium & subsidium dictarum Insulae et Civitatis, ac Religionis nostrae huc se contulit, prout hoc etiam presenti anno intellecto rumore maioris Turcicae classis, validiorisque exercitus, eiusdem cohortis et Centurionis miles ad hanc Insulam denuo redijt. Ideo quia ita se habet veritas, et de omnibus praenarratis nobis plane constitit, ad instantiam eiusdem Andreae in praemissorum omnium testimonium, et fidem bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra presentibus suis loco et tempore valituris est impressa. Datum Melitae in conventu nostro Die ultima mensis Julij MDLXVI.

Pro Joanne Mili.<sup>11</sup>

Frater Joannes de Valletta & Universis et singulis Archiepiscopis & Salutem. Notum facimus qualiter lator presentium Joannes Mili de Nuremberg germanus huc Melitam appulit de Mense Aprilis proxime preterito pro milite stipendiario cohortis Religiosi, ac praefecti, seu Capitanei nostri fratris Stephani claramunt nostrae dictae domus Castellaniae empostae militis, et semper in hunc usque Diem in obsequijs nostri ordinis in re militari strenue ac laudabiliter vixit et versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam & In cuius rei &

10. *ibid.* f. 244 v.

11. *ibid.* f. 245 r.

bullae nostrae magistralis in cera nigra &c Datum Melitae &c Die quarta mensis Augusti MDLXVI.

Pro federico Romer.

Frater Joannes de Valletta &c Universis et singulis Archiepiscopis &c salutem &c Notum facimus qualiter lator presentium federicus Romer von choborkh germanus huc Melitam appulit de mense Aprilis proxime praeterito pro milite stipendiario cohortis Religiosi ac praefati seu Capitanei nostri fratris Stephani Claramunt nostrae dicte domus Castellaniae empostae militis et semper in hunc usque diem in obsequijs nostri ordinis in re militari strenue ac laudabiliter vixit ac versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam &c In cuius rei &c bullae nostrae magistralis in cera nigra &c Datum Melitae &c Die sexta mensis Augusti MDLXVI.

Sub eisdem verbis et data fuerunt expeditae aliae quatuor similes patentes litterae pro Joanne Klobok von barait, Joanne forndran von barait, Georgio heberle von frize et Balthazar albrecht von Rottemberg de traure germanis, qui mense aprilis appulerant etiam melitam cum praenominato de claramunt.

Similiter sub eisdem verbis et data fuerunt expeditae aliae similes patentes litterae pro Joanne noble von ephthinghen germano qui erat ex cohorte Religiosi fratris Antonij Martelli praefati seu capitanei et mense martij proxime praeteriti melitam appulerat.

Die VIII mensis Augusti MDLXVI fuerunt pariter expeditae aliae decem et octo similes patentes litterae pro Heharto grech von tegen spill, Alexandro videmantatinghell spill, leonardo fech von orse, Joanne fuenper von stuchar, Joanne zuvainfort, Leonardo Rup von gonzhancz, Joanne hedre tiswainfort, Christophoro meczger von mering, Joanne cuurm von nuremberg, Henrico herin von vesefeld, Christophoro fochtner, Joanne Steter von pamberg, Joanne Pauuor tostorrion, Georgio hersauer von landsperg, Joanne steter von pamberg, Christophoro chastmar von miniche, et Gallo Khoder von resendorff germanis, ac Odoardo Starchey Anglo, qui omnes erant in cohorte suprascripti fratris Stephani de claramunt, et mense Aprilis proxime praeterito cum eodem melitam appulerant.

Die X eiusdem mensis et anni fuerunt etiam expeditae aliae similes patentes litterae numero duae pro Blasio faibler et Petro Espek germanis, qui erant ex cohorte praefati fratris stephani Claramunt et cum eodem mense Aprilis proxime praeterito huc Melitam appulerant.

Frater Joannes de Valletta &c<sup>12</sup> Universis et singulis archiepiscopis &c Notum facimus qualiter stephanus glancinech von sanpatrian, germanus, huc melitam appulit de mense aprilis proxime praeterito pro milite stipendiario cohortis Religiosi ac capitanei nostri fratris stephani claramunt nostrae dictae domus Castellaniae emposte militis, et semper in hunc usque diem in obsequijs nostri ordinis in re militari strenue ac laudabiliter vixit, et versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam &c In cuius rei &c bullae nostrae magistralis in cera nigra &c Datum Melitae &c Die octava mensis Augusti MDLXVI.

Sub eisdem verbis et data fuerunt expeditae aliae tres patentes praecedenti similes, Duae primae pro Henrico saolz von funstuchert, et Leonardo chretz von tingel spill germanis ex cohorte praefati de claramunt, Tertiae

12. *ibid.* f. 245 v.



vero pro Balthazare sudre von nurin etiam germano ex cohorte domini fratris Don Constantini Castriota qui omnes mense aprili proxime praeterito melitam appulerant.

Die ultima mensis Aprilis MDLXVI<sup>13</sup> in aede divo Antonio sacra Dominus frater Conrrhardus de Schwalbach Commendatarius de francfort, et sultz Prioratus Alemaniae ac locitentes Venerandi magni baiulivi Alemaniae contulit habitum nobili Rogerio de Westren pro fratre milite dicti Prioratus.

Die XXVII mensis Augusti MDLXVII.<sup>14</sup> In aede divo Antonio sacra Dominus frater Walterus de Heusenstain Commendatarius de Tobel Prioratus Alemaniae, ac Venerandi magni Baiulivi Alemaniae locumtenens contulit habitum nobilibus Erasmo de Obendrants, Weiberto de Rosembach, et franco Froste pro fratribus militibus dicti Prioratus Alemaniae.

\* \* \*

Sub eiusdem verbis at data [Die septima mensis septembris MDLXVIII]<sup>15</sup> fuerunt expeditae aliae tres similes litterae testimoniales. Primae videlicet pro Nicolas piscatore de Renchembach, Alterae pro Mattheo Weigelo de Wratislavo, Tertiae vero pro Joannes Manguelt de Ulma.

Pro Henrico Eycholtz.

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis & qualiter praesentium lator Henricus Eycholtz germanus annis superioribus huc Melitam appulit miles stipendiarius cohortis Magnifici Vincentij Ventura unius ex Capitaneis praesidii nostrae Humillima Civitatis Vallettae, ubi per duos annos in obsequijs ordinis nostri in re militari strenue, ac laudabiliter vixit, et versatus est. Et quia nunc ad patriam remeare desiderat Ideo ipsi instanti praesentes nostras benigne concessimus & In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die VIII mensis septembris MDLXVIII.

Pro Joanne Bergis.

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis et singulis praesentes nostras litteras visuris, lecturis et audituris salutem. Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter praesentium exhibitor Joannes bergis Machinarius, sive, ut vulgo dicitur, bombarderius, germanus, sunt plures anni quibus in hunc usque diem in dicta Machinamentorum artem tam super triremibus quam in illa praeterita crudelissima Turcarum obsidione anni MDLXV ordini nistri fideliter, ac laudabiliter inservivit. Unde quia ita se habet veritas, Ideo ad eius cautelam loco et tempore valituram, in huius rei testimonium bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die septima mensis Septembris MDLXVIII.

Sub eisdem Verbis et data fuerunt expeditae aliae litterae testimoniales praecedentibus similes pro Joanne erd de Pombre germano similis machinario, seu (ut vulgo dicitur) bombarderio.

Pro sexto Sthegmar de schroben hausen.<sup>16</sup>

13. *ibid.* f. 270 v.

14. *ibid.* f. 276 v.

15. Arch. 432: Liber Bullarum 1568-69, f. 239 v.

16. *ibid.* f. 242 r.

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis et singulis praesentes nostras litteras visuris, lecturis, et auditoris salutem. Notum facimus, et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter praesentium exhibitor Sixtus Sthegmar de schroben hausen germanus sunt plures menses quibus in nostra humillima Civitate Vallettae pro milite stipendiario cohortis, sive societatis magnifici Vincentij Venture unius ex centurionibus, vel capitaneis huius nostrae Insulae fideliter, strenue, et laudabiliter servivit, vixit, ac versatus est. Et quia ita se habet veritas, et ab hinc discedere cupit Ideo sibi instanti de praemissis omnibus presentes nostras loco, et tempore valituras benigne concessimus. In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die Sexta mensis Octobris MDLXVIII.

Pro Joanne schwaiker.<sup>17</sup>

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis & Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter lator praesentium Joannes schwaiker de Augusta (natione germanus) de mense Augusti MDLXVII huc Melitam se contulit ubi in Civitate nostra Valletta cum cohorte sive comitiva Magnifici Vincentij Ventura militum nostri ordinis stipendiarios praefecti seu capitanei pro milite stipendiario in obsequijs dicti ordinis in hunc usque diem commoratus honeste, strenue, ac laudabiliter vixit, et versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat, vereaturque ne sibi per diversa & ut eundem Joannem Schwaiker per omnia & In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die Decima mensis Novembris MDLXIX.

Pro Hieremia kirchner.<sup>18</sup>

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis & Notum facimus et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter Hieremias kirchner capircollanus natione germanus lator presentium, primo de mensis Maij proxime praeteriti hunc melitam se contulit ubi in Civitate nostra Valletta cum cohorte, sive comitiva magnifici Vincentij Ventura militum nostri ordinis stipendiarios praefecti sive capitanei pro milite stipendiario in obsequijs dicti ad hunc usque diem commoratus honeste, strenueque ac laudabiliter vixit, et versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat, vereaturque & ut eundem Hieremiam kirchner per omnia et singula loca & In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die Xa mensis Novembris MDLXIX.

Pro Joanne huber destirzon.

Frater Petrus de Monte & Universis & Notum facimus, et in verbo veritatis attestamur qualiter lator praesentium Joannes huber destirzon germanus Die prima mensis Maij primo decursi huc Melita cum cohorte, sive societate magnifici Vincentij Ventura praefecti, sive capitanei militum stipendiarios nostri ordinis pro praesidio huius Insulae tunc venientis se contulit, Ubi videlicet in nova Civitate Vallettae in obsequijs praedicti nostri Ordinis in hunc usque diem pro milite stipendiario commoratus honeste, strenueque ac laudabiliter vixit et versatus est. Et quia nunc in patriam remeare desiderat, vereaturque ne sibi per diversa loca & ut eundem Joannem huber destirzon pro omnia et singula & In cuius rei & bulla nostra magistralis in cera nigra & Datum Melitae & Die X mensis Novembris MDLXIX.

17. *ibid.* f. 228 v.

18. *ibid.* f. 229 r.

Pro Valentino hase de Pirnau.

Sub eisdem verbis, die, mense, et anno fuerunt expeditae aliae patentes literae pro Valentino hase de Pirnau qui cum cohorte dicti Magnifici Vincentij ventura similiter venerat.

Die quinta mensis Augusti MDLXVIII<sup>19</sup> In aede divo Antonio sacra Dominus frater Walterus de Heusenstain Commendatarius de Tobel prioratus Alemaniae, ac locumtenens magni Baiulivi contulit habitum nobilibus Carolo Reus de Reusenstein, et Gulielmo brinten dicto a Prol pro fratribus militibus Prioratus Alemaniae.

Die Prima mensis Januarij MDLXIX<sup>20</sup> ab incarnatione In aede divo Antonio sacra Venerandus magnus baiulivus Alemaniae Dominus frater Joachimus spar Commendatarius Maguntiae Prioratus Alemaniae contulit habitum nobili Gulielmo loeben pro fratre milite dicti Prioratus Alemaniae.

Die eadem in ecclesia divi laurentij Dominus frater Joannes Petrus Mosquet Commendatarius de goutz Prioratus Tholosae ac proprior maioris Ecclesiae conventualis contulit habitum discreto Apollinari Weiss pro fratre Capellano Prioratus Alemaniae.

19. *ibid.* f. 259 v.

20. *ibid.* f. 264 v.