Other spellings: Britz, Fritsch

In Emails from Caroline in mid May 2016:

Michael BRITSCH (BRITZ)

Born 10 February 1691, Obernai, 67, Bas Rhin, Alsace, France

Parents: Theobald BRITSCH, 1648-1693 (MEUNIER) and

Magdalena LINZ, 1648-1710.

Before the French revolution, 1789, in **Alsace** records were in Latin, then in French or in German, following the status of Alsace-Lorraine (depending on wars between France and Germany).

Surname spelling was often phonetic, and in the same record, there are different spellings, and, also in the signatures (they wrote as they spoke).

For example, descendants of the marriage

Theobald BRITSCH, Marié le 26 Novembre 1669, Obernai,67, Bas Rhin, Alsace, FRANCE, avec Magdalena LINZ 1648-1710

some of them became FRITSCH.

Also, it is necessary to know, that in France, the spelling of the surnames were fixed in 1877, with the family book (<u>livret de famille</u>), with the information of the generations of ascendants (names, births, etc.). The initiative of its creation restarted in France in 1877, following the total destruction of the Parisian registry office (civil status) in 1871, during the fires of the Commune de Paris in May, 1871. The family book was established on March 18, 1877.

Best wishes, Caroline