## Ancestral Links of Rabbi Nahum Uri Gelles and his grandson Edward Gelles

## Pedigree of Rabbi Nahum Uri Gelles (1852-1934)

Chief Rabbi of Solotwina near Stanislau (1884 - 1934)



Ohalei Shem by Shmuel Noach Gottlieb, published in Pinsk,1912 (pp 261-2)

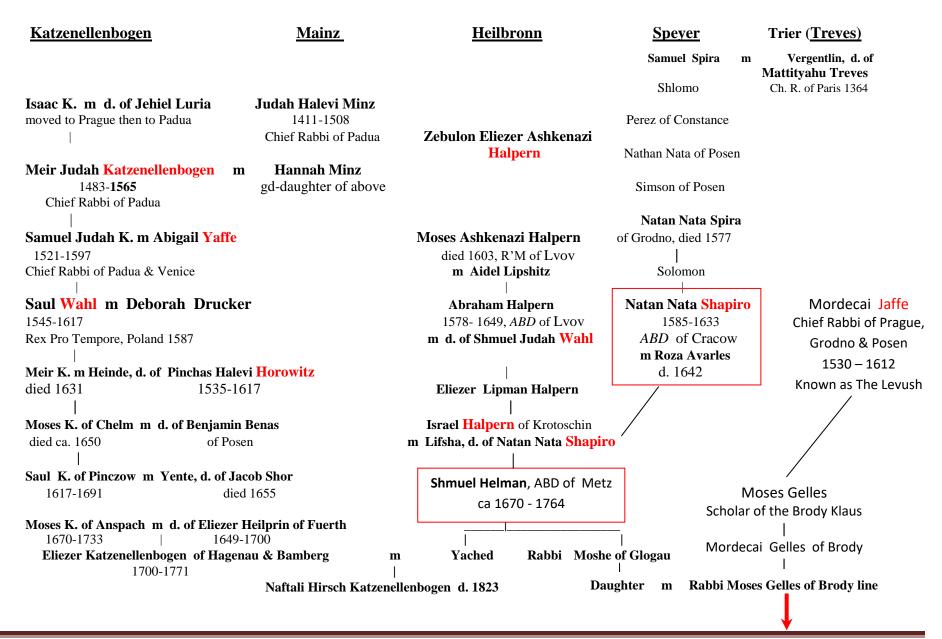
"...a descendant of Chief Rabbi Shmuel Helman of Metz, son of Israel Halpern of Krotoschin, who was a son-in-law of Chief Rabbi Nathan Nata Shapiro of Cracow....."

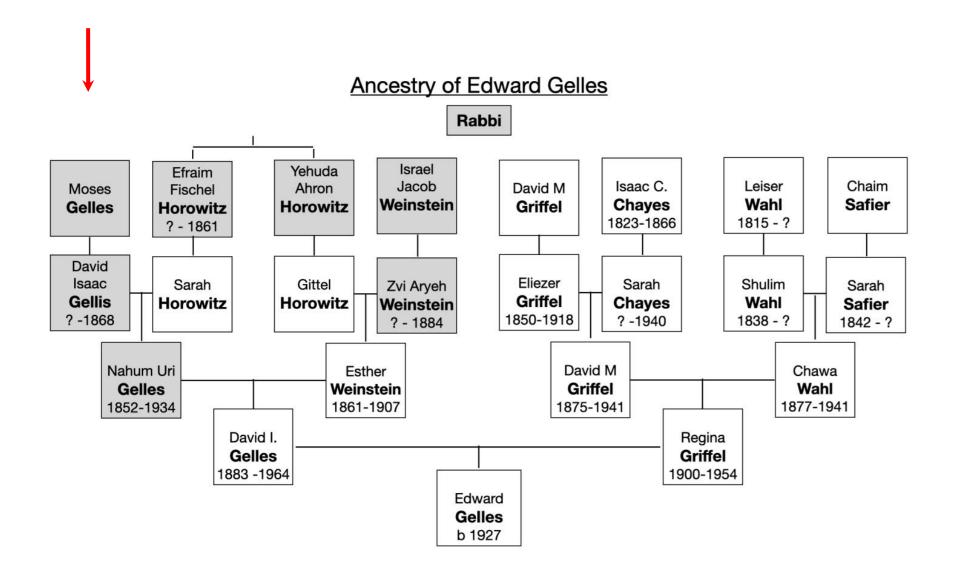
(see chart below)

also, Eliezer Lipman Zak, MS R.761 at the Jewish Theological Seminary, New York, and later sources

Edward Gelles, An Ancient Lineage: European Roots of a Jewish Family (Vallentine Mitchell, 2006), chapter 33 "Rabbi Shmuel Hillman of Metz" The Jewish Journey: A Passage through European History (I.B. Tauris, 2016), chapter 12 "Rabbi Shmuel Helman of Metz"

Moses Gelles, scholar of the Brody Klaus, was the progenitor of a Gelles – Levush (Jaffe) line: Edward Gelles, An Ancient Lineage, Chapter 29 "Finding Rabbi Moses Gelles" including Records of the Beth Din of Brody 1808 – 1817 (Jewish Theological Seminary, New York).





The beginnings of my Ancestral Table show some forebears who lived in Galicia while that province was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. My parents came to Vienna before the outbreak of the First World War. I was born there in 1927 and came to England in 1938. My paternal Gelles were of ancient rabbinic lineage. My maternal Griffel included substantial entrepreneurs who married descendants of earlier rabbis.

Migration over some centuries resulted in intercourse between Glogau in Siliesia and Brody in Galicia, cities which were of importance for commerce and Jewish learning. An influential 18<sup>th</sup> century Chief Rabbi of Metz n Lorraine was Shmuel Helman, who was born in Krotoschin had married into a family in Glogau. A daughter of Shmuel Helman's son, Rabbi Moshe of Glogau, married Rabbi Moses Gelles, shown on the above Table, who was a grandson of Moses Gelles, a scholar of the Brody Klaus (who can be considered as the progenitor of my paternal "Gelles – Jaffe" ancestral line).

Rabbinical appointments to or from distant locations are exemplified by Horowitz forebears. Such was Isaac Horowitz, the Chief Rabbi of Glogau, Brody, and Hamburg (1715 - 1767).

There was some degree of intermarriage between the two sides of my family.

My maternal grandmother Chawa Wahl was a descendant of Saul Wahl, scion of the 16<sup>th</sup> century Katzenellenbogen Chief Rabbis of Padua and Venice. This Wahl line was linked by marriage with my paternal Horowitz line.

My maternal great grandmother Sarah Matel Chayes was of the ancient family of Portuguese origin which produced many rabbis across a large expanse of Europe with connections to both sides of my family.