

# Expeditions to the North Pole: The imperial and/or imperialistic naming of newly discovered topographic features

Isolde HAUSNER\*

---

The 19th century, and in particular the second half of this century was an epoch of explorations to the North Pole. One of the main goals was the scientific interest to reach the North Pole of the globe and to research its surrounding seas and territories. A worldwide interest in the Polar region led to a competition of the nations and a number of explorations started out for the pole. The scientific ambitions lay in the immense interest to investigate these blank spots on the map and to range in the community of polar researchers. This was a defined goal of all major nations and should signalize their prestige, before in later expeditions the claim for the ownership of the explored territories or to hold the exclusive fishing rights came into discussion. From the European perspective a second aim of the Polar research was an economic one, namely to find a shorter shipping passage between the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean, to bring the highly coveted expensive spices and other goods from Asia to the European continent at low shipping costs, to open a north-east passage for ships. Many European nations but also America sent more or less successful expeditions to the North Pole region in the course of the 19th century (Hamann 1993, p. 236f.). New territories were discovered and subsequently were named by the explorers.

The paper focuses on the Austrian-Hungarian expedition to the North Pole in the years 1872 - 1874, led by Julius Payer and Karl Weyprecht. Their prime intention was to explore a north-east passage and in 1872 the steamer "*Tegetthoff*" started from the Norwegian harbor *Tromsø* via the North Pole. Unexpectedly they discovered an unknown archipelago which they named *Franz-Joseph-Land* in honour of the emperor of the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy Franz Joseph I. The exploration evolved into a dangerous adventure and during their stay and enforced ride through the ice they collected and recorded many scientifically worthwhile observations about meteorological, oceanographical and earth-magnetic phenomena, about the fauna and flora (Hamann 1993, p. 234), but they also left behind the names for hitherto unknown territories. Several other expeditions continued with the investigation of the North Pole region and left also their traces in the names they gave to their explored features. Today, when one looks at the map of Franz-Joseph-Land and its toponyms, it reads like a history book full of cultural (and national) evidences (Hamann 19

---

---

\* Professor, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Austria.

---

93, p. 238, fn. 48; Hamann 1976, pp. 139-151), it is quite interesting to study the various naming motives and types of names. But at the same time it is a vivid example for historical processes kept in names, which in the beginning were coined and later maintained in a climate of peaceful and respectful interaction between nations.

---

## INTRODUCTION

The second half of the 19th ct. stood in the focus of Polar research and it was an epoch of explorations to the North Pole. One of the main goals was the scientific interest to reach the North Pole of the globe and to research its surrounding seas and territories, of which there existed only speculations of exact locations and their scope under the scientific and national communities so far. One assumed, that there could be landmasses in that region and one argued that whalers could have caught sight of contours of land, but there were no written sources transmitted so far. A worldwide interest in the Polar region lead to a competition under the nations and a number of expeditions started out for the pole. The immense interest lay in the scientific ambitions to complement the white spots on the maps, to bring glory and honour to one`s own homeland and to rank as a player in the north pole research. This, and not an imperialistic goal for land acquisition was a defined goal of polar explorers. In later expeditions the claim for the ownership of the explored territories, the license for exclusive fishing rights and the territorial aggrandizement came into discussion.

From the European perspective one wanted to find a shorter shipping passage, a north-east passage, between the Atlantic and the Pacific Ocean, to bring the highly coveted expensive spices and other goods from Asia to the European continent at low shipping costs and to avoid the restrictions of Spain and Portugal on the southern route to Asia. Many European nations (but also America) sent more or less successful expeditions to the North Pole region in the course of the 19th century.

In the following chapters the naming motives and names types shall be analyzed by an interdisciplinary approach and contrasted with the sea names *Donghae* and *Nihonkai*. In the course of the Austrian-Hungarian North Pole expedition new islands and channels were discovered and named by the explorers. The meteorologic, astronomic and geodetic, magnetic and aurora borealis (Northern Lights) observations as well as new knowledge about the arctic flora and fauna were published in 1878 by the Academy of Sciences in Vienna.<sup>1</sup> The finding of the new names was driven by imperial intentions.

---

<sup>1</sup> Denkschriften der Akademie der Wissenschaften. Mathematisch-Naturwissenschaftlichen Klasse, vol. 35 (1978).

## THE AUSTRIAN-HUNGARIAN NORTH POLE EXPEDITION IN THE YEARS 1872-1874 ("Polarexpedition Admiral Tegetthoff", colloquially also Payer-Weyprecht [North Pole] Expedition)

### *Aim and goal of the expedition*

The 19th ct. was an epoche of colonial and imperialistic attitudes (Rack p. 48). From the point of Payer's and Weyprecht's view the collection of data on geomagnetics, meteorology and surveying stood in the focus of the expedition, while the arctic (micro-) topography was incidental (Rack p. 56). The prime intention lay in the exploration of the north-east passage from the Atlantic to the Pacific, before it developed to a North Pole expedition. Payer wrote in his book about the expedition, that his part in the scientific aims belongs to the explored land itself, its research and description ("...*Mein persönlicher Antheil an den wissenschaftlichen Zielen der Expedition gehört dem Lande an, seiner Erforschung und Darstellung. Das Material, welches ich über den Charakter dieser gesammelt, bildet nebst den Erfahrungen, welche ich mir während dreier arktischer Reisen über die Beschaffenheit des Eismeereres und die Chancen seiner Bereisung erworben habe, den wesentlichen Inhalt dieses Werkes.*") (Payer, preface). Research and not conquest was the goal of this expedition.<sup>2</sup> The expedition was fully financed by private sponsors, one of the main sponsors was Count Wilczek, and it stood under the protection of emperor Franz Joseph I. Payer was so fascinated by the discovery of new lands and gave names to each rock, bay, water, strait, ice glacier. The naming motives arose from his mental background as a member of the scientific community of his time, his national and international environment as explorer. In such a way he created a virtual image of an - one could say - imperial homeland in the Arctic. Sociologists speak of a symbolic transformation of landscape into an Austrian-Hungarian nature (Schimanski/Spring p. 449).

The Austrian-Hungarian North Pole Expedition was led by the military officer and cartograph Julius von Payer (\*1842 Teplice-Šanov/Bohemia [German exonym: Schönau] – †1915 Bled/ Slovenia, [German exonym: Veldes])<sup>3</sup> and by Karl Weyprecht (\*1838 Darmstadt – †1881 Michelstadt)<sup>4</sup>, an officer in the Imperial and Royal War Navy. They had shared responsibilities, Payer led the shore leaves (sledge rides) and Weyprecht was in command on board. On 30th August 1872 they left the Norwegian harbour Tromsø with their ship Tegetthoff. Already in the first arctic winter the ship was enclosed in the pack ice, was unsteerable and drifted with the ice flow. In the course of three shore leaves in 1873 and 1874, Payer with a few crew members explored the territories, made precise records about his land observations and gave names to islands, water straits and distinctive points of the territories.

On 30th August 1873 after a one-year long drift through the pack ice Payer saw the first pieces of land, he gathered the crew on the deck, held a short ceremony by hissing the flag and gave it the name *Kaiser Franz Josef Land* in honour of the Austrian-Hungarian

---

<sup>2</sup> Fossile fuels, strategic mineral resources, resource rich coastal and offshore regions are in later years of vital geopolitic importance.

<sup>3</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius\\_von\\_Payer](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Julius_von_Payer) (accessed 13-12-2016).

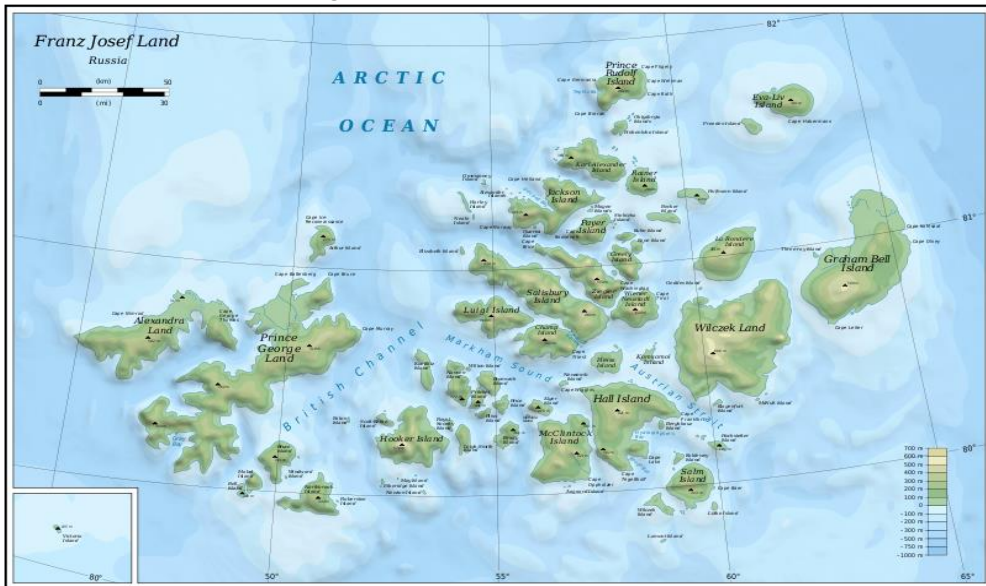
<sup>4</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl\\_Weyprecht](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Weyprecht) (accessed 13-12-2016).

monarch and patron of this expedition Franz Josef I., paying homage to his emperor (Payer p. 135f.). After two years of drifting in the pack ice and after exhausting rides by sledge and boat they approached Nowaja Semlja in 1874 and were rescued by a Russian fisher boat.

In retrospect, this expedition can be regarded as a great success, it provided a substantial contribution to the polar research and can be considered as preliminary step for the discovery of the Northeast Passage, which was in later years fully crossed by Nils Adolf Erik Nordenskjöld (1873 – 1901)<sup>5</sup>. After his return, Weyprecht gave the impetus for the establishment of International Polar Years, which paved the way for a global scientific cooperation in the polar research.

### ISLANDS AND TOPOGRAPHICAL FEATURES NAMED BY THE TEGETHHOFF EXPEDITION (selected examples)<sup>6 7</sup>

Figure 1. Overview Franz-Josef-Land



<sup>5</sup> Wikipedia (accessed 7-10-2016).

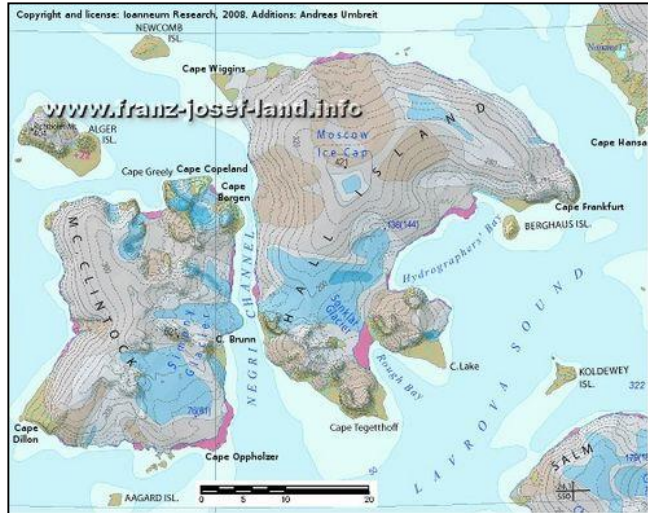
<sup>6</sup> For all maps, many etymologies and Russian transcriptions of the names see: Andreas Umbreit: <http://www.franz-josef-land.info/index.php?id=689&L=5>; Hamann 1975 and Hamann 1993).

<sup>7</sup> This map is based on: "Franz-Josef-Land Region: Glacier Changes 1950s-2000s", Joanneum Research, 2008, A. I. Sharov, et. al.. Detail informations regarding the basic map (legend, impressum): See <http://www.franz-josef-land.info/index.php?id=689&L=5>.

## HALL ISLAND (russ. *Ostrow Gallja, Остров Галля*)

2.1 It is one of the major islands in the south of Franz-Josef-Land, it has its name after *Charles Francis Hall*, an American Arctic explorer (\*1821 Rochester – †1871 Greenland)<sup>8</sup>, who was also engaged in the search for the missing John Franklin.<sup>9</sup> The Payer-Weyprecht expedition named four capes and one glacier on this island: The spectacular rocks of **Cape Tegetthoff** were the first discovered rocks, and Payer gave it the name after the exploration ship *S/X Admiral Tegetthoff*.

Figure 2. Hall Island



Its name in turn refers to Admiral *Wilhelm von Tegetthoff* (\*1827 Maribor – †1871 Vienna)<sup>10</sup>, an admiral in the Imperial and Royal War Navy, who was known as one of the best naval officers of the 19th ct. North of it is **Littrow Island**, named after *Heinrich von Littrow* (\*1820 Vienna – †1840 Opatija)<sup>11</sup>, an Austrian cartographer and navy officer. He was the director of the Imperial and Royal Naval Academy in Trieste and the collaborator of Bernhard von Wüllerstorff-Urbair in the reorganization of the Austrian navy; now it is called **Cape Lake**, when later researches turned out that it is not an own island. The name of **Cape Frankfurt** on the northeast coast is related to *Karl Weyprecht* (\*1838 Darmstadt – †1881 Michelstadt), who was a honorary member of the Frankfurt Geographical Society, the fourtholdest geographical society worldwide<sup>12</sup>. In the northwest one can find **Cape Wiggins** named after *Joseph Wiggins* (\*1832 Norwich – †1905 Harrogate)<sup>13</sup>, a British navy officer, who was engaged in commercial navigation to Siberia and in the construction of the Trans-Siberian railway.<sup>14</sup> The **Sonklar Glacier** in the southeast derives its name from the Austrian military cartographer *Carl Albrecht Sonklar von Innstädten* (\*1816 Bela Crkva/Serbia [German exonym: Weißkirchen] – †1885 Innsbruck)<sup>15</sup>. He was also a renowned alpine

<sup>8</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_Francis\\_Hall](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Francis_Hall) (accessed 13-12-2016).

<sup>9</sup> Sir John Franklin (\*1786 - †1847 near King William Island), Rear-Admiral in the Royal navy, commander of the Northwest Passage expedition 1845.

[https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles\\_Francis\\_Hall](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Francis_Hall) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>10</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelm\\_von\\_Tegetthoff](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wilhelm_von_Tegetthoff) (accessed 13-12-2016).

<sup>11</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich\\_von\\_Littrow](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich_von_Littrow) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>12</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankfurter\\_Geographische\\_Gesellschaft](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankfurter_Geographische_Gesellschaft) (accessed 13-12-2016).

<sup>13</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich\\_von\\_Littrow](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heinrich_von_Littrow) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>14</sup> [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph\\_Wiggins](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joseph_Wiggins) (accessed 03-12-2016).

<sup>15</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl\\_Sonklar](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Sonklar) (accessed 12-12-2016).

researcher, he counts as one of the pioneers of Alpine research and was teacher at the Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt.

**2.2** An adjacent island northeast of Hall Island is the small **Berghaus (Bergkhauz) Island** (russ. Ostrov Bergkhauz, Остров Берххуз). It was discovered by the Payer-Weyprecht Expedition 1873/74, and named in honour of the German geodesist and cartographer *Heinrich Berghaus* (\*1797 Kleve – †1884 Szczecin [German exonym: Stettin])<sup>1 6</sup>. He lead a geographical school at Potsdam together with *August Petermann* (1822 Bleicherode – 1878 Gotha)<sup>1 7</sup>, who was a German cartographer, one of the best known cartographers of the 19th ct. and the founder of the Geographical School of Art (Geographische Kunstschule) in Potsdam.

**2.3** West of Hall Island lies **McClintock Island** (russ. Ostrov Mak-Klintoka, Остров Мак-Клинтока)<sup>1 8</sup>, which received its name after the Irish polar pioneer *Sir Francis Leopold McClintock* (\*1819 Dundalk/Ireland – †1907 London)<sup>1 9</sup>, an admiral in the Royal Navy and an Arctic researcher, he joined searches for the disappeared Sir John Franklin. The **Simony Glacier** in the southeastern part of this island bears its name in honour of *Prof. Friedrich Simony* (\*1813 Hrochův Týnec [German exonym: Hrochowteinitz] – †1896 Sankt Gallen/Styria)<sup>2 0</sup>, who was an Austrian geographer, a famous Alpine researcher and one of the the co-founders of the Austrian Alpine Club.<sup>2 1</sup> **Cape Brünn** on the east coast has its name in honour of the Moravian<sup>2 2</sup> capital Brünn (Czech: Brno)<sup>2 3</sup>, its citizens felt very proud to be mentioned in that context together with Vienna and Pest.

**2.4** Between the Hall Island and the Mc Clintock Island there is a narrow strait named **Negri Channel**: *Cristoforo Negri* (\*1809 Milan – †1896 Florence)<sup>2 4</sup> was the founder

---

<sup>1 6</sup> He published the basic work „Grundriss der Geographie in fünf Büchern“, Breslau 1843.

<sup>1 7</sup> He was the editor of the prestigious international journal „Petermanns geographische Mitteilungen“.

<sup>1 8</sup> Wikipedia (accessed 6-10-2016). See also Andreas Umbreit: <http://www.franz-josef-land.info/index.php?id=689&L=5>.

<sup>1 9</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis\\_Leopold\\_McClintock](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Francis_Leopold_McClintock) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>2 0</sup> [http://austria-forum.org/af/Wissenssammlungen/Biographien/Simony,\\_Friedrich](http://austria-forum.org/af/Wissenssammlungen/Biographien/Simony,_Friedrich) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>2 1</sup> Verhandlungen des österreichischen Alpenvereines (1864), redigiert von Paul Grohmann und Edmund von Mojsisovics, Schriftführern des Vereines. 1. Heft, Wien, p. VI. (<https://books.google.at/books?id=crQAAAAcAAJ&dq=19.November%201862%20Alpenverei+n&pg=PP5#v=onepage&q&f=false>).

<sup>2 2</sup> Moravia was one of the crown lands of the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy.

<sup>2 3</sup> The newspaper *Tagesbote aus Mähren und Schlesien* reports in its issue 1st October 1874: „(Kap Brünn). Unsere Stadt Brünn ist ebenbürtig mit Wien und Pest geworden, auch der Name unserer Vaterstadt glänzt durch die freundliche Erinnerung unserer Nordpolfahrer in den Eisgletschern der Nordpolgegend und strahlt von dort den Ruhm auf uns zurück. ...“ (See Spring/Schimanski p. 650, fn. 373). The same newspaper reports in its issue of 4th October 1874, p. 3 about the awards granted by the emporer for crew members of the expedition, under which the participants from Bohemia and Moravia Gustav Brosch and Eduard Orel were.

<sup>2 4</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristoforo\\_Negri](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cristoforo_Negri) (accessed 12-12-2016).

of the Italian Geographical Society, he served as its president for four years and operated as supporter of Polar expeditions.

**2.5** An adjacent island in the south of Hall island is **Wilczek Island**<sup>2 5</sup> with **Cape Schilling**. This cape bears its name after the Russian geographer *Nikolai Baron von Schilling* (\*1828 Estonia – †1910 Zarskoje Selo/Russia). He was a navy officer and he took part in the world circumnavigation on the frigate „Diana“.<sup>2 6</sup> **Cape Orgel** in the south is named after the special geological formations of basalt columns (Schweizer p. 76).

**2.6** In the southeast of Hall Island are two islands, the one called **Salm Island** (russ. *Ostrov Sal'm*, остров Сальм) by the Teggetthoff expedition in honour of the sponsor Altgraf Franz Salm (\*1749 Vienna – †Klagenfurt)<sup>2 7</sup>, a patron and supporter of the expedition.

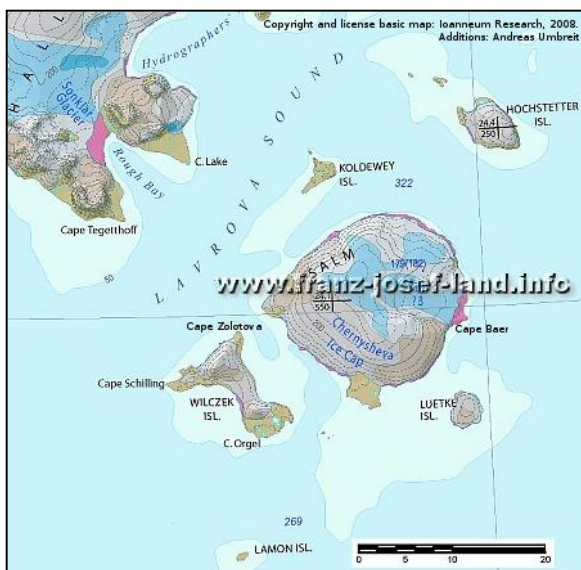
**2.7 Lütke Island**, situated southeast of Salm Island was named in honour of *Friedrich Benjamin Lütke* (\*1797 Sankt Petersburg – †1882), a Russian naval officer and Arctic explorer, he served as Vice-president of the Russian Geographical Society.<sup>2 8</sup>

**2.8** Northeast of Hall island Payer explored two small islands, the one named **Hochstetter Island**: *Ferdinand von Hochstetter* (\*1829 Esslingen – †1884 Oberdöbling/Vienna), a German-Austrian geologist and participant of the world circumnavigation on the frigate „Novara“, he was president of the Geographical Society in Vienna<sup>2 9</sup>.

**2.9** The other is **Koldewey Island**: *Carl Koldewey* (\*1837 Brücken bei Hoya/Germany – †1908 Hamburg)<sup>3 0</sup>, a well known German polar researcher, he led the German North Polar expedition 1869 as captain of the ship *Germania*.

**2.10** Northeast of Hall Island one can see the island called **Wilczek Land** (russ.: *Zemlya Vil'cheka*, Земля Вильчека), which was named in honour of *Count Johann Nepomuk*

**Figure 3. Salm Island**



<sup>2 5</sup> Count Wilczek was the main sponsor of the expedition.

<sup>2 6</sup> <http://www.bbl-digital.de/eintrag/Schilling-Nikolai-Bar.-v.-1828-1910/> (accessed 5-10-2016)

<sup>2 7</sup> <http://austria->

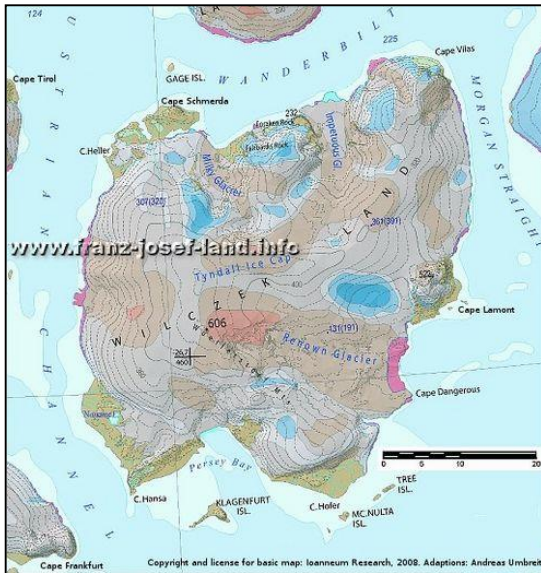
[forum.org/af/Wissenssammlungen/Biographien/Salm,\\_Franz\\_Xaver,\\_Altgraf](http://austria-forum.org/af/Wissenssammlungen/Biographien/Salm,_Franz_Xaver,_Altgraf) (accessed 05-12-2016).

<sup>2 8</sup> <https://de.wikipedia.org/> (accessed 05-12-2016).

<sup>2 9</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand\\_von\\_Hochstetter](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ferdinand_von_Hochstetter) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>3 0</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl\\_Koldewey](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carl_Koldewey) (accessed 13-12-2016).

**Figure 4. Wilczek Land**



*Wilczek* (\*1837 Vienna – †1922 Vienna)<sup>3 1</sup>, who was the main sponsor and supporter of this expedition. He went with the ship *Ijsbjörn* ahead of the Payer-Weyprecht expedition to Novaja Semlja to build up stocks there. Four capes were explored and named by Payer: **Cape Schmarnda** in the northwest commemorates *Prof. Ludwig Karl Schmarnda* (\*1819 Olomouc [German exonym: Olmütz] – †1908 Vienna)<sup>3 2</sup>, an Austrian natural scientist, zoologist and explorer. In the southwest is **Cape Hansa**, which was named after the former expedition ship Hansa of Carl Weyprecht, which he led 1869/70 to the east coast of Greenland. **Cape Höfer** is situated in the southeast of Wilczek Land and remembers *Prof.*

*Hans Höfer von Heimhalt* (\*1843 Loket/Czech Republic [German exonym: Elbogen] – †1924 Vienna)<sup>3 3</sup>, an Austrian geologist and member of the *Ijsbjörn* expedition to Spitzbergen. He studied at the Montanuniversität Leoben and later he was professor at this university.<sup>3 4</sup> In the northwest we find **Cape Heller**: this name remembers *Camill Heller* (\*1823 Teplice/Czech Republic – †1917 Innsbruck)<sup>3 5</sup>, an Austrian zoologist and anatomist and crew member of the expedition, he was a member of the Academy of Sciences in Vienna. A mountain range in the south of this island, called **Wüllerstorff Mountains**, received its name after *Bernhard Freiherr von Wüllerstorff-Urbair* (\*1816 near Triest – †1883 Bolzano), an officer in the Imperial and Royal War Navy, Minister of Commerce 1865–1867, commander of the SMS Novara in the world circumnavigation (1857-1859); together with Weyprecht he evaluated the collected Arctic material (Tiggesbäumker pp. 213-218).

**2.11** Before he started the North Pole Expedition, Payer held a public lecture in Klagenfurt on his plans for a North Pole expedition and could inspire his auditory. Klagenfurt citizens set up a comité in support of the expedition and spent a considerable amount for the benefit of the equipment of the expedition. Appreciation of this action is given by naming a small island **Klagenfurt Island** south of Wilczek Land (Thiedig pp. 28ff.).

**2.12** West of Wilczek Land is **Wiener Neustadt Island** with **Cape Tyrol**, situated on its northeastern point. Wiener Neustadt in Lower Austria is the seat of the Theresian

<sup>3 1</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann\\_Nepomuk\\_Wilczek](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Johann_Nepomuk_Wilczek) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>3 2</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludwig\\_Karl\\_Schmarnda](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ludwig_Karl_Schmarnda) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>3 3</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans\\_H%C3%B6fer\\_von\\_Heimhalt](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hans_H%C3%B6fer_von_Heimhalt) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>3 4</sup> [www.aeiou.at](http://www.aeiou.at) (accessed 05-12-2016).

<sup>3 5</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camill\\_Heller](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Camill_Heller) (accessed 12-12-2016).



Military Academy, Cape Tyrol received its name in honour of Payer's Tyrolean crew member Johann Haller, who accompanied him on most of his land rides and with whom he climbed this mountain to overlook the archipel.

**2.13** North of Wilczek Land is **La Ronciere Island**: Payer named it probably after the French officer *Camille Adalbert Marie Clément La Ronciere Le Noury* (\*1813 Turin – †1881 Paris), an admiral in the French marine and president of the Geographical Society in Paris.

**2.14** Between Wilczek Land and Wiener Neustadt Island flows the **Austria Channel** (or Austria Sund).

**2.15** Further to the north of this archipelago we recognize **Hoffmann Island**. Its name is related to the Viennese diplomat and minister *Leopold Friedrich Baron von Hofmann* (\*1822 Vienna – †1885Vienna).<sup>3 6</sup>

**2.16 Rainer Island** bears its name after *Archduke Rainer Ferdinand Maria Ignaz von Österreich* (\*1827 Milan – †1913 Vienna). He was the nephew of emperor Franz Joseph I., a prominent supporter of art and science.<sup>3 7</sup> He held the patronage of the association in support of the Austrian-Hungarian North Pole Expedition (Hamann p. 142).

**2.17** The northernmost island Payer discovered is called **Rudolf Island** (russ. Ostrow Rudolfa, остров Рудольфа)<sup>3 8</sup> in honour of Archduke Rudolf of Habsburg-Lothringen, the crown prince of the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy. On the westcoast from north to

south three capes were named by Payer: **Cape Germania**, after the ship *Germania* of the second German Polar expedition. **Cape Säulen** (in Russian translation **Cape Stolbovoy**) has its denomination after the columnar geological formations there, and the third is **Cape Auk**, where a considerable number of these birds could be sighted. On the south coast is **Cape Habermann**, its naming motive is not yet fully clarified. But it refers very likely to *Josef Habermann* (\*1841 Nový Jičín/Czech Republic – †1917 Brno), a chemist, who studied at the Technical University in Vienna and was a scholar of Schrötter<sup>3 9</sup> (see Cape Schrötter on Hohenlohe Island

**Figure 5.** Rudolf Island



<sup>3 6</sup> See Austria Forum [www.austria-forum.org](http://www.austria-forum.org) (accessed 20-10-2016).

<sup>3 7</sup> Wikipedia (accessed 6-10-2016).

<sup>3 8</sup> Wikipedia (accessed 6-10-2016).

<sup>3 9</sup> See Österreichisches Biographisches Lexikon (Austrian Academy of Sciences), <http://www.biographien.ac.at/oebl?frames=yes> (accessed 6-10-2016).

in the south). On the east coast one can find **Cape Fligely**, which was named in honour of *August von Fligely* (\*1810 Janów Lubelski/Poland – †1879 Vienna), an Austrian cartographer and founder of the European grade measurement commission, who completed his studies at the Theresian Military Academy in Wiener Neustadt.<sup>4 0</sup> The **Middendorf Glacier** in the southeastern part of the island has its name in honour of *Alexander Theodor von Middendorf* (\*1815 Sankt Petersburg – †1894 Estland). He was a well-known German-Baltic explorer and zoologist in Russian service.<sup>4 1</sup> The name **Teplitz Bay** on the westcoast refers to the city Teplice in Bohemia, where Julius Payer was born.

**2.18** Located south of Rudolf Island is **Hohenlohe (Gogenloe) Island** (russ. *Ostrow Gogenloe*, остров Гогенлоэ). Its name refers to the Frankish nobility house of Hohenlohe (probably in honour of *Prince Konstantin of Hohenlohe-Schillingfürst* [\*1828 Wildeck/Germany – †1896 Vienna]<sup>4 2</sup>, general in the Austrian army). **Cape Schrötter** on this island refers to *Anton Schrötter von Kristelli*, an Austrian chemist, he was general secretary of the Academy of Sciences in Vienna.<sup>4 3</sup>

## RELATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES TO SPACE AND TIME

The 19th ct. can be regarded as the first phase of scientification of geography and it is at the same time the last of large discoveries (Osterhammel 132). For the Payer-Weyprecht exploration the main goal was a solely scientific one. From the perspectives of economic profits, the Polar issue was at that time irrelevant for the Polar explorers. But this was not so from the sciences` perspective, because blind spots on the map had to be filled, but for Payer only geographical issues as regards surveying or data on metereology etc. were valuable and names for him had no function at all, he regarded them as mere empty phrases or aids of orientation. Payer wrote in his book about the expedition that it has always been a maxim of Arctic explorers to name the discoveries after their supporters or after their predecessors (Payer p. 265). What Payer did not take into account was, that all geographical names tell us a story, be it a cultural-historical one or a nature bound (geology, vegetation, time period etc.) one. The geographical names of the Franz Josef Land are a vivid example for this thesis as regards the cultural-historical aspect (like cf. the names *Donghae* and *Nihonkai*) and incorporate a lot of informations on the scientific, cultural, military and national status of the monarchies at a certain period of time. The toponymy of the Franz Josef Land reads like a Who is Who of the empire(s), the agents in natural sciences, the rise of geographical societies, the scientification of the discipline geography, the networks between the international renowned actors, and last but not least the importance and contributions of the nobility in the Austrian-Hungarian Empire (or other European empires). Explorers free of imperialistic demands in mind and not colonial geographers were involved in that Polar

---

<sup>4 0</sup> [http://www.biographien.ac.at/oeb1\\_1/330.pdf](http://www.biographien.ac.at/oeb1_1/330.pdf) (accessed 05-12-2016).

<sup>4 1</sup> [http://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/bsb00016335/image\\_479](http://daten.digitale-sammlungen.de/bsb00016335/image_479) (accessed 12-12-2016).

<sup>4 2</sup> [https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konstantin\\_zu\\_Hohenlohe-Schillingsf%C3%BCrst](https://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Konstantin_zu_Hohenlohe-Schillingsf%C3%BCrst) (accessed 12-12-2016)

<sup>4 3</sup> [http://www.biographien.ac.at/oeb1\\_11/246.pdf](http://www.biographien.ac.at/oeb1_11/246.pdf) (accessed 05-12-2016).

undertakings. In these times the region was regarded as uninhabitable and unsuited for human habitats, it was a terra nullius, mineral resources were no issue at that time.

### ***Cartography as name giving discipline***

Cartography provides names for places and regions. As soon as a name appears on a map it has a somehow official character and at the same time gains a global awareness. The act of name giving is always a manifestation of power. Is a name on an officially authorized map, it belongs to our common knowledge. In the case of Franz-Josef-Land one could speak of a symbolic act of occupation in the competition under the European empires and the transatlantic science committees, but there were no endeavors to occupy it. When we compare the act of name giving in Franz Josef Land with the two names *Donghae/East Sea* and *Nihonkai/Sea of Japan*, several aspects are of special importance. Namely, that in the first case there were no imperialistic intentions, while in the second case an imperial pattern reflects a naming policy awaking memories of former times in the Korean population, and though two names are existing and the sea is shared by two countries only one name is visible. The name *Donghae* created a Korean narrative which is still vivid under the Korean people. The name ceased to exist with the IHO publication of 1929. As soon as Franz-Josef-Land was annexed to Russia (on 15th April 1926), the names were not eradicated (though complemented) or replaced by alternative Russian toponyms, yet the toponyms were transliterated into the Russian script, sometimes back again to Roman script, and many misspellings beyond recognition are the consequences, but in general one can see that the translations affect only the generic elements. In the second case in the important IHO publication from 1929 one name was cut off and *Nihonkai* was and still is the only officially acknowledged name for this portion of the sea. For both names a historical and cultural dimension can be made convincing, but above all cultural arguments can give grounds for the re-instatement of the second very old name together with the current name. Cultural references kept in names would create added values with a broad scope and could give a land's reputation and part of identification to the inhabitants back.

In this context another fundamental question could be raised (in addition to Watanabe's paper in this publication): Who is the owner of a name? The answer - and I think this is in compliance with the UNESCO principles - can only be, that all names, especially those with a profound cultural-historical background, have the whole mankind as owners. Or reasoning the other way round, all people on earth have the right to share in the cultural-historical heritage of the world, and geographical names have been regarded as cultural immaterial heritage by UNESCO. This organization appeals in its recommendations to collect culturally valuable data and to pass them over to mankind. *Donghae* owns this quality and furthermore is a mental component in the feeling and thinking of Korean people.

### ***Regions as spaces of interaction***

In our global world regions more than ever emerge in a manifold way as spaces of interactions, be it on the commercial, scientific, cultural or political scenes. The exploration of Franz-Josef-Land was from the beginning a more or less scientific undertaking and this is mirrored by and in the toponyms. The following initiative for a

common Polar research in the frame of the Polar Years came from the discoverers and brought fruitful results to the present day. The map of this archipel with its wealth of toponyms originating from persons of the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy, European as well as Russian and American countries, illustrates the multicultural character in the exploration of this region and is a demonstration of the close cooperation between states. On the other hand the name *Nihonkai/Sea of Japan* demonstrates a single sided visibility with a historical-political background, stores a historicist tendency and is from the perspective of modern onomastics a name reflecting imperialistic or colonial ages in its typology. Today's standard is the respectful interaction, that means a return to down-to-earth toponyms, very often as dual name entries in the maps (see the Australian dual-naming policy; see also the post-colonial African countries) or in use by the public media.

### ***The nature of geographical names***

As regards Payer's perception of geographical names as mere labels, onomastics in his time didn't have today's sophisticated standard and lacked the theoretical framework, which was set up during the 20th ct., especially the semiotic aspect. Today we can say that the toponyms on Franz-Josef-Land reveal the scope of an international network in the 19th ct. between the leading natural scientists and mirror at the same time Europe's dominant position in natural sciences and in Polar research.

The toponyms on Franz-Josef-Land don't really comply with a traditional toponomastic concept, it is an accumulation of persons of importance and international significance, of cities of importance within the Austrian-Hungarian Monarchy. The structure of the names is very simple - personal name + generic element -, but the naming motives allow us insight into the global scientific community of geographers and natural scientists, the nobility within the monarchy, the high standard of natural sciences and the worldwide rise of geographical societies. The nature of the toponyms doesn't mirror the characteristics of the territory itself, because this was secondary, the toponyms contain no evidence of special geological or other characteristics of the land (with few exceptions like Cape Auk or Cape Säulen or Cape Orgel). Internationally renowned persons and the greatest respect for their undertakings were the guarantors of maintaining the given names also after the annexation by Russia. The identification function of the names does not exist, while the address function was established by surveying and mapping. Nevertheless, the names reveal a special motive which is a scientific one bound to space and time and governance.

Both names, *Donghae* and *Nihonkai* meet all the linguistic and cultural requirements characterizing the class of toponyms (historical records, cultural relevance, vivid usage), as onomastic science understands it today, as worth of being protected and handed over to later generations.

## REFERENCES

- Hamann, G. (1975). Das Zeitalter Kaiser Franz Josefs im Spiegel der Topographie des Franz-Josef-Landes. *Beiträge zur allgemeinen Geschichte. Alexander Novotny zur Vollendung seines 70. Lebensjahres gewidmet*. Publikationen aus dem Archiv der Universität Graz, ed. by Wiesflecker, H, 4. Graz: Akademische Druck- und Verlagsanstalt.
- Hamann, G. (1993, ed.). Die Entdeckung des Franz-Josef-Landes vor hundert Jahren. *Die Welt begreifen und erfahren. Aufsätze zur Wissenschafts- und Entdeckungsgeschichte*. Im Auftrag der Österreichischen Gesellschaft für Wissenschaftsgeschichte herausgegeben von Johannes Dörflinger, Helmut Grössing, Karl Kadletz und Marianne Klemun. Mit einem Beitrag von Karl R. Wernhart. *Perspektiven der Wissenschaftsgeschichte*, Grössing, H., Kadletz, K., Klemun, M. (eds.), vol. 1. Wien: Böhlau Verlag.
- Osterhammel, J. (2009). *Die Verwandlung der Welt. Geschichte des 19. Jahrhunderts*. München: C.H.Beck.
- Payer, J. (1876): Die österreichisch-ungarische Nordpol-Expedition in den Jahren 1872-1874, nebst einer Skizze der zweiten deutschen Nordpol-Expedition 1869-1870 und der Polar-Expedition von 1871. Wien: A. Hölder k. k. Hof- und Universitäts Buchhändler.
- Rack, U. (2009). *Sozialhistorische Studie zur Polarforschung*. Dissertation Universität Wien, p. 48.
- Schimanski, J. and Spring, U. (2015). Passagiere des Eises. *Polarhelden und arktische Diskurse 1874*. Wien: Böhlau.
- Schweizer, V. (2012). *Wörterbuch der Geologie. Dictionary of geology. Deutsch-Englisch, English-German*. Berlin: Springer Verlag.
- Thiedig, F. (2006). Fahrt zum Geografischen Nordpol und zum Franz Josef Land (2005) - mit Beschreibung der Klagenfurt Inseln und der auffällig großen Steinkugeln östlich Kap Fiume auf Champ Island (FJL). *Carinthia II* 196, 116.
- Tiggesbäumker, G. (1981). Carl Weyprecht 1838-1881. *Polarforschung*, published by the Alfred Wegener Institute for Polar and Marine Research (AWI) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Polarforschung (DGP), 51 (2), pp. 213-218.