

## WEISSE.

Weisse is a German word that means *white*, it also means *wise*. The Germans write it Weisz, but when they use Roman letters, they always change the z into s, thus Weisse is correct in both German and English. The crest of the arms of the Weisse family is an otter.

The different families of Weisse, Weisze, Weiss and Albinus have all the same origin; they are from Dessau on the Elbe. Bernhard Weisse was born 1653, at Dessau; he studied medicine at Leyden, in Holland, and, from a prevalent fashion of that day, changed his name to *Albinus*, which was simply the Latin for Weisse. He became professor of anatomy at Frankfort on the Oder, and afterwards physician to the Elector of Brandenburg. In 1702 he was called to Leyden, where he was appointed professor of anatomy, and died 1721; he wrote many medical works. Boerhaave and Albinus were professors in the University of Leyden at the same time, and gave that institution its fame for learning.

B. Albinus left two sons, Bernhard Siegfried and Christian Bernhard, both of whom embraced their father's profession, in which they became eminent. Bernhard is a name found in almost every family of Weisses at this day. Dr. J. A. Weisse's brother and a nephew now living were named Bernard. Bernhard Siegfried Albinus is considered as the first anatomist of his epoch; at the age of twenty-two, he succeeded his father as professor of anatomy, at Leyden, where he died in 1770. He was born at Frankfort on the Oder, 1693. He wrote fifteen different works on Anatomy. His brother, Christian Bernhard Albinus, devoted himself to the same science.

Christian Felix Weisse preserved the original family name. He was a poet of considerable repute; wrote fables, ballads and elegies. His elegy near the grave of Gellert is considered a masterpiece of its kind. He was born at Altenberg, in Saxony, in 1726, and died in Leipzig, 1805. He was of the family originally from Dessau.

A Weiss wrote a history of the Huguenots. He was Minister of Commerce, in France, in 1849. He was from Picardy, and belonged to the original Dessau stock.