

Even a missing entry can inform
Hal Bookbinder

Revizskie Skazki (Revision Lists) can be a valuable source of information about family that lived in Russia's Pale of Jewish Settlement. In the early 1990s, an amazing professional genealogist, Miriam Weiner, located pages on my Buchbinder family in the Zhytomyr Regional Archives. Some Revizskie Skazki, including those shown here, can now be found on JewishGen, along with English translations.

In last month's article, "My 5th Great Grandfather's Name", I focused on the male Buchbinders in Dubno, Volhynia, Russia (currently, Ukraine). Based on the 1850 Russian Revizskie Skazki*, I hypothesized his name and his approximate birth and death dates. This article focuses on what I was able to learn and infer about the female members of the family from the 1850 and 1858 Revizskie Skazki.

REVIZSKIE SKAZKI (REVISION LIST)			
РЕВИЗСКАЯ СКАЗКА.			
1850 года <i>Октября 30</i> дня, <i>Волынской Губернии Городъ</i> October 30, 1850 Volinsk Gubernia Town of		<i>Дубна.</i>	
Семья.	Дубно	Во временной	Имя на
	ЖЕНСКИЙ ПОЛЪ.	Статус	лицо,
№		changes	Age
		времени.	Лѣта.
	<i>Еврейка</i> Female Jew		
	Abram Itsko Buchbinder wife Chava Surla		
3	<i>Абрамъ Ицко Бушбиндера жена Хавы Сурла.</i> <i>Ея Дочь Естеръ.</i> Daughter Esther		24 2
2	<i>Ханна Бушбиндера жена Хинда.</i> Chiam Buchbinder wife Hinda		29

The 1850 Revizskie Skazki above shows Chava Surla Bookbinder (my 2nd great grandmother) and her 2-year-old daughter, Esther. One can also infer from what is not shown. As I pointed out in last month's article, revizskie skazki have an advantage over censuses in that they include status changes since the prior revizskie skazki, and not just a snapshot of who is alive at the time of the current revizskie skazki.

The 1850 Revizskie Skazki did not list a wife for my 3rd great grandfather, Berko, who had died in 1848. Had she died or moved away after the 1833 Revizskie Skazki or had she been alive in 1850, she should have been shown. This implies that she had died by 1833. As the male 1850 Revizskie Skazki* showed that she had a son, Shimon, in 1832, she died in either 1832 or 1833, possibly in childbirth.

The 1850 Revizskie Skazki also shows Hinda (or Ginda), age 29, as the wife of Chiam (the head of the other Buchbinder household). Chiam was 55 and had sons born around 1832, 1847, 1850, and 1854. The first child, Itsko Shmuel, died in 1835. The others were living in 1850. Hinda was a toddler herself in 1832. So, it appears that she was Chiam's second wife and the mother of his three subsequent sons.

As Chiam's first wife is not shown in the 1850 Revizskie Skazki, she, like my 3rd great grandmother, presumably died prior to 1833. As she also had a son in 1832, she may also have died in childbirth. Such were the dangers of childbirth in the Pale, in the 19th Century.

REVIZSKIE SKAZKI (REVISION LIST)

March 30, 1858 РЕВИЗСКАЯ СКАЗКА

1858 года Мая 30^{го} дня Волынской Губернии
Города Дубно. Volinsk Gubernia
 Town of Dubno

Семья.		Женский полъ.			Во времен- ной отлуч- Status	Нашъ из- мѣн. Age
№ в реви- зи.	№ 10 реви- зи.	Abram	Itsko	wife	Chava Surla	съ кото- раго армена.
		Daughter		1 Esther		
				2 Tsipa		
<i>3</i>	<i>140</i>	<i>Абрамъ Ицко Шена Дав Серия</i>			<i>—</i>	<i>32</i>
		<i>Его дочери 1. Эстеръ</i>			<i>—</i>	<i>10</i>
		<i>2 Ципа</i>			<i>—</i>	<i>1</i>

The 1858 Revizskie Skazki above shows Abram-Itsko's wife Chava Surla, their now 10-year-old daughter, Esther, and their 1-year-old daughter, Tsipa. I knew nothing of Tsipa until I saw her listed in this Revizskie Skazki and have no knowledge of what became of her. As I have heard no family stories of Tsipa (as I have for her three siblings, who lived to adulthood), I sadly assume that she died as a child.

While I do not know their names, I believe that my 3rd great-grandmother (the wife of Berko Buchbinder) and the 1st wife of Chiam Buchbinder both died around 1832, possibly in childbirth. Chiam then remarried and had three sons with his 2nd wife. Berko apparently did not remarry. If the 1833 Revizskie Skazki shows up some day, I may learn the names of my 3rd great-grandmother, and of Chiam's 1st wife.

* Please refer to the prior article, "My 5th Great Grandfather's Name" in the March issue of "Venturing into our Past" for copies of the 1850 Revizskie Skazki for male Buchbinders in Dubno.