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Letter From The Editor

As always, during the process of compiling an issue of the Bulletin, the learning curve is incredible.

The War of 1812 is considered the forgotten war, which may be because of the fact that there was no clear victor. In the end, the struggle between the British and the United States was a test of wills that further defined their roles in the future.

There are several good books at the GFO that will assist members in understanding this war and the impact it had on our ancestors who were involved. Prior to working on this issue, I had little appreciation of how our family history research is affected by these events. The GFO facility and contributing members are the backbone of this issue. We have three guest authors:

Marie Melachori, who contributed the article on *War of 1812 Records at the National Archives*. She is an expert in researching these records and works with them on a continuing basis. Northwest Rose Historians, Laura King and Kathleen McMullen, share a fascinating article, *The Pioneer Rose Trail*. It relates to preserving the history of the roses of old Oregon. Duane Funk wrote two articles, *Soldiers in the War of 1812*, and *The Impact of the U.S. Navy on the War of 1812*. He is a valuable resource, at the GFO, for military and other research. Carol Surrency wrote a review of some of the *Key Causes and Events of the War of 1812*. Harvey Steele contributes the article about *John Jacob Astor in Oregon* and how the War of 1812 impacted his work. His article provides insight to a significant piece of Oregon history. Jan Fenter contributed an article on *Multnomah County Marriage Record Sources at the GFO* and I contributed a list of *Oregon Marriage and Divorce Records at the GFO* for the Oregon County Research column. These two articles will assist members in researching GFO collections that are often overlooked.

Finally, I shared an article about *Ardil Gates - War of 1812 Soldier and POW*, one of my husband's ancestors. His involvement and that of his brothers helped me to put into perspective the personal sacrifices of the people living in the United States and Canada during this time period. What began as a Gentleman's War, soon escalated to become a very brutal battle. The involvement of the American Indian tribes, on both sides, also had a profound impact on the future of the United States. I hope you enjoy reading this issue and that you can gain some insight to the connections The War of 1812 had to your ancestors.

Susan LeBlanc, AG®

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Feature Articles

Key Causes and Events of the War of 1812

Carol Surrency

On June 18, 1812, the United States of America declared war on Great Britain. Twenty-eight years had passed since the conclusion of the Revolutionary War and the country was composed of eighteen loosely connected states with regional differences in culture and attitude. In addition, political and social disagreements between states and between England and the U.S. had been brewing since the 1780s. Over the course of two years, the war was conducted in three theaters: the Atlantic Ocean; the Great Lakes and the Canadian frontier; and the South.

What caused the conflict to erupt?

1806 (Europe) Napoleon excludes British goods from Europe.

Britain responded with a blockade and American ships are caught in the middle. Between **1800 and 1810**, the American merchant marine had almost doubled, making it the largest neutral fleet on the waves. British ships seize 1,000 U.S. ships, France 500. Many of these attacks come from privateers, licensed by their governments to commandeer ships and cargo from anyone deemed to be an enemy. The inability to transport their cotton and tobacco freely creates great financial hardship in the southern states.

1803-1812 (high seas) Britain impresses American sailors.

The Royal Navy's 600 ships required 140,000 sailors to man. Their solution is to board American ships and remove any man, even if a naturalized American citizen, born in Britain. American-born men are swept up, also. British captains take over 10,000 American citizens. "Free trade and sailors' rights" becomes a rallying cry.

1807 (December, three miles off Norfolk, Virginia) Chesapeake-Leopold fight.

Chesapeake is fired upon by the Leopold after refusing to be boarded. Three American are killed, eighteen wounded.

1807 (December, Washington, D.C.) Embargo Act

In an attempt to protect U.S. vessels, Thomas Jefferson leads his party in Congress to impose an embargo on American shipping. This has a pronounced and unintended effect, especially in New England, where sea-borne commerce forms the basis of the economy. Banks close, and many in these sea-going states are out of work and are forced to turn to poorhouses which are overwhelmed. New Englanders' anger against

the embargo extends to Jefferson's successor, James Madison, who continues the embargo. The war of 1812 becomes known as 'Mr. Madison's war.' As a result of opposition to the war, several states threaten succession.

1810 War Hawks elected to Congress.

John C. Calhoun of South Carolina and Henry Clay of Kentucky are indignant at British "insults" and disturbed by the Indian presence on the frontier. A major grievance was British support for Indian raids on backcountry settlements. The Northwest Territory, frequently called the Old Northwest, consisting of present day states, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin, had been relinquished to the United States at the Treaty of Paris in 1783 (the end of the Revolutionary War). Prior to the war, King George had promised the Indian Nations that their homelands in the Northwest Territories would be off-limits to the settlers who were already pushing north and west.

1811 (Ohio River Valley) Battle of Tippecanoe

Tecumseh's brother, Tenskwatawa, the Shawnee prophet, who had a vision of expelling the "Children of the Evil Spirit" (American settlers), leads an attack on General William Henry Harrison's army. (Harrison became president of the United States in 1840). Traveling as far as the Carolinas and Georgia, Tecumseh attempts to create a confederation of Indian tribes to secure support for his plan to expel settlers and block American expansion. With forts still dotting the backcountry, the Indians are seen by the British as allies who provided a buffer for Canadian colonies full of loyalist exiles. Britain provides the Indians with guns and supplies.

1812 June 18, Pushed by Madison and the War Hawks, Congress declares war.

1812 (August 16, Michigan) British capture Fort Mackinac.

U.S. loses the fort as the British invade American Territory.

1812 Invasion attempts of Canada (U.S. - Canadian border areas).

Three attempts of the U.S. to invade Canada fail.

1812 (August 19, Atlantic Ocean) Constitution vs. Guerriere

The U.S.S Constitution, a three masted frigate, was named by George Washington after the constitution of the United States. Launched in 1797, it was one of six authorized for construction in 1794. Famous for

her actions in the War of 1812, she captures numerous merchant ships and five British warships. The most well-known is the *Guerriere*, earning her the nickname “Old Ironsides”.

1813 (January 18-23, Michigan) Battle of Frenchtown.

Kentucky troops are repelled by British and Indians in bloody fighting. American survivors are killed and the battle becomes known as the Raisin River massacre. “Remember the River Raisin” was a battle cry of the Kentucky militia during the rest of the war.

1813 (April 27, Toronto, Canada) Battle of York (Toronto).

U.S. troops take control of the Great Lakes, and burn York. The British later return the favor by burning Washington D.C.

1813 (September 10, Put-in-Bay, Ohio) Battle of Lake Erie.

British Naval attack is repulsed by Captain Perry. This win ensured American control of Lake Erie for the remainder of the war. Captain Perry is known for his pennant with the slogan “Don’t give up the ship” and his message to General William H. Harrison written on the back of an envelope, “We have met the enemy and they are ours, two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop”.

1813 (October 5, Ontario, Canada) Battle of Thames, also called the Battle of Moraviantown.

1,000 mounted troops and 2,500 foot soldiers, mostly Kentucky militia, advance into Canada after Perry’s success on Lake Erie cut off supply lines to the British. The British general, Procter, retreats rapidly, apparently with himself and his wife at the head of the column. In the fighting that follows, Chief Tecumseh is killed, destroying the Native American coalition.

1814 (March 27, 1814, Central Alabama) Battle of Horseshoe Bend.

U.S. forces, under General Andrew Jackson, and Indian allies fight the Red Sticks, part of the Creek tribe, who are members of Tecumseh’s alliance. This ends the Creek War. Sam Houston was part of the force.

1814 (August 24-25, September 13-14. Washington D.C. and Baltimore) Burning the capitol; creating the National Anthem.

The British plan a three-part invasion of the U.S.: Chesapeake Bay, Lake Champlain, and mouth of the Mississippi River. The American militia, deployed to Bladensburg, Maryland, to protect the capitol, is routed, leaving the road to Washington open. President James Madison is forced to flee to Virginia, while his wife, Dolly, saves valuables from the Presidential Mansion.

Baltimore, where the main attack was expected, has additional time to fortify itself. The shelling of Fort McHenry, nearby, begins. Flying over the fort was an enormous American flag – thirty feet tall and forty-two feet wide. On a boat in the harbor, Francis Scott Key, a Washington lawyer, and his client, Dr. William Beanes watched the bombardment as temporary prisoners of the British. In the dark, the rockets shown red and the mortars, exploding above the fort and raining shrapnel down, looked much like fireworks. Dr. Beanes asked several times during the night if Key could see the flag still there.

In the morning, not only was the flag still there, the fort had defended itself successfully.

Francis Scott Key’s poem commemorating the event was published as a handbill entitled “The Defense of Fort McHenry”. Soon it was printed in newspapers under the title “The Star Spangled Banner.” Congress finally declared it America’s national anthem in 1931. The tune is an old English drinking song.

1814 (September 11, Lake Champlain, New York) Battle of Plattsburgh

An attempt by the British to take back control of the lakes. An American victory against a much larger British force secures the northern border.

1814 (December 24, Ghent, Belgium) Treaty of Ghent

British and American diplomats agree on status quo ante bellum; that is, neither side loses territory as a result of the war.

1814-1815 (December 23, 1814-January 26, 1815) Battle of New Orleans

Largely fought after the peace treaty was signed, the victory at the Battle of New Orleans becomes a source of pride to a young United States. General Andrew Jackson and Brig. General David Morgan, protected by earthworks reinforced with cotton bales, outgun the British with American artillery.

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War of 1812 Records at the National Archives

Marie Varrelman Melchiori, CG, CGL

Congress declared war against Great Britain on 18 June 1812.¹ Every public library, as well as the Internet, contains volumes of information on what started the war, the battles, and the outcome. This article discusses a few record series created by those events, that are preserved at the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) in Washington, D.C.

NARA collections come from the day-to-day working papers of specific government agencies deemed to have historic importance. They are arranged first by the department of government that created them, then by Record Group (RG) number, then by entry number. If a series has been microfilmed or microfiched it will have another number, most beginning with an "M" or a "T." Finding a starting place depends on the amount of information available. If all that is known is family information, including a name and a location, pension application files may be the starting point. If no pension was applied for, there are other records to check, with varying amounts of information needed.

RG 15, Records of the Veterans Administration, contain the pension application files referred to as "a genealogist's gold mine." The records contain the most amount of family information and the series is most familiar to genealogists. But some researchers may not look for a pension application file because the soldier, sailor, Marine, or widow died prior to 1871, the date of the first pension act based on specific time in service.

"By various acts passed during the War of 1812, soldiers were given the same pensionable status for disabilities as that given to members of the Regular Army by the Act of March 16, 1802."²

The buzz word is arrangement. "The pension application files in the War of 1812 series relate to claims based on service rendered between 1812 and 1815."³ So this series includes the men who applied because of a disability or the widows who applied based on the death of a husband, as well as the men who applied under the 1871 Act based on service alone.

M313, *Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files* is physically different from most other pension indexes because the files are arranged alphabetically rather than numerically. The only other pension index in this format is for the Revolutionary War pension

applications. In these two indexes, the pension envelope cover was microfilmed instead of making up a separate index card.

The information on the file cover will vary a little. As a minimum, you'll see the pension number, the name of the soldier, sailor, or Marine, state, regiment, and if applicable, the widow's name. It might also state where he lived, when a couple was married, and when the soldier died. If he applied for bounty land as well as a pension, and the files are combined, the bounty land numbers are usually in the upper right corner. If you see a series of three sets of numbers, one is the date of the act, one set is the acreage, and one set is the warrant number.

In the case of Amos Avery, 66311 is the warrant number, 40 is the number of acres, and '50 stands for the Act of 1850. These are the numbers needed to order the surrendered warrant in RG 49, Records of the Bureau of Land Management.

When using the microfilmed indexes for the 1812 pensions, there are pages that appear to be blank, although this depends on the magnification powers of the microfilm reader. When this happens the film needs to be turned. These pages are the ones that list the applicants who applied under the "Old War" pension act. Their jacket covers are different from the War of 1812 pension act. They have no pre-printed form on the pension file cover, there is instead a stamped form on the bottom of the envelope.

War of 1812 Pension Index; Aut-Bak image #28," database, Ancestry.com, entry for Amos Avery.

M313 Index to the War of 1812 Pension Application Files, Record Group 15: Records of the Veterans Administration.," database, Ancestry.com, entry for Peter L. Allen, Captain, 3 Regiment Vermont Volunteers.

Using the browsable index on Ancestry.com, set at 50 percent, the image for Peter L. Allen, Captain, 3 Vermont Volunteers, pension number 19180, appears as a blank screen. To see the form with Allen's information, it is necessary to scroll to the bottom of the screen (see above).

The latter series RG 15 not only contains the pension application files but also the bounty land warrant application files. This series may contain as

much or more family information than found in the pension application files. These records, created when a soldier applied for bounty land, are the documents the soldier supplied to the government to prove he was eligible, not the land warrants the government gave to the soldier. The land warrants appear in RG 49. From the post-Revolutionary War time frame through 1855, bounty land was offered to soldiers. If the soldier, sailor, or Marine, regular or volunteer, had pension and bounty land, the files might have been combined. These are the file jackets that contain the warrant number, act, and acreage, usually in the upper right corner, on M313 [see figure for Amos Avery]. But he might have applied for and been given bounty land and never applied for a pension, or he might have a pension and a bounty land file that was not combined.

War of 1812 Bounty Land Application Files, Record Group 15: Records of the Veterans

Administration,” database, National Archives and Records Administration in-house computer: accessed 8 February 2008, entry for Peter L. Allen.

If he did not apply for a pension, his name will not appear on the microfilmed index M313. It is then necessary to request a search of the Bounty Land Warrant Applications that are textual and do not have a microfilmed index. Additional information can be found on the Archives Web site <<https://eservices.archives.gov/orderonline/help/bountylandreadmore.htm>>.

Determining if a soldier received bounty land in this series

Currently there is no complete index to these files. They are arranged identically to the War of 1812 pension application files, i.e., alphabetically. If the soldier had war service but no pension, a search of the Bounty Land Warrant Applications should be requested, using Form 85 or from the NARA Web site <<http://www.archives.gov/forms/pdf/natf-85.pdf>>. If the application is submitted in-house, the standard form should be marked for a “Bounty land” search, not a pension search.

These bounty land warrant applications are also called “Unindexed Bounty Land” and are available for Old War, War of 1812, and Mexican War as well as for the Regular soldiers who served in between these wars. The series consists of six thousand boxes of files with fifty to one hundred files per box. NARA volunteers have been working since 1999 to create a computer index to the files. They are currently working on the surnames starting with “G.” As each

letter of the alphabet is finished, it’s placed on an in-house computer, making it available to researchers.

Peter L. Allen had both a pension application file and a bounty land application file that were not combined. Be sure to request the search as a bounty land warrant application search, not a pension application search. A word of caution—men frequently used the name of their captain or colonel rather than the official designation of their regiment.

Obtaining names or regimental officers

RG 94, Records of Adjutant General’s Office, 1780s to 1917, contains information on Army soldiers, both regular and volunteer. If a soldier was part of the Regular Army, he served during peace time but could also have served during a specific war. If he was a volunteer, he served only during a specific war or disturbance.

M602 is the *Index to Compiled Military Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812*. The index is arranged alphabetically, but you need to be aware of all possible spellings of the soldier’s name. On roll 162, Jacob Pentz, 1 Regiment (Gano’s) Ohio Volunteers and Militia, is listed as “Originally filed under Jacob Pence.” Another index card for Jacob Pentz listed him with 2 Regiment (Findlay’s) Ohio Volunteers and Militia and says, “See also Jacob Pence.” Under the spelling of Jacob Pence, 2 Regiment (Findlay’s) Ohio Volunteers and Militia, there is a cross reference to Jacob Pentz.

M602 can be searched on Ancestry.com. A search for Jacob Pentz, using keyword Ohio, found two listings: the Gano and Findlay regiments. Substituting Jacob Pence, keyword Ohio, there are four listings—one in Gano’s 1st Ohio Regiment. It appears that Ancestry included the reference cards as well as the Compiled Military Service Record (CMSR) index card. The CMSR file jacket for Jacob Pentz,⁴ in Findlay’s 2 Regiment Ohio Volunteers and Militia, refers you to Jacob Pence⁵ in Gano’s 1st Regiment Ohio Volunteers. This is the same man serving in two different regiments, under two different spellings of his name.

Genealogists often hear a common expression, “My family never spelled the name that way.” With any type of record, it is not how the family spelled the name. It’s how the person writing the name on the document spelled the name. The Adjutant General’s office compiled these records starting in the late 1890s using the spelling on the very first document as the name placed on the envelope. That spelling was used when compiling the index. As you go through the file you might notice an even greater variety of spellings.

The numbers on the outside of the file jacket will

not lead you to additional information. The familiar long, narrow cards, or CMSR, are not the original records created during the war. These cards were abstracted in the late 1890s by Colonel Ainsworth's men in the pension bureau.⁶ Each of the abstract cards has a date and number stamped on the back.

Reverse side of CMSR for Harry Spurlock.

This was a method used to keep the records of one soldier from getting mixed up with the records of another soldier with the same name.

The CMSRs are only for volunteer soldiers; there are no CMSR for Regular Army soldiers. Although the two groups created similar records, the War Department arranged them differently well after the war was over. If there are any original documents in the file, it will be noted under "Personal Papers." Although it is more common to find original documents in the file of an officer, every once in a while you find a great surprise in an enlisted man's records.

Regular Army soldiers

Since the microfilmed indexes to the CMSR are only for volunteer troops, if you only search M602, soldiers who served in the Regular Army will be missed.

For the Regular Army there are two sources available for research: enlistment papers and

Registers of Enlistment. The enlistment papers span the time frame 1798 to 31 October 1912. They are in two series. The first series, 1798 to 14 July 1894,⁷ covers the 1812–15 time frame. These are original documents, arranged alphabetically, then chronologically, but all possible spellings need to be checked.

Index cards for Jacob Pence and Jacob Pentz.

Harry Spurlock, Private, 3 Regiment (Roulston's) West Tennessee Militia; Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served in the War of 1812; Muster Rolls; Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780s–1917, Record Group 94; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

The enlistment papers may contain the man's occupation, place of birth, possibly an age at enlistment, and his military organization. If he was under age, a parent or guardian had to give permission for him to enlist, and their names are usually listed with a signature or mark. This is the information asked of him prior to his enlistment.

The Registers of Enlistments consist of 161 volumes and are filmed as M233 *Registers of Enlistments in the U.S. Army, 1798–1914*, now available on Ancestry.com. For the War of 1812 time frame, these records are arranged chronologically then alphabetically by surname, then by given name. For this period, there is an

additional breakdown in the alphabetical arrangement, i.e., surnames are arranged as Aa, Ae, Ai, making it easier to search for a soldier.

Entries in the Registers of Enlistments cover two pages. They should contain the information obtained from the enlistment papers, as well as what happened to the soldier at the end of his enlistment: death in service, discharge and where, or reenlistment. If an entry lists the place of discharge, the information may help locate the area that a man might have settled after his Army term was over.

Both the enlistment papers and the Registers of Enlistment are only for enlisted men; they did not cover officers unless they worked their way up through the ranks. An officer would appear in Francis B. Heitman's *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, From Its Organization 29 September 1789 to 2 March 1903*.⁸ Heitman's lists where the officer was born, what state he was appointed from, if he attended the

Military Academy, when he entered the Academy, his class standing at graduation, what regiments he was assigned to, and, if he died prior to the publication date, there is usually a date of death. Ancestry.com has a short version of the publication online.

Looking for a sailor is much harder, since records are arranged by name of the ship. There are no CMSRs for sailors but there may be muster rolls and pay rolls available. "The muster and payrolls, except for unbound ones, are available on NARA microfilm publication T829 *Miscellaneous Records of the Office of Naval Records and Library*."⁹

Appendix C of Inventory 1810 has an alphabetical listing of the muster rolls and/or pay rolls of U.S. Navy vessels (Entry 68) covering the time frame 1798 to 1860.

Harry Spurlock, 3 Regiment (Roulston's) West Tennessee Militia; War of 1812 Compiled Military Service Records; Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780s–1917, Record Group 94; National Archives, Washington, D.C.

If the sailor applied for a pension, the name of the ship will be mentioned. Once he's located on a ship he can be followed from ship to ship. There also may be a log book for the ship giving a day-to-day happening aboard, the weather, and ports visited.¹¹ A common sailor is usually only mentioned when he came aboard the ship, when he left it, and if he was doing something unusual, such as being in a fight, being drunk, being sick or reporting late for duty.

It is a little easier to locate information on an officer. He might be listed in Edward W. Callahan, *List of Officers*

of the Navy of the United States and of the Marine Corps from 1775 to 1900.¹² This is similar in format to Heitman's. It can be found online on the Naval Historical Center's Web site <<http://www.history.navy.mil/books/callahan/index.htm>>. Callahan's will not list the ship the officer served on but will list his rank and dates of service. This information can be used to locate his service information on M330 *Abstracts of Service Records of Naval Officers* ("Records of Officers"), 1798–1893 (RG 24: Records of the Bureau of Naval Personnel).

M330 is arranged chronologically, then each rank is divided in a military-style listing, i.e., all the As are together. Each name has numbers listed after it to indicate the number of the document that lists the name of the ship, rank, and where he was transferred. It's possible to follow an officer through his various ranks.

Research from home

Ancestry.com has a listing of all of the NARA microfilm records that it has digitized <<http://www.ancestry.com/search/rectype/nara.aspx>>. Footnote.com lists its NARA entries <http://www.footnote.com/page/1869_nara_titles_on_footnote/#entry5911>. Currently the CMSR, pension applications, and bounty land warrant applications are still in original format. That means the researcher needs to take a trip to NARA, hire a local researcher, or order the file through the NARA Web site.

(Endnotes)

1 William S. Dudley, editor, *The Naval War of 1812, A Documentary History, Volume 1* (Washington, D.C.: Naval Historical Center Department of the Navy, 1985), 83.

2 Gustavus A. Weber, *The Bureau of Pensions* (1932; reprint New York: A.M.S. Press, 1974), 11–12.

3 M313 Publication Details, available online at <<http://tinyurl.com/5lc62y>>, search for M313, select the publication title, then select "Publication Details." Viewed 9 December 2008.

4 Jacob Pentz, Lieutenant, 2 Regiment (Findlay's) Ohio Volunteers and Militia, *Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who Served in the War of 1812, Muster Rolls*, RG 94: Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780s–1917; National Archives, Washington, D.C. Photograph courtesy of Jonathon Deiss, <<http://www.soldiersource.com>>.

5 Jacob Pence, Lieutenant, 1 Regiment (Gano's) Ohio Volunteers and Militia; *Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Soldiers Who served in the War of 1812*. Photograph courtesy of Jonathon Deiss.

6 Mabel E. Deutrich, *Struggle for Supremacy: The Career of General Fred C. Ainsworth* (Washington, D.C.: Public Affairs Press, 1962), 47–48, 53–55.

7 Entry 91, *Regular Army Enlistment Papers, 1st Series, 1798–14 July 1894*; RG 94: Records of the Adjutant General's

Office.

8 Francis B. Heitman, *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, From Its Organization 29 September 1789 to 2 March 1903* (1903; reprint Gaithersburg, Md.: Olde Soldiers Books, 1988).

9 Geraldine N. Phillips and Rebecca Livingston, *Inventory 18, Inventory of the Naval Records Collection of the Office of Naval Records and Library; Record Group 45* (Washington, D.C.: NARA, 2005).

10 *Ibid.*, 173–95.

11 Claudia Bradley, Michael Kurtz, Rebecca Livingston, Timothy Mulligan, Murial Vanderveer, Paul Vanderveer, and James Yale, compilers, *List of Logbooks of U.S. Navy Ships, Stations, and Miscellaneous Units, 1801–1947, Special List 44* (Washington, D.C.:

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Soldiers in the War of 1812

Duane Funk

The lot of a soldier in the War of 1812 was not an easy one. The U.S. was a poor country, not prepared for war.

As a consequence the soldier was often badly equipped, underfed, and poorly led. Some outfits could be well equipped; one Virginia regiment was outfitted in “unbleached, tow-linen hunting shirt and trousers. They wore low-crowned hats with a two inch black cockade with a silver eagle in the center on the left side.” Each man was also issued a tomahawk, knife, cartridge box, bayonet, musket, canteen, knapsack, and blanket, in all about thirty-five pounds. Every soldier was also expected to carry up to three days’ rations on the march.

Other units did not fare as well. Many were militia, expected to equip themselves. Much of the fighting in the west was against the British Indian allies, and militia bore the brunt in that theater. Confused leadership only added to their problems. In one of Jackson’s campaigns, the War Department ordered a march on Florida, only to abandon the idea when Jackson had reached Natchez. The men were dismissed and told to go home, with no rations, no transportation, and no pay. Jackson refused to abandon his men. In an epic march he got them home, earning the nickname “Old Hickory” in the process.

To get from garrison to the battlefield, the infantry had only two options, water transport, which was rare, or walk. On good roads, the infantry could cover up to 25 miles a day. Unfortunately for the common soldier, good roads were rare in 1812. Most roads were constructed by cutting down enough trees to let a wagon through; better roads had room for two wagons to pass each other. Bridges and ferries were few and far between. Most rivers were crossed by wading, lots of fun in the middle of winter. Pavement was non-existent. The average road turned into mud, with holes deep enough to bog down a wagon when it rained. When dry, the men would choke on the dust.

Water transport was not always a good deal for the soldiers. The British infantry that made the attack on New Orleans had to endure a day-and-a-half in an open boat in wet, cold weather followed by nearly a week camped in the open in a swamp without shelter. While they were there, it rained every day and froze every night.

Food was bad in garrison and got worse on the

march. Hardtack was a staple; it kept well if dry, but not easy on the march in wet weather. The men soon became good at scrounging a meal from what ever they could get there hands on. Bad luck to any farmer nearby.

Dry firewood was another problem. The poor farmer lost his fences to any unit that camped on his property.

Sanitation was poor and the food worse. The army did not train or recruit cooks until after the Civil War. The men suffered accordingly. Dysentery was common, other diseases such as Cholera, Typhoid, and Typhus were always lurking. Volunteer regiments could lose half their strength before they ever saw a battle.

For the wounded things were really grim. There was no organized system to move the wounded off the battlefield. Generals considered it a point of honor not to be the first to request a truce to recover his wounded. Days could go by before it was possible to retrieve the wounded.

Regimental surgeons knew little of sanitation and there was no anesthetic. The usual treatment was to sew up or bandage what could not be sawed off and hope for the best. Blood loss and infection doomed most of the seriously wounded. Bloodletting, which was still an accepted procedure, only aggravated the problems.

If things were bad for the troops in the field, Prisoners of War fared even worse. If really lucky, a captured soldier could be paroled. That meant he swore not to bear arms until exchanged and could then be sent home. Those not paroled were at the bottom of the supply chain for everything. Confinement to prison hulks, decommissioned war ships, was tantamount to a death sentence. In the west, “take no prisoners” was pretty much a given by both sides in the Indian war.

Not surprising then that desertion was a problem. One estimate, based on service records, showed a desertion rate for American soldiers in the War of 1812 as high as 12.7%. In 1814, when enlistment bonuses were increased from \$16 to \$124, the rate went up as men deserted one unit and enlisted in another to get two bonuses.

As in all wars, women were involved on both sides. On the battlefield, they helped pass water to the soldiers. In the camps, they were laundresses, seamstresses, and companions to the soldiers. Women were stationed in forts and garrisons as servants in high-ranking officers’

houses and worked as cooks as well as nursemaids and laundresses. They were also seamstresses, making uniforms and other vital equipment.

Mary Pickersgill of Baltimore was tasked with making the battle flag for Fort McHenry, the now immortal "Star Spangled Banner." When the regiment moved, they went too, following along behind their unit, eating dust and slogging through mud just like the men. While "Camp Followers" may have a shady reputation, they were in fact a vital part of the army.

In the end the common soldiers persevered. In spite of it all, they faced down the pride of the British Army, Wellington's veterans of the Napoleonic war, at Baltimore and New Orleans.

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Tombstone of Adam Day
Buried on his donation land claim in Douglas County

Ardil Gates - War of 1812 Soldier and POW

Susan LeBlanc, AG

Last spring when I went to Sweet Home, Oregon to present lectures at the Sweet Home Genealogical Society, I briefly mentioned the Chapin family in one of my lectures. A local researcher approached me to mention a research file of the Chapin family created from information gathered by one of their members, and scanned by their society on June 8, 2010.

A few days after returning home I received an envelope containing the CD. It was left to linger on my desk as I worked on other projects, as my work on the Chapin family is of limited interest. When I finally opened the CD, I was utterly amazed at what it contained. Through the combined efforts of Howard Roy Gates, his wife, Veatrice Adeline Chapin, and his sister Blanche Gates Robinson Cox, the file contained a wonderful family history collection for their ancestors. Fortunately my husband descends from this same Gates family and we now have a wealth of information to include in our family history.

The collection included: thirteen family group sheets and six pedigree charts; Red Butte Cemetery, Great Falls, Montana information; nine documents; a two-page family history; and eleven pages of pictures. These have all been beautifully preserved in a manner that is easily shared by future generations of researchers. This was truly a serendipity moment for me.

Until April 2011, Ardil Gates was an unknown ancestor in my husband's ancestral line. In the process of gathering family information, the ancestral line had been connected to his brother, Ira Gates, who had a grandson, Albert, born three years before the son of Ardil named Albert in 1836. Albert Gates, the son of Ardil, was the father of eleven children. They include Roena Gates, his oldest daughter born in 1865, the great grandmother of my husband, and Byron Gates, born in 1887, the father of Howard Roy Gates. Due to this fantastic gift, from a generous fellow genealogist, we are now in possession of previously unknown pictures and documents for my husband's ancestors. After reviewing other documents it is apparent that this information is correct.

The wonderful discovery led us to the indexed databases on familysearch.org and we found indexes of a Will and a War of 1812 Pension file for Ardil Gates. The Meeker County, Minnesota Deputy Court

Administrator emailed a copy of the Will dated April 13, 1880, in which Ardil Gates leaves most of his estate to his wife Rachel Gates and his son Albert J. Gates.¹ No other children are mentioned. It provides the connection we needed for my husband's second great grandfather to his third great grandfather. Then we received the War of 1812 Pension file, three days after ordering it from Jonathan Webb Deiss, a private records accessor for files from the National Archives. This file contains sixty-three pages.²

Ardil or Ardel Gates; the name being spelled both ways in various documents though in his personal writing it is usually Ardil. He was born August 11, 1792 in Hinesburg, Chittenden County, Vermont, according to family information. He was the youngest of nine children born to David Gates and Jerusha Whitney. At the outbreak of the War of 1812 he enlisted in the New York Militia. He was almost twenty years old. His brothers, Dr. Richard Whitney Gates and David Gates II also served.

Ardil served under Captain Rufus Tilden in the New York Militia, as a Private, from July 6, 1812 to December 13, 1812, for a total of 184 days.³ This was just four days more than the required 180 days to qualify for a military pension. He also is listed as having served in Sumner's Regiment, Vermont Militia as a Private.⁴ From his War of 1812 Pension Index card we learn that he received Bounty Land #6742 of eighty acres in 1850 and #8745 of eighty acres in 1855. His Pension Application is #24393 and Certificate is #15817. After his death his widow, Rachel Gates, received a pension and her records are for a Widow's Application #40466 and Certificate #31132. His card includes their date of marriage, December 21, 1857 in Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan.

Ardil died on July 14, 1880 in Meeker County, Minnesota. Rachel died on April 7, 1890 in Forest Prairie, Minnesota. It notes Rachel's previous marriages to Edwards and Nichols and provides her maiden name of Longstreet. Their places of residence for 1850 and 1855 as Beaver Dam, Dodge County, Wisconsin; 1871 Blue Earth County, Minnesota, Post Office Speir; 1880-1887 Meeker County, Minnesota, Post Office Forest Prairie.⁵

David served under Erwin Covil and Heacock's Companies in the New York Militia from September 11, 1812 to September 26, 1812, November 29, 1812 to December 8, 1812, and September 11, 1814 to September

23, 1814. There are some additional regiments listed for David Gates in the Military Service Records at ancestry.com. From his War of 1812 Pension Index card we learn that he had a suspended Bounty Land claim #51796 for 1850, a Bounty Land claim #40828 for 160 acres in 1855 and a rejected Bounty Land claim #339246 for 1855. After his death his widow, Polly Hall Gates, did receive a pension and her records are for a Widows Application #25097 and Certificate #16326. His card includes their date of marriage, January 11, 1816 in Bristol, Addison County, Vermont.

David died on November 19, 1863 in Ellington, Chautauqua County, New York. Polly died about 1880. An interesting note on the card is, "Papers of Soldier's Additional Service not on file in the brief." ⁶ This lack of documentation may have lead to the suspended and rejected claims for bounty land. They may have been located at the time of the widow's application, as it was approved.

Dr. Richard Whitney Gates was not listed in the pension index file, having passed away soon after the bounty lands became available and long before pensions were enacted. His service record indicates that he served in Benedict's Regiment, in Robert's Battalion, New York Militia, as a Private. ⁷

Additional information was found for all three brothers at the US Gen website listing of War of 1812 Veterans Living in Franklin County, New York at the time of service. Some of the information is slightly different, so it is important to review and compare. ⁸

To clarify the military activities that occurred at the time of service for the Gates brothers I checked out *The Official War of 1812 Bicentennial Website* for a timeline. Some dates of significance to their service include:

June 18, US Declaration of War against Great Britain

October 23, Battle of St Regis, Lower Canada (Quebec, CAN)

November 20, First Battle of Lacolle Mill, Lower Canada (Quebec, CAN)

November 23, Raid of St Regis, Lower Canada (Quebec, CAN)

November 23, Raid of French Mills (New York). ⁹

At the website for the New York State Archives there was information about ordering military service records. They require that a War Service Records Search Request Form be used to order War of 1812 payroll cards and veterans' claims documents. (Post-1859) [\$3.00 each] These may provide some additional information on the brothers. ¹⁰ A request for the records for Ardil, David and Richard Gates was sent on December 24, 2011.

An important record to pursue is the New York Military Equipment Claims, War of 1812

No. 12,673 for Ardil Gates, residence Laboeuff, Erie County, Pennsylvania, amount allowed \$73, which was indexed at ancestry.com. ¹¹

The pension file of Ardil Gates provides a wealth of information not found in the previous records located in online research. In deciding whether to order the file or wait until it is digitized was based on how quickly the experts felt the records will be made available. They indicated it might be a while before all of the records are available. For the file on David Gates, I will probably wait. Currently the Federation of Genealogical Societies is sponsoring a fund raising effort to support the digitization project.

To conclude this article let's look at some of the more valuable information from the pension file for Ardil and Rachel Gates from a genealogical viewpoint. These are notes from the original documents.

Bounty Land Warrant Application of Ardil Gates, dated November 18, 1850

Age 58, of Beaver Dam, Dodge County, Wisconsin (Puts birth at about 1792)

Served in Company of Captain Rufus Tilden, he volunteered at Malone, Franklin County, New York, about July 8, 1812, for six months and actually served six months and four days. He declares that in consequence of being in captivity with the enemy at the close of his term, he was deprived of an honorable discharge.

Ardil Gates (Appears to be original signature.)

Commissioner of Pensions, Department of the Interior, June 4, 1851

It appears from documents on file in this Office, that Ardil Gates, a Private of Captain Rufus Tilden's Company of New York Militia, entered the service on July 8, 1812 for 6 mo., and served till December 13, 1812, the date of his discharge. The rolls state nothing in regard to his being taken Prisoner. ¹² (His time of being a prisoner was not documented, but there are records of his company being taken prisoners and later being set free in a prisoner exchange.)

Bounty Land Warrant Application of Ardil Gates, dated March 10, 1855

Ardil Gates aged sixty-two years, resident of Beaver Dam, Dodge County, Wisconsin.

He was taken prisoner at French Mills, about November 4, 1812. Was discharged about January 8, 1813 and returned home, leaving the service at that time by permission but never received any written certificate of discharge.

Two witnesses J. F. Farmany and David Ransom

Adril Gates (Unique signature, probably his original.)

Brief form with information concerning Bounty Land Warrant Application dated April 13, 1855. 66323 Act Mar 3/55, Ardil Gates, Priv., Capt Tilden, Col. Yancy, N. Y. Mil July 8, 1812 (Col. Yancy would be the commander of his Regiment, which previously was not included in his applications; this is the only place this is recorded.)

Pension Application State of Minnesota, County of Blue Earth, September 26, 1871

Ardil Gates aged seventy-nine years, resident of Danville, Blue Earth County, Minnesota.

Declares that he is married, that his wife's name was Amelia Hall, (Amelia's name is crossed out and above it is the name of Rachel his second wife), Rachel Edward to whom he was married at Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan, on or about the 20th day of December 1857. (His first wife, Amelia Hall, died in 1854 in Ellington, New York.)

That he is the identical Ardil Gates who enlisted in Captain Rufus Tildin Company at Malone, Franklin County, New York, on the field June 20, 1812. Called into active service on July 8, 1812, and honorably discharged in January 1813. Was taken prisoner at French Mills in Franklin County New York, now called Ft. Convington he believes, about November 4, 1812. Carried to Montreal, Canada, and kept in prison until some time in January 1813. Was at the taking of the British General at St. Regis near the corner of St. Lawrence County, New York about October 1, 1812. He thinks his Major's name was Guilford D. Young. That at no time during the late rebellion against the Authority of the United States, adhered to the cause of the Enemies of the Government. Giving them aid as comfort or exercised the function of any office whatever under any authority as pretended authority – no hostility to the United States; and that he will support the Constitution of the United States.

Witnesses were: James A. Kennedy and John W. Trask

War of 1812, Act February 14, 1871, Brief of Claim For A Survivor's Pension

Oath to support the Constitution of the United States subscribed. Ardel Gates admitted April 15, 1872, to a pension of eight dollars per month, from February 14, 1871.

Claim of Widow for Service Pension Under the provisions of Sections 4736 to 4740 Revised Statutes, the Act of March 9th, 1878, State of Minnesota, County of Meeker, Probate Court, on October 11, 1880

Rachel Gates aged 80 years, a resident of Meeker

County in the State of Minnesota.

That her husband Ardel Gates died at Meeker County, Minnesota, on July 14, 1880, and that she has not again married; and she further declares that the following have been the places of residence of herself and her husband since their said marriage in: Union Erie County, Pennsylvania; thence in Montcalm County, Michigan; and thence Blue Earth County, Minnesota; thence Meeker County, Minnesota.

Rachel X Gates (Her mark.)

Witnesses were: William R. Edwards aged 55 years (Her son.) and William R. Cole aged 27 years.

Testimony of Deponents State of Minnesota, County of Meeker dated October 11, 1880

William P. Edward age fifty-five years, and Rachel N. Edwards age fifty-three (Son and daughter in law of Rachel Gates the widow) say that they were present at the marriage of Ardel Gates and Rachel Nichols; that the said Ardel Gates and Rachel Nichols were married at the house of deponents in Eaton Rapids, Eaton County, Michigan in the year 1857. That they were married by a Justice of the peace by the name of J. Philips. That they lived together ever since Ardel Gates died in the town of Forest Prairie, Meeker County, Minnesota on July 14, 1880 at the residence of said deceased in said town & County. That they know personally that at the time of said Ardel Gate's death that he was in receipt of a pension from the Government as a soldier of the War of 1812 and that his pension certificate was No. 15817.

State of Minnesota, County of Meeker, in the matter of the Widows Service Pension Claim acct. of Ardel Gates, dated January 17, 1881

That her maiden name was Rachel Longstreet, that she was married to George Edwards but is unable to give date of said marriage. That her said husband, George Edwards, died in May 1836. That she was married to Isaac Nichols in 1841. That her said husband Isaac Nichols died March 1845. That on December 21, 1857 she was married to Ardel Gates at Eaton Rapids Michigan. (This information was required due to the use of incorrect information in previous applications.)

Rachel X Gates, Her mark

Witnesses: Mary M. Taylor and Wm. R. Edwards (Her son.)

State of Minnesota, County of Meeker, in the matter of the Widows Service Pension Claim acct. of Ardel Gates, dated January 17, 1881

William R. Edwards says that he is well acquainted with Rachel Gates, widow of Ardel Gates, and has been for upwards of fifty years. And that the said Ardel Gates

died on July 14, 1880. (He restates the information in the previous file as testimony supporting the information with regards to his mother's marriages.)

"My knowledge of the above facts is personal acquaintance with said George Edwards, Isaac Nichols and Ardel Gates. And the personal knowledge of the fact of their death." That he was present at the funeral of each of said deceased persons and knows of his and personal knowledge as to the marriage of said parties.

Service Pension War of 1812, Widow's Brief, Milwaukee, Claim No. 40466, Act of March 9, 1878, Cert. No. 31132, approved January 25, 1881

Application filed Oct 19, 1880, admitted January 20, 1881, to a pension of Eight Dollars per month from July 15, 1880 the date of Soldiers death 14 July 1880.

Special Examination Division, Department of the Interior, Pension Office, Litchfield, Minn. Apr. 19, 1887

Rachel Gates. A widow pension of War of 1812, as per certificate #31132, payable at the

Milwaukee Agency, is alive and resides at Forest City, Meeker Co, Minn. with Mr. Edwards, her son-in-law. She has lived there about twelve years, and her identity is vouched for by the local town clerk, justice of the peace and neighbor Eli Boring.

31132 Gates, Rachel, Milwaukee, Roll No. 8156, War of 1812, Act March 9, 1878

Rachel Gates \$86.00 June 1890, thirty-six dollars being for 3 months pension due me, from the 4th day of March 1890 to the 4th day of June 1890.

3-405 Pensioner Dropped, U.S. Pension Agency, Milwaukee, August 29, 1890

I hereby report that the name of Rachel Gates, Widow, War 1812, who was a pensioner on the rolls of this Agency, with Certificate No. 31132 and who was last paid at \$12 to March 4, 1890 has been dropped because of death of pensioner.

Voucher for Accrued Pension

Be it known, that I, William R. Edwards only son of Rachel Gates, do solemnly swear that I am the born son & heir of Rachel Gates. That the said Rachel Gates died on April 7, 1890. That my P.O. address is Watkins, Meeker County, Minnesota.

Witnesses, Wm M. Abbott, of Watkins, Meeker Co., Minn., and Wm N Cole, of Watkins, Meeker Co., Minn.

Application for Accrued Pension (Widows), State of Minnesota, County of Meeker November 29, 1890

Wm. R. Edwards son of Rachel Gates, who being duly sworn, declares that he is the lawful and only heir of Rachel Gates, deceased; that she died on April 7, 1890;

that she had been granted a pension by Certificate No. 31.132 which is herewith returned; that she had been paid the pension by the Pension Agent at Mill Meeker up to March 4, 1890.

That her name before said marriage was Rachel Edwards; that she had been previously married; that her husband had been previously married; that Wm. R. Edwards her only son he hereby makes application for the pension which had accrued on aforesaid certificate to the date of death.

Witnesses: Wm M. Abbott and W. W. Cole

Department of the Interior, Pension Office, Washington, D.C., January 5, 1891

"I have to advise you that you have no rite to accrued pensions as the only son of the deceased. If you bore the expenses of the last sickness and burial of the decedant you can so inform this Bureau by letter, and furnish evidence to show the fact."

To Com. Of Pensions, Washington, D.C., Meeker County, Minnesota, January 12, 1891

W. R. Edwards being duly sworn, says that Rachel Gates – Widow of Ardel Gates a Pensioner of the War of 1812, Certificate No. 31132, died at his residence in the town of Forest Prairie, Meeker County, Minnesota. April 7, 1890 – that the deceased at the time of her death left no property real or personal with which to pay Expenses of Burial and that the said W. R. Edwards born the expenses of the last sickness and burial of the said Rachel Gates widow of Ardel Gates – and the said W. R. Edwards respectfully asks the Commissioner of Pensions to reimburse – him for money paid which is as follows:

Coffin	\$25.00
Shroud	\$5.00
Preparing the Corpse for burial	\$5.00
Funeral Sermon	\$5.00
Total	\$38.00

National Society United States Daughters of 1812, Headquarters Office of the President National, Mrs. Samuel Preston Davis, 311 East Capital Avenue, Little Rock, Arkansas, United States Pension Commissioner, Washington, D. C.

"Can you give me proof of pension of Ardel (Ardil) Gates who served in the War of 1812 as a private, in the New York State Militia? He was born in Vermont. Have the information that Ardel Gates received a pension of \$96 a year. I want this information for joining the U. S. Daughters of 1812." Miss Mae Ferguson, President for Iowa, N.S.U.S.D. 1812, State Center, Iowa; U. S. Pension Office July 6, 1925

Rev. and 1812 War Section, September 15, 1925, Miss Mae Ferguson, State Center, Iowa.

In 1887, she was living with Mr. Edwards, her Son-in-law, name of his wife not given.

(Response to the above letter requesting information for a society application. All previous documented information is included in this letter responding to the request for information on Ardel Gates. The above sentence is inaccurate, as she was living with her son and the name of his wife was provided as Rachel Gates. U.S. Census information confirms her name.)

Final Thoughts

Information about Ardil Gate's company being taken as prisoners of war is confirmed in several publications. It appears that the record keeping at the time of the event was limited, and what is known today came from Canadian records and personal accounts. Ardil does not list any additional service after his release. He was kept as a prisoner of war for about two months. During this time the prisoners were kept in a fairly civil manner. No health issues were mentioned that would keep him from further service. At the time of the release, soldiers were required to sign a contract or parole, swearing that they would not bear arms against the British after being released. It would seem that he probably returned home to Hinesburg to help his mother who was a widow, his father having passed away in 1793. His brothers continued to serve after he was released. It would have been interesting to hear Ardil's personal account of this experience. Here are two small excerpts from published books:

"The first Battle of the Salmon River ["French Mills" (near to Fort Covington, NY, USA) as the Americans refer to it (also near to St. Regis, Lower Canada)] was fought very briefly under a night sky and in poor weather on November 22nd, 1812 and Canadian occupation carried over to the early hours of the next day, November 23rd, 1812.

Fort Covington initially became occupied by the Americans in July of 1812 when they proceeded to begin the construction of a blockhouse on Covington Hill. It was from Fort Covington that Major Guilford Young (Troy Militia), aided by Capt. Rufus Tilden (Moir Militia) and Lt. Noble (Essex Militia), twice made raids on St. Regis in Lower Canada the second being successful in that the Americans plundered Canadian provisions and captured a company of British soldiers in the process. The distance between the two locations was/is approximately 18 miles. The American junior officers involved in the second raid on St. Regis expressed concern that Major Young was attempting to lead them against a British/Canadian force at Montreal and so they withdrew their men quickly to French Mills on the Salmon River. It was here that the Americans, numbering 50, were attacked by

the Canadians.

Lt. Col. Alex McMillan (Glengarry Militia) commanded and led a direct and spirited assault against the Americans using sound judgment. His second in command, Lt. Col. Neil McLean (Stormont Militia) was in command of the embarkation. In less than an hour the enemy that had fled to a blockhouse for protection had surrendered because they were outnumbered and completely surrounded. The Canadians had captured 4 river boats (bateaux), 57 muskets, 47 soldiers, 2 lieutenants and 1 captain.

The Canadians and their Indian allies retired back to Cornwall in Upper Canada where the Glengarry Militia was assigned with delivering the American prisoners to Coteau du Lac. Once there they were taken by boat to Montreal where they were eventually paroled and exchanged for some York Militiamen who had been captured during the summer months of 1812."¹³

The Canadian perspective has a slightly one-sided view to the event. The next reference is from an American perspective.

"The prisoners were sent to Montreal, and about two weeks later were exchanged for the British soldiers who had been taken at St. Regis. Captain Tilden was reproached for his surrender without having made any defense at all, and in some quarters was charged with cowardice because of it. Whether his course was even an error in judgment is to be doubted. The enemy outnumbered him three to one or more, his only defense was a roofless blockhouse"¹⁴

The information provided by Ardil Gates is validated by the above references. We can appreciate the judgment of Captain Tilden, as it may well have preserved the life of our ancestor. Franklin J. Seaver notes that, "the records of the early activities in this locality are very incomplete and somewhat confusing."¹⁵ By using personal accounts and a variety of sources he was able to compile a thorough review of the incident. This event in the War of 1812 was an embarrassment to the U.S. government and therefore became a forgotten event in a forgotten war.

Addendum

On Wednesday, January 18, 2012, I received the War of 1812 records for the three Gates brothers, before referred prior to endnote #10 in this article. The records include the following information:

Gates, David: Rank Private, Organization Capt. David Erwin, Co. of Col. Albon, Man; 40 Brig., 66 Regiment, Paid from Nov. 29, 1812 to Dec. 8, 1812, \$2.22, Remarks paid by S. Edmonds P.M., Voucher #7,"C". In service at French Mills, N.Y. Roll 44.

Gates, David: Rank Private, Organization Capt. Seth Hickok, Co. of Col. Thos. Smith; 42 Brig., __ Regiment, Paid from Sept. 11, 1814 to Sept. 20, 1814, \$2.66, Remarks E. M. Laughlin, Voucher 16. Roll 1965.

Gates, David: Rank Private, Organization Capt. Um Covil, Co. of Col. Pliny Adams, __ Regiment, Paid from Sept. 11, 1814 to Sept. 22, 1814, \$3.20, Remarks In service at Dec.?, At Burlington Sep. 18th 1814, distance from residence 75 miles. E. McLaughlin, Vou #474. Roll #1972. (This may be another person.)

Gates, David: Rank Private, Organization Capt. Peleg Mattison, Co. of __, __ Regiment, Paid from Oct 8th 1814 to __, \$ __, Remarks, Deserted, S. Edmonds P.M. Vou. 48L

From Oneida County. Roll 124.

Gates, Richard: Rank Priv., Organization Capt. David Erwin, Co. of __, __ Regiment, Cavalry, Paid from Aug. 15, 1913 to Nov 15, 1913, \$26.65, Remarks E. M. Laughlin P.M. Vouc. Cavalry used as Express and Completely Equipped. Roll 1829.

Gates, Ardil, there were no pay vouchers for him. Note from his documents follow.

No. 12672 & 12673, Claim of Ardil Gates, L. Jenkins, Attorney, Clothing and Equipments \$75.00, Contingent Expenses \$9.50, Total \$84.50, A.U. Muzzy, agent.

State of Pennsylvania, County of Erie, "I Benjamin Grant Commissioned for New York... Do hereby Certify, That the Militia service of Ardil Gates...as appears from Affidavit attached...I also Certify, That the said Ardil Gates though not personally known to me, has been proven to my satisfaction to be the person above described... In testimony whereof, I have hereunto subscribed my name, this fifth day of August 1858. Benjamin Grant, A Commissioner for the State of New York."

Declaration, United States of America – State of Pennsylvania, County of Erie, fifth August 1858, "personally appeared before me. Coms. For New York, within and for the County and State aforesaid, Ardil Gates aged fifty six years, a resident of Labocuff, Erie County, in the State of Pennsylvania who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical said Ardil Gates who was a private in the Company commanded by Rufus Tilden in the Regiment of New York Militia commanded by Maj. Young, in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June 1812. That he volunteered under the general orders of the Governor of this State, for its defense at Malone, New York on or about the 8th of July 1812, for the term of six months and continued in actual service in said war, for the term of over six months and was honorably discharged from said service on or about the

twelfth day of January 1813 at Malone, New York, for which he has received from the United States two land warrants No. not collected, for 80 acres each...."

See insert of partial copy of original document, with his signature.

He was paid \$75 for Clothing and Equipment and \$9 for discharge expenses and \$.50 for expenses at Montreal while a prisoner of for food.

Letter from his son Richard Gates age forty-one years, of Erie County, Pennsylvania, August 5, 1858, attesting to the United States land warrant for eighty acres for service in the War with Great Britain, that he saw the warrant in June 1856 while living in Laboeuff, Erie County, Pennsylvania, but he was not able to read the numbers on it.

It would seem that Ardil may have lost the bounty land warrants he received in 1855, prior to submitting a request for reimbursement, filed in 1858, for expenses during his term of service, return travel to his home and food while in prison. He was awarded \$84.50 for this reimbursement. Earlier in the article I mentioned the importance of locating the claim indexed in a database at ancestry.com wherein he received \$73 under claim #12673. It would appear that this is that claim.

Thus, we experience many serendipity moments, as we continue the research of Ardil Gates, the soldier and POW of the War of 1812, and his brothers David and Richard.

For additional serendipity moments and other family history stories, see Susan's blog at: <http://gophergenealogy.blogspot.com>

(Endnotes)

1 Minnesota Will Records, 1849-1985 for Ardil Gates, 1880, Meeker County, Minnesota, Will Books, Volume A 1864-1883, Pages: 154-156, Digital Folder Number:004412115, familysearch.org, accessed April 2011. The County Clerk was unaware that this index was available online and said it was somewhat useful in finding the record.

2 Jonathan Webb Deiss, a private records accessor for files from the National Archives. The files he sends by email contain full color copies. It truly is exceptional service. His website is: www.citizenarchivist.net.

United States, War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files, 1812-1910 for Ardel Gates, Spouse Rachel Longstreet, NARA Publication. Title:Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files, NARA Publication Number: M313, NARA Roll Number: 35, Film Number: 840465, Digital Folder Number: 4019808, Image Number: 00737, <https://familysearch.org/search/records/index>, accessed April 2011.

3 United States, War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files <https://familysearch.org/search/records/index> , accessed April 2011.

4 War of 1812 Service Records for Ardell Gates, Vermont Militia, Roll Box: 79, Roll Exct: 602. War of 1812 Service Records, Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999. Original data: National Archives and Records Administration. Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records

DECLARATION.

United States of America—State of Pennsylvania ss.
County of Allegheny

On this 1st day of August A. D., one thousand eight hundred and fifty eight personally appeared before me, Conrad Hart within and for the County and State aforesaid, Ardel Gates aged 27 years, a resident of Sabocuff, Erie County in the State of Pennsylvania who being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the identical Ardel Gates who was a private in the Company commanded by Map. Young in the Regiment of New York Militia commanded by Map. Young in the war with Great Britain, declared by the United States on the 18th day of June, 1812. That he volunteered under the General orders of the Governor of this State, for its defence at Malone New York on or about the 8th day of July A. D. 1812 for the term of six months and continued in actual service in said War, for the term of six months and was honorably discharged from said service on or about the twelfth day of January 1813, at Malone New York for which he has received from the United States his Land Warrant No. not recd. acres, and that he has not received any portion of the sum directed to be paid him by the Act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain Volunteers and Militia called into service for the defence of the frontiers of the State in the late War, and for other purposes," passed April 21st, 1818; and the Act of 9th April, 1819. And further, in the performance of the service before recited, he furnished at his own cost the following clothing and equipments, as directed by the "Act to organize the Militia of the State of New York," &c., passed March 29th, 1809 and the General Orders heretofore referred to:

Clothing and Equipments.		Contingent Expenses.	
1 Hat	\$ 5.00	1 Bayonet	\$
1 Blanket Plume	50	1 Sword and Belt	
1 Military Cap		3 Pr. Stockings	1.50
1 Cloak		4 Shirts	8.00
1 Plume		1 Pr. Shoes	2.00
1 Uniform Coat	12.00	1 Pr. Gaiters	
1 Ordinary Coat	4.00	1 Pr. Sunarrow Boots	8.00
1 Vest	1.00	1 Neckercloth	1.00
1 Stock	1.00		
	22.00		
1 Pair Pantaloon	\$ 7.00		
1 Overcoat	15.00		
2 Blanket	10.00		
1 Knapsack			
1 Canteen			
1 Musket			
1 Rifle			
1 Cartridge Box			
2 Belts			
	32.00		

Expenses at Montreal while a prisoner of war \$9.00

Which clothing and equipments amounting to twenty five dollars, were depreciated, worn out, lost or destroyed in said service, for which he has not received payment either in part or whole. And that the said sum, together with contingent expenses, as above stated, amounting in the whole to (nine) 9.00 dollars, is justly due and payable to him, with interest thereon, for his services and contingent expenses as a Volunteer or Draft in the Militia of said State, for its defence during the said War, as provided to be paid by the Act entitled "An Act for the relief of certain Volunteers," &c., passed April 21st, 1818, a copy of which is herewith annexed, and to be applied as allowed by the Act of April 15, 1867.

Ardel Gates

Administration. M602, 234 rolls. Accessed 1 January 2012.

5 United States, War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files <https://familysearch.org/search/records/index>, accessed April 2011.

6 United States, War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files, 1812-1910 for David Gates NARA Publication Title: Index to War of 1812 Pension Application Files, Publication Number: M313, Roll Number: 35, Film Number: 840465, Digital Folder Number: 4019808, Image Number: 00741. <https://familysearch.org/search/records/index>, accessed January 1, 2012.

War of 1812 Service Records for David Gates, New York Militia, Direct Data Capture, .War of 1812 Service Records,. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999. Original data: National Archives and Records Administration. Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M602, 234 rolls. Accessed 1 January 2012.

7 War of 1812 Service Records for Richard Gates, New York Militia, Direct Data Capture, .War of 1812 Service Records,. Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999. Original data: National Archives and Records Administration. Index to the Compiled Military Service Records for the Volunteer Soldiers Who Served During the War of 1812. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration. M602, 234 rolls. Accessed 1 January 2012.

8 US Gen website listing, War of 1812 Veterans Living in Franklin County, New York, <http://www.usgwarchives.org/ny/franklin/military/1812/service/1812vetsres.htm>, accessed January 1, 2012.

9 The Official War of 1812 Bicentennial Website, Celebrating 200 Years of Peace, Timeline, <http://www.visit1812.com/history/>, accessed December 20, 2011.

10 New York State Archives War Service Records Search Request, New York State Archives Cultural Education Center Room 11A36 Albany, NY 12230.

Accessed December 20, 2011. http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/res_topics_mi_warsvc_form.shtml

Will search War of 1812 Abstracts of Payrolls for N.Y. State Militia (B0810) and Certificates of Claims (A0020, A3352). The certificates are indexed in Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812 (Albany: 1860; repr. 1969). (A veteran's claim stated war service in order to obtain reimbursement for clothing, arms, and equipment furnished at the soldier's expense.)

11 Ancestry.com. New York Military Equipment Claims, War of 1812, Provo, UT, USA: Ancestry.com Operations Inc, 1999. Original data: New York Adjutant General's Office. Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812. Albany, NY, USA: n.p., 1860. Accessed January 1, 2012.

12 The Glengary Light Infantry Fencibles, The Battle of French Mills, November 22, 1812, Mr. Jesse Pudwell; August 2009, http://glengarrylightinfantry.ca/battle_french_mills.php, accessed January 2, 2012.

US Genweb archives Franklin County, New York War of 1812 Service, Records for Ardel Gates and Rufus Tilden in which the contains same information that his company was captured at French's Mills (Ft. Covington) in 1812 and sent to Montreal as prisoners. <http://www.usgwarchives.org/ny/franklin/military/1812/service/1812vets.htm>

Frederick J. Seaver, *History of Fort Covington, New York From: Historical Sketches Of Franklin County and Its Several Towns*. Published by J. B. Lyon Company, Albany, NY 1918, Library of Congress copyright free, <http://history.rays-place.com/ny/ft-covington-1-ny.htm>

13 The Glengary Light Infantry Fencibles.

14 *Historical Sketches Of Franklin County and Its Several Towns*. Pg. 594. 15*Ibid.*. Pg. 590.

The Impact of the U.S. Navy on the War of 1812

Duane Funk

That the tiny United States Navy at the beginning of 1812, one of the World's smallest, could take on the most powerful, and manage to come away with at least bragging rights, was a minor miracle.

At first look, the odds were heavily stacked against the fledgling American Navy. The U.S. Navy had just 17 seaworthy ships with 447 guns and 5,000 men. The British Royal Navy had 1,048 ships, 27,800 guns, and 151,500 men, and its total included 120 Ships-of-the-line, the battleships of the day, some with more than 100 guns, and 116 frigates. The biggest units of the U.S. Navy were seven frigates. The U.S. Navy did not fight alone. There were also 517 privateers, civilian owned and manned ships authorized to capture enemy shipping, which captured about 1,300 ships.

The odds were evened a bit because the British were also at war with Napoleon, which tied down the bulk of their fleet. Still the British expected to routinely win at sea, and with good reason. At Trafalgar in 1805, they had the most professional officer corps and the best-trained seamen of any navy in the world, not to mention history's greatest Vice-Admiral, Lord Horatio Nelson.

Things were different in 1812. American successes came from two British mistakes. First, after Trafalgar, they slacked off on training; gunnery practice costs money for shot and shell, plus it makes a mess of the ship. Their second mistake was to underestimate the quality of the U.S. Navy. The Royal Navy had spent centuries learning how to fight a war at sea and had developed the doctrine, and a fighting attitude, that put them head and shoulders ahead of any other naval force, as the French and Spanish found out at their significant cost. The U.S. Navy, on the other hand, was a clone of the Royal Navy; its first officers learned their trade from them and passed on what they knew to those who followed. In 1812 the Royal Navy was looking at a mirror image of itself.

Since Nelson, the watchword of the Royal Navy has been, "Never back down from a fight." This attitude has served them well, until they faced an enemy who used their own tactics, were better manned and trained and had ships that are more powerful than expected for their type. Manning a ship was always a headache for any British Captain; if he had even 80 percent of complement, he counted himself lucky.

Many of their sailors had been swept up by the press

and would have been happier just about anyplace else. As Samuel Johnson put it, "Going to sea is like being in jail with the added chance of drowning," and jail was where some of their crew came from. American ships were fully manned with volunteers who knew their business from every angle and were eager to prove it, and prove it they did.

19 Aug 1812 HMS *Guerriere* captured by *Constitution*.

18 Oct 1812 HMS *Frolic* captured by U.S sloop *Wasp*.

18 Oct 1812 HMS *Poictiers* captured *Wasp* and re-captured *Frolic*.

25 Oct 1812 HMS *Macedonian* captured by U.S. frigate *United States*.

28 Dec 1812 HMS *Java* captured by U.S. frigate *Constitution*.

As British historians are quick to point out, American ships tended to be larger and more heavily armed than their opponents. In her battle with the *Guerriere*, *Constitution* was armed with 22 32-lb carronades and 30 24-lb long guns, for a broadside of 950 lb. Her opponent had 16 32-lb carronades and 30 18-lb long guns for a broadside of 526-lbs. *Constitution* also had nearly twice the crew, and they were better trained.

Crew size was important; an 1812 sea battle was a bloody slugging match. The ships faced each other at point blank range and hammered each other until somebody gave up. The bigger the crew the longer you could stay in the game. The better trained the crew, the faster they could fire and the sooner the battle was over.

After the first year not everything went the Americans' way. Lawrence with a new ship and an untried crew ran into HMS *Shannon* under Philip Broke. Broke was a gunnery fanatic, and had the best gun crews in anybody's navy. The result was a British victory. But it did give the U.S. Navy its motto, "Don't give up the Ship." In the Pacific, Porter in the *Essex* was cornered in Valparaíso by HMS *Phoebe* and HMS *Cherub* and forced to surrender. But, after capturing so many ships he had to put his chaplain in charge of one of the prizes. One of Porter's midshipmen on that cruise was his 13-year-old foster son, David Glasgow Farragut, who fifty years later, was the U.S. Navy's first Admiral.

While in the larger scheme of things the USN was



Action between USS *Constitution* and HMS *Guerriere*, 19 August 1812

U.S. Naval History and Heritage Command Photograph

never going to win enough battles to seriously damage the Royal Navy. Their early wins were a major moral boost in an otherwise bleak year. Isaac Hull's victory over *Guerriere* came just three days before his uncle and adopted father, Brigadier General William Hull, surrendered Fort Detroit almost without a fight. The rest of the land war was not going much better.

Some battles did count for more than morale. Perry's victory on Lake Erie, and Macdonough's on Lake Champlain had major strategic significance. The navy was also heavily involved in the defense of Baltimore. Perry and Rogers were major players in organizing the defense and Josiah Barney brought in his gunboat crews to bolster the land forces. Thanks in part to their efforts "the dawn's early light showed our flag was still there."

While small the U.S. fleet included ships with names such as *Constitution*, *Constellation*, *Wasp*, *Hornet*, *Nautilus*, *Essex*, and *Enterprise*, names that have continued with the Navy to this day.

Bibliography

American Merchant Marine and Privateers in War of 1812 <http://www.usmm.org/warof1812.html>

Chapelle, Howard I., *The History of American Sailing Ships*. 1935. Reprint New York: Bonanza Books, 1982.

Coles, Harry L., *The War of 1812*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1965.

Cooney, David M., *Chronology of the US Navy 1775-1965*. New York: Franklin Watts Inc, 1965

Lord, Walter, *The Dawns Early Light*. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc, 1972.

Porter, David, *Journal of a Cruise*. 1815. Reprint Annapolis, MD: US Naval Institute, 1986.

Educate Yourself

Multnomah County Marriage Record Sources at GFO

Jan Fenter

I dropped by the GFO on Sunday to do some research. Although I didn't find what I was looking for, I became intrigued by something I heard Marie say to Eileen. Marie is a volunteer on the project to create an index of the names of the brides and grooms found in the Multnomah County Marriage Record books. She was working in the Marriage Record book #32, for 1912, and said she had just found a record that didn't have the name of either the bride or the groom.

This raised two questions. First, how do we find the missing names? And second, if we find the names, do we list them in the index project even though they were not in this marriage record?

In looking at the record Marie was talking about, I found all the other information about the marriage was filled in. It had the license number and date, the date and place of the marriage, the marriage was performed by a Catholic priest, and his name was listed. The marriage was performed at "St Johns Pars." on 26 September 1912. It listed the groom as living in Clackamas County and the bride as living in Multnomah County. The names of the two witnesses were listed, the date the record was filed with the county, and the names of the County Clerk and the Deputy. But, the names of the bride and groom were not on the record.

GFO has more than one type of original book from Multnomah County, giving information on the County marriages.

1) Marriage License Index with an alphabetical index. These books list names from A-Z, for specific time periods. In 1912, each line shows the name of the bride and groom, and gives the book number and page where they are found in the Marriage Record book.

2) Marriage Affidavits book. This book shows someone who says they know one of the persons getting married, (usually the bride), the names of both the bride and groom, gives the ages of the couple, or an approximate age, and usually states there is "no legal impediment to the marriage." In Multnomah County, this book is listed in order by the License number.

3) The Marriage Record book. This is where

information was posted when it was returned to the County Clerk to show the marriage had taken place, and gave all the details needed to complete the record on the county books. (This was the book Marie was using for the index she was doing, and it had the marriages listed in order of the License Number.)

4) Marriage Affidavits and Marriage Records. In later years, the Marriage Affidavits and Marriage Records are combined in one book, on the same page, for each marriage.

Among the ways to find the names of the bride and groom would be to look at the Marriage License Index, from A - Z, for the name of a bride or groom, showing the book and page number you needed in the Marriage Record book. You would have to eliminate the names already listed on that page. Although this is one way, it would be very time consuming.

Using the GFO collection of available marriage records, there is an easier and faster way to find the names of the bride and groom. The marriage record Marie found had the Marriage License number 23836 stamped on the record. These numbers are listed in order on the pages. The record above was 23835 and the one below was 23837. The Marriage Affidavits book also lists the marriages in order by the Marriage License number. Knowing this, I went to the Affidavits book for the date range needed, September 1912, looked for the page with License #23836, and found the names of the bride and groom within just a few minutes.

The name of the bride was Lillian HUGHES, and the name of the groom was M. J. CONLEY. Another error was found in the Affidavits record. Although it listed the record book number as 32, the page number was listed as 328, not 228. Looking at page 328 would not give the researcher the information they wanted. Since the License numbers were listed in numerical order, the page of 328 on this Affidavit for the CONLEY and HUGHES record could not have been correct. It was 100 pages too high. The book and page number above and below the one for HUGHES and CONLEY had the correct book 32 and page 228, and since the license numbers are listed numerically, page 228 is correct.

The next thing I wanted to find was this marriage listed in the Marriage License Index, and it is a good thing I took the time to look. The groom's name was listed as Martin J. CONLEY. This gave me the first name of the groom, making it easier for a family researcher to locate this couple in additional records such as census, city directory, newspaper, land, etc. This Index gave the correct book and page number for the Marriage Record book.

Multnomah County Marriage Record book 32, page 228.

Multnomah County Marriage Affidavits book 17, page 79.

Multnomah County Marriage License Index, A - K, July 1910 - Oct. 1915, page 165 for CONLEY, and page 384 for HUGHES.

Each of these record books can provide additional parts of the marriage information, and it is sometimes wise to consult all of them, for any different pieces of information they may have about your relative.

Additional information about the Catholic priest: The name on the Marriage Record under - "Witness my hand," showed the following: "A. Hillebrand Dean, St John's Church." The Marriage Affidavit didn't have "Dean" after Hillebrand, but only listed "Married by A. Hillebrand." Therefore, could this Priest have been the "Dean" of a school attached to the church?

I went to Ancestry for the 1910 Oregon Census and found a listing in Oregon City, Clackamas County, for an Anthony HILLEBRAND, a Catholic clergyman, age 51, born in Germany. The address was 912 Water St., between entries of names listed on 9th and 10th streets. There is more than one Catholic Church in our area with the name St. John's. I went to the Internet and Googled this name. One church of interest was the St. John The Apostle Catholic Church, in Oregon City, Oregon. The church history showed it was active since 1846 and had moved from its original location of 10th and Water streets to its present location at 4th and Center in Oregon City. There were a Parish Church, a School and Administration offices.

1910 Census, Oregon City, Clackamas County, Oregon, E.D. 43, Sheet 10A, line 26, Address 912 Water St., Dwelling 206, Family 212, date 23-25 April. HILLEBRAND, Anthony.

The Affiant listed on the Marriage Affidavits was C. R. HANSEN and his address was listed as 26 N 2nd. At the bottom of the affidavit, on the signature line, the name is signed C. R. HANSEN, Jr. On the Marriage Record, this name looked like C. R. HUNSINGER, and he was listed as a witness to the marriage. Looking at the

1912 Polk's Portland City Directory, page 671, I found the following entries:

HANSEN, Chas R. Jr., pres C. R. Hansen & Co. r Hotel Carlton.

HANSEN, C. R. & Co., Charles R. Hansen Jr., Pres., Employment Agents, 26 2nd N. Tel Main 1526.

I also checked the 1912 Portland City Directory for Lillian HUGHES and Martin J. CONLEY, but couldn't find a match, when looking for the addresses given in the Marriage Affidavit. The 1914 Portland City directory was the next year available, and I didn't find this couple listed.

I checked the database of old Oregonian newspapers on the Multnomah County Library website for mention of the marriage of Lillian HUGHES and Martin J. CONLEY, but didn't find any mention of it in September 1912. A search of the newspapers in Oregon City, or the records of the Catholic Church may give more information since the marriage was listed as taking place at the church.

There is another record that might be found and be of assistance to anyone looking for the marriage information on Lillian HUGHES and Martin J. CONLEY. The information filled out when the couple applied for their marriage license might be found on microfilm at the State of Oregon Archives in Salem, Oregon. This may or may not be available for records of 1912, but an e-mail to the Archives, or a research trip might prove worth the effort.

As to the question of whether to include the names of the bride and groom I found in the other marriage books, in the marriage index being created by Marie, it was decided not to include these names. Because they were not recorded in the actual Marriage Record book being indexed, they wouldn't be included in the index.

The marriage records used are for Multnomah County, Oregon, but similar books may also be available in other states and counties.

I hope some of this information has been of interest and possibly can be put to use by someone. And, if someone is checking the Internet for anything about the marriage of a Lillian HUGHES and a Martin J. CONLEY, they might find this information helpful.

Just to let you know, in further researching of the Marriage Record I wrote about, the one that was missing the name of the bride and groom, I sent the following e-mail message to the St. John's church in Oregon City and got a response today. I now have verification, for any family member looking for this couple that the marriage took place at the church in Oregon City and not one of the other ones with the same name and located close to

Portland. See below my e-mail request and response. So this confirms the church was St. John The Apostle Catholic Church, in Oregon City, Oregon. Jan Fenter

Tue, Nov 1, 2011 at 11:15 AM

Dear Sir or Ms,

I'm doing some family history research and ran across a Marriage Record in September 1912. Do you have any records that would go back into 1912 showing marriages performed at St Johns Parish and by a priest named A. (probably first name of Anthony) HILLEBRAND? The entry listing the name of this priest showed him listed as: "A. Hillebrand Dean." Could he have been a "dean" of a school attached to the Parish?

The marriage record listed the groom as M. J. CONLEY and bride was Lillian HUGHES. The marriage license was obtained in Multnomah County, #23836. The marriage license was dated on or about 26 September 1912 and the marriage was filed and recorded in the marriage books of Multnomah County by the County Clerk on 1 Oct. 1912. The information stated the marriage was done by a Catholic Priest named A. Hillebrand, Dean of St. Johns Church.

Further research of the 1910 Oregon census showed a priest named Anthony HILLEBRAND, age 51 and that he was born in Germany.

Do you have any records that can confirm the above named priest was at St Johns Parish in the fall of 1912 and that there was a marriage performed at the parish for a bride named Lillian HUGHES and a groom named M. J. CONLEY? Or, could you direct me to another source so I could confirm this information?

Thank you for any help you may provide on this marriage.

Sincerely, Janice Fenter

Dear Jan,

I do have record of Martin J Conley and Lillian N Hughes being married at SJA. Yes Monsignor A. Hildebrand was here at this Church at that time. If I can be of further help let me know. Blessings, Cathy Leeper Secretary

A selection of GFO Books on the War of 1812

Often the best information on the War of 1812 is incorporated in the histories of the various localities and family histories found on the GFO shelves.

General

Caffrey, Kate, *The Twilight's Last Gleaming, Britain vs. America, 1812-1815*, Stein and Day, New York, 1977. 973 A000

Hickey, Donald R., *War of 1812 : A Forgotten Conflict*, Urbana, Illinois: University of Illinois Press, 1989. 973 A000

Jonasson, Erick, *Canadian Veterans of the War of 1812.*, Winnipeg, Can.: Wheatfield Press, 1981. 971 A000

Lossing, Benson J., *Pictorial Field Book of the War of 1812*, Somersworth, NH: New Hampshire Publishing, 1976. 973 A000

Peterson, Ex-Lieut. Clarence Stewart, *Known Military Dead During War of 1812*, Baltimore, Maryland: Clearfield, 1992. 973 A000

Schweitzer, George K., *War of 1812 Genealogy*, Knoxville, TN: George K. Schweitzer, 1983. 973 A000

Scott, Kenneth, *British Aliens in the United States During the War of 1812*, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1979. 941 A000

Van Horn, John Albert. *General Society of the War of 1812 Proceedings...15th-19th Biennial Meetings 1928 - 1936* (Society of The War of 1812, 1938) 369.14 G326

White, Virgil D., *Index to War of 1812 Pension Files*, Tennessee: National Historical Publishers, 1989. 973 A000

By States

Gandrud, Pauline Jones, *Alabama Soldiers (Revolution, War of 1812 & Indian Wars) : Vol. 4, surnames Ca through Coker*, Hot Springs, AR: Arkansas Ancestors, 1980. 976.1 A000

War of 1812 Bounty Lands in Illinois: Heritage House, 1977. 977.3 A000

Wilder, Minnie S., *Kentucky Soldiers of the War of 1812 With an Added Index*, Baltimore, Maryland: Clearfield, 1969. 976.9 A000

Carter, Clarence Edwin, *Territorial Papers of the United States: Volume 9, Territory of Orleans 1803 - 1812*, Washington, D. C.: GPO, 1940. 976.3 A000

McGhee, Mrs. Carl W., *Maryland Revolutionary War pensioners, War of 1812 & Indian Wars*, Washington, D. C.: [Mrs. Carl W. McGhee?], 1952. 975.2 A000

Adjutant Generals Office. *Index of Awards on Claims of the Soldiers of the War of 1812*, New York, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1969. 974.7 A000

Year book of the Society of Colonial Wars in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts for 1899, Boston, Massachusetts: Society of Colonial Wars in, 1899. 974.4 A000

Wiltshire, Betty Couch, *Mississippi Soldiers: Revolutionary, 1812, Indian and Mexican Wars*, Carrollton, MS: Pioneer Publishing, 1998. 976.2 A000

Francis T. Ingmire, *Citizens of Missouri Territory 1810 - 1812 : Grants in Present Day Missouri, Arkansas, and Oklahoma : Volume 2, Signal Mountain*, Tennessee: Mountain Press, 1984. 977.8 A000

continued on page 24

Oregon County Research

Oregon Marriage and Divorce Records at the GFO

Susan LeBlanc, AG

The Genealogical Forum of Oregon has wonderful collections for Oregon Marriage and Divorce Records. Found on microfiche and microfilm, published CDs index, and old ledger books they are often overlooked. This is especially true of the microfiche and microfilm. While working on a project, it inspired me to create a list of those resources. There may be other resources available at the GFO and the research assistants can help in locating these helpful tools. Provided below is this list, which can be used in determining what materials will be useful for your research.

Oregon Marriage Index on Microfilm

Reel 1	1906 to 1910	
Reel 2	1911 to 1915	
Reel 3	1916 to 1920	
Reel 4	1921 to 1924	
Reel 5	1946 to 1955	Brides
Reel 6	1946 to 1955	Grooms
Reel 7	1956 to 1960	
Reel 8	1966 to 1970	Grooms
Reel 9	1966 to 1970	Brides

Oregon Marriage Records Index from Oregon Vital Records Office 1925 to 1945.

Four CDs published by the GFO found in the blue CD Binders next to the computers.

1925 to 1929
1930 to 1934
1935 to 1939
1940 to 1945

Oregon Divorces Index on Microfilm

Roll 1	1946 to 1955
Roll 2	1956 to 1960
Roll 3	1966 to 1970

Oregon Marriage Records on Microfiche

1971 thru 1981 by Bride or Groom
1982
1983

1984
1985
1986 Fiche 1-4, but fiche 4 is missing
1987
1988
1989
1991 thru 2000
2001 thru 2005

Oregon Divorce Records on Microfiche Listed by Husband

1971 thru 1989, on fiche by year

Multnomah County Marriage Records at the GFO

Multnomah County Marriage License Index on Microfilm

43546	1855 thru 1885 and Books
43547	1885 thru 1895 and Books
43548	1895 thru 1903 and Books
43549	1875 thru 1902
43550	1903 thru 1910
43551	1910 thru 1924
43552	1945 thru 1948
43553	1949 thru 1952
43554	1953 thru 1955
43555	1956 thru 1960
43556	1969 thru 1972
43557	1973 thru 1976
43558	1967 thru 1968 Certificates, pgs. 1-404 missing, contains pgs. 405-504
43559	1977 thru 1980

Multnomah County Marriage Records Indexes

Ledger Books are in the Rare Book Room 1910 to 1946, 1949 to 1978

Books published by the GFO found in the general collection as blue books and in the Rare Book Room as red books.

Early Multnomah County Marriage Records by DAR, Jan. 1855 to Aug. 1865
 Marriage Records of Multnomah County
 Book 1 1855 to 1873
 Book 2 May 1873 to June 1883
 Book 3 June 1883 to July 1885
 Book 4 December 1885 to September 1888
 Book 5 September 1888 to July 1890
 Book 6 July 1890 to July 1895
 Book 7 July 1895 to May 1901
 Book 8 April 1901 to October 1904

Multnomah County Marriage Records in the Rare Book Room
 1855 to 1924 - the original certificates are in bound volumes.
 Marriage records after 1924 are found at the Marriage Record Department in Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, Oregon.

Multnomah County Marriage Affidavits in the Rare Book Room
 1903 to 1915 - these provide additional records to the above collection of marriage records and are not indexed. The marriage record may have a stamped number for help in locating the affidavit.
 Other County Microfilm Records at the GFO

Clackamas County Records include published book indexes of marriages.
 Washington County Records
 Washington County Marriages
 Reel 1 Books 1 thru 3 pg. 45, Vol. 1 and 2 marriages 1842 to 1892, compiled by Lepschat and Belfour
 Reel 2 Books 3 pg. 44 thru Book 5 pg. 491, 27 May 1882 to 7 February 1907

Washington County Marriage Index
 Reel 1 Books 5-28, additional information on the box, 11 May 1902 to August 1961
 Reel 2 Books 29-51, additional information on the box, 5 September 1961 to June 1976
 Reel 3 1 July 1976 to 31 December 1982
 Reel 4 1983 to 1987

Additional Microfilm Records

Genealogy of Tigard
 Roll 1 Washington County Early Index and Certificates of Honorable Discharge December 1943.
 Roll 2 Washington County Miscellaneous Books C and

War of 1812 resources continued ...

Bilow, John A., *Chateaugay, New York and the War of 1812*, 1984. 974.7 F832

Adj. Gen. Raleigh Ch., *Soldiers of the War of 1812 : North Carolina (Muster Rolls)*, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing, 1976. 975.6 A000

Maxwell, Fay, *Ohio Indian, Revolutionary, War of 1812 Trails; Indexes to Ohio Counties and Townships; Maps of Surveys, Migration Trails, War of 1812 Routes and Many Others*, Columbus, OH: OH Genealogy Center, 1974. 977.1 A000

Roster of Ohio Soldiers in the War of 1812, OH: Adj. Gen. of OH, 1916. 977.1 A000

Myers, Paul W., *Mercer County, Pa. Soldiers : Revolutionary War; War of 1812, Civil War*, Apollo, Pennsylvania: Closson Press, 1987. 974.8 M554

Armstrong, Zella, *Twenty-Four Hundred Tennessee Pensioners: Revolution, War of 1812*, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1981. 976.8 A000

Byron Sistler & Samuel Sistler, *Tennesseans in the War of 1812*, Nashville, TN: Byron Sistler & Associates, 1992. 976.8 A000

Fay, Mary Smith, *War of 1812 Veterans in Texas*, New Orleans: Polyanthos, 1979. 976.4 A000

Clark, Byron N., *List of pensioners of the War of 1812*, Vermont; Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing Company, 1969. 974.3 A000

Clark, Byron N., *Battle of Plattsburgh; A List of Pensioners of the War of 1812*, Vermont; Burlington: Research Publication Co., 1904. 974.3 A000

Virginia Militia in the War of 1812 : From Rolls in the Auditor's Office of Richmond, Volume I, Baltimore, Maryland: Genealogical Publishing, 2001. 975.5 A000

Wardell, Patrick G., *War of 1812: Virginia Bounty Land and Pension Applicants: A Quick Reference Guide to Ancestors Having War of 1812 Service Who Served, Lived, Died or Married in Virginia or West Virginia*, Bowie, Maryland: Heritage Books, 1987. 975.5 A000

Stuart Lee Butler, *Guide to Virginia Militia Units in the War of 1812*, Athens, Georgia: Iberian Publishing, 1988. 975.5 A000

War of 1812 Online Databases

Ancestry.com and Fold3 have numerous War of 1812 records available.

Familysearch.org Databases - Free

United States, War of 1812 Index to Pension Application Files, 1812-1910, 6 Sep 2011, 91,259 records.

United States, War of 1812 Index to Service Records, 1812-1815, 9 Sep 2011, browse images.

United States, Registers of Enlistments in the U. S. Army, 1798-1914, 9 May 2011, browse images.

United States, Old War Pension Index, 1815-1926, *6 Feb 2012, browse images.

Miscellaneous Online Resources

<http://www.societyofthewarof1812.org> (National and state groups.)

continued page 27

Written in Stone

The Pioneer Rose Trail

Northwest Rose Historians - Laura King and Kathleen McMullen

Rose fragments discovered in Fossil, Oregon, confirm the presence of roses in the Northwest for at least thirty-two million years.

Before the arrival of pioneers, Native Americans valued all parts of wild roses for food, healing, medical treatments, and dyes. In the mid-1800s, roses started arriving with pioneers who were looking for land and new opportunity. Roses have long shared a unique relationship with people of the Northwest, but our region's first cultivated blooms have been upstaged by the beauty of modern hybridized varieties.

Northwest Rose Historians is a small unstructured group dedicated to the preservation of our oldest roses by strengthening their ties to the communities in which they were first planted. Wherever old roses grow, they are a connection to the days gone by, offering a look back into the rich cultural history of the Northwest and a glimpse into family story and tradition. Linking living cultural history to present times reinforces community identity and sense of place, while entrusting our region's oldest blooms and their stories to future generations.

How Northwest Rose Historians got started is a story in itself. What began as a Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery restoration project of the Roses of Old Oregon Garden in Portland, Oregon, bloomed into a passion for saving and archiving roses scattered about the Northwest. The moment we took the fateful leap from working in a single rose garden in Lone Fir Cemetery to a region-wide focus was during a chance meeting on a trip through the Willamette Valley.

In late summer 2010, we planned a few stops on our way to Drain, Oregon, to visit the childhood home of heritage rose preservationist, Mary Drain Albro. Mrs. Albro founded the Pioneer Rose Association in 1936 and planted several gardens, including the Roses of Old Oregon Garden in Lone Fir cemetery, in 1943.

A telephone call to a small museum led to an invitation to visit a farm and look at a rose. Once off the highway, we followed a gravel road cutting through golden fields and curving around heavily laden apple trees. We passed berry brambles, briar roses, and grapes ripening on thick vines. When we finally came to a stop

in front of an old barn next to tidy rows of vegetables and a flower garden, we were greeted by a 91-year-old 4th generation descendant of 1852 pioneers. Twenty minutes later we were given cuttings from a century-old rose and were eating apples from a 150-year-old tree. It was our defining moment and there was no turning back. We were officially on the Pioneer Rose Trail.

At this writing, sixteen months later, we have planted five roses on sites listed in the National Register of Historic Places, located many more roses and stories, spent thousands of hours researching, compiling histories, writing, and interviewing. We are collecting vintage photographs, and ephemera, struggling with technology, and wearing out a Toyota Prius on the back roads of Oregon. We started an Honor Roll that is our version of a Heritage Rose Registry and have added documented roses to the list. We have met kindred spirits along the way who are assisting with this work on many levels. A small circle of rose-friends is fast growing into an army of "Rose Angels" that spend their spare time tending to roses in historic cemeteries or scouting the countryside looking for endangered pioneer and century-old roses suffering from neglect, obscurity, and often on the verge of oblivion.

Through the ages, poets have linked roses with the mystery of death, and, nowhere do these sentiments carry more symbolism than in pioneer cemeteries.

Our treasured roses are being lost, and there is an urgent need to establish a plan of action. "Rose Angels, Heritage Rose Caretakers" is our plan to help the battle against the ravages of time and save historic roses. Many roses that traveled westward across the Plains or around Cape Horn were eventually planted on graves of the pioneers that tended them. Some roses planted as grave-top memorials have outlasted the headstones, becoming the grave's only marker and companion. A cemetery rose can be the last living link to generations of a family, and it becomes our responsibility to be their caretakers. Our concept involves developing a series of worksheets to help cemeteries, historic sites, and interested persons identify, inventory, and care for our region's at-risk roses. To preserve this collected information for posterity, it

needs to be linked to a central archive. We are starting this spring with the rose inventory of Lone Fir Cemetery and Eugene Masonic Cemetery. We trust other groups will follow our lead and use the format we are creating.

Please note, it is important to never remove a rose from its current location unless it is in immediate danger of being lost forever. Examples of this would be a road widening project, or demolition of a structure supporting roses. Only take cuttings from canes or runners, and, in very rare cases, from roots.

Roses have been lost through good intentions. For example, this may happen when rose-napped from cemeteries or byways and replanted in a "safe haven" only to be lost forever when the "rescuer" moves on, leaving no information behind to identify the significance of the rose or where it was found. Whenever possible, ask for permission before taking cuttings, in part because this is the best and sometimes only way of learning information about the rose. Be generous with the roses you grow and the information you collect. Most "found" roses will never be reunited with their original botanical or registered name. We hope, at best, to identify found roses by class or species and rename them for their historic ties to a place or persons.

1852 Bethany Rose



All old roses have a story to tell and we would like to share a few with you. After Hanson and Lavina Stevens arrived in Oregon in 1852, Lavina planted a rose on their donation land claim near Silverton. Descendants believe she brought either cuttings or rose hips from their farm in Iowa.

Years after their deaths, Lavina's precious rose was

planted at their gravesite in Bethany Cemetery where it continues to grow and bloom, 160 years after coming to Oregon. Another rose in the same family was planted on the grave of Ida Esson, a granddaughter of Hanson Stevens and his second wife. Ida was born around 1880 and died at the tender age of 11 after a disease outbreak swept through the Willamette Valley. She was buried in her family's private cemetery and the lovely white rose planted on her grave still grows to this day.

Northwest Rose Historians is not the first to travel the pioneer rose trail. We follow the footsteps of trailblazer, Mary Drain Albro.

Born in 1876, she was the daughter of settlers who crossed by wagon in 1852 and later founded the town of Drain in southern Oregon. Mrs. Albro could see the era of pre-statehood pioneers drawing to a close. The annual gathering of the Oregon Pioneer Association was smaller every year and their offspring organization, Sons and Daughters of Oregon Pioneers, had been established in 1901. They elected Mrs. Albro president in 1936, the same year she founded the Pioneer Rose Association.

Mrs. Albro had grown up listening to tales of Old Oregon and she was determined to keep those stories alive through the cultivation of pioneer roses that she would find and propagate. She was uniquely situated for this role as she heard first-hand and then second-hand accounts of pre-statehood days not only in her early years, but also as a nurse traveling by boat to attend to rural patients in Coos County. Members of her family retained a farm in the Willamette Valley, and she spent time there combing the countryside and old cemeteries, often bringing her niece with her on rose finding adventures. Mrs. Albro eventually located 23 roses she believed arrived in Oregon prior to statehood in 1859.

She was a remarkable woman, and her work and manuscript left to Pacific University in Forest Grove, Oregon, inspires many to this day. Although Mrs. Albro planted roses in several locations, only one garden remains. Her Roses of Old Oregon Garden dedicated to Pioneer Women is among several elements that gained Lone Fir Cemetery listing on the National Register of Historic Places in 2007. This garden continues under restoration by Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery and plans are underway to rededicate the garden in 2013, the garden's 70th anniversary and the 170th anniversary of the Oregon Provisional Government. Mrs. Albro identified a timeline of early Oregon history through her rose dedications.

As we travel along the Pioneer Rose Trail, we meet many people who, in their own way, are maintaining the unique relationship people of the Northwest share

with roses. Gerri Morse is an old-rose expert we met at Philip Foster Farm National Historic Site in Eagle Creek, Oregon. She is guiding Northwest Rose Historians in propagation and best practices for old-rose cultivation. She is a true rose-keeper. Taking cuttings and rescuing roses from ditches along the side of the road or from gardens about to be plowed under, she has amassed a sizable collection through decades of preservation work.

Gerri's valuable contribution to Oregon rose history is not only her garden of "saved" roses grown from cuttings, but her keen interest in local history. She cultivates friendships the way she cultivates roses, with care and appreciation.

We have been fortunate to have access to files, photographs, and research by esteemed rose preservationists, Erica Calkins and Janet Witter. Northwest Rose Historians is striving to make our work fully accessible with the hope of inspiring a new generation of heritage rose keepers. We seek to expand the Northwest Rose Historians information base relating to all areas of our region's rose history. Please contact us with any roses, stories, photographs, or information you would like to share. To learn more about the Rose Angels, Heritage Rose Caretakers project, and how you can help, please contact us. To learn more about northwest rose history, check out our blog.

When not hunting roses, Laura King is a hairstylist in downtown Portland, an administrative assistant in a law office, and on the Board of Friends of Lone Fir Cemetery. After completing her last writing project, Kathleen McMullen divides her time between rose-related archival research and driving back roads searching for roses.

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Laura King 503-913-0512 or Kathleen McMullen 503-539-1637

War of 1812 resources continued from page 24

<http://www.usdaughters1812.org> (National and state groups.)

<http://www.1812privateers.org> (Listings of names and records.)

<http://glengarrylightinfantry.ca/> (Canadian perspective.)

Mark Lowe's Resources

Military Resources: War of 1812 - Resources in NARA

Genealogical Records of the War of 1812 <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1991/winter/war-of-1812.html>

An article on War of 1812 records in the National Archives, including discussion of Pension and Bounty Land Warrant Applications, Military Service Records, and Naval and Marine Corps Records by Stuart L. Butler, published in Prologue 23:4 (Winter 1991).

War of 1812 Discharge Certificates <http://www.archives.gov/research/military/war-of-1812/1812-discharge-certificates/dischargecertificates.html>

NARA web page on discharge certificates and other records relating to the discharge of soldiers from the Regular Army, 1792-1815.

Genealogical fallout from the War of 1812 <http://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/1992/spring/seamans-protection.html>

An article on Seamen's Protection Certificates written by Ruth Priest Dixon and published in Prologue 24:1 (Spring 1992).

Records about impressed seamen, 1793-1814 <http://www.archives.gov/research/military/war-of-1812/1812-discharge-certificates/impressed-seamen-1793-to-1814.html>

NARA web page on records about the repatriation of American citizens impressed by foreign powers from the end of the American Revolution to the conclusion of the War of 1812.

Index to the War of 1812 payrolls and muster rolls http://lval1.hosted.exlibrisgroup.com/F/?func=file&file_name=find-bclas12&local_base=CLAS12

Officers of the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps in the War of 1812 <http://www.history.navy.mil/wars/war1812/1815list.htm>

List of all commissioned and warrant officers of the Navy and Marines on the Naval Historical Center website.

Star-Spangled Banner and the War of 1812 <http://www.si.edu/resource/faq/nmah/starflag.htm>

United States naval history: a biography <http://www.history.navy.mil/biblio/biblio1/biblio1h.htm>

Naval Historical Center bibliography on naval history by period. War of 1812 <http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/stream/faq45-5.htm>

Frequently asked questions about the War of 1812, Naval Historical Center.m <http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/books/amh/amh-06.htm>

NARA File #WO7539. War of 1812 Pension & Bounty Land Warrant (Complete File). Stephen Lankford. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~lankford/images/WO7539.pdf>

Mark Lowe, President of the Southern Kentucky Genealogical Society i, Warren Co., Kentucky, a highly respected certified genealogical researcher and seminar speaker, graciously granted permission to reprint this information.

Relics

John Jacob Astor In Oregon: Men, Ships and Goods

Harvey Steele



Johann Jacob Astor by Gilbert Stuart, 1794
Wikimedia Commons, Astor. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Jacob_

In his old age, John Jacob Astor's fortune increased even as his body deteriorated. He drooled at dinner parties and needed a servant to guide the food to his mouth. His body, racked with palsy, had to be tossed in a blanket each day to sustain his circulation. Yet, until his death, in March 1848 at age eighty-four, he studied his surveys of real estate and financial ledgers for hours. When he died, he left an estate worth \$20 million dollars, which would be worth billions in today's dollars. He was the richest man in America.¹

Born in Germany, Astor came to New York in 1784. By 1804 he was engaged in the fur trade and already one of the more successful merchants in New York City. He had studied the fur trade systems practiced by the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company, the two companies that controlled the Canadian trade. He reasoned that he could dominate the Indian trade of the northern United States by emulating the practices of the existing fur traders and use his knowledge to control the fur trade south of the Canadian border.²

Astor's focus was on the Columbia River and, in the process; he created the first American settlement on the American Pacific Coast, Astoria. On September 8, 1810, partners of the Pacific Fur Company sailed from New York around the horn, reaching the mouth of the Columbia in the spring of 1811. The first group found a point on the south bank of the river and built the trading post they called Fort Astoria. A second party, under Wilson Price Hunt, left St. Louis in March 1811 and reached Astoria a year later, following a grueling overland journey.

Astor was influenced by the Lewis and Clark expedition, which wintered at Fort Clatsop (near Fort Astoria) only four years earlier. Meriwether Lewis had written (to President Jefferson) that easily handled merchandise (bales of fur, for example) could be readily transported across the great divide on horseback. Lewis also noted that the valley of the upper Missouri "is richer in Beaver and otter than any country on earth."³

By 1810, Astor had the resources required for the Columbia plan: ample funds, competent agents in London who could obtain the right trade goods, and contacts with the leading maritime customers of the world, including China. Since about 1800, Astor's ships had been carrying ginseng, silver bullion, and prime furs to Asia, usually returning with silk, nankeens, and porcelain. Some of these ships, Astor calculated, could alter course to the Columbia River, pick up fur pelts, trade sea otter skins, and then continue to Canton China.⁴

The Astor plan depended on the right men, the right ships, and the right goods.

The Men

When you try to identify the men who lived and worked in the Pacific Fur Company, you find a lot of individuals who were then, in the early 19th century, called mechanics. Mechanics? The current definition of that word often means someone who works for an automobile dealer repairing your car as needed. There are mechanics for most types of vehicles but now, only rarely is the term used for anything else. In the early years of the 19th century, a mechanic was a tradesman (sometimes called a craftsman), skilled at a particular craft or trade.

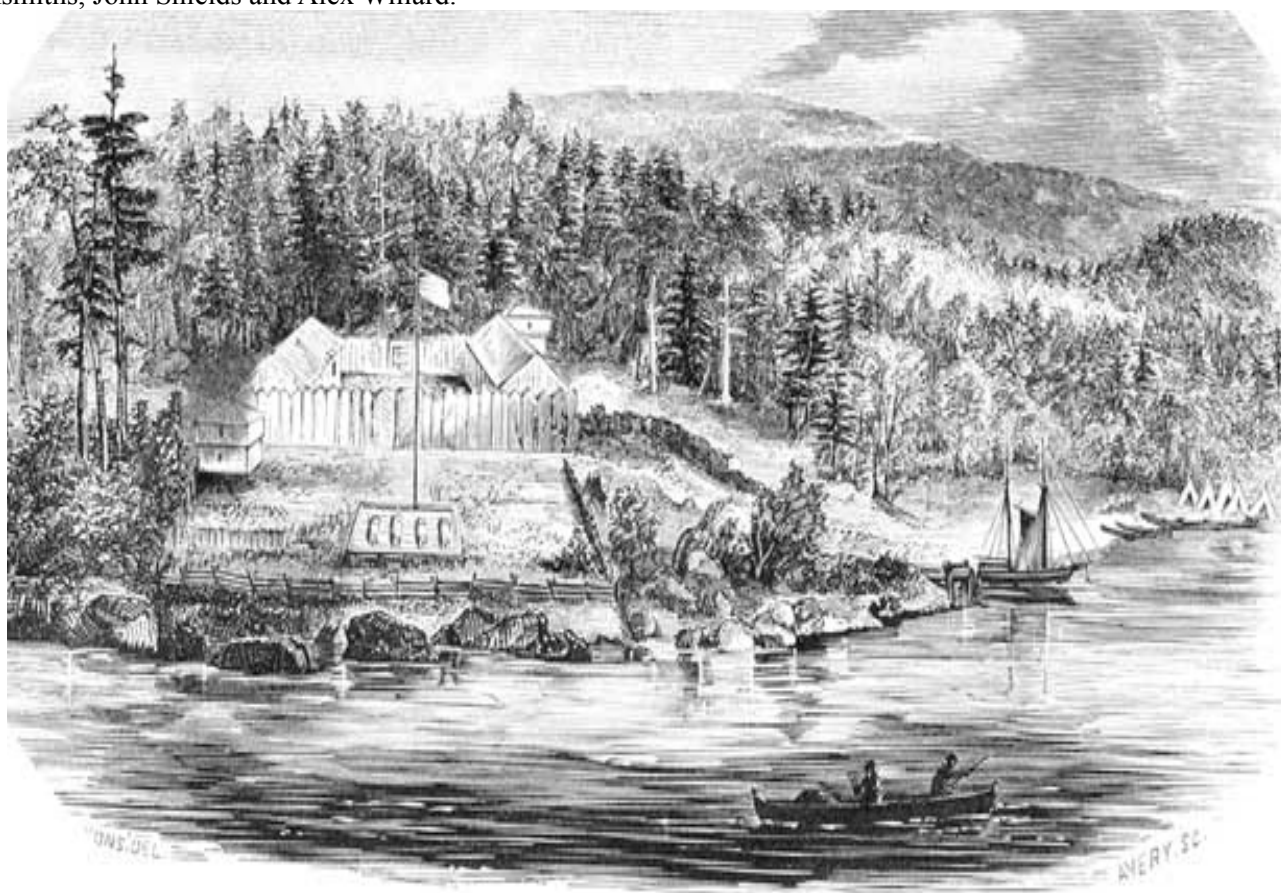
To illustrate this usage, we turn to the Headquarters

Log of the Pacific Fur Company (1811-1813), the business diary of Duncan McDougall. The diary frequently mentions the work of various mechanics, the baker, the cooper, the carpenter, the millwright, the hunter, the interpreter, the bookbinder, the ship carpenter, the sailmaker, the clerk, the sawyer, the shoemaker, and many others. McDougall often notes what the mechanic is doing without naming the person involved.

There were several men skilled or reasonably adept at blacksmithing. Augustin Roussel, William Cannon, Francis William Hodgins, Michael Sanson, Micajah Baker, John Baptiste Pillon, Louis LaBonte, and Daniel Purry, are all shown as blacksmiths (or assistants in a blacksmithing activity). For comparison, the Lewis and Clark expedition, only a few years earlier, had only two blacksmiths, John Shields and Alex Willard.⁵

diary making or repairing various iron objects. He stayed in the territory until 1825, when the Hudson's Bay Company built the first Fort Vancouver (near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers) and continued there for 35 years of ironwork, in later years as the senior artisan. Five forges were operating at Fort Vancouver, continuing well into the machine-shop era, making thousands of wrought rod nails, axes, and beaver traps and whatever construction hardware was needed.⁶

The work force at Fort Astoria was divided by rank, as were all the North American fur trade companies. At the very top were the "partners" (including John Jacob Astor at the apex of the pyramid and partner Duncan McDougall as the fort administrator). By contrast, all employees below the partners level were considered



ASTORIA, AS IT WAS IN 1813.

One of the more prolific blacksmiths at Fort Astoria was William Cannon. Cannon (or Canning, as he often spelled his surname) was recruited as a hunter by Wilson Price Hunt at Mackinac Island in 1810 and arrived at Astoria in January 1812. He learned the blacksmith trade at Astoria and is frequently mentioned in McDougall's

"bourgeois" (but also listed as clerks or traders or both), with an average annual wage of about \$370. Clerk/interpreters were next in rank at an average of \$333 per annum. Interpreters who did not have other clerical duties were next on the list at about \$300 per annum. Skilled outdoorsmen (sometimes called "patrons") and pilots of

manual boats were next on the list at \$284 per annum. Craftsman or mechanics were paid from \$200-350 per annum depending on the complexity. Blacksmiths never constituted more than 2% of the work force and often developed specialties (e.g. gun or stove repair).

Carpenters, a large part of the mechanics, were paid about \$260 per annum. The lowest pay rung on the service ladder was occupied by voyageurs, possibly the most numerous of all employees, at a range from \$220-240 per annum. Three types of servants, “voyageurs” (boatmen), “ivernant” (winterers), and “chasseur” (hunters) had extremely variable wages depending on whether they worked through the winters and also whether they remained in Indian country through the winter. Winter work was worth an extra \$132 per annum which (by 1832) also consisted of an equipment stipend of a three-point blanket, one and one half yards of blue stroud cloth, one handkerchief, one checkered shirt, one scalping knife and three pounds of tobacco.

In McDougall’s version of the Pacific Fur Company log, Jones furnishes a comprehensive list of people on the Columbia for Winter 1813/1814. The list totals 176, not only the 76 who were at Fort George most of the time (from September 6, 1810 to November 20, 1813) covered by the annals, but those workers at other duty stations subordinate to Fort Astoria, e.g.:

- Thompson River (11)
- Willamette - near (41)
- Snakes (7) – Idaho Snake River villages
- Flat Heads (14)
- Spokane House (11)
- New Caledonia (1)
- Okanagan River (2)
- Kootenees – or Kootenay village (5)

This list also includes the “party” (affiliating company), the “capacity” (type of work), the year of first engagement, the first and second year salary, the “equipment” stipend and “where and when free”. The log also notes 29 names of Pacific Fur Company people “with whom we have no agreement whatever”.⁸

Since Fort Astoria was the first American settlement on the Pacific Coast, the log can be compared with other fur trade operations. The Astoria lists reveal a striking difference between this group of workers and any other settler or fur trade group west of the Mississippi: the large proportion of mechanics or tradesmen. The Pacific Fur Company list includes bakers, coopers (2), carpenters (4), hunters (11), blacksmiths (8), millwrights, sawyers, tailors, gunsmiths, bookbinders, boat builders, archivists, governails (tillerman or steersman on the boat stern), “milieus” (middle paddlers in the large freight

canoes), shoemakers, and even a man listed as “fool” (Joseph Pelton). Among the large numbers of clerks (15) were undoubtedly men with other skills (e.g. interpreter) and for many names on the list, where no capacity is shown, the amount of compensation is a general clue to the occupation.⁹ For a “first settlement” anywhere, the diversity is astonishing.

At least 14 of the first Astorians became permanent settlers in the Oregon Territory. In addition to Cannon, the list includes:

- Alexander Carson
- John Coxe
- Lieut. Baptiste Dorion
- Marie L’Aguivoise Dorion
- Jean Baptiste Dubreuil
- Joseph Gervais
- Louis LaBonte
- Etienne Lucier
- Jean Baptiste Desportes McKay
- Thomas McKay
- Francois Payette
- George Ramsay

Most of the Astorians on this list stayed in the Oregon Territory with the Hudson’s Bay Company, at Fort Vancouver and/or French Prairie after 1814. Nearly all became affiliated with the Hudson’s Bay Company in the years up to the beginning of the American Civil War and many of them also worked for the North West Company for brief periods before their Hudson’s Bay Company term. It is likely that even more of the Pacific Fur Company employees would have settled permanently in the Oregon Territory after the Astoria operation ended except for the fact that such a high percentage were “mechanics” and their special trade or craft made them eligible for important contract jobs in the Missouri River fur trade.¹⁰

When the men of Fort Astoria are remembered, it is important to include their skills at overland exploration and cartography. The two major overland journeys, 1810-1812 (St. Louis to Astoria) and 1812-1813 (Astoria to St. Louis) were full of misfortunes and disasters but both, especially the latter trek headed by Robert Stuart, defined the route that became the Oregon Trail. Stuart and Wilson Price Hunt, and the voyageurs who accompanied them, refined the impossibly difficult trail established by Lewis and Clark and made possible the eventful Oregon Trail.

Goods

The material culture at frontier trading posts usually reflects two things: (1) the special objectives of the post (the types of pelts and Indian contacts) and (2) the transportation logistics required for large amounts of

goods and materials delivered to the site of the operation and the eventual methods of exporting the pelts to designated markets. In the fur trade, every day can be a surprise, pleasant or unpleasant, depending on weather, animal movement patterns, Indian trading practices, and the skill of the trappers.

Duncan McDougall's log for 1810-1813 is relatively impersonal, containing very little of his impressions, judgments, thoughts, or even his own activities. Instead, it is a record of resource allocations, particularly manpower, and economic activity (such as the buying and selling of provisions, pelts, and trade goods). Except for the daily sick list, most of the information recorded describes individuals using tools and goods to make or repair something. Given the limits of communication and transportation at that time, it is nearly impossible to gauge business success in the short term.¹¹

One document, the inventory of tools and blacksmithing equipment, reveals how well-equipped the fur trade post was for various activities. The chart is organized into only seven sections of goods, but, remarkably, it probably exceeds the equipment list of most small American towns in the first few years of the 19th century. Only at a few large urban centers, Boston, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Charleston, and Astor's New York City, would material goods of this type (and quantity) be available.¹²

As an example of the use of tools to manufacture goods, the large number of "Columbia made" objects is notable:

- 2 Small square-head axes (\$1.50 each)
- 25 Large Canadian axes (\$2.50 each)
- 17 Large Canadian axes, used (\$2.50 each)
- 282 Half axes (\$2.50 each)
- 157 Small axes (\$0.75 each)

Obviously, the blacksmiths were quite busy with axe production. It might even be noted that the Astorians were axe-obsessed because the imported number and variety of that tool was quite large:

- 8 Large Abersins English axes
- 8 Large English axes, used
- 1 Large carpenters broad axe
- 2 Carpenters broad axe, used
- 1 Cooper's broad axe
- 2 Half axes
- 2 Half axes, used
- 4 Small axes, used
- 2 Broad axes (\$3.50) – listed under Boat Builder's

tools in use

1 small English axe (\$1.72) – listed under Boat Builder's tools in use

1 Broad axe (\$3.00) – listed under Cooper's tools in use in Barrel Shop 13

As compared with other tools in the Astor inventories this is a very large number of axes, of two varieties, (1) those made at Fort Astoria; and (2) those imported from England and warehoused by Astor in New York before shipment to Astoria.

From the various lists many inferences may be drawn about the ongoing activities at Astoria. For example, here is a list of the more expensive tools:

- 3 Cross cut saws (\$3.50)
- 3 Whip saws, used (\$6.50)
- 1 Iron trying square (\$4.00)
- Jointers with double and single irons (\$4.00)

The work of more specialized mechanics (e.g. sawyers and experienced carpenters) is presupposed by the above list.

Finally, the portion of the tools list that included iron stock (for use by the blacksmiths) has a much higher unit value than the other tools specified:

- cwt 15 lbs. square iron (\$5.625)
- 6 cwt 7 lbs flat iron (\$5.625)
- 6 cwt 25 lbs iron for spikes (\$5.75)
- 4 cwt 23 lbs round iron (\$6.50)
- 2 qrs 4 lbs. hoop iron (\$8.25)
- 23 lbs iron wire
- 2 blacksmith's forges (\$50.00 each)

By comparing the various invoices from other Astor fur trade activities with the lists for Fort Astoria, one impression is that the multi-millionaire wanted to spare no expenses to make the Astoria operation a success.¹⁴

The degree of specialization in the tools is greater than one would expect from the 1811-1813 time period. No mercantile operation outside a few urban centers would have been able to support such an inventory. In 1823, Astor testified in Congress regarding his losses resulting from the Astoria operation. His estimate came to more than \$40,000, although the sections quoted above were only part of 80 pages of financial loss items claimed.¹⁵

Ships

Although Astor had 20 years experience with ships for his maritime ventures, the Astoria operation seemed to be doomed from the very beginning. Astor planned to send two expeditions to Astoria, one by sea and the other by land, both in 1810. Duncan McDougall, David Stuart, Robert Stuart, and Alexander McKay were to go by sea aboard the *Tonquin*. The captain was a veteran of the U.S. naval adventures in Algiers, a stern and brutal man named Jonathan Thorn. The ship sailed on September 8,

1910, from New York, and what followed was a voyage which historians are still trying to understand. The ship sailed around Cape Horn and, in the vicinity of the Falkland Islands, two of the partners (one was Robert Stuart) did not return to the ship in the time demanded by Thorn. Without any consultation with the other partners, Thorn, in a rage at their impertinence, set sail leaving them stranded in a barren land. David Stuart, one of the partners still on the *Tonquin*, confronted Thorn with a loaded pistol and demanded that he turn the ship around, which he eventually did. What communication still existed was extinguished forever and the ship reached the mouth of the Columbia March 22, 1811.

This was not the end of Thorn's antics. To find a passable channel across the Columbia Bar at Cape Disappointment, Thorn lowered a jolly boat with the first mate and four men aboard. The high winds had whipped up a storm and within minutes the five men disappeared forever. On the following morning, one of three ships capsized and four more men were lost. In two weeks, the 290-ton *Tonquin* bounced through the raging Columbia to a cove between Tongue Point and Point George on the south bank, where the remaining passengers and supplies were unloaded. After a few days ashore, the unpredictable Thorn, ignoring the pleading of McDougall, decided to take 22 Astorians and his remaining crew to explore northward. He anchored at Clayoquot Harbor, near Nootka on Vancouver Island. It was here in Templar Channel that Thorn began the coasting trade with local Indians.

At the beginning of the trading session, Thorn hit one of the visiting chiefs who argued fur values. The Indian planned his revenge by killing the crew and taking over the ship. When more than fifty tribal members were aboard, their concealed knives flashed and the slaughter began. The ship's clerk was battered and tossed overboard and four Indians targeted Thorn. His only weapon was a pocketknife, with which he ripped open the bellies of four assailants until he was given a blow from behind. According to an account by one of the few who survived the event, "Leaning in exhaustion over the tiller wheel Thorn was given a blow from behind and his lifeless body followed (Alexander) McKay's to the watery grave below." Somehow, three crewmen escaped. One crewman, mortally wounded, decided to light the 9000 pounds of powder in the ship's magazine. One eyewitness, an interpreter who was on shore, estimated that more than 200 Indians and 60 crew members were killed in the resulting explosion.

Astor could not have known of the *Tonquin* disaster for more than a year after the event. Ross Cox and Gabriel

Franchere, who later talked to the interpreter who had witnessed the explosion, said that following the loud sound, a great volume of smoke burst forth in the place where the ship had been and high in the air above, arms, legs, heads, and bodies were flying in all directions.

A second Astor ship, the *Beaver*, left New York with trading goods and supplies in the fall of 1811 and arrived at Astoria in May 1812, too late for the season. The *Beaver* proved to be serviceable and would have ensured the financial success of the Astoria operation except for another event which became known to the Astorians only in January 1813: the declaration of war with Great Britain by the United States. Three traders of the North West Company, John George McTavish, Joseph Larocque, and Michael Bourdon, with ¹⁵ voyageurs visited Fort Astoria. They brought news of the imminent arrival of the *Isaac Todd*, a British vessel that would take over Fort Astoria. In March of 1814 the *Todd* finally arrived, accompanied by a British warship, the *Racoon*, charged to destroy American settlements on the Pacific Coast. The trio calmed the Astorian's fears and the *Isaac Todd* provided men and supplies. In a very complex negotiated settlement, the Pacific Fur Company vacated Fort Astoria and the North West Company took over the site, renaming it Fort George (for the reigning British monarch). ¹⁶

In calculating his success in the fur trade, Astor was well aware of the coming conflict between England and America in the Pacific Northwest. An American fur trade would encounter enmity from established British firms like the Northwest Company and the Hudson's Bay Company. Only the presence of a solid U.S. Navy would ensure that the Pacific Fur Company would not be crushed by the British presence in the Columbia River estuary. The American navy had dwindled from 13 to just 8 frigates by 1812. Because it was so unprepared in 1812, the U.S. could not act decisively during the war. From 1816 to 1829, a total of \$8.5 million was appropriated to build and maintain maritime garrisons. The fleet was expanded to nine ships of the line and 20 frigates. ¹⁷ All of this was too late for Astor's Pacific Fur Company.

In retrospect, except for the unfortunate selection of Captain Thorn and the destruction of the *Tonquin*, Astor's organization of the Pacific Fur Company was admirable and would have changed the history of the Oregon Territory if not for the War of 1812. Another factor, the very difficult and lengthy transportation process – by land or by sea – made decision-making in New York (or even Montreal where Astor had fur trade contacts) uncertain. Timely communication was impossible, and contributed to the mental state of McDougall and the other partners, as the company log shows. ¹⁸

Historians have pointed to two important consequences of the Astor operation, whatever its failures: (1) the role the settlement played in U.S. claims on the Pacific Coast; and (2) the discovery of a route which later became known as the Oregon Trail.¹⁹

The discovery of the mouth of the Columbia by Captain Gray in 1792 and the exploration by Lewis and Clark in 1805 were important, but needed to be followed by some kind of actual occupation by the nation or its people who claimed by right of discovery or of exploration. Despite the loss of occupancy by the sale to the Northwest Company (and the theoretical capture of Astoria by the British warship *Raccoon*), legal territorial right was offset by the formal restoration of possession to the United States on October 6, 1818. Astor's fur trade project created the first American settlement on the Pacific Coast of the country.²⁰

The second consequence of Astor's adventure was also one which could not be predicted when it took place. That was the overland journey of the second group, a party of six headed by Robert Stuart, traveling from Astoria to St. Louis between June 30, 1812, and April 30, 1813. The earlier overland journey, headed by Wilson Price Hunt, from St. Louis, April 21, 1811, to Astoria, May 11, 1812, had established a feasible route from the Mississippi to the Columbia, improving on the Lewis and Clark route. Stuart's journey to St. Louis improved on the overland route, traveling south of the Hunt party route. That route, with only three minor exceptions, became the route of the Oregon Trail. The two Astoria overland expeditions practically opened up the Oregon Trail, from the Missouri River (at the mouth of the Kansas River) to the mouth of the Columbia River.²¹

Such was the permanent legacy of the Astor venture.

(Endnotes)

1 John Denis Haeger, *John Jacob Astor: Business and Finance in the Early Republic*, *The Business History Review*, Vol. 66, No. 3 (Autumn, 1992): 576-578.

2 Kenneth Wiggins Porter, *John Jacob Astor* (Cambridge: Harvard University) 1931. Kenneth Porter was the author's thesis advisory in graduate school at the University of Oregon, 1959-1961. He wrote several books and articles on Astor and on the various fur companies Astor owned. He stressed the role of geography in fur trade competition between the two British companies (the North West Company and the Hudson's Bay Company) and Astor's two American companies (the Pacific Fur Company and the American Fur Company). In personal communication with the author, in 1960, he pointed out that Astor's success depended on stable political relations between

the U.S. and Britain and that the costly War of 1812, caused largely by War Hawks in the U.S. administration, ended any chance for long-term success by the Astor companies.

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5 Robert F. Jones, ed., *Annals of Astoria, The Headquarters Log of the Pacific Fur Company on the Columbia River* (New York: Fordham University Press) 1999.

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7 William R. Swagerty, *A View from the Bottom Up: The Work Force of the American Fur Company on the Upper Missouri in the 1830s*, *Montana: The Magazine of Western History*, Vol. 43, No. 1, *Fur Trade Issue* (Winter 1993): 18-33.

8 *List of People on the Columbia for winter 1813/1814*, in Jones 1999: 226-237.

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11 Jones 1999: xxiv.

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13 Russell 1967

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16 Gabriel Franchere, *Narrative of a Voyage to the Northwest Coast of America*

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18 Jones 1999: xxiv.

19 Frederick V. Holman, *Some Important Results from the Expeditions of John Jacob Astor to, and from the Oregon Country*, *The Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*, Vol. 12, No. 3 (September 1911): 206-219.

20 Holman 1911: 213.

21 Holman 1911: 215.

Extracts

Multnomah County, Oregon
Marriage Register Index 1911-1912

Extracted and Proofed by Marie Diers and Eileen Chamberlin

The index is sorted by the bride's surname. A copy of records from this and other Multnomah County Marriage Registers can be obtained in person or by mail. See details on the Genealogical Forum of Oregon website at GFO.org.

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Daly	Charles	Goodnight	H M	1912
Burns	Alban J	Gore	Hazel	1911
Steen	Wm J	Gormley	Mary Jane	1912
Johnson	W M	Gosso	Josie (Mrs)	1911
Moffet	Harold W	Green	Lenore	1911
Rosenbloom	Ben	Greenstein	Lona	1911
Strange	H T	Gregg	Vera E	1911
Tyler	Chas P	Gregory	Mae L (Mrs)	1911
Gray	M E	Greiffenstein	M Viola (Mrs)	1912
Bryant	J O	Grider	A J	1911
Dietrich	Roy O	Griff	Jennie	1912
Eaton	Frank	Griffin	Estella	1911
Higley	Clarence H	Griffith	Lillie	1911
Abbott	Arthur	Grills	Marie G	1912
Sandell	Geo	Griner	Laura	1911
Brown	Walter Edwin	Groshong	Pearl	1912
White	H H	Gross	Lena	1911
Aldeman	Hugh M	Grossenbacher	Lillian O	1911
Barlow	Albert E	Guiben	Anna S	1912
Caruzzi	Cyrus	Guick	Marie	1912
Varseth	Joseph	Gullicksen	Clara	1912
Tru	Herbert	Gullikson	Bertha M	1912
Gunderson	Chris D	Gunderson	Marie Olivia	1911
Anderson	John Calvin	Guth	Emma (Mrs)	1912
Boyce	Charles A	Guy	Clara	1911
Aaron	Benjamin Harvey	Haajsma	Louisa (Mrs)	1911
Feely	Patrick	Haas	Margaret C	1912
Smith	Marcel	Hadden	Georgia	1911
Reed	James	Hagan	Carrie	1911
Weinheimer	Jesse	Hagar	Lillian	1911
Craig	Myron	Hahn	Clara	1912
Gearin	Walter J	Hahn	Delia	1911
Basel	E J	Hale	Alice	1911
Hunt	George M	Hales	Alma E	1911
Gillette	Bruce E	Hall	Bessie L	1912
Preston	William	Hall	Nettie	1911
Tracy	John Russell	Hallabough	Helen M	1912

Multnomah Marriages Continued:

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Leslie	Francis Joseph	Hallmeyer	Louise	1912
Oldham	John F	Ham	Ethel F	1911
Hartman	George H G	Hamilton	Isabel Sarah	1912
Pedersen	Mathias	Hammer	Bertha	1911
Strickland	Jacob R	Hammond	Fay	1911
Hatch	W R	Hanneghan	Mary A	1912
Wade	Wiley H	Hansen	Josephine A	1911
Peterson	Karl	Hansen	Sofi	1911
Harris	Herbert Bert	Happersett	Eoline Faye	1912
Bruce	Robert	Harala	Minnie	1912
Bock	William P	Harming	Frances	1912
Ryan	Joe P	Harrigan	Katherine L	1912
Forrest	Robert L	Harriman	Josphine C	1912
Jones	Clement	Harrington	Fay	1911
Simpson	Lewis H	Harrison	Alvilda	1912
Burke	Vernon Wayne	Hart	Beulah C	1911
Berkland	G N	Hasting	Louise	1911
Damoschofsky	Louis	Hauser	Emma	1911
Samuelson	Louis	Hawkins	Agnes	1911
Fenner	Charles	Hawley	Blanche	1911
Michell	Eddy P	Hawley	Jennie L	1911
Fisher	Geo W	Hayes	Ossie	1911
Martin	John C	Haynes	Anna L	1912
Paquet	Gilbert	Headley	Jessie	1912
Brown	Dariel	Heath	Elnor	1911
Kingsbury	Frank	Heath	Stella	1912
Kunz	Albert	Heffren	Nellie	1912
Zorn	Jacob	Heigerson	Ethel	1912
Lundgren	Edward	Heizenreiter	Paulina	1912
Grindad	T H	Helfing	Mathilda L	1911
McMahan	John H	Helfrich	Julia	1912
Calavan	Roy L	Helvie	Esther	30 Feb 1912
McIntosh	David	Hendren	Lily	1912
Alden	Herbert O	Henning	Ella L	1912
Ford	Chas W	Henry	Beth	1911
Dressler	Philip	Herman	Barbara	1912
Miller	Douglas	Hermann	Frieda	1912
HumbleJ	A	Hermicks	Myrthe	1912
Moore	A Hascie	Herrick	Mary M	1911
Jones	Howard P	Hersey	Cora	1912
McCarthy	James Emmet	Hessemer	Minnie Gertrude	1911
Leonard	William Richard	Hexter	Hilda	1912
Wilson	Clifford Percival	Hickman	Lola Epsy	1911
Weaver	Charles	Hicks	Ada	1911
Prigge	John Henry	Higgins	Mary Ella	1911

Multnomah Marriages Continued:

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Steinberg	O F	Higham	Mary E	1912
Loveland	Charles C	Hile	Clara	1912
Kelly	Chas R	Hill	Jennie L	1911
Wikstrom	A Edward	Hill	Mildred	1911
Chard	Phil	Hiltenger	Mildred	1911
Grant	Edwin Walter	Hinkston	Mary Esther (Mrs)	1912
VanDusen	A R	Hislop	Hazel	1911
Kestly	G J	Hoaglin	Opal	1912
Culbertson	Roscoe	Hodges	Grace	1911
Jacobson	Julius Lund	Hodneland	Elise Marie	1911
Rosenthal	Irving Washington	Hoffman	Louis Belle	1912
Pfeifer	Fred	Hohnstein	Nora	1911
Rohlman	Rudolph N	Holden	Lilly	1911
Schulenberg	Carl	Holden	Lydia	1911
Winner	Aaron D	Holland	Lena	1912
Michaud	Ed A	Holmes	Helen	1911
McMicken	Andrew Craig	Holmes	Vivian Anita	1911
Stone	Albert H	Holmquist	Sophia	1911
Duke	H A	Holt	Emma	1911
Abrahams	Griffith E	Holt	Helen H	1911
Wikander	Gustavus A	Homan	Caroline	1912
Chamberlin	J F	Homan	Margueritte	1912
Black	Leon E	Hommerl	Cecelia	1911
Lightfoot	Jesse M	Hood	Minnie M	1911
Letsinger	Joe	Hopkins	Grace	1911
Charles	L W	Hopkins	Margaret	1912
Wagner	Christ	Hopkins	Minnie	1911
Hilson	Isaac	Horn	Pearl R	1912
Dixon	Nels	Houghton	Laura	1911
Motz	Herman	Hovert	Emma	1911
Butts	Marshall	Howard	Mabel	1911
Ryan	Edward W	Howard	Martha	1912
Huegel	Herman	Howard	Myrtle (Mrs)	1911
Cason	D J	Howe	E Florence	1911
Archambeau	W L	Howe	Hattie C	1911
Warren	George Merrill	Howell	Edith Grace	1912
Ostgard	Edmond	Hoyt	Bernice	1911
Walker	Archie E	Hoyt	Enid M	1911
Jones	Charles V H	Hubbard	Harriet Ermine	1911
Martin	Frank Roundtree	Hubbard	Rosa	1912
Emry	Geo L	Hudson	Mattie C	1912

Multnomah Marriages Continued:

Groom Surname	Groom Given	Bride Surname	Bride Given	Marriage Year
Woods	Jesse F	Hufford	Bessie K	1911
Atkins	Ora E	Hughes	Laura	1911
Fontana	Joe	Hughes	Mary	1912
Welsh	Edward L	Hull	Lida B	1911
Shaw	Herbert F	Humphrey	Gallatia V	1911
Bird	Walter G	Hurley	Maurine	1911
Richardson	Leslie Kirk	Hutchins	Roseella Marie	1911
Reed	Albert J	Ingles	Dora A	1912
Melins	Clyde	Ingles	Marguerite	1912
Farquhar	David B	Ingram	Rosie	1911
Rossiter	Ben	Ireland	Floy E	1911
Hines	Thomas A	Jackson	Anne May	1911
Jensen	J C	Jacobsen	Marie	1911
Smith	Chas	Jacomb	Lucy	1911
Moll	Chas H	James	Elizabeth M	1911
Kaiser	V	James	Hazel May	1911
Bowen	G A	Jane	A M	1912
Seese	P A	Jaqueron	Stella	1911
Alho	Arvi	Jarvi	Lena	1911
Cossar	Hiram E	Jarvis	Ellen M	1911
Summers	J E	Jefferson	Bernice L	1912
Smith	Frank L	Jeffords	Mabel D	1912
Fahl	Christian J C	Jensen	Lorine E	1911
Lawrence	Bert A	Jessup	Lillie M	1911
Coss	Wilbur J	Jewett	Dorothy	1912
Lacanale	Paolo	Jezzi	Christina	1911
Mickelson	James A	Johanson	Thelma	1912
Morrow	Edward O	Johnson	Alice B	1911
Oliva	Bernard J	Johnson	Amalia C	1912
Gray	George C	Johnson	Anna	1911
Erickson	Andrew S	Johnson	Annie Mary	1911
Parratt	C W	Johnson	Bergethe	1911
Johnson	John	Johnson	Christie	1912
Amacker	Caspar Geo	Johnson	Clarice	1912
Ferguson	James C	Johnson	Edith Alberta	1911
Brooks	Francis Marian	Johnson	Elsie Josephine	1912
Driscoll	J J	Johnson	Emma	1912
Hogue	Edwin	Johnson	Freda N	1912
Johnson	Frank	Johnson	Hilda	1911
Gregory	Joe	Johnson	Hilda P	1912
Sievertson	Andy	Johnson	Ina	1912
King	J H	Johnson	Johanna M	1912
Kettle	William W	Johnson	Marie	1911

to be continued

Book Reviews

Kay Atwood. *Chaining Oregon: Surveying the Public Lands of the Pacific Northwest, 1851- 1855*, 264 pg., 2008. The McDonald and Woodward Publishing Company, Blacksburg, Virginia.

Audience: All researchers and genealogists in the N.W. who have reason to research in the Donation Land Claims.

Purpose: To shed light on the work done for the Donation Land Claims.

Author's qualifications: Kay Atwood is an Ashland, Oregon resident who has worked in the Historical Society there and produced several books on the history of the area.

Content: The story of the earliest crews who set out in the early 1850's to "measure out" the land of the Willamette Valley and environs which were rapidly being settled by the onslaught to Oregon Country. It covers the years from 1851 to 1855 in which men such as the Ives brothers, William and Butler, James Freeman, George McFall and John Preston were working on the "chaining." All were using Oregon City as a business base. The first contract issued was "to faithfully survey the Willamette Meridian from its intersection with the Baseline south to the Umpquah Valley." And, a second contract was awarded to William Ives to run the Baseline with its intersection with the Willamette Meridian west to the Pacific and East to the summit of the Cascade Range of Mts. and also to run the Willamette meridian north of the Baseline to Puget Sound. And thus, the measuring out of 66 feet lengths (a chain) was recorded by the number of chains, or "chained."

Organization: The book is organized chronologically, following the surveyors in the order that they completed their work. The work, the camping and the measuring through rain and snow, and through swamp and steep cruddy hillside are all described. Through thick and thin the chaining crews went...chain by chain! The crews persisted, the "chaining" proceeded until the whole valley of the Willamette and its tributaries was measured. The story of each man's role in getting the measuring done is included. We now have a good account of how and why we have the Donation Land Claims on record. This is a fascinating read!
EAW

The following reviews are for four versions of the publications of *Genealogy at a glance*, by Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2011. These are just the beginning of what will become a collection

of handy reference guides for genealogy researchers. Orders may be sent to 3600 Clipper Mill Rd., Suite 260, Baltimore, MD 21211-1953. Website: www.genealogical.com or phone 1-800-296-6687.

Price of each *Genealogy at a glance* publication is \$8.95 plus shipping & handling

Paul Milner, Genealogy at a glance, English Genealogy Research, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2011.

Audience: The people most interested in this guide to English research will be those who have ancestors who emigrated from England, but the information is also valuable for those whose families lived in England.

Purpose: It is an important tool in understanding the process of doing genealogical research in England and Wales.

Author's qualifications: A professional genealogist and lecturer, Paul specializes in British Isles and U.S. research. Born and raised in northern England, he settled in the United States in 1975. He is a nationally recognized speaker for British Isles research and migration. Paul is co-author of *A Genealogists Guide to Discovering your English Ancestors* and *A Genealogists Guide to Discovering your Scottish Ancestors*.

Writing Style: The formatting of the information is easy to follow.

Organization: On the first page you will find Contents, Quick Facts, English Emigration Background, which includes information on Passenger Lists; and Unlocking English Family History, which includes the topics of Locations, Surnames, Paleography, and Dates. On pages 2-3 is the section of Basic Record Sources, which includes Civil Registration, Parish Registers, Diocesan Records, Probate Records and Census Returns.

The final page has sections covering Supplementary Sources that include Printed Sources, Archives, Libraries, and Societies; and Major Online Resources, which include Commercial Websites and Free Websites.

Accuracy: The information appears to be well researched. As with any Internet information some of the material may change over time, but hopefully one can use this resource to locate the websites that are mentioned.

Conclusion: Understanding the significant differences between United States and English records is critical to researching ancestors in England and Wales. This *Genealogy at a glance* is a wonderful tool, which the author developed from years of research in these types of records. Knowing when the types of records were kept, the details they include, and by whom they were maintained are key pieces of information. The

information on census records is very helpful. For any personal research in English Genealogy this guide is an essential tool.

Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, CG, MFA, Genealogy at a glance, Immigration Research, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2011.

Audience: This *Genealogy at a glance* was written for those of us trying to establish the arrival of our immigrant ancestors in the United States and to gain further information about their place of origin.

Purpose: It is a guide for use in helping to establish the dates and places of their arrival and other information found in their immigration records. The guide is a concise compilation of materials and resources for every stage of this research.

Author's qualifications: Sharon specializes in helping others write and publish their family histories, memoirs, or other nonfiction works. She has a Master of Fine Arts degree in Creative Nonfiction Writing and has 20+ years experience in writing and publishing. She specializes in Emigration & Immigration, Irish American and Italian American research. A companion book she published in 2005 is *The Family Tree Guide to Finding Your Ellis Island Ancestors*.

Writing Style: The formatting of the information is easy to follow.

Organization: On the first page you will find Contents, Quick Facts and Important Dates, and Immigration History Background, which includes information on Migration Factors and Immigration by Time Period. On the second page there are Chain Migration, Ports of Arrivals, What You Need to Know to Begin, Determining Your Ancestor's Time of Arrival, which includes information on Federal Census Records. Page three has information on Passenger Arrival Lists Pre-1920, 1820-ca. 1891, ca. 1891-1950s, and then Passenger Arrival Lists Online. On page four is information on Microfilmed Indexes and Lists, and Naturalization Records. Additional references and tips are found within the various sections.

Accuracy: The information appears to be well researched. As with any Internet information some of the material may change over time, but hopefully one can use this resource to locate the websites that are mentioned.

Conclusion: This guide provides a basic understanding of immigration to the United States. It explains the ports of arrival and what you need to know to begin searching for your ancestor's records. Understanding the connections to census and naturalization records is important for this research. Then there is information about the passenger

records and where they might be found.

Carol McGinnis, *Genealogy at a glance, Michigan Genealogy Research*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2011.

Audience: This easy-to-use tool is for people who are doing genealogy research in the state of Michigan.

Purpose: The publication was created to assist those researching in Michigan and contains four pages of vital information about researching in this state. It is designed to be an easy-to-carry collection of references for fast lookups when one is researching.

Author's qualifications: Carol is an expert in Michigan research. She has written a companion book, *Michigan Genealogy: Sources and Resources*, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2005.

Writing Style: The formatting of the information is easy to follow.

Organization: On the first page you will find Contents, Quick Facts, and Settlement Background. The Settlement Background section includes the Ancestry of Michigan's Settlers and The Canadian Connection. The next section is Record Sources, which includes Vital Records, Church Records, Cemetery Records, Land Records, and Military Records. Census Returns is the third section and includes information on territorial and state census records. The last page includes the section Supplementary Sources, which includes County Histories and Indexes and Newspapers and Obituaries. Then there are sections for Major Repositories and Online Resources. Throughout the sections there are included tips and additional references for further reading on the topics, which are very specific to Michigan research.

Accuracy: The information appears to be well researched. As with any Internet information some of the material may change over time, but hopefully one can use this resource to locate the websites that are mentioned.

Conclusion: The *Genealogy at a glance* guide for research in Michigan is a very useful tool, with a wealth of information and connections that were gleaned by the author and published in an effort to point the way to important resources for finding ancestors who lived in this state.

Craig R. Scott, CG, Genealogy at a glance, Revolutionary War Genealogy Research, Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., Baltimore, Maryland, 2011.

Audience: This guide will be of interest to those researching their ancestors who fought or participated in the Revolutionary War from 1775 to 1783.

Purpose: The information is provided to assist researchers in locating records sources that apply to their ancestors.

Author's qualifications: Craig R. Scott, CG, is President and CEO of Heritage Books, Inc. His specialty is working in the National Archives Records. He has worked as a researcher for about twenty-six years, and enjoys problem solving and working as a publisher.

Writing Style: The formatting of the information is easy to follow.

Organization: On the first page you will find Contents, Quick Facts, and the sections Finding A Revolutionary War Soldier and Major Record Sources. The record sources covered are Lineage Societies both Daughters of the American Revolution and Sons of the American Revolution. This is followed by Pension Records, which includes information on Pension Lists and Pension Office Ledgers. Next, he covers Compiled Military Service Records. Under Other Record Sources he includes information on Muster Rolls with the topics of Military Units, Militia, State Troops, Continental Troops, with further references on these topics; Settled Accounts; Bounty Land; Manuscript Collections; Loyalist Records; and Federal Census Records. The last section covers Online Resources.

Accuracy: The information appears to be well researched. As with any Internet information some of the material may change over time, but hopefully one can use this resource to locate the websites that are mentioned.

Conclusion: Mr. Scott has provided a vast amount of information in these four pages. He shares a wealth of knowledge he gained over many years. This is a topic I am well acquainted with, and he includes many exceptional references and websites. If you are researching ancestors who were living at this time, this guide is a must read resource.

SL

Raymond S. Wright III (on cover), plus Nathan S. Rives, Mirjam J. Kirkham, and Saskia Schier Bunting (inside cover). Ancestors in German Archives: A Guide to Family History Sources, Genealogical Publishing Company (GPC), 3600 Clipper Mill Rd., Suite 26, Baltimore, Maryland 21211-1953, 2004(?). No. of Volumes: 2 (will be called "books" in the review). Edition 1. No. Pages: 1,198. Copyright: The Raymond S. Wright III and Jo Ellen Wright Family

Audience: Researchers looking for the place from which immigrant ancestors came from in Germany.

Purpose: The mission of the Germany Immigrant Ancestors Project (GIAP) started in 1996 by Brigham

Young University (BYU) "...was to identify the records of German emigrants and use these records to create Internet-accessible databases describing emigrants' birthplaces, occupations, spouses, and children. Researchers can learn the details of this project at <http://immigrants.byu.edu>. This book stems from information gathered in the initial phases of this mammoth project."

Author's Qualifications: The main author appears to be a member of the BYU community and was Director of the Family History Library in Salt Lake City when these books were published. The other authors were recent participants in the project. BYU staff, with support from several classes of students from 1996 to 2004, was actively involved. The other authors listed were the most recent student participants in the research. Listed separately are six student translators who were most recent project participants. "Since the project began in 1996, dozens of Brigham Young University students have helped compile, and translate reports about records in German archives."

Content: The content is very highly structured. There are twelve categories of records that were requested from some 2,000 individual archives. Interestingly, the dorfs and nearby towns where the reviewer's ancestors lived are not included in the list of any of the archives. There was initial contact with all the archives, followed-up later after review of paper results, review of Internet sources under the archive name, then final copy sent to each archive for their approval before inclusion in the list of 2,000 repositories. If the origin of one's ancestors in Germany were already known, this book would be of great help in identifying the correct repository to look in. However, in this reviewer's experience, one must go to another source to be able to locate the precise name of the governmental/church agencies which might have resources for that time period in the area in which ones ancestors lived.

Writing Style: The template developed for the details in the book preclude any open writing. Explanatory paragraphs are used when necessary to provide significant points about any locality. Even though the material was originally reported to the study group in German, the translators at BYU were able to create an English readable text for each of the 2,000 individual archives.

Organization: The book is arranged alphabetically by geographic location within the greater German region. There are two beginning maps, which describe the region in the 18th century with another map of current boundaries of the federal states. Maps followed by governmental and church archive localities are organized alphabetically within each larger jurisdiction. Maps contain "state" and

“city” boundaries for today within each state. The titles for approximately twelve separate categories of record type for each locality are listed whether or not there is any information for the record type. The result is a lot of white space in the book. If the authors had eliminated the subtitles for each archive when nothing was available, there might have been need for perhaps two smaller volumes. It appears as if all the 2,000 localities do have contact information listed. If one can find the locality where one’s ancestor lived by another source, that locality could be contacted efficiently with the contact information in these books.

Indexes: There are two indexes. One is for the archives. It lists the archive name and page to be located. The other is for localities in Germany and where they are mentioned in the archives lists. As the reviewer indicated above, none of the small villages and towns from which his ancestors emigrated in either the Eifel or in northeastern Bavaria is listed. Neither are the nearby larger communities. Yet, the reviewer has obtained records from many of the small towns by using older published helping tools such as “Atlantic Bridge to Germany” by Charles M. Hall. The Hall books could be used as an index to the two volumes under review. Internet access today is very helpful. One can enter just a locality name in some websites and the locality will pop up with accessory images.

Conclusion: Unfortunately, this two-volume publication is not a primary resource until it is linked to other sources that can detail where a specific locality in Germany can be located. Even when originally published in 2004, it lagged behind Internet and LDS sources for instructions in locating specific places. The books require a person to know where their ancestor lived to be able to determine the resources available there. The material in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (LDS) FamilySearch collection appears to be available for most communities in Germany where the LDS cameras traveled many years ago. The search engine in that data set has been very productive for the reviewer. Even though one has to order microfilm to see the images of the records being searched, this is probably as swift as trying to sort out where to write and what questions to ask at the site chosen in these books.

The authors tell us the basis for these books was the GIAP. When investigating this project on line, it appears that it is still in process of development. There appear to be several other language groups for which this project is directed. None of them are yet available to the general researcher. The overall goal is to have images of the records referenced in these two books translated,

digitized, and made available on an Internet database. The relationship to all the other activity in which the LDS are involved is not described in the books or on the GIAB web site. This appears to be a duplication of effort to several other databases being developed by the LDS. Perhaps they will all be combined sometime in the future.

It appears that the books were published so there is a road map for the project managers at BYU to use to assign volunteers to do the translation and digitizing. How long it will take to complete the GIAP is not given in the books or on the Internet. These are not handy books for the general researcher to use. Perhaps the authors never intended that.

GSL

Robert D. Stockton. Descendants of Robert Stockton of Pennsylvania, Bob Stockton Emporia, Kansas, Mennonite Press, Inc., Newton, KS 67114, 2011, 339 pages.

Audience and Purpose: Stockton family descendants. “...this project has evolved into something more than a story to tell the grandchildren. [It is] written with statements, with citations, so that future researchers may verify the data and support or revise the assumptions made. The intent has been to summarize what is currently known and to make logical assumptions thereof. Hopefully, this may become a research tool for others to build on. Soon, other sources will be made available for family study, such as U.S. Census reports of 1940 and later, to the benefit of further research.”

Author’s Qualifications: The author does not list specific qualifications to be an author. His education and professional history indicate an ability to write. He gives no examples of prior writing skills or publications. However, in this publication, he has demonstrated considerable skill in organization and writing. He has done considerable research in tracing his Y-DNA through Family Tree DNA. (He describes his own as MyDNA).

Content: This is a very well executed research publication. The author has sought out any significant references that might add to the information and knowledge of specific individuals and family groups. His “Contents” page gives good indication of what to expect in the book. There’s a List of Figures, Executive Summary, Preface, Introduction, A traditional Ancestry of the Stocktons of Pennsylvania, A Scottish Connection, A Finnish Connection (this is a fascinating study and proposed solution), an Appendix (with many recognitions of contributors), a Bibliography, and an extensive Index of Individuals in the book.

Writing Style: The writing style is extremely interesting. He uses many declarative and interrogative sentences. Many ideas start with prepositional phrases. The historical section follows the chronology of time. He makes extensive use of other historians in the specific periods being studied. There are several published works about the Stockton family. He then researches records for the same periods to augment the family histories. He recognizes there is some misinformation and conflicting data that need to be identified and for which conclusions should be drawn. He does propose solutions for these problems if possible. There are copious footnotes for each section in the Contents. In total, there must be more than several thousand footnotes. There are 1183 footnotes alone in the “Genealogy Report Descendants of Robert Stockton.” This section contains 144 pages.

Organization: The material in the book is very compartmentalized.

A main section, “Stocktons of Pennsylvania (A Traditional Ancestry)” contains a narrative description of eight individual generations from Robert Stockton who died in 1747 to Frank W. Stockton who died in 1983. These are the direct line ancestors to the author, Robert D. Stockton. Each generation includes an overview of existing research materials with some reference to vital records. This is followed by a brief biography, list of children, and patterns of migration, church affiliation, participation in local government, and military service. Each generation is followed by a list of works cited and footnotes.

Another section, “A Scottish Connection (A View of History),” describes the migration of Scotch-Irish from Scotland to Pennsylvania. It is not definitely known when the ancestor in the book title came to the New World. A proposition is made for the time of his arrival based on the history of the people from Ulster and Scotland.

The DNA section “A Finnish Connection (A yDNA Study)” proposes that the Stocktons are descended from a Finnish ancestor. A researcher for the Haplogroup H11 estimates the origin of this type of Most Recent Common Ancestor as about 3,000 years ago. The author claims over 175 individuals in the MyDNA Cousins family using the 12-marker comparison. He created correspondence with most of these people to determine the origin of each known family. His results were plotted on a map to illustrate them. “The cluster of symbols on the map of northern Europe, on the Gulf of Bothnia, in the vicinity of Vaasa, Finland, is of special significance to the author. This may indicate the origin of the ancestral family home. This is the only cluster of symbols representing MDA on the global map.” This may represent where the ancestors

of Stockton came as Vikings to the west coast of Great Britain.

Intermediate chapters: Stockton describes some conflicts between different authors about the history of Robert and Mary Stockton both of whom died in 1747. He gives his brief biography, and lists two pages of other contributors to the author’s work.

The standard Register System is used to describe a “Genealogy Report Descendants of Robert Stockton.” He uses 143 pages for this section. Congratulations to the author for doing this. Far too many family histories are found with some system created solely by the authors. The Register System makes it easy to follow and return back when reading the report. He follows several descendant generations for some of the children of the immigrant couple. This reviewer did not check to see that ALL descendants have been counted. But, there are several families in each generation with their descendants. Most are carried forward to the 20th century. This is the section with 1183 citations, notes, and footnotes.

The Bibliography contains many different kinds of references; Internet, paper publications, newspapers, official documents, and interviews.

There is a 36-page index to surnames. There are both given names, if known, and married names for women. This reviewer saw several Herrick’s who married into the Stockton family. None of them are in the Herrick family of the reviewer.

Accuracy: This is a highly organized work. Any time there is a question, the author identifies it and proposes a solution. There were very few items for which conclusions were not drawn. The several thousand footnotes attest to the author’s attention to detail. No doubt, this leads to a minimal number of errors.

Conclusion: This is a very valuable book for anyone working with the Robert Stockton Family from Scotland to Pennsylvania. The copious references help any researcher branch out to companion resources to work on collateral lines. There are many collateral lines and they can be found in the index. Stockton proposes that the ancestors of his family originated in Finland and migrated to France to England to Scotland to Ireland and finally to Pennsylvania.

As Robert D. Stockton says in his Conclusion: “The Most Recent Common Ancestor of MyDNA Cousins lived on the north-western coast of Finland sometime in the first millennium, say about 500 to 700 A.D. “

“The question remains: How did the ancestors of Robert Stockton migrate from Finland about 700 A.D. to Pennsylvania in 1700 A.D.?”

GSL

In Memoriam

Jay Balfour

March 09, 1916--Oct. 31, 2011

Jay Marvin Balfour, who served in the U.S. Navy for 30 years, died Oct. 31, 2011, of complications from Alzheimer's disease. He was 95. Jay was born March 9, 1916, in Fremont, Neb., to Marvin W. and Libby Sarah Clark Balfour. He was the fifth of six children. His family lived in Montana and Idaho and he graduated from Caldwell (Idaho) High School in 1934, the same year he joined the Navy. He retired from the Navy in 1964 as a Chief Warrant Officer-4 (machinist), and then moved to Hillsboro. Jay graduated in 1971 from Portland State University with a degree in social sciences and a teaching certificate. He substituted in Washington County schools for about six years. In 1985, Jay moved to Vancouver, Wash. On Sept. 3, 1944, he married Gyneth Susan Ingalls of Centralia, Wash. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Susan; daughter, Janet Cleaveland (David) of Vancouver; son, Clark Balfour (Mary Beth) of Sherwood; and grandsons, the Rev. Raymond Cleaveland of Seattle, John Cleaveland of Vancouver, Ruben Cleaveland (Sheri) of Hood River, and David Balfour, Michael Balfour and Joseph Balfour, all of Sherwood.

Jay was a volunteer for the Genealogical Forum of Oregon and was honored with a life membership. He was a member of Lewis & Clark Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution in Beaverton. He also belonged to Sons of the Revolution; the Point Defiance Masonic Lodge in Tacoma; the Military Order of the Loyal Legion of the United States; Scottish Rite in Oakland, Calif.; and St. Joseph Catholic Church in Vancouver. His highest military honor was the Bronze Star. Remembrances to Hospice Southwest, P.O. Box 1600, Vancouver, WA 98663 or a charity of choice

GFO NOTES: Jay and Gyneth Susan, Sue, were the printers for the Forum for many years. They ran the old offset press in the Neighbors of Woodcraft Building when I first met them. She always had a big smile on her face. I remember that Sue always had a tidy/neat sack lunch ready for them to take a break. Jay was a very good genealogy researcher. I don't remember whether we have his ancestry charts at the Forum. I hope so. He had gone back a long way on several ancestral lines.

Sue, Jay and another person, indexed the Hillsboro Argus when they lived in that area. Connie made a copy of the huge index for herself and gave a copy to the Forum. Both Jay and Sue helped at all the seminars, open houses and spring events for many years. They were wonderful company and very good conversationalists. He was very proud, and humble at the same time, of having gone back to college and picking up a degree at Portland State University when he was in his fifties. It is very sad that he died of Alzheimer's disease. He deserved better than that. This couple was in complete support in everything the Forum did. They were honored with the Hall of Fame award by our group. (Gerry Lenzen)

They are/were the geniuses behind the Bulletin. From mimeo to Linda to Doris, they fixed all my mistakes. Sue even corrected the mimeo. The proof-reading of mimeo was impossible for me because of the smell. Jay did all the printing even when he had so much leg problems. I might have been one of the few who knew. (Ruth Bishop)

Jay and Sue were stalwarts of the Forum in the 70s and on when they were the printers of the Bulletin. Both great people, I will miss Jay. (Judy Goldmann)

I worked with Sue and Jay way back in the day. It is true that they did take care of the Bulletin. My job was to type (on a typewriter) all the mailing labels for each member. I kept them in a book and when it was time to mail the bulletin, Sue and Jay would swing by my house to pick up the labels. I was a stay at home mom with a little baby and Sue had found a way for me to be involved from home. They were wonderful for GFO and Jay will be missed. (Patti Waitman-Ingebretsen)

Jay and Sue were very active at the Forum when Imogene McConnell and Ellen Benedict were. I remember taking Ellen Benedict to their 50th wedding anniversary celebration, which was a lovely event. Jay and Sue were active in SAR and DAR and were very supportive of C.A.R. They were the friendliest, best kind of people. (Mae Vasey Huston)

In Memoriam

Sybil V. Plumlee

Jan 1912-Jan 2012

We say goodbye to GFO member Sybil V. Plumlee, who reached her 100th birthday in early January. Some of you might remember that she entered one of the first Writing Contests held in our group, circa 2004, and was one of the winners.

According to the Oregonian article of January 13, 2012, she was reported by her family to be the oldest living former police officer. She had worked at the bureau from 1947 to 1967, and was one of the women credited with paving the way for a generation. The article also went on to say that women were segregated from male officers and assigned them to the Women's Protective Division. Women didn't wear uniforms and handled crimes not usually talked about—rape, domestic violence and child abuse.

It was reported that when her son told his friends she was a lady policeman and they seemed skeptical, she'd ask to see their hand, do a judo maneuver and pushed them to the floor. Her son reported that it was necessary that she be the breadwinner in her family as she divorced her first husband in 1944, and her 2nd husband who had served in WW2, suffered something like Post Trauma Stress Disorder, and didn't work steady.

Our sympathy goes out to her family.

The following are corrections to the article, "*The Moehnke Family Moves to the New World*", published in the Bulletin, Vol. 60, No. 4, June 2011

1. Name of co-author listed as Marian Bluhm Martinsen, the name is Marian Bluhm Martenson.
2. The birth of Louise Moehnke listed as May 14, 1837; the date is May 14, 1836.
3. Louise Moehnke and Michael Schwertz children include Augusta Grossmueller, Mary Schwiehienberg, John David, Fredrick C. (Fritz) and Joseph Walter.
4. Justine Mohnke and Fred Heft had only the four children listed, not six.
5. Christena Moehnke was only married once to Fredrick (Fritz) Bluhm.
6. John Heft and Mary Moehnke second son was not Carl, but Earl.



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