



The Bulletin

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Finding Lynn's Biological Great-Grandmother: A Case Study in Genetic Genealogy



RUSSELL D. FRANCIS

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CALL FOR ARTICLES

The Bulletin Editorial Group invites readers to submit articles to *The Bulletin*. We look for articles that are of interest to members of the GFO and those that encourage the sharing and research of family history. Possibilities include but are not limited to:

- memoirs and personal essays
- research articles and source guides
- how-to articles
- problem-solving articles
- articles on family history travel
- using technology

We also welcome book reviews, transcriptions or extractions from original sources, and posts from your blog. You are encouraged to attach photographs or other graphics.

Send submissions to bulletin@gfo.org. You may request a current "Instructions and Guidelines" by contacting us in writing or at the email address above. The information is also available at gfo.org/learn/our-publications/gfo-bulletin.html.

Deadlines for submission to *The Bulletin*:

March issue: January 1

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On the Cover: Mary Emma Kendall McGuire (Lynn’s great-grandmother), undated photo courtesy of family.

Letter from the Editor

The written word. Lately, I've spent some time pondering this simple but monumental concept.

I have very clear memories of learning to read and write. The ability to record information that can be shared with others is magical and so incredibly powerful—and yet so simple. We write to communicate ideas, share feelings, preserve memories and traditions, and remember what to get at the store on our next shopping trip.

We take the written word for granted.

As genealogists, where would we be without writing? How would we discover our ancestors, their lives and stories? There would be no censuses, passenger lists, or vital records. No papers to chase or documents to find. Those discoveries we love to make wouldn't exist.

The authors who contribute to *The Bulletin* are making a difference. They are using the written word to instruct and inform. They are sharing their knowledge and stories of discovery to help others.

Lynn Francis had no idea who her great-grandmother was, and there were no direct written records to be found. Lynn's husband, Russell Francis, takes us step-by-step through the process of identifying Lynn's ancestor as DNA, indirect records, and communication with others were used to uncover the secret of the great-grandmother's identity.

Nanci Remington informs readers how they may find letters written by or about their ancestors in her Tools column, inspired by two of the articles in this issue: a Civil War letter, found in the GFO Manuscripts

Collection, provides a vivid description of the Battle of Corinth; and Mark Grafe documents the suicides of two relations using a letter in his personal collection.

We wrap up our year-long series on the influenza epidemic of 1918-1919 with the story of Anna Engel by Janice Handsaker, while David Witter provides some statistics which explain why this pandemic was so significant.

Cheri Emahiser gives us part two of her fascinating story, "Finding Margaret," and Charles Erickson shares the conclusion of the "Woodbury Chronicles." Prolific author and compiler David Dobson is profiled as we provide reviews for five of his books.

The written word matters. Whether a historical document, a transcription, a letter, an index, or an article for *The Bulletin*—they all matter as we strive to discover and preserve our ancestors and their shared history. Where would we be without them?

Thoughtfully, Laurel Smith

P.S. As we bid 2018 goodbye, I'd like to use my words to thank GFO members for their generosity, volunteerism, and loyal support. Thank you to all contributors to *The Bulletin*, from authors to proofreaders. I'd like to wish you all a wonderful holiday season. I hope that whatever your beliefs, you have a Wonderful Winter Solstice, Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy Hanukkah, and the very best New Year—filled with the genealogy discoveries that bind us all together.



Finding Lynn's Biological Great-Grandmother:

A Case Study in Genetic Genealogy

Russell D. Francis

Many genealogists have had to climb the dreaded “brick wall,” but few have had to deal with a completely missing branch because of an adoption where there are no adoption records, no birth certificate, no living immediate family members, and no idea of the biological parents’ locations, names, or history.

The family tree of my wife, Lynn Francis, is fairly well documented going back several generations. But there was one branch we were not able to complete due to an undocumented adoption. This is the story of how we found Lynn’s great-grandmother solely through autosomal DNA.

STARTING WITH A DEAD END

Through online and family records, we were able to find most of Lynn’s ancestors several generations back, but there was one branch with a dead end. Lynn’s maternal grandmother, Olivia June Bowne, was adopted in St. Louis, Missouri, around 1905. We had the names of her adoptive parents, Samuel and Mary Bowne, her brother Charlie, who was also adopted, and her birth date in 1902, but that was all we knew. Family lore states that when the Bownes adopted Olivia June, they also decided to take home Charlie, who was slightly younger but not related. We had absolutely no idea who Olivia June’s biological parents were.

Searching on Ancestry, we found Samuel Bowne listed in the 1903 St. Louis, Missouri, city directory.¹ In the 1908 city directory, Mary Bowne was listed as his widow.² To date, no record of Samuel’s death has been found. A Social Security application and claim record for Olivia June listed her parents as Samuel Bowne and Mary C. Edmonds.³



Lynn Francis, photo 1996

In the 1910 U.S. Census for Pleasant, Garfield County, Washington, we found Mary Bowne, age 48, listed as a servant for a Canadian gentleman, Stewart Vallen, along with her adopted children Olivia June, age eight, and Charlie, age seven.⁴ It indicated she was widowed and had no children of her own. The census stated both Olivia June’s and Charlie’s birthplace as Missouri, and that they were boarders.

The 1920 U.S. Census for Toutle, Cowlitz County, Washington, found Olivia June, age 18, as the wife of Walter Hankins, Lynn’s grandfather.⁵ The census listed both Olivia June and her parents’ birthplace as Missouri.

So, at this point, we know when Olivia June was born, who her adoptive parents were, approximately when she moved from St. Louis to Washington, and when she married Lynn’s grandfather, Walter Hankins. But we still had no idea what her birth name was, when she was adopted, where she was born, or the identity of her biological parents. These were the questions we set out to answer.

1. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989; [Ancestry.com](#). St. Louis, Missouri, 1903: image 130 of 1382, p. 253 of *Gould's Saint Louis Directory for 1903*.

2. U.S. City Directories, 1821-1989; [Ancestry.com](#). St. Louis, Missouri, 1908: image 117 of 1025, p. 242 of *Gould's Saint Louis Directory for 1908* (title page missing).

3. U.S. Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007; [Ancestry.com](#), 2015.

4. 1910 U.S. Census, Pleasant, Garfield, Washington, p. 17B, Olivia Bowne; digital image, [Ancestry.com](#) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T624_1654, FHL microfilm 1375667.

5. 1920 U.S. Census, Toutle, Cowlitz, Washington, p. 1B, Olivia Hankins; digital image, [Ancestry.com](#) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T625_1920.



Mary Joann Hankins (Lynn's mom), photo 1953

One possibility we had to consider was that there were numerous orphan trains coming to St. Louis around that time. Lynn's grandmother could have been born anywhere and brought to St. Louis on an orphan train. Missouri has strict laws when it comes to adoptee identification, but prior to 1917, St. Louis adoption records were maintained by the Recorder of Deeds. Pre-1917 St. Louis City Deeds of Adoption are public records and are recorded with property transactions in land record deed books. But according to the St. Louis City Recorder's website, "when recorded, a Deed of Adoption was indexed by date of recording not date of deed."⁶ In other words, it could be that a 1902 Deed of Adoption will be found in a 1950 Land Deeds Index. When we contacted the St. Louis Recorder of Deeds, they were able to find a record of adoption for Olivia June's adopted brother Charlie. Charlie was adopted in August of 1903 for the consideration of one dollar. His biological mother was Grace Landwich of Youngstown, Illinois. Samuel and Mary Bowne of St. Louis were the adopters.⁷ The St. Louis Recorder of Deeds was not able to find any records for Olivia June. Curiously enough, the 1910 U.S. Census indicates Charlie's parents' birthplace

as Illinois, while listing Olivia June's parents' birthplace as the United States. We began to wonder if she really was adopted in St. Louis.

DNA REVELATIONS

We figured the best chance for answering these questions would be through DNA. Lynn took the AncestryDNA test in August of 2016. As you might expect, after a few weeks, we found a lot of third and fourth cousin matches. But the matches by themselves were not going to identify her biological great-grandparents if we didn't even know their names.

We first eliminated cousins who were not on Lynn's mother's side of the family, but the remaining matches weren't going to help us unless we had some idea of what Lynn's biological great-grandparents' tree looked like.

One thing that would improve our chances would be to get Lynn's mother's DNA. Her mother is in a memory care facility with moderate dementia, so we were not sure we would be able to get her to take a test. Spitting in a tube was out, but on a pre-Christmas visit in December of 2016, Lynn was able to get a swab of her mother's DNA with her cooperation and send it off to Family Tree DNA (FTDNA).

When we received the test results, we downloaded Lynn's mother's raw DNA and uploaded it to GEDmatch.

After several days of playing with spreadsheets and triangulating results, we were able to make a few educated guesses for potential DNA matches related to Lynn's grandmother Olivia June. To be related to Lynn's unidentified biological great-grandmother, they had to share matching DNA segments with both Lynn and Lynn's mother, thereby eliminating DNA cousins on her father's side.

But we still didn't know which of the remaining DNA cousins were related to Lynn's grandmother Olivia June or her grandfather Walter Hankins. It still seemed like an impossible task.

A POSSIBLE COUSIN

The most promising DNA cousin was a second to fourth cousin of Lynn's mother. They shared 91 centimorgans (cM) across four DNA segments, a significant match. This cousin was related to both Lynn and her mother and was an X-match for both of them.⁸ (At the time, we ignored the X-match, but later discovered

6. St. Louis Recorder of Deeds (www.stlouiscityrecorder.org/archives/adoptionrecs/pre1917adoptions.html).

7. St. Louis City Deed of Adoption, Recorder of Deeds, August 1903, p. 507-508.

8. X-matches and other tools are available through FamilyTreeDNA. For more information, see the X-chromosome inheritance chart. Also, *X-Chromosome Matching at Family Tree DNA* on the blog DNAExplained by Roberta Estes (<https://dna-explained.com/2014/01/02/x-chromosome-matching-at-family-tree-dna/>).

FTDNA RESULTS SHOWING THE OVERLAPPING SEGMENTS

Name	Chr	Start	End	cMs	SNPS
Billie Jean	20	5879473	62382907	88.77	9926
Lynn	20	11244	62382907	104.2	18396
LNorth	20	5879473	45913931	48.85	10492
Billie Jean	X	122405854	149248804	45.49	3382
Lynn	X	102656602	154570039	79.42	6942
LNorth	X	102656602	124067035	25.24	2550

STARTING OVER

At this point, we threw away all our prior assumptions and started over. We were looking for someone who matched both Lynn and Billie Jean or Lynn's mother and Billie Jean. We looked for matches on AncestryDNA, FTDNA, and GEDmatch.

We weren't surprised to see several of the same names we'd seen before, but many of the prior names we could eliminate because if they didn't match both Billie Jean and Lynn's mother, we knew they were likely to be on Lynn's grandfather's side of the family.

One name stood out on the Ancestry and FTDNA testing sites. It was LNorth again. The same promising cousin we found earlier, but this time we knew it was a valid match on Lynn's grandmother's side. On both Ancestry and FTDNA, LNorth matched Lynn, her mother, and Billie Jean, and on FTDNA they all had matching X chromosomes.¹⁰

The above chart reveals the FTDNA results showing the overlapping segments on Lynn's mother's chromosome 20 and X chromosome.

We started looking for other cousins that had a match on Lynn's maternal side and were also a match to LNorth. We found two additional candidates in the second-to-fourth-cousin range that matched Billie Jean on AncestryDNA, Christine and Hughess. LNorth identified Hughess as her first cousin once removed. Looking at their trees on Ancestry, we discovered one surname in common, Kendall. Without too much effort, we found they all had a common ancestor named Henry Kendall, born in Pennsylvania in 1801.¹¹

MIRROR TREE

From here we created a mirror tree for Henry Kendall and his descendants. In this mirror tree, we looked for all of his descendants that were the correct child-bearing age in 1902. It was a big family, but we were able to whittle down the list to 24 individuals, all grandchildren of Henry Kendall. Although Henry had eight children, the three DNA matches seemed to be descendants of just two of Henry's children, Samuel Kendall and Jacob Kendall. Jacob Kendall had four children born between 1874 and 1887. Samuel Kendall had nine children born between 1870 and 1889. Sticking with our original assumption that Olivia June's parents were born between 1865 and 1885, we were able to now focus on just 13 of Henry's grandchildren.

We began researching each one of these thirteen grandchildren looking for any clues. Most of Henry's grandchildren were raised in the towns of Cobden or Makanda in Union County, Illinois, about 110 miles from St. Louis. Being the largest town in the vicinity, St. Louis was probably frequented often by the Kendall family. But we found no evidence of any of them living in St. Louis, except for Mary Emma Kendall, born in Union County in 1877.

Mirror trees are a technique that genealogists use to help identify a missing common ancestor. A mirror tree is a "mirror image" of an entire tree, or a certain line, of a tree of one of your DNA matches. You can create a new tree on Ancestry.com or copy the tree of a close DNA cousin. Then you can attach your DNA to the mirror tree to look for new DNA matches, to provide "Shared Ancestor Hints", and to help you determine how you are connected to your matches. It is a good idea to keep this mirror tree private since it is only for personal use.

¹⁰. AncestryDNA does not provide chromosome segment information or X-DNA information, the segment information for chromosome 20 and the X chromosome were taken from FTDNA.

¹¹. Find A Grave, database with images (<http://www.findagrave.com>), memorial 122948376.

CHART OF THE DNA FAMILY MEMBERS AND COUSIN

Name	Relationship	Expected DNA Range	Shared Total cM	Largest cM	X Shared Total cM	X Largest cM
Mom	Self					
Lynn	Daughter	3330-3720	3587	281.5	196	196
Billie Jean	Half-sister	1317-2312	2016	141.3	81.3	44.1
Donna	Half 1C	137-856	528	63.9	74.9	46.4
Christine*	Half 2C1R	0-341	155			
LNorth	3C	0-217	91	54	28.2	28.2
Hughess*	3C1R	0-173	30			

*All results are from GEDmatch except Christine and Hughess were matches to Billie Jean on AncestryDNA. The Shared Total cM were provided by Ancestry. LNorth identified Hughess as her 1C1R. Donna identified Christine as her 1C1R.

In the 1900 U.S. Census for Rich, Union County, Illinois, we found Mary E. Kendall, age 21, single, living with her parents, Jacob and Delila[h] Kendall.¹² In the 1910 U.S. Census for St. Louis, Ward 27, we found Mary E. McGuire.¹³ The 1920 U.S. Census for St. Louis, Ward 27, listed her mother Delilah Kendall, confirming that we had the correct Mary E. (Kendall) McGuire.¹⁴

We don't know exactly when Olivia June was adopted, but we know it was around 1905 when she was a toddler. Mary Emma Kendall married Orley McGuire in St. Charles County, Missouri, 10 June 1905.¹⁵

We contacted Lynn's DNA cousin, LNorth, to see if she could help. She had many photographs and newspaper articles of the Jacob Kendall family, but nothing that would help confirm that Olivia June might be the child of Mary Emma.

Going back to the DNA, we refined our mirror tree by trying to identify exactly how the three matching cousins fit into the tree, assuming that Mary Emma was Olivia June's mother. Completing the tree and charting their assumed DNA relationships confirmed that Mary Emma was the most likely candidate. We were able to place all three cousins into our relationship chart. One was a third cousin once removed, a descendant of Samuel Kendall; one was a third cousin, also a descendant of Samuel Kendall; and one was a second cousin once removed, a descendant of Jacob Kendall and the great-granddaughter of Orley P. McGuire and Mary Emma Kendall. More importantly, each of these cousins

had the expected amount of DNA in common with Lynn, her mother, and her aunt Billie Jean. We were also able to confirm that they should all have an X chromosome match, since the tree showed there were no two consecutive male descendants between Lynn and her DNA cousins.

This looked very promising, but we felt we needed one more close DNA connection to prove Mary Emma was Lynn's great-grandmother.

YET ANOTHER COUSIN

In communications with DNA cousin LNorth, she put us in contact with one of her cousins, Donna, who has been on the genealogy sidelines for a while but was interested in getting involved again. Donna was Mary Emma's granddaughter. Donna didn't have an Ancestry account, nor had she ever submitted DNA to a testing center. After explaining to her the possible relationship between Olivia June and Mary Emma, she was excited about the possibility of finding a new cousin and purchased the AncestryDNA kit that same day.

Mapping Donna's position in our relationship chart and mirror tree showed Donna to be a half-first cousin to Lynn's mother and Billie Jean. If they match with the correct amount of DNA, that will help prove, from a DNA perspective, that Mary Emma is Lynn's great-grandmother. We determined that the range of DNA required to be a half-first cousin should be between 137cM and 856 cM.¹⁶

12. 1900 U.S. Census, Rich, Union, Illinois, p. 3, Mary E. Kendall; digital image, [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), 2004.

13. 1910 U.S. Census, St. Louis Ward 27, St. Louis City, Missouri, p. 4A, Mary E. McGuire; digital image, [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T624_819, FHL microfilm 1374832.

14. 1920 U.S. Census, St. Louis Ward 27, St. Louis City, Missouri, p. 20B, Mary E. McGuire; digital image, [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T624_958, FHL microfilm 1374832.

15. Missouri State Archives; Jefferson City, MO, USA; Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002, p. 152; [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com), 2007.

16. Blain T. Bettinger, The Shared cM Project - Version 3.0, August 2017.



As expected, Lynn, Lynn's mom, Billie Jean, and Donna's DNA contain many overlapping segments on several chromosomes. Using DNA Painter, we show the segments that overlap Lynn's mom's DNA on chromosomes four and five.



Mary Emma Kendall McGuire (Lynn's great-grandmother), undated photo courtesy of Donna.

CONCLUSION

About six weeks later, the results were posted on AncestryDNA. After uploading to GEDmatch, we find a 449cM shared match with Billie Jean over 21 DNA segments, well within the expected range for a half-first cousin.

We are confident that we have found Lynn's great-grandmother based on the results of our DNA analysis and the supporting genealogical records.

ABOUT THE MARY EMMA (KENDALL) MCGUIRE FAMILY

Mary Emma Kendall's father, Jacob Kendall, was born in Ohio on 28 August 1843.¹⁷ He was a farmer¹⁸ and served as a private in the Union Army 67th Regiment, Ohio Infantry.¹⁹ Jacob married Delilah Hock on 2 March 1873 in Union County, Illinois.²⁰ Delilah was born on 26 October 1846 in Pennsylvania.²¹ Jacob died on 17 June 1919 in Illinois,²² after which Delilah moved in for a time with Mary Emma's family in St. Louis, Ward 27, St. Louis County, Missouri.²³ Delilah died on 11 November 1929 in Union County, Illinois.²⁴

17. Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947; [Ancestry.com](#), 2011.

18. 1900 U.S. Census, Rich, Union, Illinois, p. 3, Jacob Kendall; digital image, [Ancestry.com](#), 2004.

19. U.S. Civil War Soldiers, 1861-1865; National Park Service, M552 roll 58; [Ancestry.com](#), 2007.

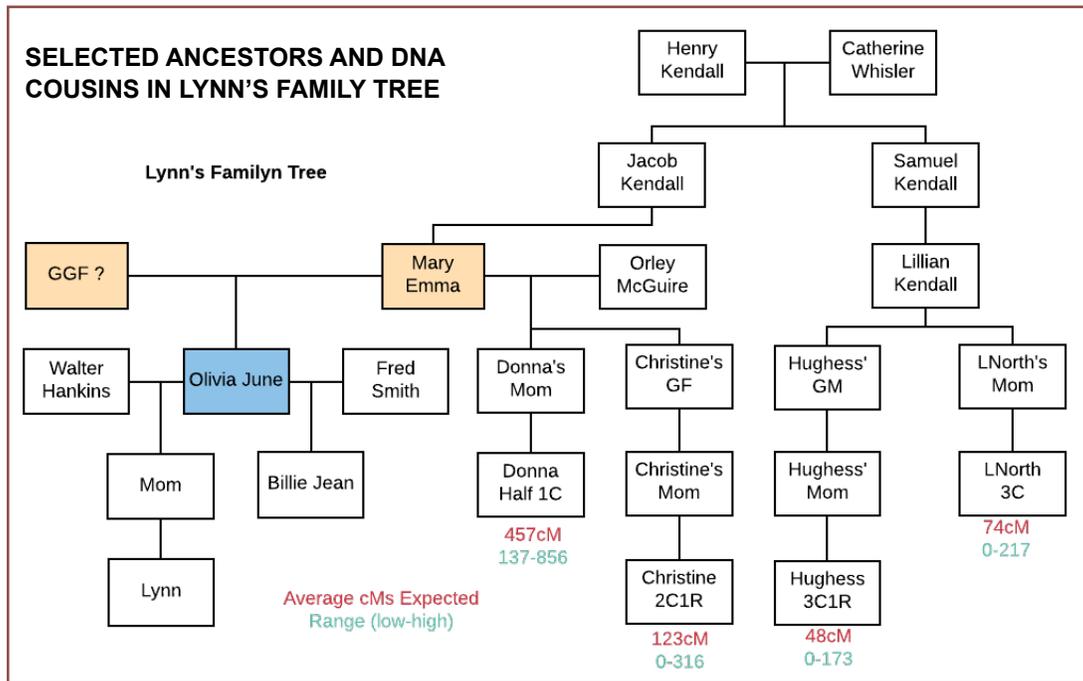
20. Illinois, Marriage Index, 1860-1920; [Ancestry.com](#), 2015.

21. 1900 U.S. Census, Rich, Union, Illinois, p. 3, Delila Kendall; digital image, [Ancestry.com](#), 2004.

22. Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947; [Ancestry.com](#), 2011.

23. 1920 U.S. Census, St. Louis Ward 27, St. Louis City, Missouri, p. 20B, Delila Kendall; digital image, [Ancestry.com](#) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T624_958, FHL microfilm 1374832.

24. Illinois, Deaths and Stillbirths Index, 1916-1947; [Ancestry.com](#), 2015.



Jacob and Delilah Kendall had five children:²⁵

1. Charles M. Kendall was born 8 July 1874 in Makanda, Union County, Illinois; he died on 5 October 1909 in Union County, Illinois; he married Minnie Mae Kimmel in 1897; he was a preacher.
2. Mary Emma Kendall was born 21 August 1877 in Union County, Illinois; she died of peritonitis after a ruptured appendix on 9 March 1925;²⁶ she married Orley McGuire on 10 June 1905 in St. Charles County, Missouri. Mary Emma and Orley McGuire had two children, Jacob K. Russell McGuire and Mary Janet McGuire.²⁷
3. Ora Ann Kendall was born on 23 December 1879 in Progress, Union County, Illinois; she died on 28 January 1906 in Makanda, Union County, Illinois at age 26; she married Edward E. McGuire on 9 November 1901.
4. Harry Edward was born in 1883; he died in infancy.
5. Lydia Pearl Kendall was born on 28 September 1887 in Progress, Union County, Illinois; she died 2 August 1905 in Union County, Illinois at age 17.

We can speculate, but we may never know the reason Olivia June was adopted. Now we move on (hopefully) to discover Lynn's great-grandfather.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Russell D. Francis is an amateur genealogist who lives in Battle Ground, Washington. He completed the Boston University Certificate Program in Genealogical Research in 2015.

THIS ARTICLE IN HONOR OF BILLIE JEAN SMITH



Lynn's aunt Billie Jean Smith (photo 1987) who passed away soon after her DNA was processed. She never learned the identity of her biological grandmother.

25. Most of these details came from records provided by Donna, the granddaughter of Mary Emma Kendall.

26. Obituary and cause of death provided by granddaughter Donna.

27. 1920 U.S. Census, St. Louis Ward 27, St. Louis City, Missouri, p. 20B, Delila Kendall; digital image, [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com) citing NARA microfilm publication, roll T624_958, FHL microfilm 1374832.

Finding Margaret

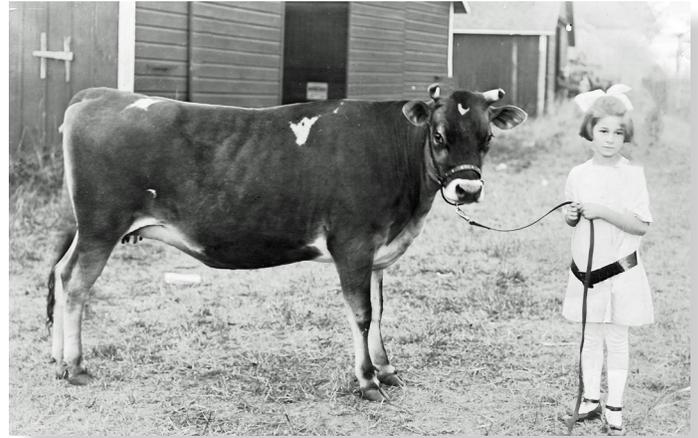
Cheri Emahiser

Editor's Note: Cheri Emahiser distinctly remembers the day she learned her mother had an older sister. When asked about it, her grandmother muttered “crooked judge” and turned away. In Chapter One of “Finding Margaret” (*The Bulletin*, September 2018), Cheri introduced us to her grandmother, Adalgisa “Della” Dodi, and Della’s brother Silvio, who immigrated to the United States from Italy in 1904. By 1906, they were living in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon. Two years later, Della married Victor Leon, an immigrant from France, and they soon had a daughter, Margaret. However, the marriage did not last, and court records revealed a series of accusations and counter-accusations which led to divorce. In this second of three chapters, Della struggles against the judge who awarded custody of Margaret to ex-husband, Victor Leon, and then later, most bafflingly, to complete strangers.

Chapter 2

Was Judge Henry E. McGinn the “crooked judge” Grandma was referring to the day I asked her what happened to Margaret? Looking back, it could easily seem that way. Judge McGinn issued most of the orders pertaining to the divorce and child custody hearings. And it was Judge McGinn who ultimately decided Margaret’s fate.

Henry E. McGinn was born in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon, on 11 February 1859 to Charles and Anna Maria (Hill) McGinn.¹ Though both parents were born in Canada, they were the children of Irish immigrants. Henry’s father was a baker who eventually opened a business in Portland.² Having been raised in Quebec, he spoke French, as did his son. Henry was married twice, first to Margaret Mary Donegan in 1885. She died in 1887. His second wife, Louise (Pater) Summers, was born in France and came to Oregon with her family in the 1870s. They married in 1909.³



Margaret with cow named Fern. Collection of Cheri Emahiser.

Judge McGinn was a distinguished lawyer with a large law practice. He was admitted to the bar at the young age of 21 and elected to be prosecuting attorney for Multnomah County at age 27. He was appointed to fill a court vacancy in 1895 and then was elected to the Oregon State Senate. He returned to the bench in 1910 and served eight years before returning to private practice. He was an active Republican and lauded as an accomplished orator. Judge McGinn was a member of the Elks, the Multnomah Athletic Club, as well as the local, state, and national bar associations. Though his court won the approval of the bar and the admiration of the community, he was said to have “never courted popularity, caring more for the approval of his own conscience than the applause of the majority, and through his example and efforts he inculcated among men high regard for the dignity of the law and respect of its observance.”⁴

His wife was interviewed after his death, and she spoke of his leather-covered Bible “almost worn out from constant use ... You see how worn is his Bible. He read it probably more than any other book, even though he knew much of it by heart. He loved it for its literary charm as well as for its teachings.”⁵ He was known among his peers as well-read, a Biblical and Shakespearean scholar, with a flair for the dramatic. Upon his death, many obituaries were written. They lauded his unconventional style on the bench and his support for the common people over those with money and power.

1. Lockley, Fred. *History of the Columbia River Valley: From The Dalles to the Sea* Vol. II (Chicago: S. J. Clark Publishing Company, 1928), page 810.

2. 1880 U.S. census, Multnomah County, Oregon, population schedule, Portland, entry for Chas. McGinn, digital image, Ancestry.com (<https://www.ancestry.com> : accessed 9 July 2018).

3. Lockley, *History of the Columbia River Valley*, pages 810–814.

4. *Ibid.*

5. *Ibid.*

It is hard to know what guided Judge McGinn when he sometimes made contradictory decisions. It is possible his deep faith influenced him. There had been testimony of adultery on Della's part. Did the judge feel sorry for Victor because his wife had run off with his business partner? Did he blame Della for causing the loss of Victor's business and the collapse of the family? Perhaps Judge McGinn simply viewed Della as an uneducated Italian immigrant like many others of that era.

Or it could be that Judge McGinn felt sympathetic towards Della. After all, he did award her alimony and support. On 28 August 1913, the judge ordered Victor to pay alimony to Della of \$5 per week (the equivalent of \$128 today) beginning 16 August 1913 and \$12 (the equivalent of \$305) for witness fees.⁶

On Friday, 5 September 1913, eleven months after the divorce filing and just days after he had ordered Victor to pay child support and court fees, Judge McGinn ordered Margaret be removed from Della's custody. Della, Victor, and their attorneys were in the courtroom when Judge McGinn issued his hand-written order, which continued the divorce and custody matter for six months and stipulated "that Victor Leon the plaintiff have the custody of Marie [Margaret] Leon a minor child for said period of six months."⁷

Another ten long months passed before the judge's next decision. In a ruling dated 6 June 1914, Judge McGinn wrote:

The plaintiff [Victor] has been guilty of cruel and inhuman treatment of the defendant, and personal indignities rendering defendant's life burdensome and unbearable in this: the plaintiff at diverse times without cause or provocation on the part of the defendant, used profane and vulgar language towards defendant, frequently calling her a "damn bitch" and a "damn prostitute" and that plaintiff has kicked



Judge Henry E. McGinn

and assaulted and beat and struck defendant about the body to such an extent as to cause her body and face to become sore and black and blue, and causing her great physical pain and suffering, all of which was without provocation on the part of the defendant.⁸

The Leon divorce was granted that day. Despite his finding that Della was not at fault for the violence committed against her, Judge McGinn made final his ruling that care, custody, and control of Margaret be awarded to Victor. The decree did allow Della to have custody of five-year-old Margaret "for a period of two weeks from the date hereof, and at such other intervals as this court may direct."⁹

Despite the odds against her, Della continued to fight for her daughter, though it's unlikely she knew just how difficult the next three years would be.

AFTER THE DIVORCE

Although Victor had received custody of Margaret, later testimony revealed that as early as September of 1913 she was living in the home of George and Hazel Dammeier. At the time, Victor Leon worked on Dammeier's farm. George H. Dammeier was very wealthy and internationally known. He began his real estate business in 1888 in Portland, building and selling homes on the installment plan. After he sold over 400 homes, he concentrated on leasing, buying, and selling downtown business properties. Other financial interests included the Benson Building at Fifth and Morrison which was later torn down to make way for the Kress Building. In 1902, Mr. Dammeier had bought land near Gresham in Clackamas County, Oregon, and began a Jersey cow breeding business.¹⁰

In October of 1913, Margaret would have celebrated her fourth birthday in a stranger's home. I learned this and much more through correspondence with Barbara Hinkle, a friend of Margaret's from later years:

He [Victor] had tried to get the Dammeiers, a couple that he worked for, to adopt her, but that man had two daughters from his first marriage and was not inclined to start another family. The woman [Hazel] was not really interested in taking her [Margaret] in. Victor persisted, but with no change in their decision, I believe that he had taken Margaret to visit them on a few occasions. He was very concerned about Margaret and asked the couple to keep her for a few days while he worked something out.¹¹

6. Leon v. Leon, Multnomah County Circuit Court; Order, 28 August 1913.

7. Ibid., Order, 5 September 1913.

8. Ibid, Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, 6 June 1914.

9. Ibid.

10. Lockley, *History of the Columbia River Valley*, pages 740-743.

11. Barbara Hinkle to Cheri Emahiser, 31 August 2009.



Dammeier Residence. Collection of Cheri Emahiser.

It is not clear what happened next. I wonder if Victor snuck out the back door? Did he tell Margaret goodbye? I will never know the details of that afternoon, but what is certain is Victor left the Dammeiers' home without Margaret and disappeared for two or three months, perhaps hoping that during his absence the couple would fall in love with his beautiful child and decide to keep her.¹² His thinking was correct, and they did come to love the little girl with the soft brown eyes and long ringlets.

Victor's statement regarding the situation is recorded in his petition to the court in March 1916:

That in the month of September 1913, I had the custody of said child and was able to place her in the home of Mr. Geo. and Hazel Dammeier near Gresham, Oregon, where I was employed at said time as a dairyman.¹³

But what do you tell a little girl when she asks you why she is living with strangers, and what has happened to her mother? According to Barbara, Victor was very devoted to this daughter and visited her often. And, when questions came up about her mother, Victor told Margaret how Della was a bad, neglectful mother, and that she had disappeared.¹⁴

THE APPEAL

Judge McGinn may have believed he had issued his final order on the Leon case. If so, he didn't realize how determined Della was to regain custody of her daughter. Della's attorneys quickly filed an appeal to the Oregon Supreme Court.

One year and eight months passed before the Supreme Court, on 4 February 1916, agreed to review Della's case. On 23 February, the judges found in *Leon v. Leon*:

The plaintiff's testimony was taken before the trial court, but no stenographic report thereof was made. Several days thereafter the testimony of the defendant and her witness was received, and from a perusal of a transcript thereof it is certain the wife was entitled to the decree of divorce. It does not appear from such evidence that she is or has been immoral, or that she is not a fit or proper person to the care, custody and control of their daughter.

It must have seemed to the trial court from the plaintiff's testimony, or from some other source, that the best interest of the little girl would be promoted by denying the natural right of the mother to keep a daughter of such tender years. But, however this maybe, as cases in equity on appeal are determined from an inspection of the transcript of the evidence, there is no alternative except to modify the order and temporarily award the custody of the daughter to her mother. If, however, we are in error in this respect, it will not be difficult for the trial court, which during their minority retains supervision of children whose parents it has divorced, to notify the parties to appear, take further testimony, make a transcript thereof, decide which party, if either, should have control of the daughter, having in view the best interests of the child and to make an order to that effect. If either party is dissatisfied with such determination, it can be reviewed on appeal.

In the meanwhile, however, the defendant will be given the care, custody and control of their daughter, and the order complained of will be temporarily modified in this respect.¹⁵

By this time, Margaret had resided in the Dammeier home for 2 years and 5 months. It is unclear whether any arrangements were made to retrieve Margaret from the Dammeiers for placement in Della's physical custody.

What is clear is three weeks later, on 21 March 1916, Judge McGinn ordered custody and



George H. Dammeier

12. Ibid.

13. *Leon v. Leon*; Petition, 6 June 1914.

14. Barbara Hinkle to Cheri Emahiser, 19 February 2011.

15. *Reports of Cases Decided in the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon, Volume 79*; *Leon v. Leon* (155 Pac. 189.), Argued February 4, modified February 23, 1916. Google Books (<https://books.google.com/>), accessed 22 September 2018.

control of Margaret to Della, visitation rights to Victor, and the recovery of costs incurred in the appeal (\$63.85) to Della.¹⁶ However, Margaret never did return to Della's care.

CUSTODY

Seven days after Judge McGinn's order, on 28 March 1916, Victor's long-term attorney was out of the picture. Attorneys Seaton and Strahan stepped up to file his next petition. They asked the court to award custody of Margaret to the Dammeiers with "privilege to defendant (Della) to see said child at convenient times."¹⁷

McGinn had been ordered by the Supreme Court to consider the best interests of the child, and "decide which party, if either, should have control of the daughter." It had left the door open for Margaret's legal placement with the Dammeiers.

The petition stated:

That in the month of September 1913, I had the custody of said child and was able to place her in the home of Mr. Geo. and Hazel Dammeier ... and said child has at all time since remained in the said home where she is surrounded with all the comforts of life and refining and cultured influences, her schooling and education carefully attended to and much better care bestowed upon her than either her mother or I could ever give. That said George and Hazel Dammeier are willing and desirous to continue to so keep and care for said child and while in their custody to give her the best educational advantages, and that said child has a bright future before her if permitted to remain in said home.¹⁸

Victor went on to say that Della was not a fit or proper person to care for the child because it was her intention, once she gained custody of Margaret, to keep her at the home of Edward Wood and his parents. Victor stated that the Wood family lived in a small house of cheap construction in squalor and poverty. He alleged the Wood family and Della would not use his support money for Margaret, but would spend it on themselves. He claimed the Woods referred to Margaret as "that brat" and, during a brief period that Della had custody of Margaret, she permitted her "to become unkempt, dirty and sick and the health of the child was impaired by reason of the neglect it suffered while at said house." He said the Wood family had a bad rep-



Margaret with the Dammeiers. Collection of Cheri Emahiser.

utation in the community, and he alleged that Della was guilty of immoral conduct with another man in 1912.¹⁹

Victor went on to state:

That said George Dammeier has on various occasions offered defendant a position in his home as housekeeper at good wages, a work to which defendant is accustomed and well fitted, so that she might at all times be with said child, but said defendant refused all of said offers on account of the said infatuation she has for said Ed. Wood, and her desire to at all times remain in his home.²⁰

That should said child be taken to the home of said Wood to live and subjected to the low and vile moral atmosphere there prevailing, the future of said child would be ruined, and its life entirely blighted.²¹

On 1 April 1916, Judge McGinn summoned Della to appear in his chambers to state why Margaret's custody should not be awarded to the Dammeiers. McGinn stated "the defendant, her attorneys, agents and servants, are hereby ordered to desist and refrain from taking possession of said minor child from said George

16. Leon v. Leon, Decree and Order Entering Mandate, 21 March 1916.

17. Leon v. Leon, Decree and Order Entering Mandate, 21 March 1916., Petition, 28 March 1916.

18. Ibid.

19. Ibid.

20. Ibid.

21. Ibid.

and Hazel Dammeier” until the hearing was held regarding why the Dammeiers should not have custody of Margaret.²²

Della continued to her fight for her daughter. Once again, she denied all of Victor’s allegations against her and asked Judge McGinn to give custody to her.²³

Victor’s petition was not dismissed, and Judge McGinn was merciless. In language that mirrored Victor’s petition, he recounted Victor’s accusations that Della left because of her infatuation with Ed Wood, and that neither she nor Wood were financially able to care for and educate Margaret. He repeated Victor’s account that the Wood family was unfit to care for Margaret. Judge McGinn stated, “That all of said family [the Woods] in ordinary conversation use most vile and profane language in the home, and in manner and bearing are rough and crude ... and without means.”²⁴ This despite the earlier affidavits testifying to the Woods being respectable people with good standing in the community.

In addition, the judge remarked about Della’s refusal to work for the Dammeiers as a house maid, where she could “at all times” be with her child. With the Dammeiers, Margaret was provided with “all the comforts of life and surrounded with refining and cultured influences, her schooling and education carefully attended to ...”²⁵

McGinn ruled, “The best interests of said minor child require that she be awarded to the care of said George and Hazel Dammeier, who are well qualified to and are desirous of caring for and educating her until she attains majority.”²⁶

Judge McGinn also stipulated that both Victor and Della would be permitted to visit Margaret at all reason-

able times.²⁷ Margaret was now seven years and three months old. Della had not had her daughter in her care since 5 September 1913—three years, three months and seventeen days.

An appeal was once again filed with the Supreme Court. On 13 April 1917, the attorneys for both Victor and Della agreed to extend the time for filing a transcript to the court. At this time Della had a new attorney named Samuel Johnson. Several more extensions were granted, the last on 1 June 1917.²⁸ Another six months had passed.

On 3 October 1918, the Supreme Court dismissed the case before them after Della and her attorney did not appear for the hearing. A few days later, Multnomah County Court issued an order to conform with the Supreme Court’s ruling upholding Judge McGinn’s decision of 21 March 1916. Della was ordered to repay with interest the costs paid by Victor that same year.²⁹

There is no more mention of Della in any court record. Why did she give up? She may have realized the deck was stacked against her. She was a single woman with no home or job. She understood there was no chance the court would place Margaret with her while she lived in the Wood home, but her options were limited.

The Dammeiers had an abundance of money and power. They could afford to fight for custody of Margaret for years. Margaret was enrolled in school, taking music lessons, and could have all the finest things money could buy. By comparison, all Della could offer was the deep love she would always carry in her heart for her little girl.

The story of Della and Margaret will continue in the next issue of *The Bulletin*.



Margaret Leon
Collection of Cheri Emahiser

22. Leon v. Leon, Decree and Order Entering Mandate, 21 March 1916., Order, 1 April 1916.

23. Ibid., Answer to Petition, 19 April 1916.

24. Ibid., Findings of Facts and Conclusions, 22 December 1916.

25. Ibid.

26. Ibid.

27. Ibid., Order, 22 December 1916.

28. Ibid., Order, 1 June 1917

29. Ibid., Motion to Enter Mandate, 9 October 1918.

1918–1919 INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC —Why So Significant?

David M. Witter Jr.

SPANISH FLU NOT SPANISH

The 1918-1919 influenza pandemic is frequently called the “Spanish Flu,” but that is a misnomer. In April and May 1918, the warring armies in Europe were taking notice of the impact of the flu on the troops, but each side wanted to keep the information from their enemies. As the epidemic spread into Spain, reports about the epidemic surfaced. “In a month or two, everyone outside of Spain was calling it “Spanish influenza,” not because it originated there, but because Spain, still a nonbelligerent, had no wartime censorship to keep its health problems secret from the world.”¹

AMONG THE DEADLIEST EVENTS IN HUMAN HISTORY

While there had been large influenza outbreaks throughout human history, the 1918–1919 influenza pandemic was among the most-deadly events in recorded human history:

- Worldwide deaths: 50-100 million persons (about 2.8 percent to 5.6 percent of the world population).²
- United States deaths: estimated 675,000 (about 0.65 percent of the population).³
- Oregon statewide: 48,146 cases with 3,675 deaths from influenza within Oregon for the period October 1, 1918, to September 30, 1920.⁴

“FLU” DEATHS HERE 1425

Census Bureau Reports Toll for
Period of 25 Weeks.

OREGONIAN NEWS BUREAU, Washington, March 12.—The havoc wrought by the recent influenza epidemic is shown by a report issued by the bureau of census, which gives the deaths in Portland from this cause during the 25 weeks from September 14 to March 1 as 1425, 109 of the number dying directly from pneumonia; in Seattle during the same period there were 1429 influenza deaths, 103 of which were directly attributable to pneumonia; Spokane had 557 deaths, 51 being from pneumonia, and San Francisco 2785 with 592 from pneumonia.

Morning Oregonian, 13 March 1919, page 1, accessed through *Historic Oregon Newspapers*

- Portland deaths: 1,464 people died of influenza and pneumonia (all forms) in Portland in the last four months of 1918 (920 deaths) and first six months of 1919 (544 deaths).⁵ A U.S. Census Bureau report estimated that 1,300 of these deaths were in excess of what would have been expected in an average, non-epidemic year.

THREE WAVES OF THE INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

- First Wave—Spring 1918: This initial and wide-spread wave was mild when compared to the later waves. In March 1918, influenza outbreaks were reported in several locations including the workers at the Ford Motor Company in Detroit, students at the Haskell Institute in Lawrence, Kansas; in a South Carolina mill town; and, during April and May, in San Quentin prison in California.⁶ Army medical officers began reporting a new sickness emerging in training camps in the U.S. in March

1. Alfred W. Crosby, *America's Forgotten Pandemic, The Influenza of 1918*, second edition. 2003, Cambridge University Press, page 26.

2. David M. Morens, Anthony S. Fauci, “The 1918 Influenza Pandemic: Insights for the 21st Century,” *Journal of Infectious Diseases* Volume 195 (7), 1 April 2007, pages 1019–1028.

3. Ibid.

4. Reported in Ivan M. Woolley, “The 1918 ‘Spanish Influenza’ Pandemic in Oregon,” *Oregon Historical Quarterly* Volume 64, Number 3 (September 1963), page 257.

5. Alfred W. Crosby, *America's Forgotten Pandemic, The Influenza of 1918*, second edition. 2003, Cambridge University Press, pages 208–214; reporting data from Bureau of Census, *Mortality Statistics, 1919* (Washington, D.C.: Government Printing Office, 1921), pages 28–31.

6. Ibid. page 18.

INFLUENZA IS SPREADING

Hundreds of Deaths Occur in Various Provinces of Mexico.

EL PASO, Tex., Oct. 27.—Spanish influenza continues to spread throughout Mexico and now is causing hundreds of deaths in Monterey, Saltillo, Torreon and Guadalajara. In Saltillo there were 30,000 cases last week among a population of 70,000.

A drug famine in Mexico is adding to the difficulties of the Mexican doctors and American mining companies' physicians in combating the disease.

Morning Oregonian, 28 October 1918, page 1, accessed through Historic Oregon Newspapers

and April and on the battlefields in France in April, May, and June.⁷

- Second Wave—Fall 1918: The deadliest wave started appearing across the U.S. in early September and was widespread by mid-October, with the greatest impact lasting four to six weeks before waning.
- Third Wave—Late 1918 through the first quarter of 1919: This final wave emerged less deadly than the second wave and then declined by the spring.

FLU AND PNEUMONIA, THE DEADLY KILLER

Typically, influenza gives patients a fever, chills, often a sore throat and a cough, and various aches and pains. The severity of 1918 influenza shocked Army medical officers and public health officials because the effects were much more severe, with high fevers (105 or 106 degrees Fahrenheit), delirium to the point of prostration, and many patients developing secondary pneumonia infections. It was indeed secondary pneumonia that made the flu so deadly.

HIGH MORTALITY OF YOUNG ADULTS

Influenza and pneumonia usually have the highest rates of mortality among the very young and the elderly. The 1918–1919 epidemic was unusual in that there was a higher fatality rate at all ages, and a surprisingly high mortality among 20- to 40-year-old individuals, an age group typically at comparatively low risk for influenza mortality in pandemics before and since.⁸

INEXTRICABLY LINKED TO WWI

The “Great War,” now known as World War I (WWI), began in mid-1914, but the U.S. did not formally enter the war until April 1917. Troops began training in the last half of 1917 with initial troops going to Europe in late 1917. Troop shipments steadily increased to the peak of 300,000 in July, with 1.5 million troops departing for Europe in the last six months of the war. An armistice was declared November 11, 1918.⁹ By the end of WWI, 2.8 million had been drafted, in addition to two million men who volunteered, bringing the total to 4.8 million Americans who served in the armed forces.¹⁰ The training and deployment of American troops coincided with the first and second waves of the influenza epidemic. The concentration of troops and their movements throughout the U.S. and Europe created an environment where the flu could quickly spread and impact troops and the populations in America, Europe, and the entire world. The chief statistician of the War Department during the war calculated that there were nearly 116,000 American deaths in WWI: 43 percent (50,280) from battle, 50

EAST INDIES HAS “FLU”

Million Cases in Dutch Islands Is Estimate.

AMSTERDAM, via Montreal, Dec. 10.—It is officially estimated that there are a million cases of influenza in the Dutch East Indies.

Morning Oregonian, 12 December 1919, page 1, accessed through Historic Oregon Newspapers

7. Carol R. Byerly, *Fever of War*, 2005, New York University Press, pages 70–74.

8. David M. Morens, Anthony S. Fauci, “The 1918 Influenza Pandemic: Insights for the 21st Century,” *Journal of Infectious Diseases* Volume 195 (7), 1 April 2007, pages 1019–1028.

9. Alfred W. Crosby, *America’s Forgotten Pandemic, The Influenza of 1918*, second edition, 2003, Cambridge University Press, pages 18, 31.

10. Wikipedia, Selective Service Act of 1917—Effects. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Selective_Service_Act_of_1917, accessed November 26, 2017.

percent (57,460) due to disease and 7 percent (7,920) due to accidents and other causes. Almost 84 percent of the disease-related deaths were due to influenza and pneumonia.¹¹

OVERWHELMING HELPLESSNESS

The massive scope of the epidemic outstripped the resources in nearly every community and in the military camps. Hospitals overflowed with patients, and many communities created temporary facilities for the sick. Doctors and nurses were overwhelmed with the sheer numbers of sick patients. The treatment options for influenza and pneumonia were extremely limited, especially when compared to care standards today with flu and pneumonia vaccines, drug treatment, respiratory therapies, and hospital intensive care. Aside from the bans on public gatherings, there was little that public health leaders and health care providers could proactively do to limit or contain the epidemic until it burned itself out.

SYDNEY STRICKEN BY FLU

Hundreds of New Cases and Many Deaths Reported.

VANCOUVER, B. C., April 7.—Hundreds of new cases of influenza are being reported at Sydney, N. S. W., according to a special cable received here today by the Vancouver World. Ninety deaths occurred last week.

"The government has closed schools, theaters, picture places and race courses," the cable said. "Hotel customers are allowed to remain only five minutes in the bars. Masking regulations have been extended and meetings are prohibited."

Morning Oregonian, 8 April 1919, accessed through Historic Oregon Newspapers

11. Carol R. Byerly, *Fever of War*, 2005, New York University Press, pages 186–191.

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Register online at GFO.org by Jan. 3. The class notes and link to a short, pre-Boot Camp assignment will be emailed on Mon., Jan. 7.

The Family I Never Knew: The Extended Family of Anna Susanna Pauline Engel (1898-1918)

Janice Handsaker

How did the Spanish flu touch my family? I guess you could say it changed our destiny and left generations of family members unknown to each other. An interest in family history, and the desire to know what happened after Grandma Anna died, revealed the untold story.

My grandmother Anna Susanna Pauline Engel was born February 12, 1898, in Benton County, Missouri, the youngest of six children. She was baptized in St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church on September 25, 1898.¹ Her parents were Johann Engel and Elisabeth (Wahling) Engel who immigrated from Germany in 1884. By 1908, the family lived in Lane County, Oregon, where Anna attended Little Fall Creek School with her sister Ida. Her name is listed in the school census from 1908 through 1912.²

On February 24, 1913, Anna married Edward Clow Handsaker in Junction City, Lane County, Oregon.³ She needed permission from her mother since she was 15 years old. I believe Anna and Edward met in Little Fall Creek, as Edward and his family were also living there.⁴ Edward, called "Eddie," was 21 years old when they married.

Their first child, Earl Edward Handsaker (my father), was born September 23, 1914, near Veneta, Lane County, Oregon.⁵ Their second child, Carl, was born September 3, 1916, in Cottage Grove, Lane County, Oregon.⁶ Edward was a laborer in the timber industry, and they moved often, at least seven times by 1918 when they were in Portland, Multnomah County, Oregon.

On October 27, 1918, Anna died of the Spanish influenza at St. Vincent Hospital, just three months shy of her



Anna Handsaker with sons Carl and Earl, November 1917, photo provided by the author.

22nd birthday.⁷ She was buried two days later in Lone Fir Cemetery in southeast Portland.⁸ I knew she left behind two sons and a husband. What I did not know was that her mother, two brothers, and two sisters also outlived her, and I would not know this for more than 80 years after her death.

Two years after Anna died, when Earl was about six and Carl was about four years old, Edward, their father, walked away and never returned. Growing up, the boys

1 St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church (Cole Camp, Missouri), Baptism Register, page 24, Engel, Anna Susanna Pauline baptism (1898).

2 "School Records for District #83, Little Fall Creek, Oregon." *Oregon Genealogical Society Quarterly*, Volume 37, No. 1 (Winter 1999), pages 12-23.

3 Oregon Health Division, marriage certificate (1913), Anna Engel and Edward Clow Handsaker; Oregon Vital Records, Portland.

4 1910 U.S. census, Lane County, Oregon, population schedule; digital images, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org), Fall Creek, entry for Edward B Handsaker.

5 Oregon Health Division, birth certificate No. 4544 (1914), Earl Handsaker; Oregon Vital Records, Portland.

6 Oregon, Lane County, Birth Records, Carl Handsaker (1913); Oregon State Archives, Salem.

7 Oregon Health Division, death certificate No. 2549 (1918), Anna Handsaker; Oregon Vital Records, Portland.

8 Ibid.

were moved around between two aunts on Edward's side of the family and foster homes. They were, for all practical purposes, orphans. Earl did not remember any other family except for the two great-aunts. He had three grandparents and two great-grandparents well into his adult years but did not remember meeting any of them. He had a picture of himself and his brother Carl as young boys with an elderly woman, but he did not know who she was. It could be, that with the turmoil of his young life, he just does not remember whom he met or knew as a child. He also had three aunts, two uncles, and at least five cousins he never knew about. My father, Earl, not only lost his parents but most of his family, too.

What a surprise when I began researching that part of my family which I did not know existed, let alone lived in the same state and city as I. It was too late to meet any of Anna's siblings, but I have learned about them through research and from the stories of their descendants, my cousins.

Anna's closest sister in age was Ida Louise Engel who was born in 1893. Ida married Victor Neff in 1915, and they farmed near Lebanon, Linn County, Oregon.⁹ They had two children, Charley and Grace. I have been fortunate enough to meet Grace, my first cousin once removed, and we have become good friends. She told me that when Anna became ill, Ida went to Portland and took care of her until her death. Ida believed she escaped the flu because she chewed on cloves.

Anna's brother Henry, born in 1888, was the black sheep in the family. Though he listed his occupation as a landscaper/gardener, he was actually a "second-story man." He would case homes and burglarize them. He was arrested countless times and spent most of his life in jail or prison, mainly in Oregon. I have obtained a case file on Henry from the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) which contains over 750 pages!¹⁰ Beginning in 1964, several politicians began receiving a number of threatening letters. The author expressed anger over their involvement with the Viet Nam War. The letters, all sent from Seattle, King County, Washington, were addressed to President Lyndon B. Johnson, Vice President Hubert Humphrey, Senator Barry Goldwater, Adlai Stevenson, Dean Rusk, Robert McNamara, and others.

The letters threatened to kill the recipients and called them names like warmonger, murderer, gangster, and rat. The FBI and Secret Service investigated the letters and eventually arrested Henry in 1966 in Seattle. He was then a 78-year-old retiree living in a hotel room in downtown Seattle. He was put on five years' probation. His niece remembered him as friendly and said he had given her gifts of jewelry when she was a child.

Charles Engel was Anna's oldest brother, born in 1879 in Germany.¹¹ He came to America as a little boy with his parents. Charles was a farmer and also bought and sold land. He owned a house in Salem, Marion County, Oregon, that was home for his mother and sister Ida. Sometime in the 1930s, he moved to Prosser, Benton County, Washington, where he died in 1952.¹² From the pictures I have seen, and what I have heard about him from his nieces, he was a very nice man.



*Anna Handsaker and son Earl, photo circa 1916,
provided by the author.*

⁹ Baptist Parsonage (Lebanon, Oregon). Marriage Certificate, Ida L. Engel and V.T. Neff (1915). Privately held by Janice Handsaker, Portland, Oregon.

¹⁰ FBI Case File for Henry Herman Engel, FOIPA No. 1061312-000. U.S. Department of Justice, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Washington, D.C.

¹¹ St. Johannis-Eppendorf Kirche (Hamburg, Germany), baptism No. 10/635, Carl Friedrich Engel baptism (1879).

¹² Washington State Department of Health, Certificate of Death, No. 9723. (1952), Charlie Fredric Engel, digital image, FamilySearch (www.familysearch.org), film 2033058.

Sister Bertha, born in 1886, led an interesting life. She was married five times. Her niece told me how Bertha once raised turkeys, and her granddaughters told me all the turkeys were killed in a hailstorm! During the 1920s, she and her second husband owned a ferry used to transport people, cargo, and bootleg liquor across the Columbia River. She worked in the shipyards during World War II. I was told that Bertha had considered taking in Earl and Carl after Anna died and regretted not having done so. She lived in southeast Portland for many years, until her death in 1977. She is buried in Sunset Hills Memorial Park in Portland next to her only child, daughter Amy, who died tragically in a car accident in 1961.¹³

Anna would not have known her oldest sister Minna. Minna was born in 1883 in Germany. The family said that she died when she was very young, during childbirth. I have never been able to find a record of her marriage, death, or burial.

I also learned, through talking with relatives, that Anna had been eight months pregnant when she died. The baby died also. My dad and uncle lost a sibling, and I lost an aunt or uncle.

I don't know how my dad and uncle's lives would have been different had their mother lived. What I do know is that when my grandma died of the Spanish influenza, it changed the whole trajectory of my family.

To honor Grandma Anna, I make sure to get a flu shot every year.

¹³ Finley Sunset Hills Memorial Park and Mortuary (Portland, Oregon), Bertha M. Falmer (November 1, 1977), Lot 333 Space 3.

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The Woodbury Chronicles

Part III

Charles W. Erickson

I thoroughly enjoyed writing about the lives of the Charles Wesley Woodbury family. It was a privilege to have the opportunity to share it with all of you.

The conclusion contains more of their journey, again using excerpts from daily handwritten journals and letters to and from relatives in New Hampshire. I have



Charles W. Erickson, author, picture from 2017.

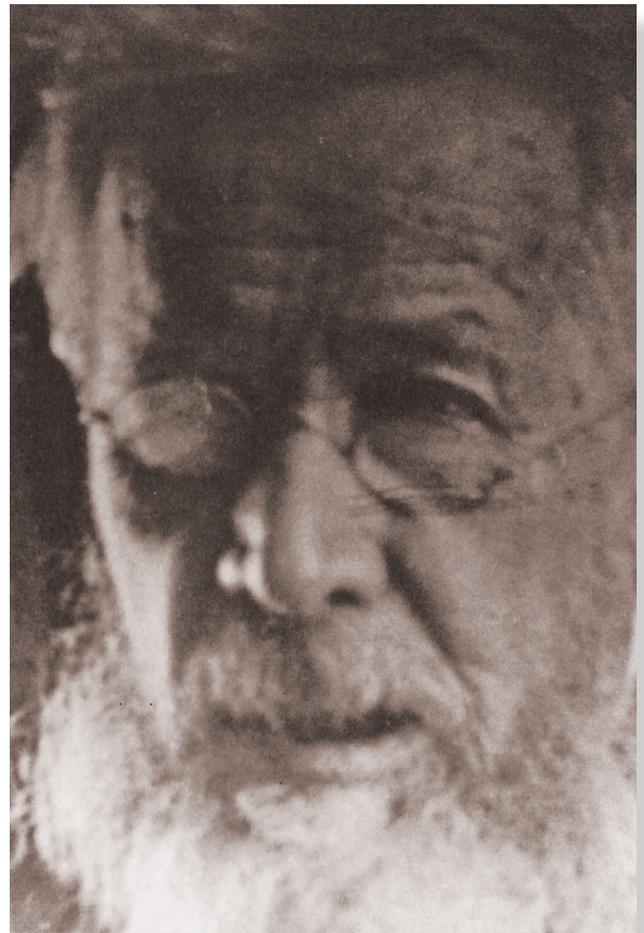
chosen to use their written words and spelling. Due in part to the writers' style and the clarity of the documents, the use of capital letters and punctuation is inconsistent. Parts I and II spanned the years of 1854 through 1872. The conclusion continues in 1873 and concludes with the passing of Charles Wesley Woodbury on July 13, 1908.

In June 1873, there was talk about starting a Farmer's Grange. (A Farmer's Grange was an association of farmers organized for mutual welfare and advancement.)

Sun 15 Mr. Phillips called in. They are starting a Farmers Grange. Charles & I signed our names to the paper. Men pay three dollars membership & women fifty cts.

In July, the talk turned into action. The organization, as recorded with the State of Minnesota, was entitled the Rush River Grange No. 296. The documented roll includes the names of the candidates, their ages, the dates that they received their first, second, third, or fourth degrees as members, and their occupations. As the years passed, new members were added to the roster.

Wed 2 We met at Mr. Frank Moores house to organize a Grange. Got 11 men & 11 women as charter members. Mr. Colby, wife, two daughters, Mr. E. D. French & wife, Mr. F. More wife



Charles Wesley (C. W.) Woodbury, undated photo.

daughter, Mr. Phillips & wife, Mr. Woodbury wife & daughter, Mr. Ed McEwin & wife, Jim McEwin & wife, Mr. L. Riley, Wm McEwin, Mr. Orton, Mr. Walter. Three dollars for men and 50 cts for women.

Sun 20 Charles went down to Mr. Colbys. They were appoints to make bylaws for the Grange.

On May 17, 1874, C. W. went to look at some land west of their present location. They refer to this property as "Sand Lake." They often went to Sand Lake for recreation, and yes, to get sand for a variety of uses.

Charles Wesley and his wife, Martha Elizabeth, went down to Mr. French's to take the oath of office as mail carrier and postmaster on May 19th. Their term began in June and ran for one year. Saturday was the day that C. W. usually made the mail run to LeSueur.



Charles Wesley (C. W.) Woodbury at his desk and showing his library. Photo provided by the author.

Socially, there is a wonderful account in the journal about an outing that occurred on Friday and Saturday in June 1874.

Fri 4 A party of us started on a fishing excursion up to Clear Lake. Mr. & Mrs. Phillips, Mr. & Mrs. French Jr, Mr. French Sr, Charles & myself, the two French children. We went to a Brother Grangers Mr Wakefield to dinner. Then with another load of folks went six miles further to Clear Lake & fishing but did not get many. We spread us a table in the woods on a planing bench. Took the cloths & paper we had with us for a table cloth to spread our provisions on. Made some Tea in a house near by and did justice to the good things before us. Thirteen of us in all. Fishd awhile longer then went back to Mr. Wakefields to stay over night ... Sat morning we had the fish for break-

fast then started with the family to another Lake called Sand Lake. Stopst and fishd till near noon then spread our lunch on the grafs to eat and started for home. It rained some while coming but got home just in time to escape a ducking. It is quite a pretty country that we traveled.

Another social event, a competition, was noted in June 1875. There were two teams, parties as they were called at that time, comprised of 27 members each. Documents in hand contain a list of the members of each party. The goal was to accumulate as many rodent tails as possible in a predetermined amount of time. After the time expired, all of the tails were brought to the Woodbury home where a committee containing two members from each competing party met to tally the tails. In the evening, after the winner of the competition was decided, there was a dinner and dance. The party that had the least amount of points had the responsibility to provide, prepare, and serve the dinner. They were called the Table Committee and their names are also listed in the documents.

Tue 8 The long anticipated gopher picnic has come with very good attendance. Met in Dan McEwin grove. This year both parties caught over seven thousand points counting grey gophers three points, striped two, pocket gophers & house rat five points.

At this time, I'm guessing that reference to the grey gophers are the same critters we refer to as gray squirrels today. In later years, journal entries do make reference to gray squirrels.

Yet, on one more social occasion in June, Charles Wesley and Martha Elizabeth traveled to Clear Lake with friends. Martha describes it in the journal.

Tues 20 We got to Fort Ridgley late in afternoon but could not find any accomodation unless at the hotel but we did not wish to be at the expense. As it began to rain we started back about one half mile to an empty house and took possession for the night. They say there ten or more families are living at the fort but I do not know what they can do for a living. They have one store, two hotels. The fort buildings are getting in a very dilapidated condition. They say that it is being stolen by

the load. The roof of the soldiers quarters is half gone, doors & windows all out. I should like to have gone in the graveyard and seen more of the fort but the weather was not favorable. The next morning we started on again. Took our dinner at Birch Coolie where a small body of our soldiers my brother included while camping overnight was attacked at early morn by Indians and all would have been killed but for a timely recruit of fresh soldiers from the fort. The battle was desperate. The battle ground is now a cultivated field and the horses that were killed in the battle, their bones are in piles against the fence bleaching in the sun.

The reference that Martha makes is to her brother George B. Gardner, a name that is engraved on the monument high upon the hill in Morton, Minnesota.

That summer, grasshoppers were worth two cents a pound, and some folks were catching a barrel full a day.

C. W. and Martha Elizabeth made a decision in March of 1876.

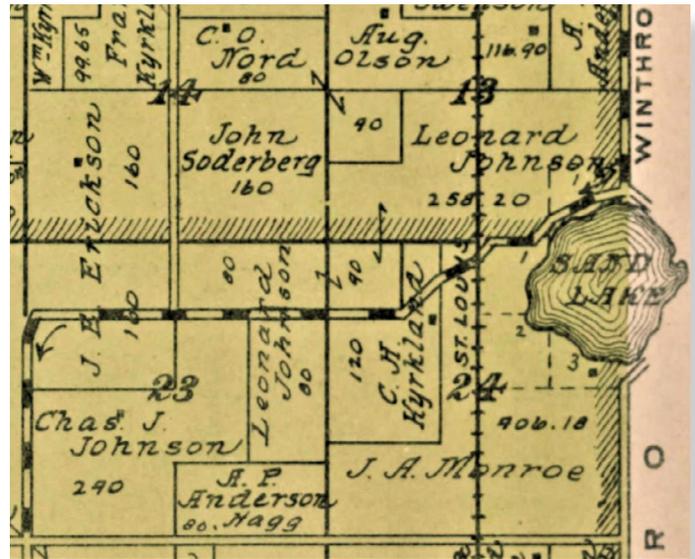
Sat 18 Charles came home with the money. We have mortgaged our farm for five yrs for twelve hundred dollars at 10 per cent interest.

Mon 20 Charlie putting up a cow shed for the extra cows that we are going to buy to go into the dairying extensively.

By the end of the month they had purchased a bull for \$112 and six cows for \$141. Cattle at that time were ranging from \$21 to \$25 per head. Of course, if you were going to be in the dairy business, a milk house was a requirement. They hired a hand, August Anderson, for \$250 a year. On May 31st, August Anderson began to dig the cellar for the milk house, and they contracted two stonemasons from the Swede Grove for two dollars per day to lay the stone for the milk house cellar. The milk house itself was then framed, sided, and roofed. Sawdust was used for insulation between the walls and roof.

On November 5, the election found Tilden and Hayes running for president. Tilden carried the day there.

It is unknown why pages of the journal are missing from May 1878 through March 1880, a period of almost



Map of the Sand Lake area showing Section 24. Taken from Atlas and Farmers' Directory of Sibley County, Minnesota, 1914.

two years. During that time, C. W. and Martha left their farm in Sibley, Sibley County.

CORNISH, SIBLEY COUNTY, MINNESOTA

Legal documentation verifies that they purchased the Sand Lake property. When the journal entries resume in April of 1880, they identify the location as Cornish, Sibley County. The boundaries of the property are noted as Township 112, Range 30. Their new house was on Section 13, and they worked Sections 18 and 24. They continued to develop the farm site. A milk house, complete with a well to hold and cool the milk cans, a granary, cow stable, hen house, and a wire-fenced cow yard were built. The temperatures in August reached 100 degrees, but that did not dampen their enthusiasm or slow them down.

A letter from Charles Wesley to Clarissa's daughter Myra on March 6, 1881, describes their new surroundings.

One don't feel the cold anymore but you would not I presume like the country part as the neighbours are a good ways apart. Our nearest neighbour East is about one mile. The one North the same and those south and west two miles away and most of them Sweds Germans, and other foreigners and they have different habits and customs from us. But this is great country. One can see a great many miles each way. We can see the R. R. smoke on the North and South although each one is 15 miles away. We have a

spy glass that we can see a person a good many miles off with.

Our place is on a small pond or lake as they are called here. It has a hard shore all around it and most of the way sandy. It is a very pretty lake to look at. Our house is about 40 rods from it. We have a boat on it and there are fish in it. We sometimes ketch a pickeral that will weigh 5 lbs. Some have caught them of 17 lbs weight.

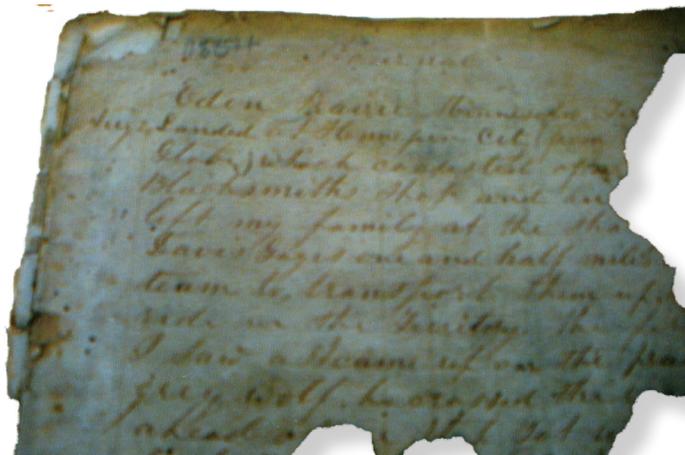
You ought to come out and stay with us this summer. It is very nice in the spring and summer on the prairie such a nice green carpet smother and soft as velvet to look at as far as the eye can see.

On July 3, 1881, Charlie E. acknowledged the shooting of President James Garfield in his journal. For those that do not remember, President Garfield was shot in the back, four months into his term, and died in September from blood poisoning.

C. W. wrote to his niece Myra again on July 4th.

We have four hired hands besides our own family. Have 45 cows to milk and 35 calves to feed twice a day. Make a cheese and churn every day except Sunday. It is lots of work

Martha Elizabeth draws our attention through journal entries to a couple of new developments during the months of November and December 1881.



Page from the original Woodbury journal, held by the Minnesota Historical Society, 2018. It is remarkable to have this wonderful transcription despite the fragile state of the pages.

Wed 30 Charles & Willard went to Gaylord a new town on the R. R. formerly calld Harris Grove.

Thurs 15 Charles & myself with Williard as driver went to see the new R. R. at the future town Winthrop three miles north from here.

At one time, Charles had mentioned to his niece Myra that he had kept all of the letters that her mother, Clarissa, had written to him over the years. He offered to send them to her so she could read them, but he expressed his desire to have them returned. He wrote a letter to her on June 5, 1882.

I did not think of your mothers letters till I had sent the one I wrote off. The mice found their way to some of them and there are some more that we will send some other time. Please take care of them as I value them highly.

Later, he wrote to her saying that he didn't know of anyone that would be more careful of the letters, and they would be safer if she kept them.

In September of 1882, Charles and Martha began meeting in what were called "school affairs." Building began on a new school and it was completed in December of the same year. Mrs. Scriber was hired as the first teacher. It is noted in the journal that the schoolhouse was banked for the winter with two loads of manure.

The journal closed out 1882 with the following December entry.

Mon 25 Very Pleasant for Christmas. Had a small tree fixed up which got better filld than we expected. Charles got an ink stand. I got a glass measure, dress, tape measure. Gertrude a photograph album, Bertha a tin set and box of sliced animals sent by Nels. The rest had to look on.

Martha Elizabeth maintained the journal from January 1883 through November 1892. She made this notation at the beginning of 1883.

Charles has presented me this book to last my life time as a diary.

There were six days in January 1883 when the temperature was recorded in the journal at minus 24 degrees or

colder, reaching a maximum low of minus 35 degrees on January 22nd, which happened to be the 60th birthday of Charles Wesley. Many other days were in the minus teens below zero making it a January and February to remember.

C. W. wrote a letter to Myra dated September 26, 1883, relating his thoughts to her as they pertained to a nearby religious rite.

There has been several Camp meetings close by us this year but I don't go so I cant tell whither they are good or not. Sand Lake is used by the regin-erated to wash out their sins. I was amused to see one of their ministers try the depth of water. He evidently hadn't the faith of Peter not the ability of Elishas axe for he was very carefull to try the debth.

It is written in the journal that in December 1884, C. W. and Martha sold their Sand Lake farm.

Wed 10 Mr. Gustafson came to buy the farm for \$600. Charles and myself went to town to sign the deed

FRANKLIN, RENVILLE COUNTY, MINNESOTA

The first four months of 1885 found them preparing and completing their planned move to Franklin, Renville County, Minnesota. They gathered all of their farm equipment and other unnecessary items, held an auction, and then proceeded to move the remainder of their belongings to Franklin. Their plan was to build and operate a creamery producing butter and cheese.

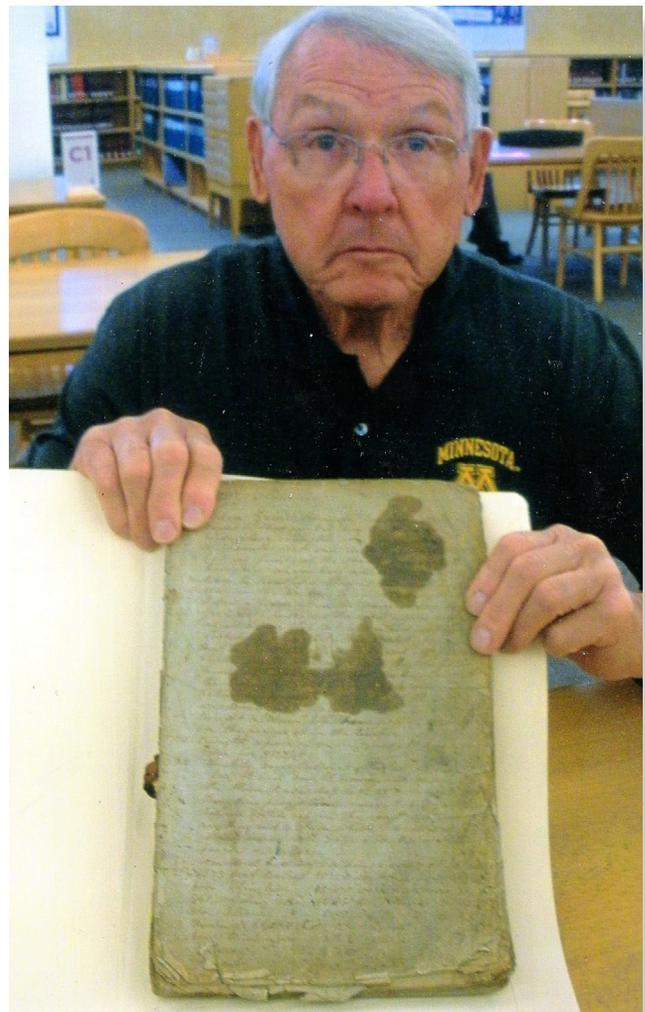
Through the years, prior to 1885, entries in the journal record the hundreds and hundreds of pounds of butter and cheese that they produced and marketed. Based on those numbers, their plan certainly contained creditability.

Prior to getting the creamery up and running, they had to build a house for the storage of ice, or an ice-house. A major part of operating a creamery was to be able to harvest and store enough ice during the winter months to last them from spring through fall, until the following winter. In those years, the ice was covered with sawdust to insulate it against the heat of the warmer months and preserve it for later use.

On April 20, 1885, they plowed to level the ground for the foundation of the creamery, and on April 25th

they started to frame the structure. Charles Wesley wrote a letter to Myra dated May 24, 1885.

You will see by the heading of this letter that we are not at Sand Lake. I have sold our my Sand Lake farm and stock and am building a creamery here in Franklin 26 miles west on the Minneapolis & St. Louis R.R. It is a very pretty place. Shall commence to make butter next week. Shall make but little this year from 150# to 300# per day. We are in the village and on the banks of the Minnesota River. I have three acres of land which borders on a small creek that emptyys into the river about one mile after passing our place.



Charles W. Erickson holds the Woodbury journal, 2018.



Charles and Martha Woodbury, undated photo by H. Pingel.

After the framing for the creamery was raised, the walls and roof were boarded, and the roof was shingled. During construction, they purchased equipment for the creamery, and they hired a carpenter to make a butter-milk tank for them. One of their biggest challenges was to find and purchase enough milk cans to distribute to the dairy farms. The Fairfax tin man couldn't make them fast enough. They explored every possible resource in which cans might be obtained, and finally, they secured enough to establish a route. From then on it was a matter of collecting the cream on a regular schedule during the day, churning it to butter in the evening, and shipping the butter to various locations; Minneapolis and Saint Paul just to name a couple. It is noted that they also shipped butter to the Morton Eating House. That schedule was repeated, day after day, month after month, as a part of each daily journal entry.

In September 1885, Charles Wesley visited the Minnesota State Fair. The results of that visit created a lot of excitement as Martha Elizabeth noted in the journal.

Mon 7 Charles gone on noon train to state fair.

Fri 11 Charles came home from the fair on the eleven o'clock train last night.

Thurs 17 Our creamery got a prize of \$25 for best one hundred lbs butter at state fair.

Mr. Osterman purchased their Sibley farm in January of 1886 for twenty-four hundred dollars. Martha Elizabeth signed away her right to the farm on Friday the 15th.

The Woodburys purchased a Modesta Organ, and it was delivered to them in Franklin on Monday, April 19th.

Does anyone have a Modesta organ from 1886 or a picture of one?

In March 1887, they had numerous meetings with Mr. Forsythe, a miller, regarding the building of a mill in Franklin. The Co-operative Milling Association was organized, and directors were chosen. Mr. Forsythe surveyed the building site on Friday, April 8th.

Excavation for the foundation began on Thursday, April 21st, and about four months later, on Saturday, August 27th, the first flour was made. Soon after that, the flour was distributed over a wide area.

In April, there is an entry in the journal of which a part is novel enough to bear repeating.

Sat 9 Mostly cloudy strong S.E. wind ... Frogs peeping.

All my life, I have always thought that frogs "croaked." I have never heard their "croaking" referred to as "peeping." "Peeping" is an interesting description.

Butter, cheese, and the creamery are not mentioned again after 1887, except for the liquidation of related equipment in 1889. The words mill and milling replaced them in the journal on a daily basis.

In April of 1890, Charles Wesley had health issues and was in and out of bed for over a month. The doctor diagnosed it as facial neuralgia on April 27th. Two weeks later, after many days of pain, sleepless nights, and doctor calls, C. W. felt well enough to walk over to the mill. He had a host of visitors including Mr. Cornish.

On Monday, July 28, 1890, Charles Wesley's first-born son, Charles Edmond, started out for Lincoln, Nebraska, in an effort to settle down. Charles Edmond had been a very hard-working, active son throughout the preceding years helping on the farm, in the creamery and in the mill. In addition, he worked any part-time employment he could find. They missed him and his wife, Effie, a lot.

In 1891, Charles Edmond and Effie had twin girls. C. W. wrote a letter to C. E. on May 18, 1891 offering fatherly words of wisdom.

Our regard to the "babies." They do well enough in their place. Hope they will pay for raising. Of course they are a present gratification and pleasure to you but how about the "babies" pleasure. Did you ever think that with the rate of increase since the first census of U.S in 1790 the people of Neb would stand so thick that every person could rest his hand on his neighbors shoulder in a time less than has passed since the U.S. was first settled by Europeans and that it is a possibility that the "babies" descendant of the 7 generation would see that time. Think what a struggle for existence people must have when the country is people twice as thick as China. I can't see much cause for congratulations. However you have my best wishes for your present happiness and success.

I find this whole paragraph rather interesting beyond description. I am sure that Charles Wesley is a proud grandparent; however, his message gets mixed reviews from me. The above words are from a man that helped to raise seven children of his own, in a time far wilder than the time of this letter. Yet he seems wary about bringing new life into a world far tamer than the one he experienced at that age. Perhaps his age altered his opinions on other things as well.

My wife and I had two children. Our son, Chad Wesley Erickson, decided to make Raleigh, North Carolina, his home. He moved there several years ago, and we miss him greatly. Personally, the thought of him ever leaving Minnesota never entered our minds. In August of 2008, Chad and his wife, Leslie, brought our grandson, Tyler Alexander Erickson, into the world. Many of you have probably experienced the same thing. Hundreds of miles can make personal visits few and far between. We are blessed to have our daughter, Kristin Marie, living just

a short distance from us, and we do cherish the time we continue to share with her.

Charles Wesley wrote to Myra on April 26, 1892.

Our oldest daughter Alice and her two children are with us. We live in the village. Have three acres of land. Alice feeds and takes care of a cow and has about 175 hens which and the housework keeps her and her girl busy. I am not able to do much. Get to the Post Office every day when not too stormy. Read the papers, talk politics and Religion. About 1/2 are Catholic 3/4 remainder Lutheran the rest Methodist. The Catholics had a Priest here who when we were first introduced thought to make me a Catholic. I told him that I was all right as it was the truth I was after. After a few discussions he said I did not want to be convinced. I told him I was after the truth but he had not enough of it for me to see it. He never spoke to me after. I suppose he is in the 1/2 way house (Purgatory) he used to talk about.

On November 2, 1892, Martha Elizabeth fell and was bedridden for several days. It wasn't until November 22nd that she was able to go into the living room but was unable to stand on her own. Because of her injuries, Martha Elizabeth Woodbury never made another entry into the journal. Charles Wesley picked up the pen again and kept the journal up to date during the month of November.



Karen Erickson at Franklin Cemetery entrance, Renville County, Minnesota, 2017.

Then, on November 26th, almost 38 years after he made his first entry into the journal, Charles Wesley Woodbury made his final entry into the journal, and it was about an old friend of theirs whose name had appeared often through the years.

Sat 26 Luke Riley died Saturday 19 aged 74 years.

Bessie Gertrude Woodbury was the next to youngest child of C. W. Woodbury. Bessie wrote to her brother Charles Edmond regarding the health of their parents in a letter dated September 23, 1900.

Mother did not seem so bright when I was there Friday as she has been. She pointed to a piece of paper on the floor and asked Doris if she "saw that chicken sitting there." She has seemed real well all summer. Father has failed a good deal in the last year.

Bessie, my great-grandmother, was married to Peter Erickson, my great-grandfather. They had a son named George, or Georgie, as referred to many times in the journals and letters. George or Georgie is my grandfather. I do not recall anyone calling or referring to my grandfather as Georgie. I never knew of the name until I read it in the journals and letters.

Martha Alice Woodbury, the oldest child of C. W., wrote in a letter to her cousin Myra that Charles Wesley's hand was too shaky to write, and in fact he had given up writing all together. She also mentioned that Martha Elizabeth was almost helpless.

On the evening of February 11, 1901, Martha Elizabeth Woodbury passed away. It was noted that there were quite a number of people at the funeral, and she was laid to rest on February 13th, a pleasant day, near Mrs. Forsythe in the "Camp burying ground."

Martha Alice was wrong about Charles Wesley giving up writing. Both C. W. and Martha Elizabeth wrote letters quite often to their son, Charles Edmond. After Martha Elizabeth's passing, Charles Wesley continued to write to both his son and niece Myra regularly.

The last letter that I have from Charles Wesley Woodbury, to his son Charles Edmond Woodbury, was written on November 24, 1905. There is nothing of note in the letter. Just having the letter has significance.



Charles W. Erickson at the memorial for Charles and Martha Woodbury, Franklin Cemetery, Minnesota, 2017.

Charles Wesley Woodbury passed away on July 13, 1908. The Franklin, Minnesota, newspaper printed his obituary as follows in part.

DEATH TAKES TOLL

Charles Wesley Woodbury Passes to the

Dreamless Sleep

Monday morning

WAS TOWN'S OLDEST RESIDENT

Oddly Unconventional and Alert

Mentality, He was Very Peculiar Person

Early Monday morning there passed from "beyond the flaming ramparts of the world" a man who for many years has been a peculiar figure in the life and annals of this town—Charles Wesley Woodbury—at the ripe old age of 85 years and about six months.

Deceased was among the town's very first settlers, coming to Franklin in the year 1885 with his wife and family. Mr. Woodbury purchased the little farm on which he has since resided. At first he engaged in the creamery and cheese manufacturing business on a small scale, but later abandoned this and devoted his time, before he became infirm, to chicken raising.

Mr. Woodbury's social and religious ideas were strangely unconventional and he took great joy in exploiting them for the sake of controversy. He was a man of fine mental attainments and a student of philosophy, pursuing his studies in his large library up to a very short time before the end came. He was extremely punctual and honorable in the discharge of business obligations and his lifelong abstinence from tobacco and intoxicants is probably one of the secrets of his longevity.

The funeral was held from the home of the deceased on Tuesday afternoon. The remains were interred in the Camp Cemetery.

This completes the journey of Charles Wesley Woodbury, from 1854 through to his death in 1908, fifty-four years of being a part of the settling and development of a portion of Minnesota. I am extremely proud to know that my great-great-grandfather played such a role. As I began, so shall I conclude. How I would have loved the chance to sit down and enjoy an armchair, in front of the fireplace, face-to-face chat with him.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Charles Wesley Erickson Jr. lives with Karen, his wife of 56 years, in Brooklyn Center, Hennepin County, Minnesota. They have two children. Daughter, Kristin, lives in Eden Prairie, Minnesota, not too far from the 1854 Woodbury property. Their son, Chad, lives with wife, Leslie, and son, Tyler, in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Charles has enjoyed writing a number of articles for a variety of organizations through the years, one of which attained copyrights. He credits Karen for providing the inspiration that motivated him to read, investigate, and offer a personal response to the Woodbury Journal. As a team, they have located, set foot on, and photographed, all of the Charles Wesley Woodbury properties that have been identified in the series of three articles, including final resting places and gravestones. They are members of the Sibley County Historical Society and the Minnesota Historical Society.

Charles thanks the Woodbury's for keeping such a detailed journal. What a blessing it is to have that history recorded by real family in those real times.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



at the GFO



Check the GFO Calendar, typically, the schedule includes:

- **Advanced DNA Group Meetings:** The 3rd Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon: January, April, July and October.
- **Beginner DNA Group Meetings:** The 3rd Saturday for the following months from 9 a.m. to noon: February, May, August and November.
- **"DNA Days"** during our annual Open House: Two full days of DNA classes at all levels.
- **DNA Q & A:** Meetings on the first and 3rd Wednesdays of the month at the GFO Library.
- **The Family Tree Maker Beginners Group:** quarterly in January, April, July & October, 1 - 3 p.m., at the back of the GFO Library.
- **The Family Tree Maker Users Group:** 3rd Sunday of February, March, May, June, August, September, November, and December (dependent on holiday) from 1 - 3 p.m.
- **Problem Solvers:** Meetings: 3rd Saturday of each month from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
- **Learn & Chat:** First and third Wednesday of the month from 10:00 a.m. to noon.



Pistols in the House at Grosvenor Square:

Discovering the Suicides of My Ancestors Peter Delmé III (1710–1770) and Peter Delmé IV (1748–1789)

Mark Grafe

A three-page letter to my grandfather from England begins with an unsourced lineage chart. Philip Delmé > Peter Delmé > Sir Peter Delmé > Peter Delmé (1710–1770) appear at the top. Two of Peter Delmé III’s children, Christiana (Delmé) Awdry and Peter Delmé IV (1748–1749), are then listed with descendants. My grandfather was well-acquainted with the descendants of Christiana Delmé, as that is our line. He also became aware of some descendants of Peter Delmé IV, who were well-known public figures.¹

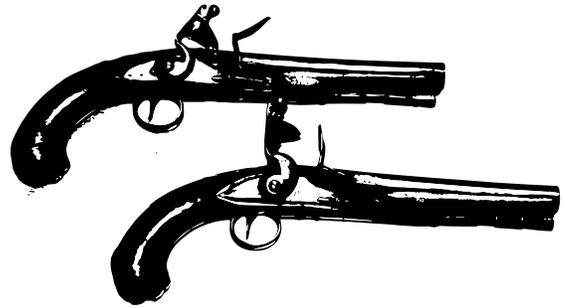
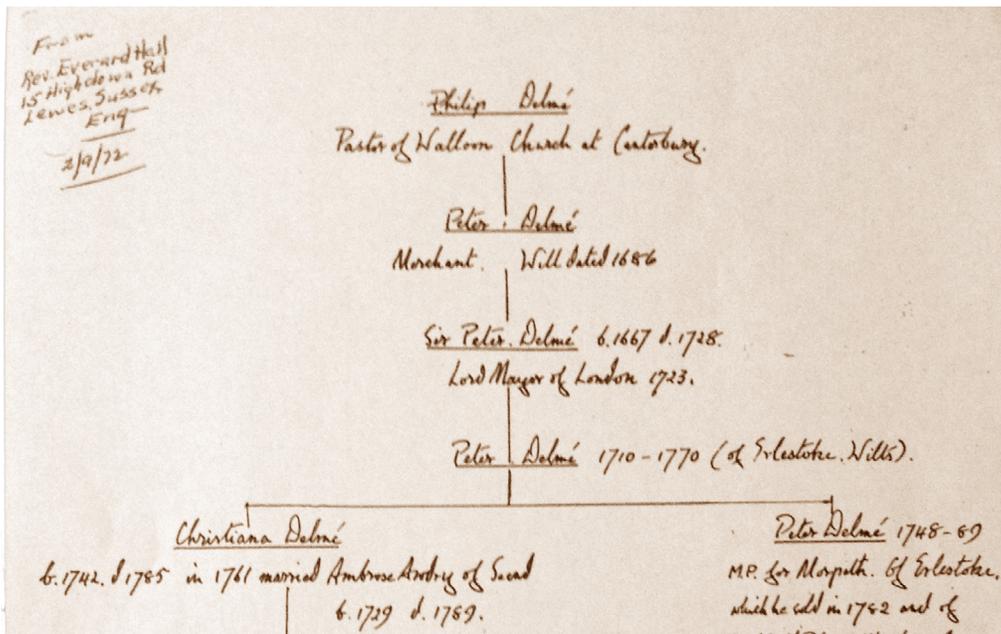


Image trace of 18th century English pistols

I knew this pedigree existed, but just recently found pages two and three of the letter. It was written by the Reverend Everard Hall (Lewes, Sussex, England) to my grandfather Heber Radcliffe (Klamath Falls, Klamath County, Oregon) and dated 9 February 1972. Rev. Hall’s wife, Stella, was a second cousin to Heber. The information from Rev. Hall gave clues to the deaths of both Peter III and Peter IV.

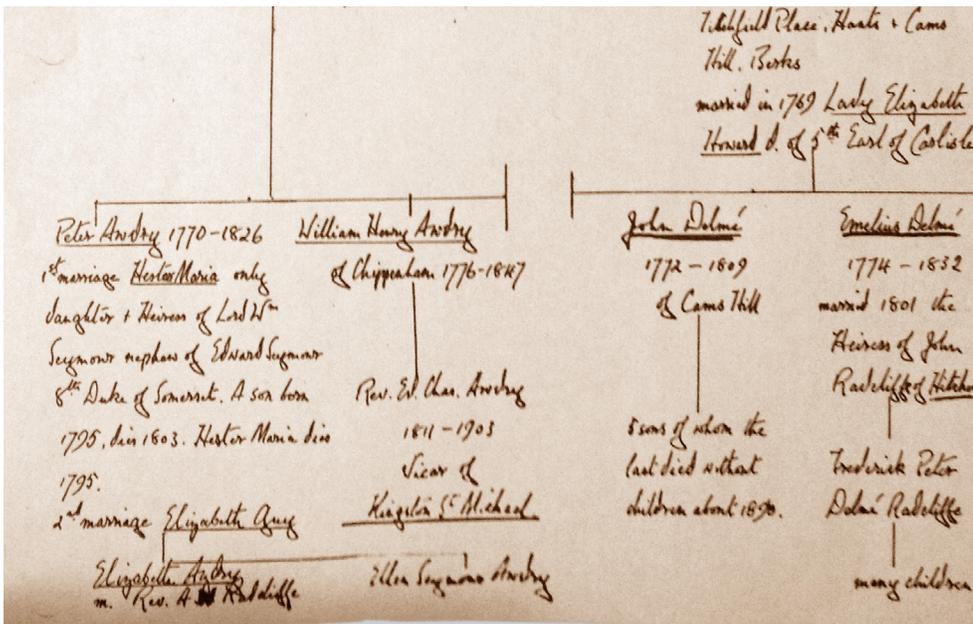
My grandfather may have requested information on the Delmé-Radcliffe family “of Hitchen.” The Radcliffe surname appears on both lines of descent. Although Christiana’s descendant Elizabeth Awdry married the Reverend A. W. Radcliffe,² and the son of Peter Delmé IV (1748–1789) married the heiress of John Radcliffe, these Radcliffe families were not related.³

The following is a transcription of the two pages that accompanied the chart. The Delmé to Radcliffe chart is pictured. Some punctuation in the transcription has been corrected. The four subheadings were in the letter’s margin.



Selected descendants of Philip Delmé, by Reverend Everard Hall, sent to my grandfather Heber Radcliffe in 1972. The lower half of the chart is shown on the next page.

1. The information possibly came from Francis William Cross, *History of the Walloon and Huguenot Church at Canterbury* (London: Cross & Jackman, 1898), 88; *Hathi Trust Digital Library* (<https://catalog.hathitrust.org/Record/002044550> : accessed 21 September 2018).
 2. Charles Henry and Francis R. Y. Radcliffe, *Pedigree of the Radcliffe Family, of New Sarum, co. Wilts, etc.* (Exeter and London, England: William Pollard & Co. Ltd., Printer, 1905), entry for Alston William Radcliffe.
 3. “Hampshire Marriage Transcriptions,” database, *Findmypast* (<http://search.findmypast.co.uk/record?id=gbprs%21810140062%214> : accessed 21 March 2016), entry for Chareles Delme Radcliffe and Elizabeth Delme, 15 September 1831 at Tichfield; citing Hampshire Genealogical Society.



Philip Delmé

The earliest member of the Delmé family of importance seems to have been a Philip Delmé, who was pastor of the Walloon Church in Canterbury (1640–50). In the 17th century Canterbury was a great centre of the silk weaving trade, and large members of Walloons, driven by persecution to England, settled in the city in the reign of Elizabeth 1st. Later in 1676 Charles II granted a charter of incorporation to the Walloon congregation under style of the Master, wardens and Fellowship of Weavers in the city of Canterbury.

Sir Peter Delmé & Peter III

The next Delmé of importance was Sir Peter Delmé, grandson of the Walloon pastor; Philip Delmé above. Sir Peter was Lord Mayor of London in 1723 and died in 1728. At some time about this period either the Lord Mayor or his son (also named Peter) bought Erlestoke in Wiltshire and the family lived there for some 50 years.

Peter IV [and his wife, Lady Betty]

This latter Peter Delmé (the third) b. 1710, d. 1770 had two children. Christiana (1742–1785) and Peter (the fourth) 1748–1789. Christiana married Ambrose Awdry of Seend, Wilts, and Peter Delmé (the 4th) married in 1769, Lady Elizabeth Howard, daughter of the 5th Earl of Carlisle.

Lady Betty Delmé was said to be very beautiful

and attractive, and was what was termed “a reigning toast in her day.” Horace Walpole writing to the Countess of Ossory June 1779 says “the other day I dined at H. R. H. Princess Amelie’s (who had a great cold)—there were there Anne Howard, Betty Delmé, etc. etc.” Peter Delmé took his own life. He [Peter Delmé IV] shot himself in 1789. “Pray accustom yourself” (says a letter among the family papers) “to think that one of the pistols in your possession made Lady Betty a widow, and at liberty to marry.”⁴ However, during their 20 years of married life they had several [sic] sons from whom descend the present day Delmé Radcliffes.⁵ They belong mainly to Hampshire. [The following

paragraph refers to Peter Delmé III.] According to a letter written by the Rev. E. Archer of West Lavington to the Rev. E. C. Awdry in 1868, “Peter Delmé [III] left his wife £ 800 a year but she seems to have survived her husband only 3 months and perhaps grief hastened her and that she took snuff is I think a legitimate inference from the requests of snuff boxes in her will.”⁶

The Diary of Reverend Francis Kilvert

The Diary of Rev. Francis Kilvert by Jonathan Cape in 3 vols 1938, 39, 40 prints & unique pictures of county life in mid-Victorian times. In the 70s there are quite a number of references to the Awdry family with whom he was on intimate terms, which is not surprising as he was born at Hardenhuish near Chippenham in Wiltshire.



Lady Elizabeth Delmé and her children, 1779. National Gallery of Art.

Names mentioned are Margaret, Fanny, Maria, and Harriet Awdry, and also the Rev. Chas Awdry (1811–1908). The latter as will be seen from the enclosed pedigree is a nephew of Peter Awdry (1770–1826).

—Rev. Everard Hall

4. Footnote added to note suicide of Peter Delmé IV.

5. The chart shows only two sons, any more are unknown. The Delmé-Radcliffes descended from Emelius Delmé.

6. Peter Delmé III, recorded will, parish of St. George, Hanover Square, Middlesex, England, proved 26 April 1770, Records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, London; digital images, AncestryInstitution (www.ancestryinstitution.com), > Peter Delmé > death 1770 > London, England > Prerogative Court of Canterbury Wills > images 606–616. Citing Public Record Office, London.

I was hesitant to believe stories that said my fifth great-grandfather Peter Delmé III committed suicide. I found the source for the death stories to be four or five books of published letters from 1843, which can be found on the Internet Archive. I'm not going to cite the hearsay, but old English newspapers apparently described the death of Peter Delmé III as apoplectic fit and stomach gout. Ouch!

The location of the “letter among the family papers” is unknown. Only one of two sons, not several, led to the Delmé-Radcliffe family. “To the inexpressible grief of his disconsolate parents,” the oldest son of Peter Delmé III died in 1768.⁷ Then, Peter Delmé III committed suicide



Grosvenor Square, London, 2017. Delmé lived near here.
Photo © N. Chadwick (cc-by-sa/2.0) Geograph.org.uk

in 1770.⁸ His wife died three months later in 1770.⁹ Peter Delmé III may have had financial difficulties, but his will was updated three months before he died. The will shows that he was not insolvent.¹⁰

*You saw Delmé [Peter Delmé III] the night before he shot himself, I suppose you saw him the night after; I suppose he had his reasons, but if his wife does not guess, or does not tell, then I suppose you will never know them.*¹¹

—Lord Holland

In summary, the quote from Lord Holland states unequivocally that Peter Delmé III shot himself in 1770 for unknown reasons. Rev. Everard Hall was correct with the 1789 death date for Peter Delmé IV and quoted a letter with personal knowledge of the suicide of Peter Delmé IV.

Cause of death is not always reported correctly. I was hoping to find that my fourth great-grandfather did not commit suicide. Both father and son shot themselves. It is possible my fourth great-granduncle Peter Delmé IV may have accidentally shot himself. However, George Selwyn wrote in 1789, that “Delmé persuaded himself that he should die.”¹²

Besides inheriting the residence at Grosvenor Square in London,¹³ Peter Delmé IV also inherited 180,000 pounds from his uncle after his father’s death.¹⁴ It was Peter Delmé IV who was in debt when he died at age forty-two, according to Selwyn’s letters.¹⁵

Research shows most people will reach out for help. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255. The Institute on Aging offers a friendship line for isolated people who just need someone to talk with at

1-800-971-0016. The Central Oregon Health Council can supplement emotional support with consistent call-back. For a list of local services, see 211info.org or dial 211.

7. “Salisbury, May 23,” Salisbury and Winchester Journal, 23 May 1768, p. 3, col. 3. John Delmé died of small pox, aged 20, “to the inexpressible grief of his disconsolate parents.”

8. Institute of Historical Research, “The History of Parliament,” database, “Member biographies, Delmé, Peter (1710–1770),” (<http://www.historyofparliamentonline.org/volume/1715-1754/member/delmé-peter-1710-70> : accessed 1 December 2017).

9. St. Margaret Pattens (London, England), parish register of burials, unpaginated, Peter Delmé, 15 April 1770, Christian Delmé, 2 July 1770; digital image, AncestryInstitution (www.ancestryinstitution.com), Peter > Delmé > 1770 > London, England > Historical Records > St. Margaret Pattens Parish Register, image 94 of 100, citing London Metropolitan Archives.

10. Peter Delmé III, recorded will, proved 26 April 1770.

11. Lord Holland to George Selwyn, letter, 2 May 1770; *George Selwyn and his Contemporaries, with Memories and Notes by John Heneage Jesse, Volume Two* (Boston: Francis A. Arnold, 1843–44) page 390; *Internet Archive* (<https://archive.org/details/georgeselwynhisco2jess2> : accessed 2 September 2018).

12. E. S. Roscoe and Helen Clergue, editors, *George Selwyn his Letters and his Life* (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1899), 251.

13. Peter Delmé III, recorded will, proved 26 April 1770.

14. “Leeds March 5th,” Leeds Intelligencer, 5 March 1776, p. 3, col. 3; digital image, *Findmypast* (<http://search.findmypast.co.uk> : accessed 23 March 2016).

15. E. S. Roscoe and Helen Clergue, editors, *George Selwyn his Letters and his Life* (London: T. Fisher Unwin, 1899), 251.

Civil War Letter of Leander Stewart Riggs (1832–1892) to Barton Parks Ferris (1812–1895)

Nanci Remington

On Saturday, 11 October 1862, Leander Riggs finally had time to reflect on the battle of the previous week. Eight days earlier, Confederates had attacked his Illinois regiment. Riggs, a bugler and later leader of his army band, wrote of barefoot southern prisoners and a pile of bodies. He survived when his regiment defeated the attacking Confederates.

His vivid observations are recorded in the accompanying letter, found in the Parish Personal Papers, part of the manuscripts collection of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon. Compiled by H. Carroll Parish Jr., the collection has a wealth of correspondence and research notes pertaining to the Riggs, Riddell, Ferris, Parish, and allied families. There are also copies of wills, pension files, Bible pages, and other records, some of which may be unique to this collection. Many of the letters are quite long and give detailed information about the families.

Of particular interest are letters written by Mr. Parish's great-grandfather, Leander Stewart Riggs. Among them is the following, sent shortly after the Battle of Corinth during the Civil War. Leander was writing to his father-in-law, Barton Parks Ferris.



Battle of Corinth, Currier and Ives, public domain, Wikimedia Commons (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Battle_of_Corinth,_Currier_and_Ives.jpg).



Envelope from the Parish Collection, held by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, 2018.

The letter was transcribed from the original. Spelling and punctuation were retained as written. The line and paragraph breaks were modified for publication.

[Envelope, unstamped]

[Postage] Due 3

[Postmark:]

CAIRO - [?] 16, 1862 ILL

Soldiers Letter

Sam c. Johnson

A. A. A. Gen

B. P. Ferris Esqr

Woodhull

Henry Co

Illinois

[Enclosure:]

Head Quarters

1st Brigade

6th Division

Army of the Tennessee

Oct 11th 1862

B. P. Ferris Esq

Dear Sir

I received your kind letter and am glad to hear from friends at home we have just had a great battle and as I presume you have read the details of it in the papers it will not be necessary for me to say much about it

Price attacked us with his whole army on friday morn Oct 3rd our boys fought over evry inch of ground untill they were obliged to fall back inside our breastworks being as is nearly always the case overpowered by numbers still there was no hurry about it our troops fell back

Contesting every inch of ground and the battle for the day ceased with night setting in and both armies lay on their arms for the night at 4 Oclock Saturday morning we were awakened by the discharge of guns from the enemy he had succeeded in

*planting a battery in the night in a good position
but it did not stay there long our boys charged and
took it and brought it in 7 guns*

*The fighting was tremendous from that time
till noon the enemy charging right up to the mouth
of our canon but they were repulsed every time and
always with great slaughter about noon they fled
and were pursued by our forces who have not come
in yet but I beleive are on their way back they having
driven the enemy from the state our loss is very
small while that of the enemy in killed is at least 10
to our one I counted 22 in one pile in front of one of
our batteries.*

*Corinth is now comparatively safe unless the
rumour prove true that Braggs is marching this way
but let him come he will meet with a hot reception
he won't catch our Generals asleep we will try and
take his whole army prisoner or at least all that we
dont kill in this last battle we have taken several
thousand and we still have room to stow away a few
more it is generally supposed that this will be a death
blow to the Confederacy in the west I hope it will
and I don't see how the Secesh can subsist for the
winter there is little or nothing to live on and they
have no Clothes to speak of at least half of those
taken prisoner by us are barefoot. Lincoln's pro-
clamation is hailed with delight by [?] most of the
soldiers they know that it is the only way to end the
war I have no more news that would be interesting
to you*

*I have to send my letters without stamps they
cant be bought in camp give my love to [?] and the
children hoping to hear from you often*

I remain yours

L S Riggs

In 1970, Carroll Parish wrote a biographical sketch of Leander. The following excerpts are included:

Leander Stewart Riggs, born in 1832 in Scrubgrass Township, Venango County, Pennsylvania, was the first son of Daniel Cook and Mary Anne (Stewart) Riggs When he was 52 he was described as 5'4" tall, with dark complexion, black hair and blue eyes. His occupation was given variously as a "tinner" and as a "tuner of pianos and organs." However, he engaged in several other occupations.

The Federal Census of 1850 shows him to be living alone in the Middle Ward in Rock Island, Illinois, where his mother reportedly died three years previously. Married first on 6 December 1853 in Rock Island to Mary Eva Ferris, oldest daughter of Barton Parks and Rosetta (Mott) Ferris, they had three boys as follows:

(1) Frank, born 1854 in Illinois, drowned at a young age;

(2) Alfred Parks, born 25 February 1858, at Galesburg, Illinois, and

(3) Willie, born about April, 1860, probably in Monmouth, Illinois.

In a letter dated 30 July 1856 mailed in Macomb, Illinois, to his brother-in-law, George H. Ferris, he mentions that he is making "much money canvassing books." In 1860, he was living with his wife and three sons in Monmouth, Warren County, Illinois.

In the Civil War, he enrolled on 23 April 1861 at Knoxville, Illinois, as a musician under the name of "Leander S. Riggs." Mustered into service on 15 July 1861 at Quincy, Illinois, he is listed as 1st Bugler, Captain Smith's Company (which subsequently became Company D) of the 1st Illinois Cavalry Volunteers. On 21 August 1861, Leander was transferred to Field and Staff as leader of the band.

Honorably discharged on 9 October 1861 at St. Louis, Missouri, on 1 November 1861 at Galesburg, Illinois, he reenlisted under the name of "L. Stewart Riggs." On 20 December 1861, he was mustered into service at Peoria, Illinois, as a private in Captain Knowlton's Company (which subsequently became Company H), 11th Illinois Cavalry Volunteers where he served with the band.

He sent a letter dated 11 October 1862 to his father-in-law, B. P. Ferris, in Woodhull, Illinois, stating that he had taken part in actions with the 1st Brigade, 6th Division, Army of the Tennessee. On 13 April 1863, he was honorably discharged.

Leander Riggs survived the war. However, his marriage did not. By 1870, both he and his wife had remarried. Leander's second marriage to Wealtha Allen ended in divorce, and he married a third time, to Mary Eveline Odell in 1884. According to his last wife's Civil War pension application, Leander died 14 February 1892 in Chattahoochee, Gadsden County, Florida, at the age



Crossroads of the Confederacy, Ron Cogswell, CC BY 2.0, Wikimedia Commons (https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Railroad_crossover_in_Corinth,_Mississippi,_United_States.jpg).

11TH ILLINOIS CAVALRY

As a member of the 11th Illinois Cavalry, Leander Riggs would have seen action from the company's first engagement at Pittsburg Landing in Tennessee on 6 April 1862. According to the *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Illinois*:

The Regiment met with a severe loss in killed and wounded. The Regiment was on duty between Pittsburg Landing and Corinth up to the capture of Corinth, and was in the celebrated raid in the rear of Corinth when the railroad track was torn up at Purdie. It was in Tennessee and North Mississippi; was in the fight at Bolivar, Tenn., and met with a severe loss in a fight at Davis Bridge, on

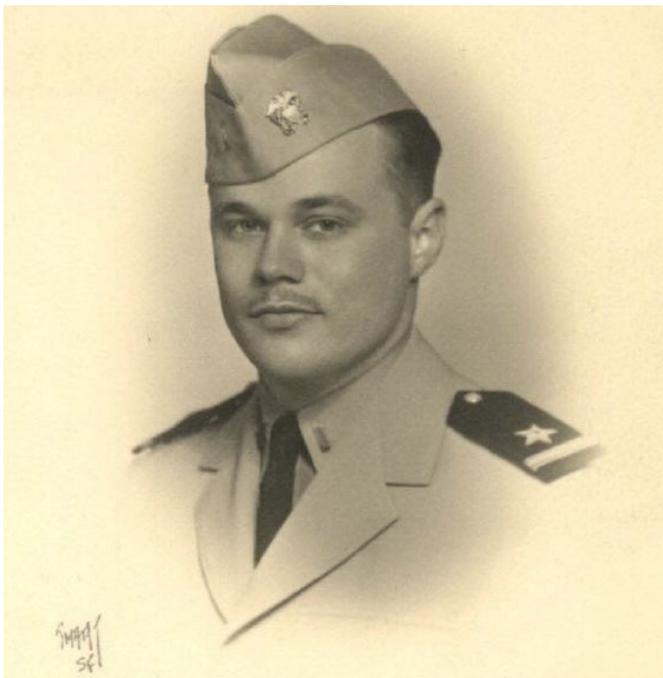
the Hatchie River. It was also in the 3 days' fight at Corinth and Iuka, in Oct. 1862. The winter of '62 and '63 the Regiment was stationed at Jackson, Tenn., and met Forrest's advance at Lexington on Dec. 18 The loss in killed and wounded was severe and about 100 men were taken prisoners; the officers and men were paroled by Gen. Forrest the next day. The remainder of the Regiment was in the fight the next day, Dec. 19, at Jackson, the 20th at Humboldt, the 31st at Parker's Cross Roads, and followed Forrest to the Tennessee River at Clifton. The Regiment at this time was reduced to less than 300 effective men, and 200 horses, fit for service.^a

a. Illinois Secretary of State, *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Illinois (1900-1902)*; PDF Download (<http://cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/databases/reghist.pdf> : accessed 2 December 2017), 480.

of 60.¹

H. CARROLL PARISH, PH.D.

Hayward Carroll Parish Jr. was born 13 February 1920 in Pasadena, Los Angeles County, California. His mother was Gertrude Riggs, who was born in 1890 at Colora-



H. Carroll Parish, from the Parish Collection, held by the Genealogical Forum of Oregon.

do City, Pueblo County, Colorado, and died in 1946 at Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, California. His father was Hayward Carroll Parish, born in 1896 at The Dalles, Wasco County, Oregon, and died in 1968 at Darling Point, Woollahra, New South Wales, Australia.

Carroll Jr. grew up in the Los Angeles area and received a B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles, where he was a lecturer in East and Southeast Asian affairs and served as dean of financial services. He spent several terms in the U.S. Naval Reserve. He served on the boards of a long list of societies and associations, both professional and related to his genealogical research.

Carroll's family history research spans several decades and includes correspondence with family members and other researchers. He noted a particular interest in the Riggs family because he "wanted to develop the line of which we have no details." Some of his findings were published in the October 1970 issue of *The Colonial Genealogist*.

There are several clippings in the Parish Collection that show Carroll's continued interest in travel and research, even after retirement. He died 9 August 1992 in Santa Monica, Los Angeles County, California, and is buried at Rose Hills Memorial Park in Whittier, Los Angeles County, California.²

¹ Copies of all of the documents referenced in the sketch can be found in the Parish Collection, 1558-1984. Accession number 2012-15. Digital Manuscripts Collection, Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library (Portland, OR).

² Parish Collection, 1558-1984. Acc. 2012-15. Digital Manuscripts Collection. Genealogical Forum of Oregon Library (Portland, OR). Also, Find A Grave database (www.findagrave.com: accessed 26 Aug 2018), Hayward Carrol Parish, Jr.

TOOLS FOR GENEALOGY

Finding Your Ancestors in Letters

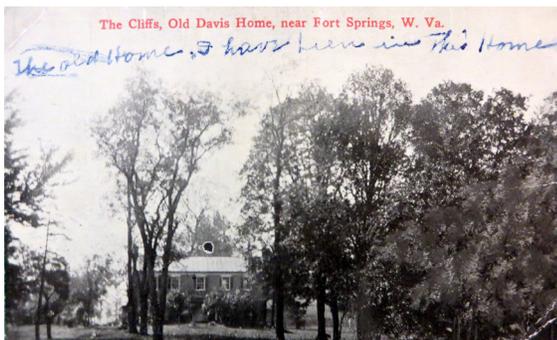
Nanci Remington

The following was my introduction to a group of letters from Prince Edward County, Virginia.

These are a collection of transcribed letters from a box of letters from Sarah Woodall Oakes passed to Christiana Oakes Dickerson and found in the chicken house after the Dickerson homeplace was cleaned out.

The letters, dating from 1853–1865, were transcribed by Danny Slayton and posted on the Prince Edward County VAGenWeb page in March 2014. I came across them while doing cluster research (also known as FAN club research—friends, family, associates, and neighbors) on the family of Theodrick Carter. Titled “Judith Woodall Oakes Letters” and “Woodall Letters by different people (1850–1865),” they don’t jump out as being relevant to Carters. However, research revealed that the Carters and the Woodalls were neighbors. Theodrick’s son Matthew Carter (1802–1857) had married Mary Sarah Woodall (1802–unknown) in 1837, so they were also extended family. Several Carters are mentioned in the letters. Following are some interesting excerpts:

I got my ticket to Bettie Carters and Mr Motleys wedding yesterday the 11 of this month and mine comes off the 18 [Undated letter, to My Dearest Cousin, signed Your cousin, Judith]



Letter from the GFO manuscripts collection, 2018.

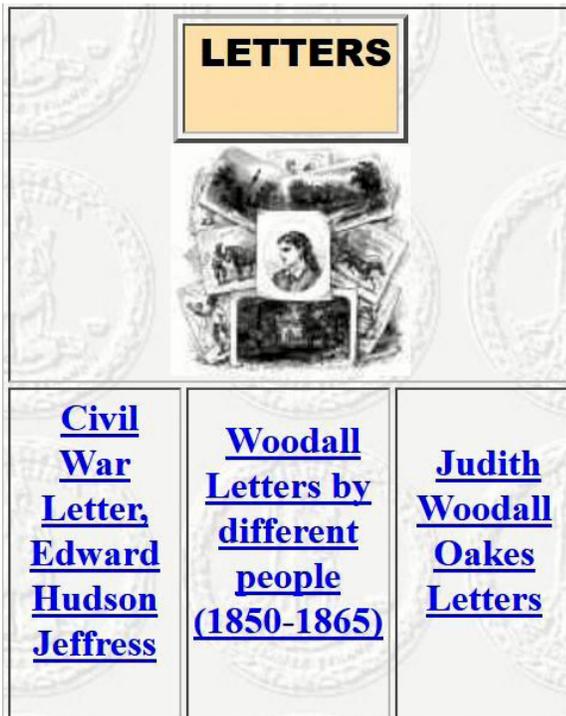


Letters from the GFO manuscripts collection, 2018.

I write according to promise to inform you that Mr. Carter died the same night you left about 8 o'clock. Silas Morgan came over here about one, after his (shroud?) and I am very fearful from what he says the old lady will have a spell of sickness, she is still in bed and very sick, the burying will take place at four this evening ... [Dated 8 April 1857, to Dear Friend, signed John L Mickle]

I already had confirmed the first event through other records, but this was the first information I found related to the death of Matthew. It, too, was later corroborated.

Correspondence that might be found in both archives and letters is the focus of two articles in the December 2018 issue of *The Bulletin*. A Civil War letter, transcribed in “Civil War Letter of Leander Stewart Riggs (1832–1892) to Barton Parks Ferris (1812–1895),” was found in a GFO manuscript collection. Mark Grafe’s article “Pistols in the House at Grosvenor Square: Discovering the Suicides of my Ancestor Peter Delmé III (1710–1770) and Peter Delmé IV (1748–1789)” features a letter that was passed down through the family.



Prince Edward County, VaGenWeb, Woodall letters (<https://sites.rootsweb.com/~vaprince/>).

Judging by the papers found in archives and other repositories, many families have a hard time discarding correspondence. The institutions that receive them take pains to preserve them and make them available to researchers. Many, including the GFO, are digitizing the letters and creating finding aids so they can be more easily located. However, many such papers are sitting on shelves and in boxes, hopefully not in chicken houses.

FINDING LETTERS

There are several strategies you can use to increase your chances of locating letters that help bring your ancestors to life.

Descendant Research

This is becoming more and more common, partly as a result of the interest in DNA and the need to identify new cousins. Go back three to four generations and search for the descendants of each couple. Reach out to discover which cousin inherited the family papers. It may be possible to connect through family tree sites, message boards on genealogy sites, local genealogical societies, or social media. Many genealogists become the “keeper” of the family papers and usually are happy to share.

Location Research

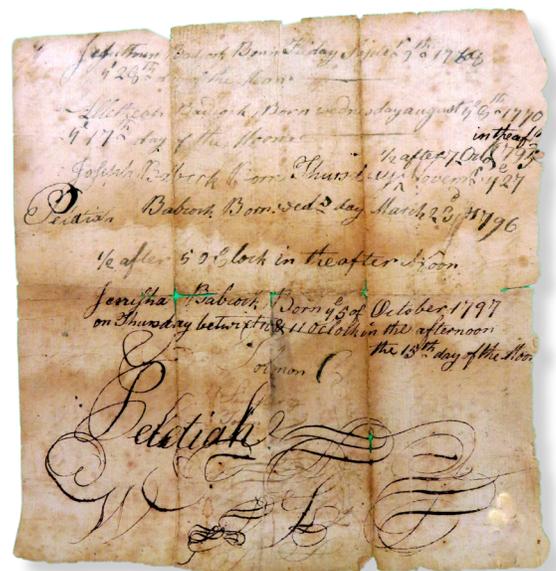
The Carter letters were found while researching Prince Edward County. USGenWeb sites are maintained by local volunteers and have been around for decades. Before there were blogs and personal websites, USGenWeb was a common place for genealogists to share their finds. Though they are less active than they once were, the material that was posted twenty years ago is still there.

Genealogical societies, historical societies, and libraries often receive donations of personal papers. The local library in the town you are researching can point you to the most likely repository in the area.

FAN Club or Cluster Research

Even if your family letters cannot be found, you can learn much about your family through the correspondence of others. For example, descendants of Oregon Trail pioneers can read journals and correspondence about many of the wagon trains that came west. These can be found online and in many libraries such as the GFO and the End of the Oregon Trail Interpretive and Visitor Information Center. Sometimes correspondence may have been compiled into books; they can also be found as “loose papers” held by archives.

If there was a newsworthy event near your ancestor’s home, people likely wrote letters about it. While researching the Westphalen family who lived in Decatur County, Kansas, I found that two members of the family had been killed during an Indian raid in 1878. Much has been written about the raid, and several of those writings



Letter from the GFO manuscripts collection, 2018.

include the correspondence of witnesses. It might be possible to track down those letters to get different perspectives about the event.

The same is true of major events such as the World Wars. If you can determine the unit that your ancestor served with, there is a chance there is a collection of correspondence from members of that unit. Even if your ancestor isn't named, you would learn much about the conditions under which they served. Pritzker Military Museum and Library in Chicago, Illinois, has an extensive collection of unit histories as well as archival holdings.

Church archives often include correspondence by clergy and church leaders. University archives contain correspondence linked to both students and faculty. Some have special collections that families have donated. Historical texts often include correspondence in the citations. Be sure to check the footnotes.

Keys to successful searching include:

- Narrow your search to a location and time period.
- Search for surnames of family, friends, and associates.
- Search for the names of associations they may have joined (churches, schools, fraternal groups, etc.).
- Search where the family resided and where the descendants resided. Many, if not most, of the GFO personal papers have little or no connection to Oregon residents. But this is where the family lived when they donated the papers, often when the keeper of the papers died.
- Include both "letters" and "correspondence" with your search terms.
- Use different search platforms. In addition to local resources, try Google, JSTOR, PERSI, and WorldCat (see resources at end of this article).
- Keep trying. More material is scanned and indexed every day. More articles are published. And more genealogists are posting information on websites and blogs.
- If you are lucky enough to find letters about your family, please share them with the GFO. They can be included in our manuscripts collection by sending to manuscripts@gfo.org. Or you could include them in a story about your ancestors and submit them to Bulletin@gfo.org.

RESOURCES:

- Cyndi's List (<https://www.cyndislist.com/>)—begin with the Libraries, Archives & Museums category. There are almost 10,000 entries sorted by location and specialty. There are links to libraries and archives for churches, ethnic groups, and events such as the Civil War. There are also archives links for each state and many countries.
- FamilySearch (<https://www.familysearch.org/>)—the Wiki has information by location and record type. There are also several lessons and videos in the Learning Center.
- The GFO library holds a wealth of resources, including original correspondence in the manuscripts collection (<https://gfo.org/resources/manuscripts-collection/>), that can be searched using the GFO website search box. In addition, a GFO Library catalog search for correspondence finds 162 holdings including books, vertical files, and an audiotape titled Correspondence Records at the National Archives: 1776-1914.



The screenshot shows three search results from the GFO website. Each result includes a title, a URL, a GFO logo, and a description of the collection. The first result is 'Hill Family History Papers 2012-31', the second is 'Kirchal Personal Papers 2012-17', and the third is 'Walker Personal Papers 2012-32'. Each result also indicates the file format as PDF/Adobe Acrobat.

[Hill Family History Papers 2012-31](https://gfo.org/file.../371f010d-b9e9-401f-99c9-dc91435a)
<https://gfo.org/file.../371f010d-b9e9-401f-99c9-dc91435a>

 File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat
Includes 16 file folders (originally donated binders) containing pedigree charts, family group sheets, research notes and **correspondence**. The research spans...

[Kirchal Personal Papers 2012-17](https://gfo.org/file_download/.../868feaa5-7a92-4f57-b03d-75b106f)
gfo.org/file_download/.../868feaa5-7a92-4f57-b03d-75b106f

 File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat
correspondence. An images folder contains four unidentified photographs most likely from the late 1880s. The research spans several generations and follows ...

[Walker Personal Papers 2012-32](https://gfo.org/file.../7640f9a8-8017-4a5f-b431-311f92e65)
<https://gfo.org/file.../7640f9a8-8017-4a5f-b431-311f92e65>

 File Format: PDF/Adobe Acrobat

A GFO website search for "correspondence" yields 270 results including those pictured.

- Linkpendium (<http://www.linkpendium.com/>)—another site offering links to genealogically relevant information with a strong emphasis upon free resources provided by libraries, genealogical and historical societies, and individuals.
- JSTOR (<https://www.jstor.org/>)—a digital library of academic journals, some free access. This source was mentioned in a Genealogy Problem Solving group, and the first result we saw after entering a name was correspondence dating from the Revolutionary War.
- PERSI (<https://search.findmypast.com/search/periodical-source-index>)—the Periodical Source Index is available through Findmypast. Compiled by the Allen County Public Library, it is a subject index for history and genealogy society publications.
- USGenWeb (<http://www.usgenweb.org/>) and the USGenWeb Archives (<http://usgwarchives.net/>)—both sites have links to the county pages. Once on the county page, you can do a site search. Often, the page provides a search box. If not, you can try a Google site search (instructions can be found at <https://www.lifewire.com/google-search-one-website-1616499>).
- WorldCat (<http://www.worldcat.org/>)—in a cooperative effort with OCLC WorldCat and NUCMC (The National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collec-

tions), WorldCat searches more than library books. Try searching for a keyword plus “manuscripts” or “correspondence” to see what you might find.

LEARN MORE:

A Genealogist in the Archives (<http://agenealogistintearchives.blogspot.com/>), a blog by Melissa Barker, covers many aspects of archival research, including how to search archives and how to preserve archival material such as family letters.

Learn to do effective Google searches—type “Google search tips for genealogy” into the search box to find several articles that will help you get better results.

Facet - Kansas Memory - Kansas Historical Society
<https://www.kshs.org/index.php?url=km/facets/view/page:1/facets:13754> ▼
 8 records - George Martin **correspondence** on the **1878** route of
Cheyenne ... along the Sappa Creek in **Oberlin, Kansas** before
 north into Nebraska.

The Northern Cheyenne Exodus in History and Memory
<https://books.google.com/books?isbn=0806185902>
 Ramon Powers, James N. Leiker - 2012 - History
 Manuscript Last Indian Raid Museum, **Oberlin, Kansas** Copy fr
 by ... in the Indian massacre of **1878** Newspaper Files Montan
 Historical Society, ... Archives, Lincoln, Nebraska **Corresponde**
 Sandoz, Nebraska ...

Facet - Kansas Memory - Kansas Historical Society
<https://www.kshs.org/km/facets/view/facets:4099,4061,1241/sidebar:1> ▼

Google search results—“1878 correspondence Oberlin Kansas.”

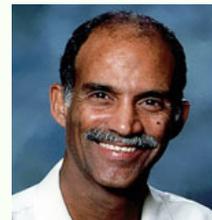
*** SAVE THE DATE ***

Spring Seminar

Tony Burroughs, CEO, Center for Black Genealogy

Sat, April 27, 2019, 10:00am – 4:30pm

Self Enhancement, Inc., 3920 N Kerby Ave, Portland, OR 97227



Author Biography

David Dobson, Ph.D.

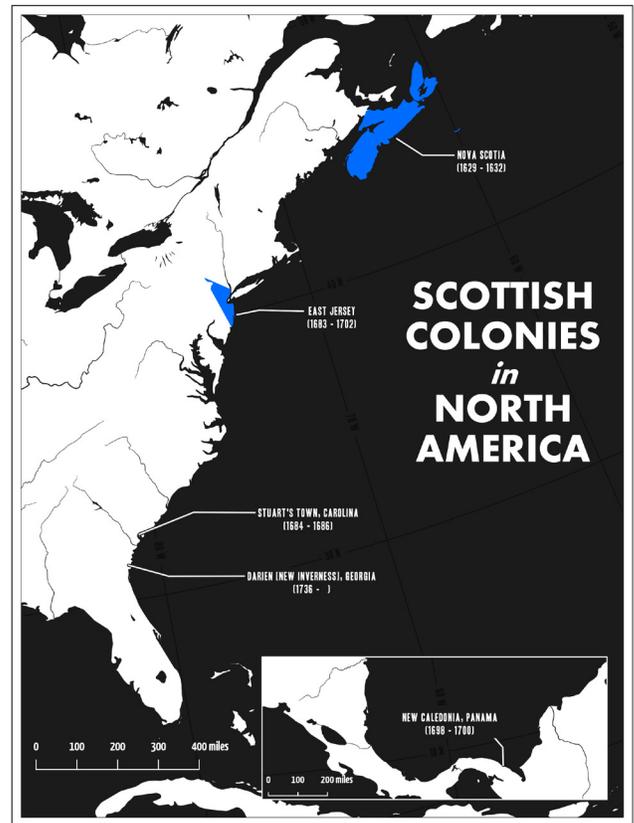
This month's book reviews focus on Scottish research and include five books authored by David Dobson. Dr. Dobson is the author-compiler of nearly 140 books on topics of Scottish immigration to North America and Scotland's maritime history between 1600 and 1800.

Many of his books are designed to help researchers identify ancestors. They supplement the more commonly used parochial records. A few of the books highlight the demographics of specific regions, such as Highland Perthshire in Scotland, or the Carolinas, or the Chesapeake Bay region in the United States. Dobson has also published books of ships lists and maritime records.

A prolific author, Dr. Dobson is considered a leading authority on Scottish immigration to North America. Born in Carnoustie, on the East Coast of Scotland, he studied business at Dundee College of Commerce and later at Dundee College of Technology (now Abertay University). He received a Master of Philosophy from the University of Saint Andrews and a Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Aberdeen. He taught at Madras College in Saint Andrews, Scotland, and he is currently an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Saint Andrews, Saint Andrews, Scotland.

Apart from the books reviewed in this issue of *The Bulletin*, the Genealogical Forum of Oregon library holds the titles shown below. More of Dobson's books can be read and searched on Ancestry.com, also available at the GFO library. The books are presented here in shelf order which puts them in groupings based on geography and subject matter.

- *Scottish Seafarers, 1800–1830.* (941.6 .Bus Marine 1800–1830)
- *Scottish Catholics at Home and Abroad, 1680–1780.* (941.6 .Church Cath Dobs 1680–1780)
- *Scottish-American Court Records, 1733–1783.* (941.6 .Court Amer 1733–1783)
- *Scottish-American Heirs, 1683–1883.* (941.6 .Court Amer Est 1683–1883)



Scottish Colonies in North America. Image by Cene Ketcham, Wikimedia Commons. Licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0.

- *Scottish-American Wills, 1650–1900.* (941.6 .Court Amer EstW 1650–1900)
- *Searching for Scotch-Irish Roots in Scottish Records, 1600–1750.* (941.6 .How-To ScotIr 1600–1750)
- *Scottish Emigration to Colonial America, 1607–1785.* (941.6 .Migr Emig 1607–1785)
- *The Original Scots Colonists of Early America, 1612–1783.* (941.6 .Migr Emig 1612–1783)
- *Directory of Scottish Settlers in North America, 1625–1825.* (941.6 .Migr Emig 1625–1825 v1)
- *The Original Scots Colonists of Early America.* (941.6 .Migr Emig Carib 1611–1707)
- *Emigrants and Adventurers from Aberdeen and North East Scotland, Fife, Moray and Banff, Angus and Perth, Southern Scotland, Orkney and Shetland, The Lothians, and the Northern Highlands.* (941.6 .Migr Emig Dobs)
- *Ships from Scotland to America, 1628–1828.* (941.6 .Migr Emig Ship 1628–1828 v1)

- *The People of the Scottish Burghs: A Genealogical Source Book: The People of Aberdeen 1600–1799.* (941.7 Aber .Biog Dobs 1600–1799)
- *The Jacobites of Angus, 1689–1746: Part one and part two.* (941.7 Angu .Biog Jaco 1689–1746)
- *Burgess Rolls of Fife 1700–1800, and St. Andrews 1700–1775.* (941.7 Fife .Biog Burg 1700–1800)
- *Scottish Highlanders on the Eve of the Great Migration, 1725–1775 : the people of Inverness-shire.* (941.7 Inve .Biog 1725 v2)
- *The Mariners of the Lothians: 1600–1800.* (941.7 Midl .Bus Marine 1600–1800)
- *Scots-Irish Links, 1575–1725 VI-2.* (941.90 .Migr ScotIr 1575–1725)
- *Ships from Ireland to Early America, 1623–1850.* (942 .Migr Emig Ship 1623–1850)
- *Irish Emigrants in North America.* (942 .Migr NoAm Dob pt1-3)
- *The People of Cork, 1600–1799.* (942.6 Cork .Biog 1600–1799)
- *The People of Dublin, 1600–1799.* (942.6 Dubl Dubl .Biog Dobs 1600–1799)
- *The French in the Americas, 1620–1820.* (970 .Ethnic Fr Dobs 1620–1820)
- *Scottish Maritime Records, 1600–1850: A Guide for Family Historians.* (971.6 .Bus Marine Dobs 1600–1850)
- *Scots in the USA and Canada, 1825–1875.* (973 .Ethnic Scot Dobs 1825–1875)
- *The Original Scots Colonists of Early America.* (973 .Ethnic Scot Year 1607–1707)
- *Directory of Scots Banished to the American Plantations, 1650–1775.* (973 .Ethnic Scot Year 1650–1775)
- *American Vital Records from the Gentleman's Magazine, 1731–1868.* (973 .VR 1731–1868)
- *Scots in New England, 1623–1873.* (974 .Ethnic Scot Dobs 1623–1873)
- *Scots on the Chesapeake, 1607–1830.* (975 .Ethnic Scot Dobs 1607–1830)
- *Scots on the Chesapeake, 1621–1776.* (975.20 .Ethnic Scot Dobs 1621–1776)
- *Directory of Scots in the Carolinas, 1680–1830.* (975.60 .Ethnic Scot Dobs 1680–1830)
- *Scots in Georgia and the Deep South, 1735 – 1845.* (975.80 .Ethnic Scto Dobs 1735–1845)



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<p>Scottish-American court records, 1733-1783 by Dobson, David Published: c1991 941.6 .Court Amer 1733-1783 Acquisition Date: 2016-03-14 Shelf (1) AVAIL: 1</p>	<p>Scottish-American heirs, 1683-1883 by Dobson, David Published: c1990 941.6 .Court Amer Est 1683-1883 Acquisition Date: 2016-03-14 Shelf (1) AVAIL: 1</p>	<p>Scottish-American wills, 1650-1900 by Dobson, David Published: c1991 941.6 .Court Amer EstW 1650-1900 Acquisition Date: 2016-03-14 Shelf (1) AVAIL: 1</p>

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Book Review

The People of Fife 1600–1799

Reviewed by Margaret McCrea

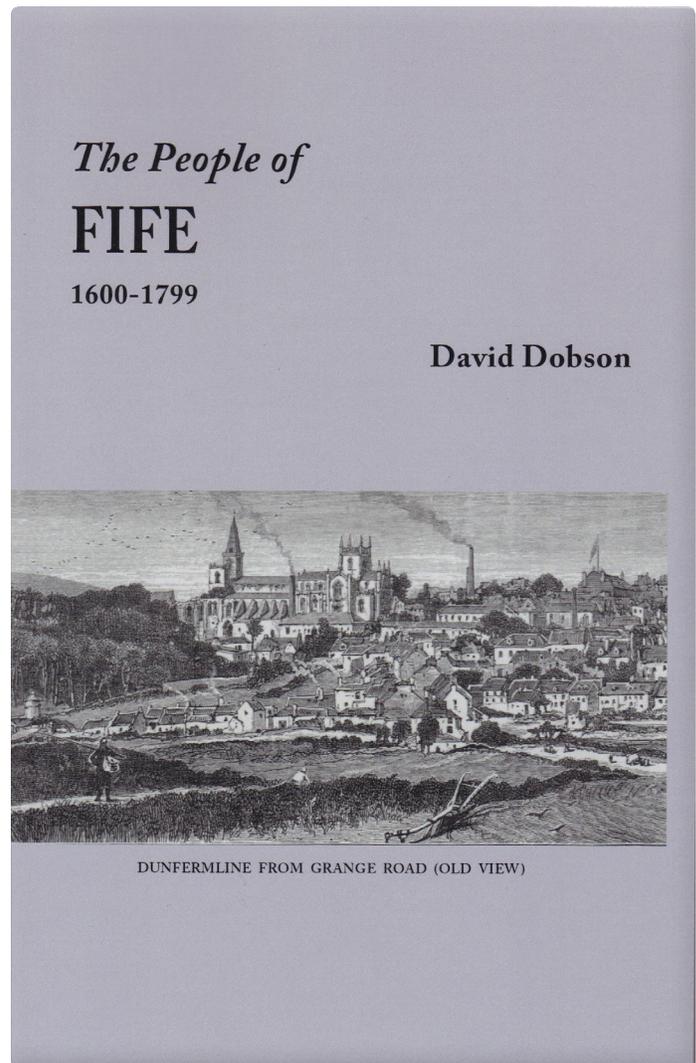
Author: David Dobson
Publisher: Clearfield Company
Publishing date: 2018
Pages: 183
Price: \$25.00 plus shipping
Order from: Genealogical.com
GFO Call Number: 941.7 Fife .Biog 1600–1799

This is the most recent of the eminent David Dobson's reference books for researchers of Scottish and Irish genealogy.

This book is one of his demographic books, meaning it's a list of people of the Fife region of Scotland during a two-hundred-year period, taken from a wide range of sources: newspapers, burgess rolls (voter registrations), church records, university records, city records, magazines, libraries, historical societies, and so forth. In all, there are 52 sources. Each has an abbreviation (for example, NLS for National Library of Scotland), and for every entry in this book there is at least one source given, sometimes with further reference information such as page numbers.

The entries are alphabetical by last name and include as much information as possible, which is often precious little. However, for most of the entries the occupation, at least for males, is listed, and that becomes fascinating reading. For example, there are three listings for George Barclay, all masters of ships (so perhaps they are the same person), one of them the master of the *Bachelor of Dysart* bound for North Carolina in 1775 and for Grenada in 1776. It looks like Mr. Barclay was a small cog in the great machine of the Golden Triangle trade in the Atlantic of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries: sugar, rum, and slaves.

Besides sailors, ship-builders, skippers, mariners, and masters, there are also candlestick makers, ministers, meal-makers, schoolteachers, servants, and laborers, a



veritable sociological gold mine. Women are usually listed as spouses or widows. Most of these records are pulled from records such as court documents, business transactions, or admission to voter rolls, for example, so each has one specific date for the entry, leaving us with a nice introduction to the tapestry of a bygone era. It would be interesting to research these entries by date to see how society was changing over the two centuries of records.

I wish only that Mr. Dobson had included a longer introduction. This book has little prose, and I, for one, would have very much liked to have a nice, long, detail-filled introduction to what appears to be a fascinating time and place.

Book Review

The Scottish Jacobites of 1715: and the Jacobite Diaspora

Reviewed by Margaret McCrea

Author: David Dobson
 Publisher: Clearfield Company
 Publication Date: 2017
 Pages: 196
 Price: \$27.50 plus shipping
 Order From: Genealogical.com
 GFO Call Number: 941.6 .Biog Jaco Dobs 1715

This book is another list of names in the great canon of works by Dr. David Dobson. His goal is to provide information about men who participated in the Jacobite rebellion (see “A Little History” on the following page for background on the rebels against English rulers in the eighteenth century).

The book lists as many Jacobite supporters as Dobson could glean from 42 original resources. His focus is to discover what became of those men and women; who was killed, imprisoned, escaped, or sent abroad. One example:

Handyside, Robert, was transported via Liverpool aboard the Two Brothers bound for Jamaica on 26 April 1716, landed on Montserrat in June 1716.

In support, Dobson cites the Calendar of State Papers, America & West Indies; Calendar of Treasury Books; and Calendar of Treasury Papers. He does not indicate that Robert Handyside was a soldier; he may have been deported simply for his sympathies, but from the date provided, it's a good guess that Handyside took part in the Battle of Sheriffmuir.

THE SCOTTISH JACOBITES OF 1715 AND THE JACOBITE DIASPORA

By
David Dobson

A great many of these people were transported, mostly to the Caribbean and the American South. Many were imprisoned, some escaped, a few surrendered, and some are simply listed as fighters at Sheriffmuir. Quite a few were killed at Sheriffmuir. Some, like John McHardy, are listed only as “a Jacobite.”

Some of the Jacobite supporters were aristocrats and were only partially protected by their social station.

Maule, James, Earl of Panmure, Angus, son of George Maule, fought at Sheriffmuir in 1715, estates forfeited in 1715, escaped via Montrose on 3 February 1716 to the Netherlands then to France, at the Jacobite Court in Urbino, Italy, 1717, died in Paris on 6 April 1720.



The Battle of Sheriffmuir November 1715, painting by John Wootton (1682–1764)

This book just begs to be used for further social research. It tempts the researcher to sort and organize the entries by their ultimate fate rather than alphabetically by last name. Women are mentioned usually as wives, and in my perusal of the book I found only one woman with an entry of her own:

Hay, Mrs. Marjory, Countess of Inverness, at the Jacobite Court in Urbano, Italy, 1718; Lady of the Queen's Bedchamber 1719-1722.

A LITTLE JACOBITE HISTORY

I did not know the relationship between the name Jacob and the name James,¹ but in seventeenth- and eighteenth-century England and Scotland, Jacobites were the supporters of King James and the House of Stuart, who rose up in rebellion against English rulers between 1715 and 1746.

The year 1688 witnessed the Glorious Revolution when James II, the last (ostensibly) Catholic King of England and Scotland (where he was James VII), was overthrown, and his daughter Mary and her Protestant husband, William of Orange, were enthroned. This was not the beginning of an ongoing Catholic-Protestant power struggle, nor was it the end.²

1. Jacob is the original Latin form of James.

2. After all, James II's father, Charles I, was beheaded thirty years earlier when Protestant Republican Cromwell took over, but after he died, Charles II returned to the throne, threw himself and his aristocratic friends one hell of a party, and made himself very popular by opening the pubs and theaters, and repealing all Puritan restrictions. The public loved the Merry Monarch and forgave him for having a Catholic wife. James II was Charles' brother. The goodwill must have worn off, because James found himself living in France and being called The Pretender, instead of Your Majesty, while his son-in-law sat on the throne.

The Jacobites were outraged that a Protestant ruler replaced a Catholic one, moreover that a *foreign* ruler, a member of the Dutch-Germanic House of Hanover, replaced an English ruler. Even more important, having attained the throne of England when James VI became James I of England, the Scots now found themselves demoted to backwater cousins. The Jacobite cause was a Highland (Northern Scotland) cause; not all Scots were on board, especially in the Southern Lowlands, but the regions farthest away from London and even farther from Holland were the hotbed areas of resistance. The Jacobite cause was as much about Scottish nationalism and identity as it was about religion.

Dobson's date of 1715 refers to the November 13 Battle of Sheriffmuir, fought on Scottish soil between the Highlands and the Lowlands. The outcome was indecisive, with both sides claiming victory, but many of the Jacobite soldiers were imprisoned, deported, or transported to prisons abroad, and the hammer came down on Jacobite supporters in the general population.

The Jacobites pulled themselves together enough to fight again, only to be soundly and finally defeated at Culloden in 1746. That battle lives on in fiction, drama, art, film, poetry, and memorials, as well as periodic reenactments. Culloden didn't entirely end the Jacobite cause. Robert Louis Stevenson's *Kidnapped* takes place in the unsettled years after Culloden when burning tensions continued in a series of assassinations, murders, kidnappings, land confiscations, and other retributions by supporters of each side against the other. Since so many Jacobites were sent to what is now the United States, it can be argued that, given the popularity of movies like *Braveheart*, the narrative of brave Scots against oppressive English continues in popular culture. The Catholic-Protestant roots of the conflict seem to have been lost in the fog of history.

Book Review

Scottish Trade with Colonial Charleston 1683–1783

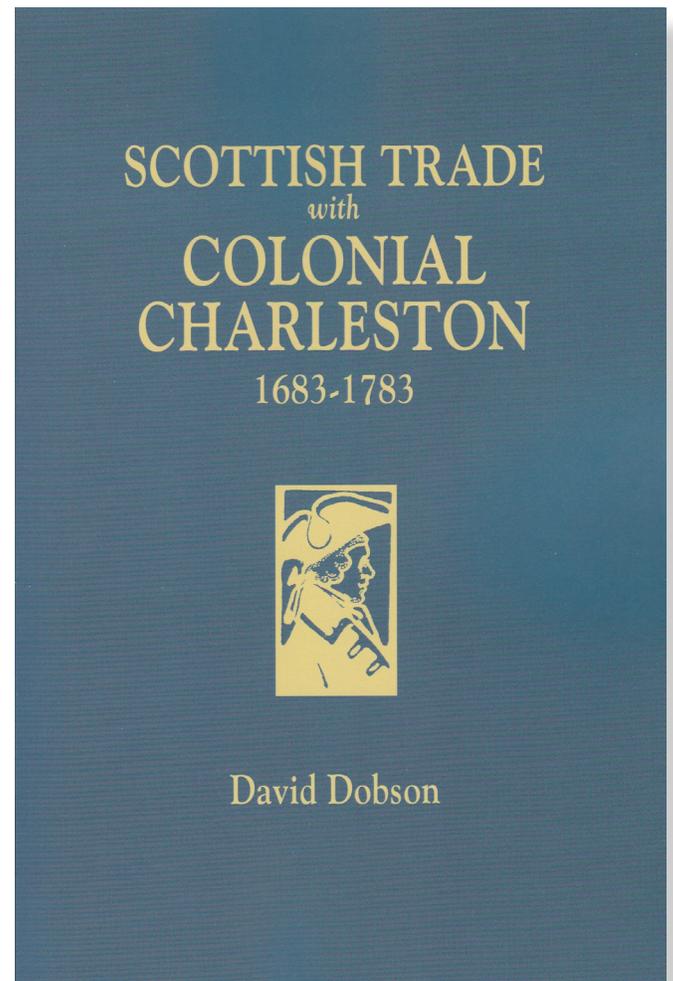
Reviewed by *Elsie Deatherage*

Author: David Dobson
 Publisher: Clearfield Company
 Publication Date: 2018
 Pages: 369
 Price: \$43.50 plus shipping
 Order From: Genealogical.com
 GFO Call Number: 975.75 Char .Hist-Au Trad
 1683–1783 Dobs

David Dobson has done it again! Here is a book fairly bursting with information of interest to family historians with Scottish ancestors who lived in Charleston, South Carolina, during the Colonial era. However, the author frequently compares trade and transportation in South Carolina to that in nearby states and New England, so the book provides valuable historical context for almost any colonial ancestor.

Dobson has given the reader a rich history of the goods imported and exported from Charleston by Scottish traders, and he has included evidence to dispute the notion that most trade originated from the west side of Scotland.

The book is divided into six chapters, beginning with an introduction that describes the impact politics and war had on the seventeenth-century Scottish economic situation and trade. The first chapter delves into Scottish exports to Colonial Charleston, including coal, salt, linen and other textiles, leather, tallow candles, metal ware, paper, and more. The next chapter describes exports from Charleston, including rice, indigo, and most surprisingly, deer hides, which were one of the largest export items. Additional chapters cover maritime aspects of Scotland-Charleston trade, including, most notably, the emigrant trade. Final chapters identify many merchants involved in trade, both between Scotland and Charleston, and those involved in the transatlantic slave trade.



A brief “Conclusion” is followed by appendices listing court cases in Edinburgh that have a connection to South Carolina. This is followed by a list of Scottish merchants, craftsmen, and professionals in Colonial Charleston, a list of Scottish emigrants bound for South Carolina in 1773–1774, South Carolina land grants in 1737 (only Scottish surnames), and a list of the members of the St. Andrew’s Society of Charleston from 1732–1776. The appendices are followed by an extensive bibliography and an index.

If you have an ancestor who was in Colonial Charleston, whether a merchant or one of the laborers who worked to produce trade goods, this book should be of great interest in your quest to better understand the life and times of the region between 1683 and 1783. Goods and supplies and the need for trade items had an impact on all residents, whether or not they were Scots, and much of the content would likely interest anyone with Colonial ancestry.

Book Review

Scottish Highlanders on the Eve of the Great Migration 1725–1775:

The People of Highland Perthshire, Volume 2

Reviewed by Joan Galles

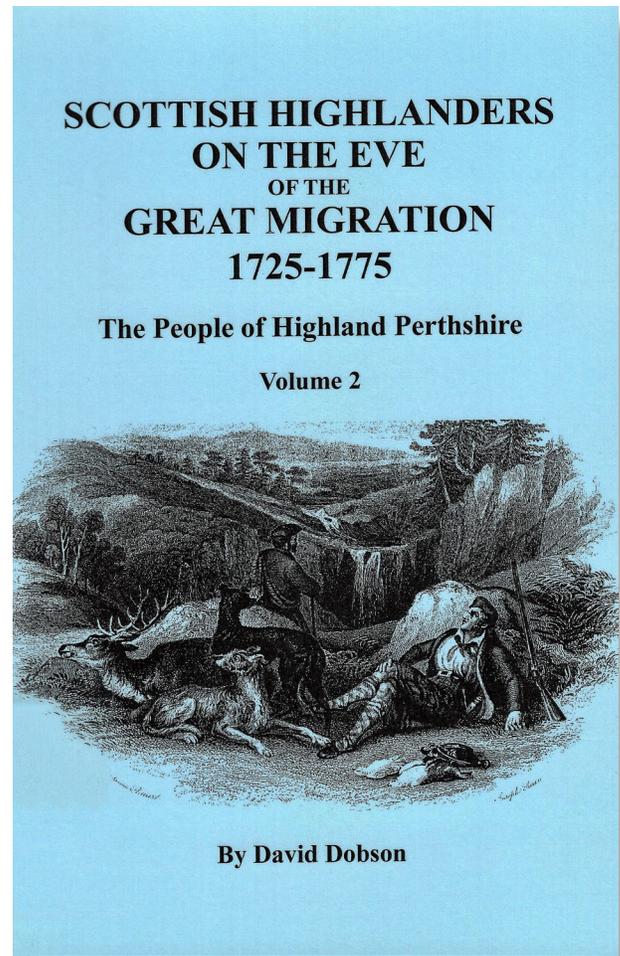
Author: David Dobson
Publisher: Clearfield Company
Publication Date: 2015
Pages: 116
Price: \$19.50 plus shipping
Order From: Genealogical.com
GFO Call Number: 941.7 Pert .Biog
1725–1775 v2

This book is volume two of *The People of Highland Perthshire*, which is part of the larger series, *Scottish Highlanders on the Eve of the Great Migration, 1725–1775*. Those with ancestors from this area (and those who suspect they may) will want to take a look at his volume.

The book provides an alphabetical list of emigrants from eighteenth-century Highland Perthshire, Scotland. The information for each entry is based on primary source material found in archives and libraries in Perth, Edinburgh, and London. As noted in the introduction, sources include parish records, court records, estate papers, wills and testaments, services of heirs, registers of sasines (a legal document that records the transfer of property), rent rolls, and monument inscriptions.

There is a source list that includes the abbreviations used in the volume, ranging from Saint Andrews Society of New York (ANY) to Records of the United Presbyterian Church (UPC). Some source abbreviations are not well defined.

McNab, Duncan, born 1760, a manufacturer in Camneney, died 1825, husband of Christian Livingston. [Dull, MI]



The list of sources tells us that MI stands for a monumental inscription, presumably in “Dull,” but a little more information would have been welcome.

GHS is not listed in the source list, leaving the reader to guess at the possibilities (Georgia Historical Society?); but BWMR stands for the Black Watch Mutiny Records. GHS shown in the following example.

McMillan, Duncan, enlisted in the Black Watch in Perthshire during 1740, imprisoned in the Tower of London accused of mutiny, transferred to Oglethorpe’s Regiment in Georgia during 1743. [GHS; Gate ms 45, mf3172] [BWMR.127/173]

Some of the entries are only a line or two, but some are fairly lengthy, listing a wife, children (with dates of birth), passenger ship, date of emigration, and destination. Finding an ancestor’s name listed in this book may be a wonderful starting place that could lead to a great deal of additional information.

Book Review

Scottish-American Gravestones 1700–1900, Volume II

Reviewed by Joan Galles

Author: David Dobson
 Publisher: Clearfield Company
 Publication Date: 2016
 Pages: 58
 Price: \$21.95 plus shipping
 Order from: Genealogical.com
 GFO Call No.: 973 .Ethnic Scot Cem
 1700–1900 v2

Scottish-American Gravestones 1700–1900, Volume II is a compilation of information copied from both North American and Scottish gravestones. People with family and historical connections to Scotland may find this book helpful in finding their ancestors.

Scotland began officially recording death information in 1855. Prior to that, death information could be found in church records, graveyards, newspapers, and other unofficial publications. However, gravestones can be uniquely informative since, dependent on their location (Scotland or North America), they may include the deceased's birth year, parents' names, maiden name, occupation, year of emigration or immigration, or even where the person originated. The inscriptions in this book come from both published and unpublished material. Some examples from the book:

Robert Downie, born 1773 near Campbeltown, Argyll, settled in Charleston before 1806, died 17 November 1856. (Old Scots MI, Charleston, South Carolina).

Alexander Downs, born 1821, son of James Downs (1760-1845) and his wife Janet Martin, (1773-1838), died 18 January 1865 in Canton, Massachusetts. (South Leith MI, Edinburgh).

The names are listed alphabetically from Abernethy to Young. There is no explanation for the parent-

SCOTTISH-AMERICAN GRAVESTONES 1700 - 1900

Volume II



by
David Dobson

ical notations; however, the first item appears to be the cemetery name, followed by MI which stands for Monument Inscription, concluding with the geographic location.

A search for Robert Downie on Find A Grave found a record for him in First Scots Presbyterian Church Cemetery in Charleston, Charleston County, South Carolina. Alexander Downs was not found on Find A Grave; however South Leith Churchyard in Leith, City of Edinburgh, Scotland, was; so, it is quite possible that Downs monument is there, simply not yet entered on the website.

Those with Scottish ancestors should definitely check this book to see if any of their family members' inscriptions are included.



IN MEMORIAM

Mary Paige Kennedy Boucher

11 September 1939–1 October 2018

Mary Boucher of Tigard died October 1, 2018 at the age of 79. She was born September 11, 1939 in Portland to James Charles and Marjorie Warnick Kennedy. She graduated from St. Joseph's Academy, Pendleton, and attended Willamette University. She worked for several years at Portland State before joining the Oregon Medical Board, where she worked until her retirement in 2003.

Mary joined the GFO in 1992 and volunteered her services off and on throughout the years. Through her life-long love of history and diligent research she gave the gift of their history to her entire family, tracing their roots all the way back to the Mayflower and to Ireland.

Cathy Lauer recalls, "Mary and I worked some Saturdays together when the GFO was at the Southwest 5th and Lincoln location. We discovered that we were distant cousins through our common ancestors, Solomon and Frances (Grant) Keyes. I was happy to reconnect with her when she answered my call for volunteers at the GFO. She contributed many hours of her time to the cataloging project. She was a joy to work with, and I'll miss her a lot."



Mary is survived by her daughters Lisa Boucher (Brent LaMotte) of Seattle and Andrea Bigcraft (Bill) of Tigard; brothers Michael and Alan Kennedy; sister Toni Kennedy; and her three grandsons, who were the light of her life.

IN MEMORIAM

James Orr Currie Jr.

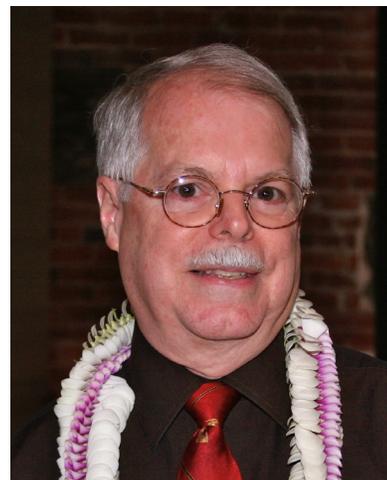
28 July 1943–25 August 2018

Dr. James O. Currie Jr., a member of the Genealogical Forum of Oregon, passed away on 25 August 2018. Born 28 July 1943 in Canton, Stark County, Ohio, to James and Harriette (Whitehead) Currie, Jim grew up in North Canton and graduated from North Canton High School in 1961. He completed his Bachelor's Degree at Ohio State University and earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry from the University of Washington in 1970. He met Victoria Nelson in Seattle, and they were married in 1969. After graduate school, he held several postdoctoral positions before being hired by Pacific University in Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon, in 1972.

Throughout his tenure, he was completely dedicated to Pacific's growth and student retention, especially in the sciences. He was also active in bringing Pacific into the computer age. He was an active member in the Portland Section of the American Chemical Society and frequently attended both local and national meetings.

Jim compiled a family history reaching back many generations that shows roots in Scotland, Ireland, and England. He was particularly interested in information he learned about a grandfather that he never knew.

After retiring in 2008, he traveled extensively through Europe, Mexico, and the United States, and developed a love of wine and visiting wineries, near and far. He supported local theater generously, both as a patron and donor. He was preceded in death by both his parents and is survived by his sister, his wife, his two sons, and two grandchildren. Jim is mourned by many whose lives he touched and those he taught and mentored.



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Each time I think about what the GFO has accomplished in the last year, I'm more and more impressed. We kept a library open seven days a week without a single paid staff person, hosted 193 classes, held two seminars with nationally-known speakers, and continued growing our library. In fact, we reached a milestone. With a collection now nearing 50,000 holdings, the GFO has become the largest genealogy library in the Pacific Northwest. We thank you for all of this. Support from you makes everything we do possible. From the smallest to the largest donations, we are grateful for every single one of you who values what we offer. From the entire GFO Board, I offer our deepest thanks for your support.



With gratitude, Vince Patton, President

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1. Annual Appeal
2. Endowment Fund
3. General Fund
4. In-kind and Dedicated Donations

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GFO CALENDAR: DECEMBER - JANUARY 2019

DECEMBER

Sat December 1	10:00 am	Virginia Group
	1:00 pm	German Group
Sun December 2	9:00 am	Library Work Party - Manuscripts
Mon December 3		Free to Non-members
Wed December 5	10:00 am	Learn & Chat
	1:00 pm	DNA Q&A
		Open until 8 pm
Sat December 8	1:00 pm	Writers' Forum
Sun December 9	9:00 am	Library Work Party
Tue December 11	6:10 pm	Board Meeting
Wed December 12		Open until 8 p.m.
Fri December 14	11:30 am	Mexican Ancestry Group
Sat December 15	9:30 am	Genealogy Problem Solvers
Sun December 16	9:00 am	Library Work Party
	1:00 pm	Family Tree Maker Users Group
	3:30 pm	French Canada Group
Wed December 19	1:00 pm	DNA Q&A
		Open until 8 pm
Sat December 22	12:30 pm	African American Ancestry Group
	1:00 pm	British Group
Sun December 23	9:00 am	Library Work Party
M -Tue December 24-25		Library Closed
Wed December 26		Open until 8 pm
Mon December 31		Library Closed

JANUARY

Tue January 1		Library Closed
Wed January 2	1:00 pm	DNA Q&A, Open until 8:00 p.m.
Sat January 5	10:00 am	Virginia Group
	1:00 pm	German Group
	9:00 am	Library work party - Manuscripts
Sun January 6		Free to Non-Members
Mon January 7		
Tue January 8	6:10 pm	Board Meeting
Wed January 9		Open until 8 pm
Fri January 11	11:30 am	Mexican Ancestry Group
Sat January 12	9:30 am	Great Lakes Region SIG
	1:00 pm	Writers' Forum
Sun January 13	9:00 am	Library work party
Wed January 16	10:00 am	Learn & Chat
	1:00 pm	DNA Q&A
		Open until 8:00 p.m.
Sat January 19	9:30 am	Genealogy Problem Solvers
	1:00 pm	Multnomah Chapter DAR Tour
Sun January 20	9:00 am	Library Work Party
	1:00 pm	Family Tree Maker for Beginners
	3:30 pm	French Canada Group
		Open until 8 pm
Wed January 23	9:00 am	DNA Advanced Group
Sat January 26	12:30 pm	African American Ancestry Group
	1:00 pm	British Group
Sun January 27	9:00 am	Library Work Party
		Open until 8 pm
Wed January 30		