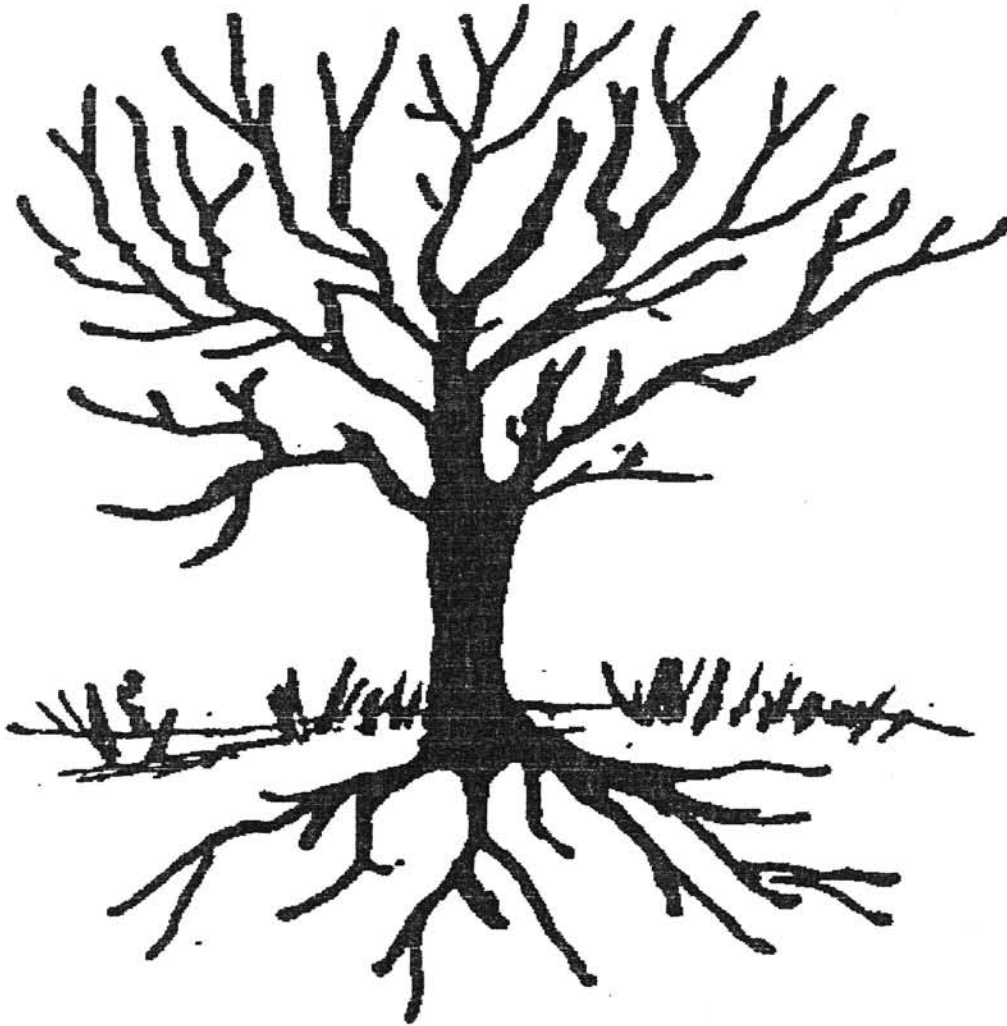

Roots and Branches

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QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROOTS & BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



OPEN LETTER

In early November the Board of Directors received the following letter from the Western NY Genealogical Society, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

It has been brought to my attention that AGAIN Societies have misused the copyright Laws. In March 1995 on the back page of your Roots & Branches Newsletter your editor has listed an item "On the Humorous Side" called Occupayshun- Census Taker" and reprinted the first paragraph of the article and credited it to the Jacksonville Area Genealogical & Historical Society, Jacksonville, IL.

The original article was written by one of our Life Members Beverly Miller (mem. No. 7L) who was at that time Registrar and later the Editor. It was published in our JUNE 1976 WNYGS JOURNAL and is copyrighted! It has been copied and recopied many times without our permission and credit given to other societies! I have been fighting a battle over it for a number of years, and would appreciate a correction in your next newsletter!

Many of our articles have been reprinted by others over the years... which we welcome...IF WE ARE CONTACTED FOR WRITTEN PERMISSION AND WE ARE GIVEN CREDIT FOR THE ARTICLE.

Sincerely,

June P/ Zintz(II.)

Founder of WNYGS & currently the Editor.

We are sorry that the credit given in our article was incorrect, but we did give the information showing where we found the article. We did not knowingly, or intentionally, fail to give credit for the article. As genealogists we and you, I am sure would acknowledge that most if not all of the materials we utilize in our studies has been found in works that have been done by others and we attempt to document such work as carefully as we can.

In all cases if we use articles for our members information or amusement we attempt to give the credit to the source we obtained the material. In most cases we do not print information where the source we have, indicates that it is copyrighted material.

We are sorry that the WNYGS, INC., and Ms. Miller were not contacted by other users, if the copyright information was available. We will continue our current policy of indicating where we found any and all of the materials in our Newsletter and hope that we do not have this problem again.

I hope that this will satisfy all parties.

Thomas H. Calvin
Treasurer & Editor.

QUERIES

STRATTON: Seeking Parents of William H. B.12 Nov. 1854, New Haven, Ct. And brother, Albert E., B. 7 Jan 1862 Brooklyn NY William's Death Certificate names his father "William H. Sr." Albert's D.C. names father "Joseph" both surnames "STRATTON" Mothers' names "Unknown" No record of Albert's birth in Brooklyn. Record of a "Male" child born to James Stratton and Abigail DeMartin on 12 NOV., 1854. If this is William H., why did he and Albert not know their parents names? Elaine Fritz. 479 Sullivan Street, Deltona ,FL 32725. (904)-789-0988

BAKER: Researching all descendants of VAN HORNE: Andrew Jackson Baker born GORHAM: 1818 South Carolina, died abt. 1880 in Volusia Co., FL founder of Bakersburg, the area now located between Pierson & Seville. Also all descendants of John W. Van Horne And his wife Augusta Marie Gorham. John and Augusta moved to Pierson about 1880 from Connecticut. Augusta died about 1888 and John about 1930.
Chris Tanner, 1767 Tanglewood Court #2 Burlington, Ky. 41005

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When Lorenzo VanHorne Charged the Rebel Army

(The following is from a newspaper article printed in the DeRuyter Gleaner. The exact date is unknown but probably between 1910 and 1920)

"Among the picturesque characters who adorned the DeRuyter landscape forty years ago none could surpass the old Civil War Veteran, Lorenzo VanHorne. As I remember him he would compare with a gnarled oak. Sturdy, rough and forbidding, but on acquaintance you found him all oak, clear through, with unimpeachable integrity and with a heart as big as an ox.

He was in Co. A. 157Th. NY, and had the distinction of never being on sick leave or in the guard house during his entire time in the service. Also the distinction, probably never held by any man in any army before or since, that of "cussing" every officer from Sergeant to Brigadier General and getting away with it.

When the 157th. Was caught in the cul-de-sac, in the wheat field the first day of the battle of Gettysburg and were forced to retreat after having cut their way through the enemy with bayonet, the survivors were compelled to cross a rail fence. In the momentum gained by the most of them being in the prime of life and at the height of agility they were able to clear it with a bound, but VanHorne, being architecturally built for endurance rather than speed, sought to negotiate it by crawling through.

Although encumbered with gun and accouterments he would have succeeded, but for the fact that a couple of lank North Carolina mountaineers in hot pursuit jumped top of the fence and bore down on him, pinning him amidships.

A couple more seized him from the rear and when he was out of the fence he found himself on the wrong side and surrounded by a considerably large force of the Confederate army. His rifle was empty as were those of his pseudo captors and he had lost his bayonet in the melee, but boiling over with indignation at the unethical method of warfare employed by the Rebels, he leaped to his feet, opened with a double- shouted volley of invectives, seized his rifle by the muzzle and launched a terrific offensive. Taken by surprise and amazed by the audacity and cyclonic behavior of their supposed prisoner, those in his immediate front fell back and gave him a wide berth, but having no support on his flanks and rear, he was soon overwhelmed from those directions, borne to the ground and disarmed, but not subdued.

Deprived of all methods of offense except his vocabulary, VanHorne, whose ability for the artistic arrangement of cuss words was seldom equaled and never excelled, proceeded to inform his listeners that the Southern Confederacy was composed of men whose maternal ancestry was in doubt, until physical exhaustion forced him into silence.

His captors undoubtedly admiring his courage in the face of overwhelming odds, and probably awed by the proficiency of his vocabulary, and realizing that as a prisoner of war he was bound to be a dismal failure, offered to patrol him on his word that he would take care of the wounded on the battlefield. To this arrangement VanHorne readily assented. He was ready to compromise and call the contest a draw, but he wasn't licked! Not by a damn sight!

VanHorne stayed on the field, toted water, bound up wounds of friend and foe alike and probably saved the lives of many who otherwise would have died (for the wheat field was between the lines) until the battle was over, when he returned to his regiment."

Note: Lorenzo VanHorne was my great-great grandfather. He was born in 1830 and died in 1895. He was mustered into Company A. 157th New York Infantry on August 4, 1862 and was discharged July 10, 1865. He perhaps embellished his story for the writer of the DeRuyter paper, as his military records confirm that he was captured at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863 but did not return to his Company until October 1863. Chester (Chet) Poole

1850 Census

When researching information in the 1850 Census, be sure to remember that IA indicated INDIANA, not IOWA as in later records.

New York State Archives

The New York State Archives is offering a new Vital Records Index service. It is now possible to request a search of State Department of Health microfiche indexes to vital records, covering 1880 to 1943 for marriages and deaths, and 1881 to 1918 for births. It covers the entire state except New York City, Albany, Buffalo, and Yorkers, prior to 1914.

You must make a request on New York State form DOH 1562. Write NY State Dep't. Of Health, Vital Records Section, Genealogy Unit. Empire State Plaza, Albany NY 12237-0023 (Enclose SAE).

How to Compute The Birthday of an Ancestor

(This method has appeared in many different publications but the earliest citation we have found is the March 1976 Issue of Genealogical Helper.) We are sorry if we are not giving the correct credit.

Many times Tombstones list the number of years, months and days that the deceased lived rather than the date of birth. The following method called the "8870 formula" can be a help to not only figure the date of birth but also can help you document a date you were not sure of.

1. Using a calculator or pencil and paper, enter date of death (19661202)
(Dec.12,1966)
2. Subtract age of person found on tombstone (60yr.01M,29D):(600129)
Results of (19061073)
3. Subtract 8879 to correct the months and years: (19052203)
Translate and you have 1905 22 months 3 days or Oct. 3 1906

TOMBSTONE CARE

At one of our recent meetings some statements were made about how the reporter lightened up lettering on Tombstones. The methods proposed could permanently damage the tombstones. I am therefore including the following item on tombstone care. This item was found in the Central IL. News Mar/Apr. 1966

THE USE OF SHAVING CREAM to lighten up lettering on tombstones has a lot of genealogists in a lather. It seems that a couple of years ago one genealogical publication recommended cleaning the stone with some watered-down vinegar and then spraying a small amount of shaving cream into the lettering. It recommended using a ruler or straight edge to spread the shaving cream and remove the excess. This supposedly makes it much easier to decipher the lettering and also makes the inscription photograph better. Now several genealogical newsletters are warning their readers to use shaving cream for their own five o'clock shadow and not for tombstones. Read the label, they say and you will learn that shaving cream contains stearic acid which is more acidic than acid rain. Another no is the use of blackboard chalk. It contains gypsum, which also is harmful to tombstones. What can you use without running the risk of hastening the disintegration of Grandpa's marker? The Tuolumne Co., Cal. Genealogical Society's THE GOLD Diggers

suggests using inert or neutral materials like talc or powdered limestone (as in crushed TUMS) for dark colored stones and powdered graphite for light colored stones. Try it and let your ancestors RIP(from Ansearching News 1955)

In a like matter we would take exception to any one removing part of a castle or castle wall and bringing it back as a souvenir of their visit to another country.

If we want to see these ancient places, we should not do anything to make them not available to our descendants.

Suppose someone was to start removing stones or pieces of the statue of liberty.

Excerpts

Boston Newsletter Oct. 1719

Pisataqua, Sept. 18th. On Tuesday the 8th Currant Dyed at Exeter Mrs. Elizabeth Trgworgye Gilman, late widow of the Honorable John Gilman Esq.; in the 80th Year of her age; who was blessed with so Numerous an issue, that of her Children, Grand-Children, and Great Grandchildren, She could raise two effective Companies, with officers of all Distinctions thereto belonging. Even from a Major unto a Corporal, and a Minister besides to preach unto them: She was a Gentlewomen of rare accomplishments, well skilled in Surgery, what she did therein was mostly gratis, charitable to the Poor, one of a Meek, Humble & Pleasant Temper, but that which crowned all, she was a sincere lover of true Religion. (Mrs. Gilman is the Tenth Great Grandmother of Marjorie Stubbs Heaney)

Boston, On Wednesday last the 16: Currant. His Excellency, Our Governor set out from hence for His other Government of New Hampshire.

Venice, Feb 25. On the 22nd, at half an hour past one at Night, an extranordinary Phenomenon appear'd in the Sky in the East, being a Ball of Fire, which cost so bright a Light, that the whole City was illuminated by it as if it had been Noon Day. Half a Quarter of an Hour after, that Ball divided it self into several Branches, which at last vanished Westwood.

Paris, Feb. 26 Prince Eugene having Complained to this Court, that Father Tellier the late Kings Confessor has endeavoured to raise Commotions in the Austrian Netherlands, as he has done in France, about the Pope's Constiution, he is banished hence to the Convent of Flesche.

BOARD MEMBERS

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2nd. Vice Pres.....Mary Lois Kelley
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Past Pres.....Albert Little
Book Comm. Chair.....Bette Lane
Editor- Newsletter.....Thomas H. Calvin

HOW MANY RELATIVES DO YOU HAVE

Here is a listing of the number of direct ancestors we have in 25 generations. A generation is approximately 35 years. In 25 generations there are roughly 875 years or to about to 1121 AD.

1st. Generation:	1
5th. Generation:	16
10th. Generation:	512
15th. Generation:	16384
20th. Generation:	524288
25th. Generation:	16777216

LAND RECORDS TIP

In the lower left corner of most old deeds, you will find signatures of 2 to 4 witnesses. The first one is always from the husband's side of the family. The next one is always from the wife's side - to protect her one-third dower right under the law. Nothing you will ever use will give greater clues to maiden names than witnesses to old deeds. In addition, in the 1880's and before, it was tradition when the daughter married, as part of her dowry, for the father to either cover the loan or carry the note for his son-in-law. If you know the husbands name but not the wife's maiden name, find out to whom they made the mortgage payment. About 70 percent of the time it will be her father.(from Heritage Quest Magazine Issue 65, CSGA NL. Vol. 14. No2. Feb. 96)

Hand Fasting

Some early marriage records have "HF" or "H/F" annotated besides the names of the couple. This abbreviation stands for "Handfast."

Handfasting was a form of announcing the intention of a couple to marry without the formal blessing of a preacher. A couple would stand before a group of their peers, clasp their hands together over their heads and state their intentions. Handfasting was good for a year and a day, or until the preacher came

to perform the marriage rites. Any child born of handfasting was legitimate and would inherit.(Paradise CA, GS Newsletter,, Heritage Quest magazine Issue 65)

EARLY NC RECORDS TO BE REPRINTED.

Many early and important North Carolina county records were recently reprinted or are on the verge of being reprinted, if enough orders are received. The works of Joseph W. Watson, Zae Hargett Gwynn and others on Edgecombe, Franklin, Granville, Nash, Wake and Wayne counties are the subject of a new brochure. For a copy write Reprint Company Publishers, PO Box 5401, Spartanburg, SC 29304 or call 864-582-0732

ORLANDO PUBLIC LIBRARY

In the past month we have had at least 20 people ask about the Genealogy section in the Orlando Library, and about directions, parking and hours. The following was in the Nov. 96 Links and Bridges of The Genealogy Society of Hernando County.

The library is located in downtown Orlando at the intersection of Central Boulevard with Magnolia and Rosalind Avenues. It is North of the East-West Expressway(State Road/Toll 408) and East of Interstate 4.

The library is open 9:AM to 9 PM. Monday through Thursday: 9 AM to 6 PM. Friday and Saturday: 1-6 PM Sundays. There is a city parking garage across from the Library entrance.

For information contact the library at 407-425-4694 or write 101 E. Central Blvd., Orlando Fl. 32801

MEETING SCHEDULES

The Roots and Branches Genealogical Society meets at the DeLand Public Library at 6:00 P.M. on the first Thursday of the month. September through June.

The Board of Directors meet at 10:00 A.M. on the Friday preceding the regular meeting. Members are welcome and encouraged to attend all meetings.

Books & Periodicals Received Recently

Mrs. James Matheny, 1315 Quinteepelo Dr. Casselberry, Fl. Fla. Gave the Roots & Branches a collection of periodicals and books during the summer of 1996. Listed below.

Dongan, Michael B.
Confederate Arkansas- The people and policies of a frontier state in wartime. (U. Of Al. Pr 1976)

Walker, Paul K.
Engineers of Independence- A documented history of the Army engineers in the American Rebellion, 1775-1783. (Historical division of the Office of the Chief Engineers.)(no date)

Pritchard, Arthur C.
An Appalachian Legacy Mannington life and spirit. (NC Claire 1983) ??????

DwHaas, Wills
Indian Wars of West Virginia. Vol. 1 McClain (c.1851) pr 1989

Core, Earle L.
The Monongalia Story Vol. 1. Prelude
The Monongalia Story Vol. 2. Pioneers (McClain 1974)

Core, Earle
Chronicles of Core 3rd. Ed. McClain 1975

Poore, Ben: Perley ed.
Message from the President of the United States to the Two Houses of Congress.(40th) 1867 Gov't. Printing office.

Withers, Alexander Scott
Chronicles of Border Warfare or History of the Settlement of the Whites, of Northwestern Virginia, and of the Indian Wars & Massacres in that section of the State. Vol. II
Robert Clarke, 1895

Doddridge, Joseph
Notes on the Settlement and Indian Wars. Vol. III (2 copies) Pittsburgh John Ritzenour 1912.

Blizzard, Dennis F. Ed.
Roster of the General Society of the War of 1812. General Society of War of 1812- 1989
Matheny, Halph C.
Matheny Memorial. (1978) Nashville Gilles Pr.

Gucciardo, Delores Matheny
Matheny- Gucciardo and Allied Families 1983
Wentworth, John
Wentworth Genealogy: English and American. vol. 1 Little Brown, 1878
Role Society of U.S. Daughters of 1812

Gifts of Sylvia McAuliffee.
Root, Mary Philotheta. ed.
Chapter sketches Connecticut Daughters of the American Revolution- Patriotic Daughters
(1904) CT. Chapters, Daughters of Amer. Rev.
The Connecticut Nutmegger Vol. 24, #4 Mar. 19
The Connecticut Nutmegger Vol. 25 #2
Connecticut Magazine Vol. VIII
(1904) ed. By Frances T. Miller.
Connecticut Magazine Vol. VIII #11 (1903)
Connecticut Magazine Vol. VIII # 9 (1905)

Annual Report of The Board of Education (CT May 1874)

Gift Of Linwood L. Oliver
Shields A. Randolph
Families of Cades Cove. 1821-1935
Published by Author 1981

More on Social Security

Under the Freedom of Information - Privacy Act which permits the release of data when an individual is deceased, records may be obtained from the Social Security Administration. A copy of the death certificate must accompany each request.

Information received will include the names of parents, date and exact place of birth, residence, place of employment, and signature of applicant. Another request can be made for a computer printout of all the places of employment, showing years.

Write to the Social Security Administration, Box KM, Baltimore, MD 21203

(From the Macoupin County Illinois Searcher Vol XVI, No. 1, July 1995, via the newsletter of the Logan County Gen. Society, Guthrie, OK., via the Fuqua Foundation News, Volume 4, Number 3, Fall, 1966)