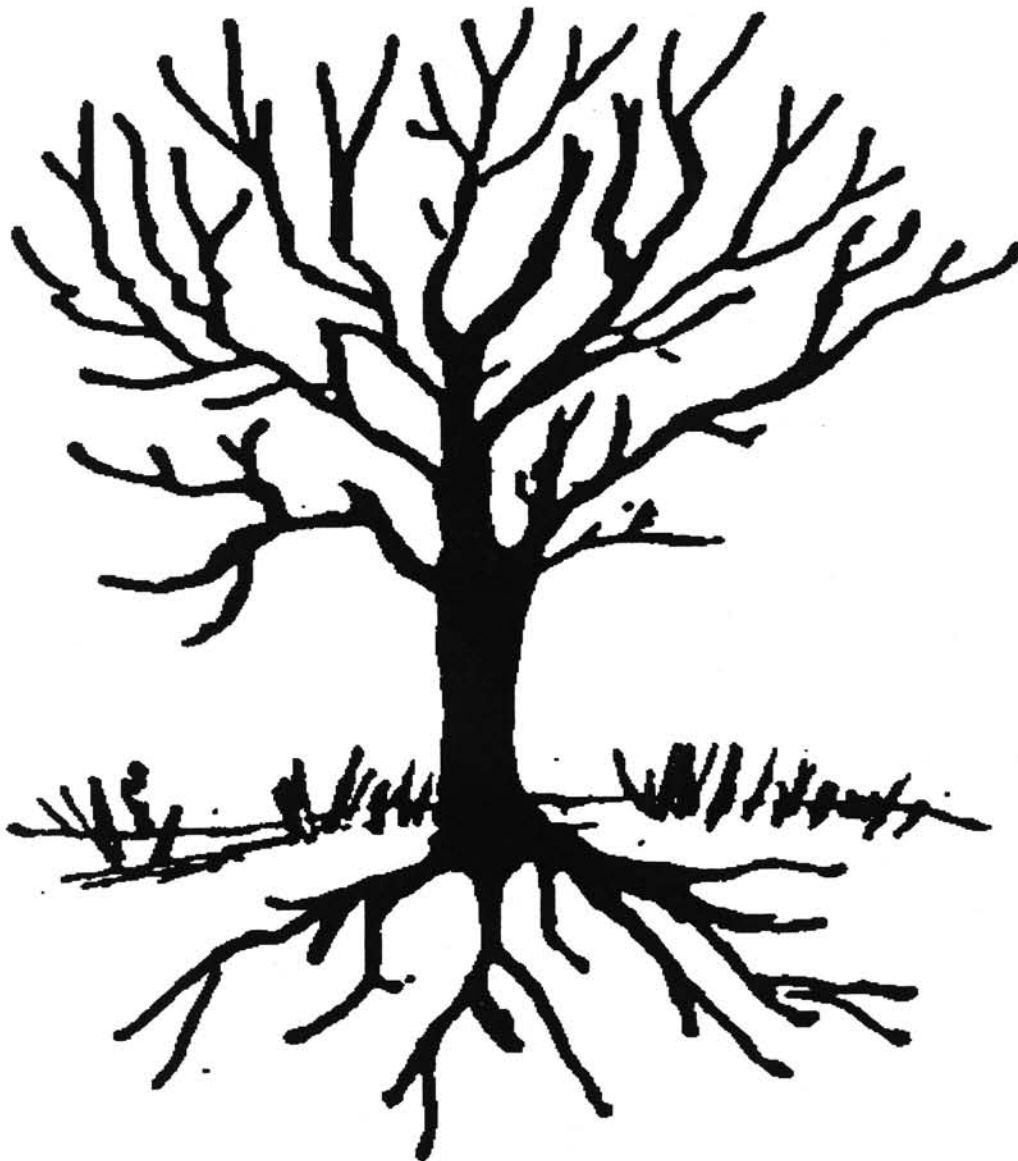

Roots and Branches

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QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE ROOTS & BRANCHES GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY



THE COLD SUMMER OF 1816

Persons are in the habit of speaking of the summer of 1816 as the coldest ever known throughout America and Europe. Having some facts relative to this subject, we propose to give them, in order to revive the recollections of such amongst us as remember the year without a summer- also to furnish correct information for such as feel any interest in matters of this kind. We shall, therefore, give a summary of each of the months of the year 1816, extracted in part from "Pierce on the Weather."

December, the month preceding this. Was very cold.

JANUARY was mild—so much so as to render fires almost needless in sitting rooms

FEBRUARY was not very cold, with the exception of a few days, it was mild like its predecessor.

MARCH was cold and boisterous, the first half of it. The remainder was mild. A great freshet on the Ohio and Kentucky rivers, that caused great loss of property.

APRIL began warm and grew colder as the month advanced, and ended snow and ice, with a temperature more like winter than spring.

MAY was more remarkable for frowns than smiles. Buds and fruit were frozen- ice formed half an inch in thickness- corn killed and the fields again and again replanted, until deemed too late.

JUNE the coldest ever known in this latitude. Frost and ice, and snow were common. Almost every green herb killed. Fruit nearly all destroyed. Snow fell to a depth of ten inches in Vermont, several inches in Maine, and it fell to the depth of three inches in the interior of New York. It fell also in Massachusetts.

JULY was accompanied by frost and ice. On the morning after the fourth. Ice formed of the thickness of common window glass. Throughout New England, New York, and some parts of Pennsylvania. Indian corn nearly all killed, some favorably situated fields escaped. This was true of some of the hill farms in Massachusetts.

AUGUST was more cheerless if possible than the summer months already passed. Ice was formed an inch in thickness. Indian corn was so frozen that the greater part of it was cut down and dried for fodder. Almost every green thing was destroyed, both in this country and in Europe. Papers received from England said, "It will be remembered by the present generation that the year 1816 was a year in which there was no summer," Very little corn in the New England, and Middle States ripened. Farmer's supplied themselves from the corn produced in 1815 for seed in the spring of 1817, It sold for from four to five dollars a bushel.

SEPTEMBER furnished about two weeks of the mildest weather of the season. Soon after the middle it became very cold and frosty—ice forming a quarter of an inch in thickness.

OCTOBER produced more than its usual share of cool weather, frost and ice common.

NOVEMBER was cold and blustering. Snow so as to make sleighing.

DECEMBER was mild and comfortable.

We have thus given a brief summary of the "cold summer of 1816," as it was called, in order to distinguish it from the cold seasons. The winter was mild. Frost and ice were common in every month in the year. Very little vegetation matured in the Eastern and Middle States. The sun's rays seemed to be destitute throughout the summer; all nature was clad in a sable hue, and men exhibited no little anxiety concerning the future of this life—Rochester American

(The JOURNAL Jonesborough, Tennessee, Saturday, September 23, 1850) Copied from "Distant Crossroads" October 1994 . Hawkins County Genealogical Society PO Box 429, Rogersville, Tennessee 37357.)

Submitted by Lois Vick.

CENSUS BUREAU ASSISTANCE

(obtained from February/March 1998 Odom Family Tree Newspaper and Family Trails)

A branch of the Census Bureau will assist researchers in obtaining census records from the 1930-1990 federal returns for any person whom you can supply proof of death. Age Search will, for \$25, search any two census records. The search is limited to the person for whom you are requesting information, but you may ask for other family members to be included for a \$2 a person fee. The full line of information from the census return with payment of a \$6 fee. The basic fee includes a official document stating the person's name, age, place of birth, citizenship and relationship to the head of the household.

Form BC-600, which is required, can be obtained from any Social Security office or by writing: Bureau of the Census, " Age Research," P.O. Box 1545, Jeffersonville, IN 47131. (with thanks to Mesa Dwellers and Yucaipa Valley Genealogical Society)

INSCRIPTIONS FOUND

ON TOMBSTONES

William Jones, Beloved Husband of Elizabeth Jones—Rest in Peace until I come.

Here lies the dust of Marvin Peeper Swept up at last by the Great Housekeeper
Inscription on a dentist's tombstone:
When on this tomb you gaze with gravity
Cheer up! I'm filling my last cavity.

Beneath this stone lies Dr. John Bigelow,
An atheist with no place to go.

Epitaph on a waiter's gravestone
"God finally got his attention."

Here lies Pepper Tate,
Hung by mistake.
He was right, we was wrong,
But we strung him up and now he's gone.
She lived with her husband 50 years and
died In the confident hope of a better life.
Here lies my wife in earthly mold.

Who when she lived, did naught but scold.
Good friends, go softly in your walking
Lest she should wake and rise up talking.

Here lies Salty O'Day
A rope necktie, an" old Oak tree
And Salty ain't what he used to be.
(Family Trails- Fall 98- Genealogy Society of Southeast Volusia County)

STATE LIBRARIES

To see a list of STATE LIBRARIES on the internet go to
<<http://lcweb.loc.gov/global/library/statelib.html>>
(Links and Bridges June 1998. The Genealogy Society of Hernando County)

SISTER ACT

(by Beth Gay in the January 19,1988, Jacksonville Times-Union and Spring 1998 Family Trails- Genealogical Society of Southeast Volusia County)

Carolyn Gardner of Plataka wrote and asked," How do you find Catholic sisters on the Soundex or in indexed census reports?" My friend Roy Schmidt, at the Family History Library in Salt Lake City, Utah researched the question and called back. To find Catholic sisters in the Soundex or indexed census reports, you simply use "Sister" as a last name.

BOARD MEMBERS

President.....Thomas H. Calvin
1st.Vice Pres.....Rosemary Sutton
2nd.VicePres.....Carol Markert
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Corresponding Secr..... Carol Markert
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Editors of Newsletter.....Thomas H. Calvin
and Judy Otto

Roots & Branches Meetings

General Meetings

Jan. 7, Feb.4, Mar.4, Apr.1, May 6.

Board Meetings

No meeting in December.
Jan.29, Feb.26, Mar.26, Apr.30, May 28.

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FHC News, New York State Probate Tip, Genealogy?, Galvanized Soldier, National Archives, Library of Congress, Interpretation of Baptismal Names, Tips of Photocopying.
Page 4. Blessed are the Elderly, New Jersey Marriage Records, Genealogy Service?, Poem Inspired by Genealogical Reflections. Scottish Records on the Internet. Ireland on the Internet, Notable Sayings. Thank you volunteers

FAMILY HISTORY CENTER NEWS

(Volusia County Genealogy on-line Newsletter)

The most exciting news from the FHC is that the Salt Lake City FHC is releasing a new IGI addendum. The most recent version of the IGI was published in 1992: the microfiche are also dated 1992. In 1994 an addendum of 7 CD'S was issued: this addendum was not available on microfiche. Therefore, this new release will be the first addendum since 1994. We are told it will consist of a set of 17 CD'S.

NEW YORK STATE PROBATE SEARCH TIP

(Volusia Genealogical On-Line Newsletter)

Here's a tip for NYS researchers. When a will is probated, the application filed by the executor must include a one-page genealogy chart showing the family of the deceased. County Probate Court records are public records in NYS and are not restricted by privacy laws. If you visit the County Probate Court you can research the records and copy a document. If you request a search and copy by mail, it might prove expensive. Best have a local contact search for you.

GENEALOGY ?

For running down Wheelers, I will send \$3 more.

He and his daughter are listed as not being born.

I would like to find out if I have any living relatives or dead relatives or ancestors in my family,

My grandfather died at age 3,

Documentation: Family bible in possession of Aunt Marie until tornado hit Topeka, Kansas, now only God knows where it is.....

We are sending you 5 children in a separate envelope.

We lost our grandmother. Will you please send us a copy?

Will you please send me the name of my first wife? I have forgotten her name.

Our 2nd great-grandfather was found dead crossing the plain in the library

Will you send me a list of all the Dripps in your library?

He was married 3 times in the endowment house and has 21 children.

(Bud Miller to Volusia County Genealogy Computer Group Newsletter.)

GALVANIZED SOLDIER

A galvanized soldier is a member of the confederate forces during the Civil War, who was captured and sent to prison. If he agreed to enlist in the Union Army, he was released. Those that did enlist for the Union may have received pensions. Many families are unaware that their ancestor fought on both sides. (FLORIDA LINES Dec. 1997- Florida State Genealogical Society via SBS Root Cellar via Mid-Cities Genealogical Society, Hurst , Texas)

NATIONAL ARCHIVES

You can e-mail requests for government agency forms to: <inquire@arch.2.nara.gov> Put one word in the subject block "form". In the body include the form number and name as well as the number of copies you would like. Some forms you might want:

Form 80—Military service & pension records prior to WW1.

Form 81—Passenger arrivals

Form 180—Military service records after WW1

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library of Congress will send you a print out of all family histories they have for a given surname. Send a SASE to: Library of Congress, Family History Division, Washington, DC 20541. Limit your request to one surname. They can also be contacted through the Internet at:<locis.loc.gov>, or 140.147.254.3, or through the web at <http://lcweb.loc.gov> to search their catalog directly. (both of the articles above are from the same edition of Florida Lines previously listed)

INTERPRETATION OF BAPTISMAL NAMES

BY Prof. I. Daniel Rupp

(Journal of the BCGS(Winter 1993) (continued)

ABRAHAM, father of many nations: Hebrew, from ab, father and raham, many nations, or multitude

ADAM, earthy man; Hebrew. This name may be derived from dam, blood, adam, red, or to be red, in the sense of beauty, or beautiful, i.e. red man, beautiful man.

BENJAMIN, son of fortune—F.Pilcher. Son of the right hand, or most beloved son—Heubner. Derived from the Hebrew ben, son, and jamin, the right side, or the right hand.

THOMAS, twin, a twin brother: Hebrew, from taam, a twin, to be doubled, and Hiphel, to bear twins: in Greek Didymus, from didumos, double, two-fold; twice, and from the root doo,dosi:didomi, doso, to give, to offer, to present.

TIPS OF PHOTOCOPYING.

If you are copying old yellow newspaper clippings and they turn black, there is a way to reproduce them without the gray background. If you select "photo" option on the copier, the copy will come out clean and crisp.

If you have trouble with "bleed-through" when copying or scanning documents, try putting a piece of dark paper behind the original. This will help to minimize ghost characters from the back of the original.

(Both above articles from the Winter 1997 issue of the Southern Ohio, Genealogical Society newsletter, Roots and Shoots Quarterly by way of the Florida Chapter Ohio Genealogical Society Newsletter The Quest Mar-April 98)

"Blessed are the elderly, for they remember what we never knew."

(Author unknown-credited by Links and Bridges as being seen in Antique Week and Sun Coast Searcher)

NEW JERSEY MARRIAGE RECORDS
1665-1900

The above mentioned book by William Nelson originally published in 1900, was reissued in 1997. It remains the principal authority on early New Jersey marriages and may be ordered for \$40 plus \$3.50 s/h from Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1001 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, MD 21202-3897.

Genealogy Service ?

" I discovered that not only are you Heir to an unclaimed Family Fortune. But I'm your long lost Brother Wally." (Frank & Ernest Cartoon" ©1996 by NEA Inc.

"First off seldom have I seen the word " Descended used more appropriately" (Frank and Ernest Cartoon) ©1995by NEA Inc."

"Can you trace my Family Tree ? "How far back do you want me to go?" --- "Until you see a tail."

(BC cartoon) ©1995 by Creators Syndicate Inc.

Heard at a Funeral: He was my step cousin 3 times removed from my aunt's grandfather... but I loved him like a grandmother's stepbrother's nephew's sister. ©95 by LA Times, Syndicate.

POEM INSPIRED BY GENEALOGICAL
REFLECTIONS

This is my father's birthday.
He and my mother made me, one from two.
From two I came from four, then come from eight
Then sixteen and thirty-two and sixty four
And so on
A bit of me within each one.
Inverted pyramid with me the tip---
(Of minimal importance, save to me)
And now what happens? Will bits of me
Go on in other pyramids? Or does the pattern
end That I call me?
(Lucy Bernard Briggs- Hanover New Hampshire.
Mayflower Quarterly Nov. 1988 Vol. 54- No.4 P. 311)

SCOTTISH RECORDS ON THE
INTERNET.

(Links & Bridges- Genealogy Society of Hernando County Vol. 12 No3 Mar. 1998)

This is from the General Register Office-
Scotland Web site at
www.open.gov.uk/gros/fag.htm:

A fully searchable index of Scottish birth and marriage records from 1553 to 1897, and death records from 1855 to 1897 will be available on the Web next month. An index to census records for 1891 will also be provided, with 1881 census data available later in the year. The General Register Office, office for Scotland Internet services will be formally launched on Monday, April 6, 1998, with public access to the database available immediately. For more information, go to
<www.open.gov.uk/gros/groshome.htm>.

IRELAND ON THE INTERNET

(Gen News-Halifax Genealogical Society Newsletter Mar. 1998) by way of Dec./1997/January 1998 Odom Family Tree Newspaper) If you are surfing the WWW and want to find information on Ireland-try: <http://www.may-ireland.ie/Geneal>. This will let you access the Family Research Centres for each Irish county.

NOTABLE SAYINGS.

Age is strictly a case of mind over matter. If you don't mind, it doesn't matter. Jack Benny-1894-1974.

God gives us relatives, thank God, we can choose our friends. Addison Mizner- American Architect 1872-1933.

The best executive is the one who has sense enough to pick good men to do what he wants, and self restraint enough to keep from meddling with them while they do it. Theodore Roosevelt.

There are two ways to slice easily through life; to believe everything or to doubt everything. Both ways save us from thinking. Alfred Korzybski - Polish American Linguist 1879-1950

Wisdom is divided into two parts: (a) having a great deal to say, and (b) not saying it. Anonymous

WE WANT TO THANK ALL THE PEOPLE WHO VOLUNTEER IN THE GENEALOGY ROOM AT THE LIBRARY. WE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN THE GENEALOGY COLLECTION WITHOUT YOUR SERVICES. WE DO NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS. WE WILL HELP YOU LEARN ABOUT OUR COLLECTION AND SHOW YOU THAT IT CAN BE FUN AND REWARDING, AND YOU MIGHT FIND SOME ANCESTORS HIDING THERE.

SEASON GREETINGS
TO ALL OUR MEMBERS
SEE YOU NEXT YEAR

**ROOTS AND BRANCHES GENEALOGY SOCIETY
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