



Central Florida
Genealogical and Historical Society

P. O. Box 177
Orlando, Florida 32802

NEWSLETTER

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ANNUAL I

Whole Number 20

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Dear Members and Friends:

"The Treasurer wishes to announce that the mineograph machine, which the Society voted to purchase from the Orlando Public Library at a cost of \$300, has been paid for in full. A study of the records reflects that a 50% membership participation was used in this transaction. A big thanks to all for time and donation to this cause. -- Margaret Holbrook, Treasurer"

The Board wishes to add further to the above, and to declare that this probably was the best investment we possibly could have made, as the Library very kindly and generously has provided us with the following, in addition to the machine: Two protective aprons, an after can of ink of various colors, some mineograph paper, a dozen or so quires of stencils, a metal cabinet for the hanging and filing of our used stencils (handy for re-running), and a smaller cabinet, useful for supplies.

The machine itself (A. B. Dick Serial #637386) now is placed in the warehouse of Mr. Vernon Hinely, at 17th and Division St., Orlando, where Bonnie Hinely says it is in no one's way. The Editor of the Newsletter felt, since her home has been broken into repeatedly here of late, that it would be much better if the machine could be relocated until a future date.

If you find that several typewriters seem to have been used in the construction of this Newsletter (our first Annual!), your observation is correct. Due to Mrs. Knisely's *crise de nerfs* caused by the above cited condition, she felt unable to cope with the job of getting out the Annual, and various members are "volunteering. We felt that providing you with much, much more unpublished information from the files of our members and friends was much more important than to worry over whether or not the type style was similar. In this issue, therefore, you will find that *avis rara*, NEW old data.

We wish to remind you that the Friends of the Library soon will hold their used book sale at the Winter Park Mall. There is no need to remind you that one sometimes is able to pick up some wonderful research bargains. Turn in to any library your own old paperbacks and/or hard cover books to be added to those available for sale on May 9, 10, 11, 1974.

I wish to thank most sincerely all those persons who have devoted time which really wasn't free but which they managed to make available to the promotion and functioning of the Workshop, and to the production of this Newsletter. Without all the assistance and thought which went into these two ventures, they simply could not have happened.

We trust all of you, Visitors and Members alike, will find much to encourage your research activities. To Mrs. Harter, my sincere personal appreciation for having been with us, and for having instructed us so thoroughly.

/s/ Alice H. Rupe
President

I wish I knew what can be known
about my Kith and Kin.

I would like to climb my Family Tree
But how should I begin?

Beginners are always told to start at home. Good! But what shall I look for? What records of genealogical value can be found there?

DOCUMENTS IN OUR HOME that may help establish identity:

- I. ALBUMS
 1. Photo album (white) of SHINSEL brothers, sisters and parents.
 2. Large green album of FORD parents and children.
 3. A picture album which belonged to Joyce as a child may be somewhere in the SHINSEL family home in LaGrande, Oregon -- I hope.
- II. BIBLES
 1. Large 4-in-one combination L.D.S. Standard works, inscribed by W.S. shinsel, April 1969
 2. Bible presented to Joyce SHINSEL as a teen-ager. Her marriage to Charles W. FORD and the births of their children recorded in it.
 3. Bible ---presented to Charles and Joyce FORD at their marriage by her parents, Ruth and W. S. SHINSEL. Births recorded.
- III. BIOGRAPHIES:
 1. Mimeo -- "Autobiography of Ezre Greenwood PATE"
 2. Mimeo -- "Biography of Ann MALIN SHART -- Handcart Pioneer of 1856" written by her daughter, Ada Rosells SHARP PATE,
 3. "Biography of Ada Rosella SHARP PATE.
- IV. CHURCH CERTIFICATES.
 1. Virginia Joyce SHINSEL FORD
 - A. Certificate of Baptism
 - B. Patriarchal Blessing (Birthdate, & names of Parents)
 2. James Eugene FORD
 3. Jacqueline Ruth FORD Certificate of Blessing for each
 4. Judith Lynette FORD (Gives dates and parentage)
 5. Rebecca Jo FORD
- V. CIVIL CERTIFICATES
 1. Birth Certificates for all members of Household.
 2. Marriage License and Certificate
 3. Driver's Licenses.
 4. Social Security Cards
 5. Professional and Occupational licenses.
 6. Death Certificates:
Julius Albert SHINSEL
August BLASING
August H. SCHINZEL
Peter SHEETS
Henrietta BLASING

Records from SEARS Family Bible

Contributed by Mrs. Marcia M. Wright, who comments: "The names in parenthesis were not actually in the Bible, but were supplied to me by my grandmother, Marcia Morgan (maiden name: Marcia Ridley Sears). Otherwise, it is copied exactly."

BIRTHS

William M. (Monroe) Sears and Marcia E - (Elbertina) Cook were married
Jan. 18, 1866.

Milford Wilson Sears was born June 2nd, 1867

Eula Cornham (?) Sears was born April 10th, 1869.

Leila Lovena Sears was born January 23rd, 1874.

Willie Calhoun Sears was born July 12th, 1876.

Cora Elbertina Sears was born October 17th, 1878.

Edgar Louis Sears was born March 1st, 1881

BIRTHS (another page)

Butter Freeman (?) Bird (seed or song, hard to read), born June 16th, 1838, in
Chambers County, Alabama. (This entry is older than the rest, and is in
a different hand. Connection to Sears family unknown, if any.)

Wilson C. (Calhoun) Sears was born July 23rd in the year of our Lord, 1810.

Martha A. (Ann) H. (Hightower), wife of the above, born Sept. the 1st, 1814.

(The above were married December the 9th, 1829.

Allen I. Sears was born August the 18th, 1833.

Mary Jane Sears was born December the 3rd in the year of our Lord, 1836.

Sarah Ann T. Sears was born February the 15th, 1839.

William M. (Monroe) Sears was born May the 7th in the year of our Lord, 1847

DEATHS

Lelia Lovena Sears died September 19th, 1875

Mrs. Martha A. H. Bell died November 5th, 1892. (She married Mr. Bell after the
deat of Wilson C. Sears.)

Claude Alexander Sears was born March 31st, 1883.

Annie May Sears was born April 9th, 1885.

Eunice Cleveland Sears was born December 30th, 1887

MARRIAGES

Eula . Sears was married to Zeptha A. Reeves December 31st, 1884

Milford . (Wilson) Sears and Ada C. Reeves were married July _____, 1889

THE ENIGMA, OR LOVE STORY, OF THE DOYING-WITHAMS

BY

Minnie F. Witham

Two Doying families were among the early settlers of Shipton, Quebec, ca. 1800. "Daniel and James Doying moved their families in canoes through Lake Memphramagog and down rivers of Magog and St. Francis.", according to Early Settlement of Shipton, Quebec, as read at the Vermont Historical Society. A son and daughter of Daniel Doying were the first children born in Shipton. Descendents of Daniel migrated to Central Vermont ca. 1850, where they settled and had families.

The John Witham family was found in Central Vermont ca. 1810, then later John married and went to Barnston, Quebec, where he raised a family. Four of John's sons migrated to Central Vermont before 1850. John returned to Vermont with his seven year old son, Aaron, soon after the death of John's wife, Sarah.

he Doying and Witham families lived in nearby towns in Central Vermont, thus begins the enigma, or love story, of the Doying-Witham families.

Joseph Doying (1812-1897) married Roxanna Richardson (1816-1889),
Children: Richard (1842-1919) m. 1st Mary Jane Clark (1851-1904)

2nd Mary Ford Davidson

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 2. Orilla | m. Osmond Shute |
| 3. Nancy | m. ? Boardman |
| 4. Calists | m. ? Carter |
| 5. Lucinda (1851-?) | m. Adelbert Emery |
| 6. Mary A. | m. Sylvander Goodwin |
| 7. Ira (1857-1927) | m. Rosa Witham (1876-1968) |
| 8. Jeremiah (1863-1945) | m. Emily (Nellie) Witham (1870-1957) |

Aaron With (1846-1932) son of John, married Florence G. Ainsworth (1850-1916). Children:

1. Elmer (Ned) David (1870-1952) m. Winona Nelle Doying (1880-1968)
2. Emily (Nellie) D. (1870-1957) m. 3rd Jeremiah Doying (1863-1945)
3. Mina Lizzie (1873-1962) m. Clarence Martin (1871-1950)
4. Rose Emma (1876-1968) m. Ira Doying (1857-1927)
5. Edith Sarah (1877-1956) m. Merrill Davidson (1876 - ?)
6. Wilour Asa (1879-1960) m. 2nd Bessie Ainsworth
7. Ralph Everett (1881-1968) m. Hattie Shuttle (1881-1969)
8. George Wallace (1884-1964) m. Flora Ladd (1888-1972)
9. Perley John (1886-1886)
10. Florence Maud (1887-1971) m. 2nd Mathew Batcheldar
11. Gertrude Ethel (1890- ?) m. Herbert Shute (1883-1930)

1. Elmer (Ned) Witham m. Winona Doying, daughter of Richard Doying & Mary Jane.
 2. Emily (Nellie) Witham m. Jeremiah Doying and became aunt of her twin brother (Elmer, through marriage:
 3. Rosa Witham m. Ira Doying and through marriage became aunt of Elmer.
 4. Edith Witham married Merrill Davidson, son of Richard Doying's 2nd wife. (Mary Ford Davidson), thus becoming step-sister by marriage of her older brother Elmer.
 5. Gertude Witham married Herbert Shute, son of Orilla and Osmond Shute, thus Elmer's youngest sister became his cousin by marriage.
- The Doying-Witham relationship has been a healthy, happy one, but a bit confusing to a family genealogist!

I, JOHAN NOLLE, born January 23, 1810, at Bittenfeld, in the Kingdom of Saxony, lived a good and happy life until my wife of 14 years, Luissa, mée Stuhlen, died on January 18, 1851, at 7 o'clock.

I had six children none yet out of school. I was in dire need. My wife's sister Darria stood by me and after six months she became my wife. She was 2 years younger than her sister but married at an earlier age and also had six children. They were somewhat older than mine.

At this time Sakowe (?) entered the Emilien Spital (nursing home); room and board were 3 Dahler and six months later 5 Dahler to 6 --- Dahler.

I could not earn enough we had to spend more than I could earn although I worked with 4 and 6 people. So I told my wife Darria that I wanted to go to America. She agreed to let me go if I gave her 500 Dahler a year for four years. My estate was not that large and I had to leave the Vaterland in the dark of the night. I left out of need without the knowledge or consent of my wife on October 14, 1854. My stepson Gottfried Weil went with me he was 17-1/2 years old at the time. He left in the middle of the night at 12:30 o'clock under the pretense of taking a trip to the market.

Bad times -- got worse -- dire need everywhere -- prices up -- Income low -- many 1000 people in the same situation --.

That is why I have written it down for a remembrance to all of my descendants so that they will know that I fled out of dire need and worry and to give my children a better life.

Written October (?), 1866

/s/ JOHAN GOTLON NOLLE

Translated from the German, November 6-7, 1971
by Maria (Neu) Hartge, 143 E. Ester St., Orlando, Fla 32806

This touching document was written in a religious book (not a Bible) entitled Six Books of True Christianity about Sincere Repentance, Rue and Sorrow over Sin (etc.). and was published by Johann Christophe Leidenfrost, Bookbinder, Anno 1731, probably in the Duchy of Lueneburg. Herr Nolle established himself in the State of Illinois, County of Pope, and became a farmer. He soon sent for his family. The stepson, Gottfried Weil, enlisted in the Union Army and died in Andersonville prison as a prisoner.

Gusto Nolle, son of Johan G. Nolle and Luisse, married on July 7, 1869, to Cora Lee Conrad. They eventually moved to Shiloh, Florida, and later sold and moved to Mins, Florida. Their children were Albert Nolle, born 3-1-1876, mar. Lizzie Kuhl; Rallie Nolle born 1-14-1879, mar. Lillie Griffin, and Clara Nolle, born 5-30-1881. She married J. T. McGuire.

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, McLEOD, MINNESOTA

Near Biscay, Minnesota

Cemetery records collected by Mrs. Lorraine Hanson in conducting family research.
 Note: This is a partial census only.

BLOCK, August	2 Dec. 1865 - 30 Jan 1939	Age 73
Baby	18 Oct. 1880	
Caroline	30 Aug. 1829 - 20 March 1868	Age 38
Clara M.	1887 - 1966	
Emma	1860 - 1892	
John	1855 - 1943	
Maria	10 Mar. 1866 - 25 July 1922	Age 56
Nellie	29 Aug. 1896 - 12 Feb. 1949	Age 52
Philipp	28 Feb. 1827 - 29 Jan. 1884	Age 56
Walter	16 Oct. 1891 - 19 May 1966	Age 72
Wilheimine	9 Apr. 1823 - 1 May 1908	Age 84
William J.	1885 - 1958	
EMALD, Arthur	23 Sept. 1889 - 31 Jan. 1891	
Bertha	1857 - 1937	
Edward A.	7 Aug. 1894 - 10 Oct. 1918	
Hans	7 Feb. 1844 - 3 Apr. 1940	
John	1846 - 1931	
Marie E.	28 Feb. 1819 - 22 Sept. 1898 (nee Karsten)	
Marie	30 Dec. 1856 - 20 Dec. 1933	
Minnie	29 Mar. 1853 - 28 Jan. 1900	
Peter	13 Jan. 1812 - 21 June 1883	
Peter	24 Oct. 1839 - 21 Jan. 1927	
HEINTZ, Father	1826 - 1911	
Mother	1934 - 1910	
Lydia	1863 - 1881	
KARSTENS, Baby	1940 - 1940	
MIELKE, Bertine L.	1877 - 1962	
Charles G.	1876 - 1947	
Fredericks	16 Jan. 1854 - 21 Dec. 1937	
Henry E.	1868 - 1952	
Johann	29 March 1818 - 8 April 1885	
Lloyd O.	12 Dec. 1907 - 14 Oct. 1925	
Mary S.	1868 - 1936	
Rudolf	29 May 1850 - 7 Feb. 1922	
Willard	21 Apr. 1901 - 30 May 1901	
PAHLMAN, Caroline H.	6 Sept. 1847 - 21 Oct. 1931	
Henry H.	4 Apr. 1840 - 26 Dec. 1931	
PETERS, Anna ,/	;932 = ;0-7	
Eliza	27 Jan. 1842 - 6 Apr. 1916	
Emma	1895 - ---	
George C.	1871 - 1958	
Henry T.	16 Oct. 1869 - 19 Dec. 1944	
Johann	14 Oct 1832 - 29 Sept. 1890	
John C.	1900 - 1963	
Laura H.	1872 - 1958	
Peter J.	1824 - 1879	
Rosette	14 June 1871 - 7 Nov. 1945 (a twin)	
Walter	31 Jan. 1895 - 12 Jan. 1919	
RARHEUS, Claus	25 June 1826 - 20 Apr. 1890	

(Continued

ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH CEMETERY, McLEOD, MINNESOTA

Continued:

REIMERS, Anne	27 Aug. 1854	-	4 Nov. 1942	
Jacob	6 Feb. 1854	-	9 Oct. 1912	
John	4 Jan. 1841	-	3 Feb. 1894	
Katharine	18 Oct. 1842	-	19 Apr. 1907	
Minnie	28 Aug. 1878	-	7 Jan. 1926	
Robert	14 June 1871	-	18 Feb. 1904	(a twin)
Theodore	12 Dec. 1896	-	4 May 1973	
Wm. F.	1885	-	1926	
SANKER, Arthur	1898	-	1955	
August	1872	-	1957	
Bert	1895	-	---	
Elizabeth	1874	-	1961	
Harvey	1896	-	---	
Henry F.	1868	-	1959	
Herbert	1893	-	1960	
Lydia	1907	-	1966	(nee Homan)
Marie L. M.	1873	-	1958	
Oscar	1899	-	1949	
SCHMIDT, Carl H.	27 Apr. 1826	-	11 Dec 1887	
Christian	15 Mar. 1820	-	4 June 1899	
Clara	1866	-	1936	
Hulds	1885	-	1902	
Wilheimina A.	1868	-	1881	
Wilhemine	11 Mar. 1831	-	1881	(wife of C. E.
Wm.	1863	-	1940	
TESSMER, Amelia	7 Jan. 1862	-	27 Nov. 1943	
Gustava	26 May 1861	-	7 Jan 1931	
John	1866	-	1936	
Laura	1874	-	1953	
THOMPSON, Johann B.	1804	-	8 Aug. 1886	(born in Germany)
Katharine	15 Oct. 1812	-	27 July 1881	(born Holstein, Ger.)

- END -

TWO GRAVE MARKERS FROM SHEATS OLD HOMESTEAD (1 mile North of Good Hope, on Jacks Creek Road, Walton Co., Georgia - Contributed by Morean Rankin, Member, (CFG&HS:)

Sacred to the memory of JAMES RICHARDSON, SR. Born in New Kent Co., Virginia, Sept. 20, 1780. Emigrated to Georgia about the year 1802 and was one of the original settlers of Walton County. He joined the Bethel Baptist Church in 1845, and continued an acceptable and orderly member up to the time of his death, which was on the 28th of December 1855, Blessed are the Dead who die in the Lord.

MRS. ELIZABETH N., the consort of James Richardson, Sr., and daughter of David Clements, Dec'd. d. May 12, 1847. Mrs. Richardson was truly the wife and mother; the neighbor and the friend to the poor and the needy. She united with the Bethel Baptist Church in 1845 and adorned the profession of religion up to the time of her death

THE RESCUE

Crossing the broad Connecticut River at Windsor, when the "ferry" was actually a large Indian canoe, was not without accompanying hazards. This harrowing and bloodchilling incident was recorded by the noted Reverend Increase Mather in his volume Remarkable Providence (Stiles, Hist. Windsor, Conn., Vol. 1, p. 186): "On January 13, 1670, three women, the wives of Lt. Filer, John Drake and Nathaniel Loomis, having crossed the river upon a necessary and neighborly account and having done the work they went for, were desirous to return...The river being shut up with ice, old, new, and partly broken. The three women got into the canoe with Nathaniel Bissell and an Indian helper. Another canoe went before them with two men to help break the channel. Near mid-river, the Bissell canoe, struck by ice, broke apart and sank. The Indian helper crawled onto the ice, but Bissell and the three women were left floating in midstream - one woman with child and near time " was carried away under the ice. Bissell finally got himself onto the ice, plucked the woman from below the ice, through a hole. The two other men rescued the two other women by getting their canoe onto the ice, and, eventually working their way over the ice, carrying the women, one at a time, to safety.

For the descendants of this study, this remarkable and most Providential rescue has very deep significance. Second generation Nathaniel Bissell was the ferryman who at this time was living on the East side of the river. Residing in the main settlement of Windsor, on the west bank, were John Drake's wife, Hannah (Moore) Drake, and Nathaniel Loomis' wife, Elizabeth (Moore) Loomis - both daughters of Deacon John Moore. Together with Lt. Filer's wife, who probably was the older, experienced midwife of the group, they had crossed the precarious ice-filled river to attend their sister, Mindwell (Moore) Bissell, the wife of Nathaniel Bissell, who gave birth to our third generation ancestor: Hannah Bissell, on January 12, 1680 (Windsor V.R.) Incredible as it may sound, the child who received this pre-birth icy immersion with his "near-time" mother, Elizabeth (Moore) Loomis, was without question our third generation ancestor, Moses Loomis, born four months later, on May 15, 1671 (Windsor V.R.).

The foregoing is from an historical study of the YERRINGTON-BOARDMAN Family, now being compiled by Ethel J. Hansen, of Orlando.

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From the Gay Family Bible, in possession of M. L. Gay, Jonesboro, Georgia. The Gays are from Colquitt County, Georgia, and are descendants of Simon Gay (R.S.)

Neilie Gay was borned July 12, 1889

George henry gay was borned december 13 () Died Aug 15, 1893.

John cary gay was borned december 24 ()

hattie gay was borned October 31, 189 (Torn out, brittle pages)

James Marion gay was borned June 18, 1897.

Nellie lee gay was borned March 5, 1900

robert g. michel gay was borned February 21, 1902. Died Dec. 19, 1905.

wily bengimen gas (sic) was borned march 3, 1904

(Note: Names writted without capital letters)

GENEALOGY OF THE HUMPHREY FAMILY

Michael Humphrey, first at Ancient Windsor, Connecticut, from Dorchester, A. D. 1643. A manufacturer of tar and turpentine, then having a ready sale, for use in the British Navy and Marines.

A very interesting letter from his father and mother, Samuel and Susannah Humphrey, dated at Lyme Regis, England, County Dorset, January 24, 1648, still is extant. This letter not only is interesting because of its' old age, but the character of the writer can be traced all through it, being filled with very touching maternal love and piety and is breathed in every line.

Michael was a very young man when he married October 14, 1647 to Priscilla Grant, born September 14, 1626, daughter of Mathew Grant, a conspicuous Windsor man, educated, a man of large experience in business, and one who traveled much. He was one of the original company that came over from England in the ship, Mary and John, to Dorchester, Mass. in 1630. Later, in 1635, Mathew moved to Windsor, Conn.

Lt. Samuel Humphrey, son of Michael and Priscilla (Grant) Humphrey, was born May 15, 1656, and died June 15, 1736. He married Mary Mills, who was born December 8, 1662 and died April 4, 1730.

Ex-President U. S. Grant is in the seventh generation, one of Mathew Grant's many descendants, and our non-member contributor is descended from one of the daughters (Priscilla).

The contributor has given us permission to use the data concerning the families of HUMPHREY, GRANT, NETTLETON, IRELAND, PETTISOME, LINSLEY, etc. The lines are diagramed and dates are back to the early 1600's, in England.

Interested persons should contact the CFG&HS for details.

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BUNGARNER/ANDRICK

The records in the Archives of the City of Schwaigern, Germany, as compiled in 1974 by Herr Karl Wagenplast, shows an heir of the Mayor Hans Michael Teter estate (partitioned 5 July 1734) was Eberhardine, wife of Jacob Baumgartner, of Schwaigern. Eberhardine was the step-daughter of the Widow Teter, who, from "pure maternal love...was willing to take the daughter with her husband into her house...", apparently turning the entire house over to the Baumgartner's use. (p. 174, Henckel Genealogical Bulletin, Spring 1974, Vol. 5, No. 1, Whole #13)

The Baumgartners were said to have been a Swiss family, and that there were a number of that family name who were in the Swiss Guards. In defending the royal family of France against the mob in the French Revolution in Paris, all the Swiss Guards were killed on August 10, 1792. Baumgardner is a name on the honor list of those who gave their lives. They were victims of the mob.

Brothers (or half-brothers) of Eberhardine Baumgartner had moved to Pennsylvania as early as 1727, so we are not surprised to find various spelling of

the surname Baumgartner in Pennsylvania; land surveys in Lancaster County as early as 1733, and in the 1800 Pa. census there were twelve males of this surname.

Joseph Baumgarner, son of Jacob II and Nancy (Somerville), was the grandson of Jacob I and Sarah () Baumgarner. Joseph was born 31 January 1832, in Virginia, and married Roena Ott. This couple lived in Jackson County, (W.) Va., and surrounding them were the Lockharts, the Somervilles, and other relatives, all of whom reared large families. Time passed, and the area grew and thrived with the examples of industry and talents available in their sons and daughters.

At the start of the Civil War many of the fathers and mothers from "Old" Virginia had passed on, but their descendants mainly were loyal to the mother state". Many enlisted in the "Black Hawk Regiment of the 17th Virginia Cavalry, and the roll resound with the allied families. Of all the men who served in this activity, only two were lost: Washington Saunders, killed in action, and Joseph Bumgarner, who later died at home.

Joseph and Roena (Ott) Bumgarner had four children, Thomas G. (1852 - ?), Nancy Rebecca (4-]0-1859 - 1-28-1931, Mary (1857 - ?, and Margaret.

Family tradition says that Joseph was in the War when he received word of his wife's illness. His home area then was within the Yankee lines, but he obtained a woman's long dress and coat, donned a bonnet, and stole through the lines, to sneak into the house. His wife lay dead. No word was spoken; he slipped out again and hid somewhere during the night. The next day, from a distant hillside, he watched the funeral. Upon the lowering of the body to its final resting place, he disappeared again, again no words having been spoken and all persons dutifully ignoring his presence on "foreign" soil. This was November 29, 1863. On April 3, 1865, Joseph died of a service incurred disease, but in his own home.

David Phineas Andrick, a high sounding name for a young man who was born in "Old" Virginia, in 1853. He came from a long line of Virginians. Why, they were around the Shenandoah Valley in the 1700's, and there were lots of kin all around. The little town of Edinburg, in the Valley, knew them well.

That terrible Civil War was over now, and the Valley had been occupied so many dozens of times by both sides that it would take a man's lifetime just to get started again, much less to make a good living. David's wish for adventure was burning high, because he had been too young to have fought against the Yankees, and he was a restless 16 year old. When his older sister and her husband, Obadiah Bott, decided to leave the Shenandoah Valley and head for the West, he was eager to go.

They headed across the great mountains which divide Virginia from the new state of West Virginia, but the road (such as it was), was extremely poor and they discovered they were wearing out their equipment and animals too fast. When they reached Muse's Bottom on the Ohio River, in Jackson County, W. Va., they found they must stop for a time and find work for the men.

What they really discovered was their new home, because they went no further. It was here in 1877 that David Phineas Andrick and Nancy Rebecca Bumgarner were married, on Friday, August 17th, at the home of John Somerville, in Jackson County. Officiating was the Methodist minister, the Rev. William Downton.

(Compiled from data provided by non-member Mrs. Anna (Andrick Jones, Orlando)

PROBATE RECORDS IN RESEARCH

by
Mary Steffens

When the genealogist mentions probate records, we generally think of wills. Distribution of estates also falls within this province, particularly as they may list progeny of a deceased devisee of the testator.

The records, known as Probate Minutes, or by a similar title, and which provide, as it were, a running diary of the proceedings of the court, when used alone or in conjunction with other sources, may provide answers to some baffling questions.

I had reluctantly turned to the many shelves of grim looking volumes labeled "Probate Minutes". They were poorly indexed, the index in one might cover several, and in one case, I found what appeared to be an indexing by attorneys rather than by clients! However, as the arrangement was chronological, I could, in each case, apply myself to the general period under consideration. Several perplexing questions were answered through these records, and the tedious research, from my point of view, was well worth while. As a study of some specific problems and the procedures used to solve them may benefit others, I will discuss them in the following paragraphs.

Who were the parents of Isham Williams? His bible, in the possession of descendants in another state, gave his birth date as 1842; there were old letters, also, obviously from relatives, headed from a village in this county in which I was working. The census of this county for 1850 showed three obviously unrelated Williams families, indicating their births as being in three different states; no Isham appears in any family of the name. From which, if any, of these families was Isham descended? He was named in the Williams wills, and as he died before the 1880 census, there was no indication of the birth state of his parents to help us. There were several Williams family cemeteries; no Isham appeared on any marker to offer us a clue. As a last resort, we turn to the Probate Minutes, where we find an accounting for the orphan, Isham Williams, a minor, dated June 1848, and submitted by his guardian, Henry Bush. Remembering that in one of the Williams cemeteries there is a marker to "Catherine, consort of Henry Bush", we examine the marriage records and find a Catherine Williams' marriage to Henry Bush listed in 1845. Catherine is buried next to "Jonathan Williams, born in Stokes Co., N.C." Jonathan left no will, but the administration of his estate in Probate Minutes mentions a widow, Anne, and shows the court appoints Henry Bush guardian of "the minor", who is not named. Therefore, this guardianship record in the Minutes solved our problem: Isham was obviously the son of Jonathan and Anne, and the minor mentioned in the estate record.

The reference to Isham as "an orphan" had led us to assume both parents were dead by 1848. To our surprise, we find that a year later, Anna Williams remarries; in this case, the term "orphan" obviously meant only that the father and natural guardian was deceased - women had small legal status at that time! The fact that a guardian is appointed for a minor child should never be interpreted as meaning that a mother is dead also. It is far more customary for the courts to give the child a male relative or friend of the family as a guardian.

The Drummond family of Texas desire information on their ancestor, Henly

Drummond, named in his father's will of 1836, along with brother Thomas, two sisters and mother, Mary Anne. Henly also is listed in the 1850 census of the county as father of a family, and there is a marriage record ofr him. However, his mother's will of 1853 does not mention him; it may be, being of age and married, he already has received his share of the estate, but the two daughters and son Thomas, also adults and married, are devises under her will. Examination of the Probate Minutes shows tthat Jenly Drummong, a minor, dies in 1840. and the court orders his estate divided among his brother, two sisters and mother, Mary Anne Drummond!. We have got the wrong family. There was another Henly Drummond in the area, undoubtedly a near relative - but the line now requires a new approach. This illustrates a very common source of genealogical confusion: two individuals of the same name living in the same area at approximately the same time.

Was the Nancy Carter wh married John D. Wilburn in 1845 (as his second wife) a widow as tradition states, or was Carter her maiden name? No Nancy is named as a surviving wife or daughter in Carter wills prior to this date. However, the fact that, in the Probate Minutes we find a series of accounts on the estate of "Ann Carter, a minor", submitted by her guardian, John D. Wilburn, would seem to indicate that Nancy Carter was a widow with a young daughter at the time of her marriage to John D. Wilburn. Further careful investigation of Probate Minutes for records of Carter estates may prove profitable.

Where was William Wilburn in the years between 1830, when he last appears in a Virginia county sensus, and in 1850, when he is listed in the household of his son in Alabama? All logical census records for 1860 have been searched without success. In February, 1841, we find Probate Minutes state:

"All his neighbors for 5 miles in every direction having been examined and declaring him to be of unimpeachable character, William Wilburn is licensed to sell spiritous beverages.

Evidently the courst of the time were greatly concerned with the manners of the community! As William appears in no deed books, he obviously was renting an existing store or tavern. Perhaps he was en route from Virginia at the time of the 1840 census - or he may have stayed in the home of friends or relatives who preceded him to Alabama until he could establish himself in the business of dispensing "spiritous beverages."

What were the death dates of Gustavus Adolphus Downman and his wife, Evaline? They died close together, leaving one small surviving child. The Bible had been lost in a fire, there were no markers on their graves, and both died intestate. Gustavus was living in 1855, when he last executed a deed. The solution to this problem was relatively simple. In Probate Minutes of July 2, 1857, R. J. Compton files an intention to carry on the two mercantile establishments of G. A. Downman, deceased. Downman was a merchant, then, and owing to the perishable nature of the goods, as it seems unlikely that a store would be inoperable for any indefinite period of time, we feel it safe to state that he died in the first half of the year 1857.

Incidentally, following the litigation recorded in the Minutes concerning this estate was most interesting. Lists of debtors and creditors were filed - a valuable source of local names several years prior to a census year. The widow constantly asked the court for a settlement of her husband's estate, and "prays a portion may be assigned to her." She does not live to see the estate settled; she last appears in court to ask for a settlement on Aigust 29, 1859; by November 7 of that year, her brother-in-law files for administration on the estate of "Evaline Downman, deceased. Poor Evaline had perished between these dates.

whether from sheer frustration, or actual inanition or lack of bread is not known. There are at least 25 entries in the Minute Books relating to this estate, including these entries showing the appointment of several guardians for the minor child. Following all these entries was tedious, but provided a fascinating chapter in the family history.

If you have tried the usual county records without success - most amateur genealogists apply themselves largely to will, deed and marriage books because they are easiest of access - go to the Court records. Almost everyone who lived or died in the county will be mentioned in one capacity or another. Notice the names of those appointed to appraise estates or serve as bondsman or sureties. Often these records will prove to be the catalyst which will harmonize seemingly unrelated facts.

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The CFG&HS has the following Bible Records at hand, most of them unpublished:

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| 1. TICHENOR, HIGHSMITH, NEWMAN, WATTS | Ga., Fla. Ky. |
| 2. MILLS, WAGNER, YOUNG, LOSEE, BROUARD | Brooklyn, N. Y. |
| 3. LONGSTREET, EVERNHEND | New York (?) |
| 4. MUNSEY | Lebanon, Va. |
| 5. DICKENSON | Lebanon, Va. |
| 6. ERWIN | Carter Co., Ky. & Kansas |
| 7. BROWNING | Logan Co., W. Va. & N. C. |
| 8. LAKE | Va., Ohio, Ind. |
| 9. LANDES, ROBINSON | Hardy Co., W. Va., Ind., Ia. |
| 10. DeARMOND/DEARMOND | Knoxville, Tenn. |
| 11. DeARMOND/DEARMOND (#2, Published) | Ala., Tenn. & Texas |
| 12. CHANDLER | aintsville, Ky, |
| 13. PERKINS (Published thru our auspices) | Locale unknown |
| 14. WOOL INE | Virginia |
| 15. McCUNE | Augusta Co., Va |
| 16. CHILES, POLLARD, DAVIDSON | La., Ala., S. C. |
| 17. HARDEN (Published) | Georgia |
| 18. GAY | Colquitt Co., Ga. |
| 19. CLARKE | Florida |
| 20. CONRAD, NOLLE | Illinois, Florida |
| 21. SEARS, SHEFFIELD (2 sep. Bibles) | N. C. and Ga. |
| 22. SANDFORD, SMITH, SCHRAMM | N. Y., N. J., Eng. |
| 23. SHARP, BEATY | Lownds Co., Miss. |
| 24. McLARIS | Claxton, Tenn. & Miss. |
| 25. BURNS, SHARP, HUKEY | Ala., Miss. |

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IN MEMORIAM:

Mrs. Lonnie Selman Mathews
 August 31, 1897 - February 26, 1974
 Interment: Glen Haven Memorial Park
 Orlando, Florida

C R E E D

OUR LOVES are the gift of our many antecedents.
OUR GOALS are to perpetuate their names and activities.
OUR LABOR is to gather and preserve that left unto us.
OUR LOVE to extend both backward and forward, so that
OUR CHILDREN may feel close to their folk and their land.
OUR DUTY is to share all gathered information, while
OUR HOPE is to interest others and to assist each member.

"The lines are fallen unto me in pleasant places; yea, I have
a goodly heritage." Psalms 16:6

1969