

Genealogy Pointers (12-28-10)

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Clearfield Bargain Books for December

The following ten publications are discounted by 25% or more until 11:59 p.m. EST, Monday, January 3, 2011. Did your ancestors emigrate from Poland, Russia, one of the Baltic States, various places in Germany, the United Kingdom, or Nova Scotia? Could they have settled in Virginia, Rhode Island, or elsewhere along the Atlantic seaboard. If so, you could find just the clue evidence you are looking for and save a bundle among the following excellent source books!

[Scots in Poland, Russia, and the Baltic States, 1550-1850. Part Two](#)

For the concluding volume in this series, Mr. Dobson examined scores of Scottish primary and secondary sources before producing a list of 1,000 additional Scots who settled in the Baltic. Arranged alphabetically, entries furnish the individual's name with variants, a place of residence in Eastern Europe, the date of the record, and its source. Given the widely disparate character of the subject matter, one may also find a reference to the individual's place of origin in Scotland, occupation, relationships to other persons named (i.e., parent, spouse, offspring), membership in a fraternal organization, etc.

Was \$18.50 Now \$13.50

[German Mercenary Expatriates in the U.S. & Canada Following the American Revolution: The Contingents from Brunswick, Ansbach and Bayreuth, and Hessen-Hanau, Based Upon German Sources](#)

The contents of this consolidated volume concern mercenaries from the dutchies or principalities of Brunswick, Ansbach and Bayreuth, and Hessen-Hanau, based on sources in German archives. In the majority of cases researchers can expect to find the mercenary's name, rank, age, birthplace, unit, and date and place of desertion. The volume identifies 7,000 German soldiers in all, the majority of whom chose to cast their lot with the New World.

Was \$38.50 Now \$28.50

[The Home Lots of the Early Settlers of the Province Plantations \[Rhode Island\]](#)

This work establishes the precise location of "shares" or "home lots" of five acres each belonging to Roger Williams and the other original settlers of Providence, Rhode Island. Perhaps more importantly for genealogists, it also consists of short biographical and genealogical essays of the owners of the lots, virtually all of them containing references to the settlers' origins in England.

Was \$17.50 Now \$12.95

[The Plantagenet Ancestry: Being Tables Showing Over 7,000 of the Ancestors of Elizabeth \(Daughter of Edward IV and Wife of Henry VII\) the Heiress of the Plantagenets](#)

A classic work on royal ancestry, this unusual book gives the lineages of all the known ancestors of Elizabeth Plantagenet (1465-1503), including both legitimate and illegitimate ancestors, altogether numbering over 7,000. The ancestral tables are divided geographically, English lines predominating, with lesser numbers of Scottish, Irish, French, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, and German lines. As this is a book of ancestors, its focus is restricted to the direct line, but it does allow room for every ancestor within ten generations.

Was \$50.00 Now \$37.50

[Virginia Marriage Records from the *Virginia Magazine of History and Biography*, the *William and Mary College Quarterly*, and *Tyler's Quarterly*](#)

This collection contains almost every list of marriages published in the three leading Virginia magazines of genealogy. The combined lists--fully indexed--comprise some 20,000 marriage records, most of which derive from bonds, ministers' returns, licenses, registers, ministerial records, and newspapers. In the aggregate, they form the largest collection of Virginia marriage records ever published.

Was \$57.50 Now \$42.95

[Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867 \[Volume I\]](#)

Thousands of persons enumerated in the U.S. federal censuses--and New Englanders in particular--trace their ancestry through the Canadian province of Nova Scotia. However, Nova Scotia immigration records have been widely scattered--until now! Col. and Mrs. Leonard H. Smith, Jr. labored over a decade to construct this vast index of heretofore widely scattered Nova Scotia immigrants from numerous archives in North America and abroad (Part 1) and from 450 articles in Nova Scotia periodicals (Part 2). This is easily the most comprehensive sourcebook on Nova Scotia immigrants ever published, and a great tool for New England ancestral research, whether the ancestor's origins are Scottish, Irish, English, German, or Loyalist.

Was \$45.00 Now \$32.95

[Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867. Volume II](#)

Whereas the first volume (see above) identifies immigrants to Nova Scotia who were named in selected manuscript sources, this volume identifies about 11,500 immigrants reported in selected periodicals published outside Nova Scotia (Part 1) and selected published diaries and journals (Part 2).

Was \$32.50 Now \$22.95

[Southside Virginia Families: Volume I](#)

[Southside Virginia Families: Volume II](#)

John Bennett Boddie's books on the early families of the Virginia Tidewater region are among the most frequently consulted works on that area. Volume I contains lineages of families from the early counties of Isle of Wight, Prince George, and Surry. The index refers to well over 10,000 names. Similar in scope and arrangement, Volume II covers families from Isle of Wight, Surry, and Sussex, and it names an additional 10,000 individuals.

Volume I: Was \$36.50 Now \$26.95
Volume II: Was \$39.50 Now \$29.50

[Early Quaker Records in Virginia](#)

This is an exact transcription of genealogical data in the oldest Quaker records in Virginia, the so-called Chuckatuck Record. It consists mainly of birth, marriage, and death records in Nansemond and Isle of Wight counties, beginning in 1673, although a few entries relate to events of an earlier date.

Was \$10.95 Now \$6.50

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Coming Attractions for 2011

Here's a brief overview of a few of the new titles you can expect to hear more about in the New Year:

Revolutionary War Pensions Awarded by State Governments 1775-1874, the General and Federal Governments prior to 1814, and by Private Acts of Congress to 1905, by Lloyd Bockstruck

This massive work abstracts the genealogical contents of this often overlooked source of genealogical information on Revolutionary War pension records maintained by the individual states, as well as from federal applications that were destroyed in fires in 1800 and 1814. See the next article for an earlier Revolutionary War title from Mr. Bockstruck.

Genealogy at a Glance: Scottish Genealogy Research, by David Dobson
Genealogy at a Glance: French-Canadian Research, by Denise Larson

Here are two more laminated research aids on popular genealogical topics by leading authorities in their fields. Both of these lightweight, inexpensive folders are perfect for helping newcomers embark on their family history journeys and for reminding the experienced to touch all the bases.

The Complete Beginner's Guide to Genealogy, the Internet, and Your Genealogy Computer Program. Revised Edition, by Karen Clifford

Originally published in 2001, Karen Clifford's popular, illustrated guide to genealogy has been updated to reflect the major changes in the field over the last decade. The revised edition refers to software updates, new or improved websites, the resources found on Familysearch.org (the LDS site) and Ancestry.com, and more.

"Villainy and Maddness" Washington's Flying Camp, by Richard Lee Baker

General George Washington envisioned the established of a "mobile reserve" that would both defend the Patriot army's garrisons in the Middle States and spread alarm amongst the British. The full story of Washington's Flying Camp is told for the first time in Richard Lee Baker's new book, "*Villainy and Maddness" Washington's Flying Camp*."

The German Element in the Ohio Valley: Ohio, Kentucky, and Indiana, by Gustav Koerner, Translated and edited by Don Heinrich Tolzmann

For this work, Dr. Don Heinrich Tolzmann translated and edited selected chapters from Gustav Koerner's 19th-century history of German-Americans covering the states of Kentucky, Ohio, and Indiana and adding extensive references to additional sources. This marks the second volume adapted by Dr. Tolzmann from the Koerner opus; [The German Element in the North East: Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and New England](#) was published in 2010.

Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland. Volumes XXVIII: 1751-1752, 1755. and XXIX: 1755-1758, by Vernon L. Skinner, Jr.

The 28th and 29th volumes in this distinguished series of Maryland colonial intestate records will be available by the spring of 2011.

The Ultimate Search Book. Worldwide Adoption, Genealogy & Other Search Secrets. 2011 Edition, by Lori Carangelo

We are pleased to announce the publication of the all-new 2011 edition of Lori Carangelo's *The Ultimate Search Book. Worldwide Adoption, Genealogy & Other Search Secrets*, and the first new one since 2002. This is the best guide available for helping people, and especially birth parents, find their missing loved ones.

The Complete Delaware Roll of 1898, by Jeff Bowen

While the tribe of the Delaware lived along the East Coast river valley that bears their name, they were forced to migrate, first to Kansas, and following the Civil War, to the Indian (Oklahoma) Territory. This latest effort from prolific compiler Jeff Bowen identifies the tribesmen from the 1867 roster who were still living in 1898.

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"Revolutionary War Land Bounties," by Lloyd Bockstruck

"A land bounty is a grant of land from a government as a reward to repay citizens for the risks and hardships they endured in the service of their country, usually in a military-related capacity.

"By the time of the Revolutionary War, the practice of awarding bounty land as an inducement for enlisting in the military forces had been a long-standing practice in the British Empire in North America. Besides imperial bounty land grants, both colonial and municipal governments had routinely compensated participants in and victims of military conflicts with land. Land was a commodity in generous supply, and governments seized upon its availability for accomplishing their goals.

"The American colonies' governments copied Great Britain's practice of awarding bounty lands. They generally offered free lands in exchange for military service, but they strategically did so on the presumption that they would be victorious in their struggle. Bounty lands were an effective propaganda technique for enrolling support for the war among the citizenry and for preventing them from defecting to the British if the tide of battle ebbed.

"Those colonies with unseated lands used this advantage to enlist support for the cause with the offer of free lands. Unfortunately, some of the Original Thirteen enjoyed no such advantage.

There was no bounty land policy in Delaware, New Jersey, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, or Vermont. Those states lacked enough vacant land to support such a policy. Bounty lands were a feature, however, in Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia. Administratively, these nine states selected reserves in their western domains for the location of bounty lands. Such a choice was quite logical. By placing veterans on the frontier, the states could rely on a military force that, in turn, could protect the settlements from Indian incursions. These state governments also realized that they had to encourage the ex-soldiers to occupy their newly awarded bounty lands, so they granted exemptions from taxation ranging from a few years to life to those veterans who would locate on their respective bounty lands. Such a policy also had the effect of retarding the exodus of a state's population.

“The issue of bounty lands has far wider geographical implications than the area encompassed by the nine state governments that instituted the practice. Besides the original states of Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, and Virginia, the future states of Indiana, Kentucky, Maine, Ohio, and Tennessee also were directly affected by the bounty land system. While the administrative records were, with one exception, the purview of the former nine, the bounty land reserves involved the five trans-Appalachian states. The states of Georgia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, and South Carolina either had no claims to trans-Appalachian territory or relinquished their claims to the federal government. Accordingly, their reserves for bounty lands lay within their own western borders. In the cases of Georgia and New York, these reserves were to be situated on the definition of their western borders as they existed in 1783. The bounty land reserves in those two states today would be described as being centrally located. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts allotted its bounty lands in the then District of Maine, which in 1820 achieved statehood status.

“While most of the states awarded bounty lands for military service, there were two exceptions. Connecticut compensated its citizenry with lands in Ohio if their homes, outbuildings, or businesses had been destroyed by the British. The Nutmeg State seemingly awarded no bounty land for military service per se. Georgia also issued lands to its civilian population who had remained loyal--or at the very least neutral--to the Revolutionary cause after the British restored royal control during the war. There were no Revolutionary War bounty land grants within the present-day borders of the southern states of North Carolina and Virginia. North Carolina issued its bounty lands in its western lands, which became the state of Tennessee. Virginia selected reserves for its bounty lands in Indiana, Kentucky, and Ohio before ceding its claims to the federal government.

“It is important to emphasize that the Continental Congress also made use of the policy of bounty lands. The federal bounty land records are included in the National Archives micro-publication, "Revolutionary War Pension and Bounty-Land Warrant Application Files, 1800-1900," Series M804, 2,670 rolls. The federal government likewise selected a reserve in the Northwest Territory where bounty land warrants could be used to locate land. The U.S. Military Tract in Ohio encompassed portions or all of the counties of Coshocton, Delaware, Franklin, Guernsey, Holmes, Knox, Licking, Marion, Morrow, Muskingum, Noble, and Tuscarawas.

“With the exception of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the other states permitted qualified

veterans and/or their dependents to receive bounty lands from both the federal and the respective state governments. Accordingly, there may be relevant bounty land files for soldiers in the Continental Line at both the federal and state levels. While New York made some adjustments, double dipping was the norm in the other states.

“Following the American victory at Yorktown in 1781, the various state governments sought to implement their bounty land programs. The delay in establishing a governmental agency to fulfill the bounty land pledge holds dual benefits genealogically. First, it increases the likelihood of the survival of a paper trail for proving Revolutionary War participation for many individuals who may not be mentioned in any other record. Second, because the benefits were still being processed as late as the 1870s in some jurisdictions, there may be a wealth of information pertaining to heirs in bounty land files. Not only do the records locate the veteran in time and place him in a given locality during the Revolutionary War, they also do so for him and/or his dependents in the years following independence, when internal migrations within the nation can complicate the identification of specific individuals in their various removals.”

The foregoing article was taken from the Introduction to Mr. Bockstruck's 1996 book, [Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments](#). This remarkable book is a master index to all 30,000 state bounty land records awarded for service in the Revolutionary War. Typically, each of the 30,000 entries gives the name of the claimant (usually a veteran), state of service, rank held, date of the record, acreage, and any additional comments of genealogical interest, when available.

[Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments](#) not only pulls together all this disparate information in the form of a master index, it also explains the kinds of grants issued by each state, how they conformed or differed from the norm, and, of course, where the researcher can find the actual records in question. In short, if your ancestor lived during the American Revolution, *Revolutionary War Bounty Land Grants Awarded by State Governments* is one book you must examine before you abandon hope of finding him or her. For more information, access the following URL:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=4888

Of Related Interest:

[Bounty Land Donation Grants in British Colonial America](#)

When viewed in tandem with his Revolutionary War bounty land book above, this work closes the circle on all bounty lands awarded by the British government and our newly independent states between 1607 and aftermath of the War for Independence. All 6,500 soldiers known to have received land grants for their participation in the numerous conflicts with the French and their Indian allies, as well as in various colonial insurrections, are listed here with details of their place and dates of service, rank, military campaigns, location of bounty land grants and donation land grants, acreage, and, most important, assignment of title to heirs, relatives, and friends.

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Dollarhide's Beginner's Guide Pinpoints Major Repositories & Websites

William Dollarhide's recent book, [Getting Started in Genealogy Online](#), identifies key repositories and their corresponding websites state-by-state. For example, the Oregon Historical Society in Portland has "many original diaries and journals from Oregon Trail families." Salisbury, North Carolina, was the crossroads of that state during the colonial period. The Rowan County [NC] Library in Salisbury "has many manuscripts, diaries, journals, Bible records, family folders, and much more." Similarly, the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County has a large collection of original records of Ohio River boat traffic from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to the Falls of Ohio (Louisville, Kentucky), including traffic on rivers flowing into the Ohio River.

As a matter of fact, the chapter "Genealogy Resource Centers in the States" is not only the longest one in *Getting Started in Genealogy Online*, it also describes the websites for the "most important genealogy collections in libraries, archives, and genealogical societies for all states."

Designed as a beginner's guide, *Getting Started in Genealogy Online*'s 64 pages pack more clout than any 64 pages ever written on the subject of online genealogy. The book includes the author's unique seven-step system for gathering facts essential for any genealogical project. At the back of the book are Master Forms used to keep track of the information gathered.

At the same time, *Getting Started in Genealogy Online* is a handy resource for the more experienced researcher, providing in one convenient place the names and Web addresses of all essential record repositories. In a world running on information overload, it's a relief to find all the right stuff in just a handful of pages. For more information or to order *Getting Started in Genealogy Online*, please access the following link:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1499

Also by William Dollarhide:

[Managing A Genealogical Project](#)

This booklet offers a number of other suggestions for organizing your family history data--with or without a computer. You learn how to solve the paper collection problem, how and how not to take notes, and how to organize your correspondence. So, if you're drowning in data or wondering how to pull together your genealogy, *Managing A Genealogical Project* could be the perfect answer to your problem.

[New York State Censuses & Substitutes](#)

Census records and name lists for New York are found mostly at the county level, which is why this new work shows precisely which census records or census substitutes exist for each of New York's 62 counties and where they can be found. In addition to the numerous statewide official censuses taken by New York, this work contains references to census substitutes and name lists for time periods in which the state did not take an official census. It also shows the location of copies of federal census records and provides county boundary maps and numerous state census facsimiles and extraction forms.

[Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920](#)

Prepared in conjunction with William Thorndale, this work shows all U.S. county boundaries

from 1790 to 1920. On each of the nearly 400 maps the old county lines are superimposed over the modern ones to highlight the boundary changes at ten-year intervals. Also included are a history of census growth; the technical facts about each census; a discussion of census accuracy; an essay on available sources for each state's old county lines; and a statement with each map indicating which county census lines exist and which are lost. An index lists all present-day counties, plus nearly all defunct counties or counties later re-named.

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19th-Century Immigrants to Lesser Ports of Entry: Case in Point--Galveston, Texas

Between 1820 and 1870, give or take a few years, the federal government recorded the arrivals of immigrants at U.S. ports on "Customs Passenger Lists." The vast majority of these lists were recorded at the five major ports of entry for this period: Baltimore, Boston, New Orleans, Philadelphia, and New York (the largest port of entry), and they encompass millions of passenger arrivals.

The number of immigrants who entered America through other ("lesser") ports, even when added together, is dwarfed when compared to those who came through the five major ports. It is interesting to note, however, that, by virtue of a 1789 federal statute, customs collection districts were established in more than *one hundred* coastal, river, Great Lakes, and inland ports over the same period.

According to ships' passenger record expert Michael Tepper, about three-fourths of the lesser ports "have passenger arrival records of various description, although only Mobile, Alabama, and New Bedford, Massachusetts, have original lists of any appreciable quantity." The National Archives has gathered up these lists and reproduced them in a microfilm publication entitled *Copies of Lists of Passengers Arriving at Miscellaneous Ports on the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts and at Ports on the Great Lakes, 1820-1874* (M575).

The port of Galveston, Texas, is one of those found on M575. Galveston is an interesting case in point because, beginning in the 1830s, it was an increasingly popular port of entry for German immigrants. By one estimate, as many as 20,000 German immigrants settled in Texas following Texas Independence (March 1836) and prior to annexation by the U.S. (December 1845), settling notably in the towns of New Braunfels and Fredericksburg. If your German ancestors came through Galveston prior to 1847, you won't find their passenger records on M575. Why? Because from 1836 to 1847 Texas was an independent nation and not subject to U.S. Customs Passenger statutes.

Fortunately, researchers can learn the identities of thousands of German immigrants who settled in Texas from 1844 to 1847 in the ships' lists filed in the Colonization Papers of Texas housed at the Texas State Archives in Austin. Most of these newcomers would settle on plots of land located in the famous "Fisher-Miller Grant," a tract of nearly 4 million acres situated between the Colorado and Llano rivers. This settlement was the result of an arrangement worked out between the government of Sam Houston and the Verein zum Schutze deutscher Einwanderer represented by Prince Karl of Solms-Braunfels.

The history of this famous settlement is captured in the book [A New Land Beckoned: German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847](#), by Chester W. and Ethel H. Geue. The Geues not only trace the history of this significant settlement for the future of Texas but also identify the individuals enumerated on the passenger lists found in the Colonization Papers. Another book, [New Homes in a New Land: German Immigration to Texas, 1847-1861](#), continues the story of the expanding German *auswanderung*. The resourceful Mrs. Geue was able to piece together the names and particulars of thousands more immigrants. Once again, the source was *not* U.S. Customs Passenger Lists. What official lists that might have existed in Galveston were destroyed in the great flood of 1900. Instead, she was able to fall back on passenger lists recorded in the *Neu-Brantfeler Zeitung* and the *Galveston Zeitung*. If you have a specific interest in German immigration to Texas, you may wish to consider either or both volumes by Mr. and Mrs. Geue.

If you are new to the subject of U.S. Customs Passenger Lists, we suggest you pick up a copy of Michael Tepper's definitive work on the subject, *American Passenger Arrival Records*. You'll find that it not only explains the history of ships' passenger records but also specifies which records have survived, which have been indexed, and where/how you can gain access to them.

Finally, if your ancestors arrived in America between 1820 and 1829 and possibly disembarked at Charleston, South Carolina (another lesser port), you may wish to consider Mr. Brent Holcomb's compilation on that topic. Brief descriptions of each of these products follow below:

[American Passenger Arrival Records](#)

This work examines passenger arrival records in their historical and legal context. It explains what the records contain, where they can be found, and how they can be used. In effect, it is a road map through the mass of records and archival resources documenting immigrant arrivals from the time of the earliest settlements to the passage of the Quota Acts three centuries later.

[A New Land Beckoned: German Immigration to Texas, 1844-1847](#)

This work describes the Verein colonization in Texas, a movement that brought thousands of German immigrants into Texas from 1844 to 1847. The goal of the Verein movement was to create a settlement of German immigrants on the 3,800,000-acre Fisher-Miller grant and in a number of other places in Texas. Of special interest to the descendants of these early Texas settlers is a list of over 4,000 immigrants compiled from German and Texas ships' passenger lists. This list provides such information as age, names of accompanying family members, place of residence in Europe, name of ship, and dates of departure and arrival.

[New Homes in a New Land: German Immigration to Texas, 1847-1861](#)

From all sources researched, Mrs. Geue located a total of 105 passenger lists, from which she compiled this master list of 5,600 German immigrants. Information includes age, family, residence in Europe, name of ship, and dates of departure from Germany and arrival in Texas, as well as the name of the county in Texas in which the immigrant settled. In addition to the lists of immigrants, this work includes a brief history of German immigration to Texas together with the names and a description of some of the Germans who were in Texas before it became a Republic.

[Early Texas Settlers, 1700s-1800s \(CD\)](#)

Ranging from genealogical sketches to compilations of passenger lists, land records, and tax lists, the eight books that make up this Family Archive CD deal with a period of time before Texas achieved statehood. For all its turbulence, pre-statehood Texas attracted thousands of settlers, and nearly 100,000 of them are identified in this CD. Materials drawn on for this compilation include poll lists, military records, vital records, histories, biographies and family histories, land records, and ships' passenger lists. The two books described above (*New Homes in a New Land* and *A New Land Beckoned*) are included on this CD.

[Passenger Arrivals at the Port of Charleston, 1820-1829](#)

Official passenger lists for the port of Charleston exist only for the years 1820 to 1829. This superb work captures this unique body of genealogical data on the several thousand people who managed to slip into Charleston at this time. Most were from Great Britain and Ireland; however, there were also numerous passengers from France, Spain, Germany, and even Italy.

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Blog: Winter Holidays with Your Ancestors

The advent of winter and the holiday season turns our thoughts to family, both our current family and our ancestral families whom we have discovered through our research. Their observance of the winter holidays may have differed significantly from our current observances. In this week's posting on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com, Carolyn Barkley explores the history of Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa and what they meant to our forebears.

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