

## Genealogy Pointers (12/07/2010)

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### “Inter-Colonial Migrations,” by David Dobson

Researchers having tracked their immigrant ancestor back to some port along the Atlantic coast may believe that the next step is to "jump the pond," that is to cross the Atlantic to Europe in search of their roots. While this is a reasonable assumption, in many cases it should be kept in mind that a significant minority of early immigrants spent some time in one colony before settling down in another. It may be that your immigrant ancestor first appears in American records as a resident of Boston; however, he or she did not necessarily arrive there directly from Europe but may well have arrived in New England via Halifax, Nova Scotia.

This is particularly valid for those who spent some time, possibly their period of indentureship, in the West Indies before moving to the North American colonies. During the 17th century, the Caribbean attracted about as many people from the British Isles as did the mainland colonies. Generally speaking, the northern colonies attracted families; the West Indies attracted single men, especially indentured servants. There were limited opportunities for semi- or unskilled workers in the plantation economies of the Caribbean or the American South, so many time-expired indentured servants found it necessary to move north in search of economic opportunity. Some islands, particularly Barbados, were relatively overpopulated, which resulted in an exodus, partly to some of the nearby islands but especially to South Carolina, from around 1660 onward.

The diaspora of the American Loyalists in the aftermath of the American Revolution is another example of two- or three-stage migrations. The Loyalist claims (see Peter Wilson Coldham's [American Migrations, 1765-1799](#)) provide much useful detail in tracking the movement of some immigrants of the 18th century. For example, Hector Berenger de Beaufain was a Huguenot whose family had fled to England after the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685. In 1732, he went with Oglethorpe to settle in Georgia, but by 1742 he was Customs Collector at Charleston, South Carolina, where he died in 1766. His estate was claimed by his nephew in Brandenburg, Germany.

Two-stage migration is a common thread throughout the history of American settlement. In the 19th century, thousands of emigrants left the shores of Ireland bound for Canada, some to Newfoundland, some to Nova Scotia, and some to New Brunswick. However, many of these emigrants subsequently settled in New England or elsewhere in the U.S. So, though an

immigrant ancestor may have lived in Massachusetts, he/she did not necessarily come there directly. One reason is that the Passenger Acts imposed by the American government were far stricter than laws imposed by the British government. In practice, this meant that more people could be shipped on board British ships than on American vessels, which made the cost of passage lower on the former. Emigrants, where they had a choice, generally went for the cheaper passage, and therefore many arrived in Canada onboard British ships. A significant number of these individuals then moved south to the U.S., either by rail or by sea, from ports such as St. John in New Brunswick.

Some of the Scots found in colonial North America arrived not directly from Scotland but via England, Ireland, the Netherlands, Scandinavia, and France. Some had no intention of emigrating but, as rebels, were shipped there unwillingly. This was especially true regarding the Jacobite and Cromwellian transportees, who were transported to the colonies via English ports. Some were two- or even three-stage migrants.

A substantial number of the Irish emigrants of the 19th century crossed over to Liverpool or, to a lesser degree, to Greenock, where they boarded ships bound for America and Canada. Newspapers would carry advertisements for passage to Canada and then sometimes indicate that a certain port, say St. John, New Brunswick, had shipping or rail links with other Canadian or American locations. A knowledge of such connections is vital to understanding the route taken by one's emigrant ancestor before he/she finally settled permanently. There is no doubt that the majority of emigrants settled permanently in the country where they landed, but there is a sizable minority that were two- or three-stage migrants who landed in one country and at some point moved on to another in the New World. [END]

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**72-Hour Sale on Inter-Colonial Migration Books & CDs**

*(Sale prices in effect until 11:59 PM EST, Thursday, December 9, 2010.)*

[Barbados and Scotland Links 1627-1877](#)

This book by David Dobson tackles the subject of Scottish immigration to the island of Barbados. Drawing on a wide range of manuscript and published sources originating in Barbados, Scotland, England, the Netherlands, and the U.S., Mr. Dobson here identifies about 2,500 Scots or their progeny who made their way to Barbados. Most of these emigrants left Scotland in the 17th and 18th centuries. Most Scots are identified by name, date/place of birth, baptism, marriage, or death; name of spouse or parents; and, sometimes, occupation, reason for transportation, ship, religious or political persuasion, miscellaneous pieces of information, and the source.

**Was \$18.50    Now \$12.95**

[Genealogies of Barbados Families](#)

Records of Barbados families exist in a variety of places, and a great many have been written up and published in the turn-of-the-20th-century journals *Caribbeana* and *The Journal of the Barbados Museum and Historical Society*. This present work, compiled by James C. Brandow, contains every article pertaining to family history ever published in these journals. The combined

articles, reprinted here in facsimile, range from conventional genealogies and pedigrees to will abstracts and Bible records and refer to some 15,000 persons, all of whom are listed in the index.  
**Was \$55.00 Now \$37.95**

[Scots in the West Indies, 1707-1857 \[Volume I\]](#)

Arranged alphabetically by surname, David Dobson compiled many of the entries in this work from Scottish newspapers like the *Aberdeen Journal*, in which notices would appear seeking to employ managers and servants. In all, nearly 3,000 Scots are identified by full name, island inhabited, date and source of the information, and, sometimes, by occupation, parent(s)' name(s), and education.

**Was \$21.50 Now \$14.95**

[The Original Lists of Persons of Quality \[1600-1700\]](#)

Compiled by John Camden Hotten, this is the most famous of all ships' passenger lists and, historically, the most important single-volume list of English-speaking immigrants of the colonial period ever published. Transcribed from the records of the British State Papers Office, it contains the names of more than 11,000 immigrants with their ages, former places of residence, and the names of ships in which they embarked. The book includes a 66-page index, which cites the given as well as the family name of all immigrants found in the various lists throughout the work.

**Was \$45.00 Now \$31.50**

[Omitted Chapters from Hotten's "Original Lists of Persons of Quality"](#)

Based on parish registers, censuses, and militia lists found in the Public Record Office in London, compiler James C. Brandow identifies 6,500 immigrants who settled on Barbados before planting new roots on the North American mainland and who are not listed in John Camden Hotten's classic work described above.

**Was \$28.50 Now \$19.95**

[British Emigrants in Bondage, 1614-1788 \(CD\)](#)

This CD is the definitive record of 48,000 felons carried from the jails of England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland to help populate colonial America. For this CD Peter Wilson Coldham, England's foremost authority on 17th- and 18th-century emigration to America, abstracted from every surviving record the names and histories of all those sentenced in England and Ireland to be transported to America for their alleged crimes. This CD also includes a separate section on transported Irish felons and runaways, a history of the British transportation system, an exhaustive account of the records used in this work, and a complete list of convict ships that sailed to America between 1671 and 1788.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$27.99**

[American Migrations, 1765-1799](#) (Low in stock)

For this volume Peter Wilson Coldham examined the records of the American Claims Commission, which was responsible for compensating Loyalists for loss of land and property as a result of action taken against them before, during, and after the Revolutionary War. In all, Mr. Coldham transcribed 5,800 individual claims. Of the 15,000 persons recorded in this work, some three-quarters took up residence outside the U.S. after 1783--hence the title of the work--but the

remainder, including many who had been classed as Loyalists, became honorable citizens of the new Republic.

**Was \$85.00 Now \$58.95**

[Ships from Scotland to America, 1628-1828. Volume II](#)

This work by David Dobson identifies ships plying their trade with North America between 1628 and 1828. The majority of American-bound cargo ships carried a small complement of passengers, and a number of these passengers are named in newspaper accounts and in records of the Exchequer now housed in the National Archives of Scotland. Volume II is based largely on these two sources, especially the Exchequer records, which identify vessels, masters, and cargoes on which duty was charged. Such records are virtually complete from the year 1742.

**Was \$22.50 Now \$15.50**

[Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853 \[Volume I\]](#)

Covering the provinces of Newfoundland and Labrador, Prince Edward Island, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, author Terrence Punch investigated a wide-ranging group of sources to identify many early Irish emigrants and reveal where they came from in Ireland. This work is an invaluable tool for U.S. researchers, since many New England Irish families can trace their ancestry through Atlantic Canada. The work includes maps showing Irish ports of embarkation, an index of surnames, and an index of ships.

**Was \$30.00 Now \$21.00**

[Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853. Volume II](#)

Covering the same time period and geographic area as the first volume, Volume II lists an additional 7,000 Irish arrivals. Mr. Punch combed through church records of marriages and burials, cemetery records, headstone inscriptions, military description books, newspapers, poor house records, passenger lists, and lists of runaways, transported convicts, and indentured servants to find these persons. The work includes maps showing Irish ports of embarkation, an index of surnames, and an index of ships.

**Was \$30.00 Now \$21.00**

[Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1751-1858. Volume III](#)

Volume III of Erin's Sons extends the period of coverage in this unique series to 1858 and lists approximately 7,000 additional Irish-born residents of Atlantic Canada. Scattered throughout the volume are out-of-the-way records pertaining to rescued and quarantined passengers, deserters, and runaways, and equally obscure records of individuals who suffered from anti-Irish prejudice during the 1840s. Many entries date from the 1850s, with earlier years showing up in land records, passenger lists, and military records. The regimental records, in particular the 97th Regiment, 1827-1853, show the dispersal of the soldiers at the end of their service and include date and place of birth, with date, place, and reason for discharge. The land records, including some 900 petitions for grants of land in Nova Scotia, give the name of the petitioner, date of the petition, sometimes the place of origin in Ireland, and the area of settlement in Nova Scotia. Also included in the book are maps showing the areas of peak migration from Ireland to Atlantic Canada, an index of surnames, and an index of ships.

**Was \$30.00 Now \$21.00**

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## **“Lives of Virginia Ancestors,” from Martha McCartney's Biographical Dictionary**

We talk a lot about our ancestors, but what were they really like? This may be the most difficult part of researching family history--fleshing out the lives of our forebears. Ordinarily, we cannot find personality features or defining behaviors in the kinds of records genealogists spend most of their time questing after--census records, marriage vows, deeds, and so forth. On occasion we get lucky, as when a will explains why so and so inherited more, or less, than he/she expected, or in a muster roll reference to a soldier's heroism or other attributes. Mostly, however, we must hope to find a collection of letters, a family Bible, or other more personal sources if we're to uncover something of the character of our forebears.

Fortunately, researchers with early Virginia roots don't have to start from scratch in identifying and telling the account of their Tidewater ancestors. Historian Martha McCartney has already done that for them. Mrs. McCartney spent the last twenty years tracking down every shred of information extant about the lives of the pioneering inhabitants who settled along the banks of the James and York rivers. Her highly regarded biographical dictionary, [Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers: 1607-1635](#), packs in every significant detail concerning the 5,500 white and black, male and female colonists known to have set foot on those shores.

Here are some sketches of the early settlers you can expect to encounter in Mrs. McCartney's wonderful book--just a tiny sampling of the full accounts that await Virginia researchers:

### **William Crowshaw, an Indian**

Also living in the Tucker household was a baptized Indian youth named William Crowshaw. He may have been one of the Natives living in Elizabeth City who reportedly gave their households warning of the 1622 Indian attack.

### **Elizabeth Abbott**

Elizabeth Abbott, a young vagrant who had been detained in Bridewell Prison, was sent to Virginia in 1618 and was an indentured servant in the household of John and Alice Proctor at the settlement called Pace's Paines, located on the Surry County plantation known as Mount Pleasant. Elizabeth, a habitual runaway who received many beatings, finally got one that proved fatal. Afterward, the Proctor couple was ordered to appear in court. Elizabeth was termed "a very lewd wench." The Proctors weren't punished.

### **Alice Proctor**

Alice Proctor, Elizabeth Abbott's mistress at Paces Paines, was (according to Captain John Smith) a proper, civil and modest gentlewoman. When the plantation she and her husband, John, established near the head of the James River was attacked by the Indians in 1622, Mrs. Proctor, who was home alone, fended them off.

### **Thomas Bunn**

Thomas Bunn, a surgeon, was outfitted by the Virginia Company and sent to Virginia in 1620. He lived just west of Jamestown Island in the Governor's Land, and upon occasion administered

medical treatment to servant Elizabeth Abbott and many others on both sides of the James River, above and below Jamestown.

### **Thomas Rolfe**

Thomas, the son of Pocahontas and John Rolfe, was reared in England and in 1645 agreed to build a fort on the Chickahominy River, a surveillance post that was used to restrict the Indians' access to the lower part of the James-York Peninsula.

### **Basse Family**

John Rolfe was not the only colonist to wed an Indian. Captain Nathaniel Basse's sons, Edward and John, married daughters of the King of the Nansemond Indians and like the Rolfes, produced descendants. Incidentally, in 1614 Sir Thomas Dale, who knew that John Rolfe was marrying Pocahontas, asked Powhatan for another one of his daughters, whom he could make his bride. Surely without the knowledge of his wife, Lady Elizabeth Dale, who was back in England.

### **Joseph Johnson and Wife Margaret**

In 1617 Joseph Johnson was deemed "an incorrigible rogue" when the justices of Middlesex decided that he would be transported to Virginia. He and his wife, Margaret, who lived just east of Jamestown Island, often fought physically. The exasperated community commander declared that he was weary of settling domestic disputes or as he put it, separating "Newgate birds" and "Bridewell whores."

### **John Uty**

In August 1624 John Uty, a burgess, sued William Tyler for slander, for Tyler had called him a thief and a fiddler. Tyler, in turn, refuted the charges by accusing Uty of stealing some of the Virginia Company's tobacco and claimed that Uty was indeed a fiddler, for he had been a musician in England and had played a violin aboard the ship that had brought them to Virginia.

### **Anthony**

Anthony, an African, lived in Elizabeth City and in the early 1620s was a servant in Captain William Tucker's household. Also present was Anthony's wife, Isabel, and their child, William. All three had been baptized.

To read other biographical sketches or to glean more information about the research behind *Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers: 1607-1635: A Biographical Dictionary*, by Martha McCartney, please access the following URL:

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=3505](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3505)

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### **"So Your Think You Can't Read German," by Ernest Thode**

You, the family genealogist, have a dilemma. You have discovered that your ancestry is German. Those old family letters in your possession are written in some kind of hen scratching that no sane person could possibly interpret, even though you have a vague feeling that those Germans

of a century or two ago may have been successfully communicating with one another. To top it off, now you have researched back to your German-speaking immigrant ancestor couple. You can't even read the pre-printed part of that form you found in the attic that you think might be a passport, let alone the hand-written words that fill in the blanks. Why, for all you know, that passport might not be a passport at all, but a graduation certificate or a marriage license.

What do you, the designated family historian, do now? You don't know German other than "Gesundheit" and "Auf wiedersehen." You face a daunting task, probably an impossible task, or so it would appear to any reasonable person. Even though you have traced your English lines back to the 1600s with much satisfaction at your genealogical prowess, you are practically ready to abandon your German immigrants prior to the moment they set foot on American soil at Castle Garden in 1881 because of the "language barrier."

Actually, if you have half as much courage as that immigrant whose genes you so proudly bear, you are about to embark on an adventure into a new and different world, just as your ancestors did. After all, they had to learn a foreign language, an unfamiliar way of writing, and a new set of customs. If they were willing to take the plunge, you should be at least half as willing to learn how to read the documents that chronicle their lives. Believe it or not, you will learn to read German!

Fortunately, there is help. Even though I had the advantage of at least knowing the German language as I did my research, I became frustrated by the many different reference books I had to look through to find explanations of the words I found in genealogical documents. I had surname books, given-name books, gazetteers for place names, German genealogical guides and word lists, Latin word lists, French word lists, lists of weights and measures, lists of diseases, and guides to the old script. With such a plethora of aids, I saw the need for a "one-stop" German-English genealogical dictionary that could be used in conjunction with a basic German-English dictionary.

For nearly a decade, I pored through records that I had translated, genealogical periodicals, passenger lists, village chronicles, and historical documents, gleaned words and definitions, exhausting numerous German genealogical word lists. Finally, I compiled a reference book that I actually still use myself. (You should see the notes in my desk copy!) My reference book, the German-English Genealogical Dictionary, includes the genealogy-related words that regular dictionaries either miss or don't define in a way that applies to genealogy. There are no etymologies, pronunciation guides, parts of speech, etc.--just pure meanings for somebody translating, literally, word by word. It is just what someone needs to make sense out of a German genealogical document. [END]

**ABOUT THE AUTHOR:** Ernest Thode is manager of the Local History and Genealogy Department of the Washington County Public Library in Marietta, Ohio. His research interest is German-Americana. He is a lecturer on the topic and the author of several books, including the [German-English Genealogical Dictionary](#) and the [Address Book for Germanic Genealogy](#). His genealogy column, "Ask Ernie," appears as a feature in *The Palatine Immigrant*, the quarterly publication of Palatines to America.

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## German-English Genealogical Dictionary

As Mr. Thode explained above, his [German English Genealogical Dictionary](#) is designed for the family researcher who has little or no knowledge of German but who nevertheless needs to make a translation of German-language documents. The *Dictionary* covers thousands of German terms and defines them in single words or brief phrases. Mr. Thode chose all words, symbols, and abbreviations in the *Dictionary* on the basis of their association with genealogy (their having been used in church records, civil registration records, family correspondence, genealogical journals, ships' passenger lists, and emigration records).

Among the many categories of entries included in the *Dictionary* are family relationships, days of the week, map terms, legal terms, cardinal and ordinal numbers, roman numerals, signs of the zodiac, coins, liquid and dry measures, measures of length, place names, historical territories, geographical terms, occupations, titles, military ranks, types of taxes, illnesses, calendar days, male and female given names, heraldry, abbreviations, books of the Bible, and common genealogical words from Danish, Dutch, French, Latin, and Polish. In conjunction with a standard German-English dictionary, the user of this work should be able to make a word-by-word translation of any German document and understand it. For more information, access the following URL:

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&item\\_number=5758](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5758)

As an added boost, read what the experts have to say about Ernest Thode's *German English Genealogical Dictionary*:

"The book is well organized; easy to use; a valuable addition to the library of anyone researching their German ancestry."--*Der Ahnenforscher*, p. 3.

"Ernest Thode has put together one of the best German genealogical dictionaries available. The brief introduction to the dictionary is concise and complete. Anyone who researches German manuscripts, letters, or documents will find this dictionary extremely useful."--*Association of Professional Genealogists Quarterly*, Vol. 8, No. 2.

"Researchers who wish to translate documents on their own will find this book invaluable."--*Federation of Genealogical Societies Forum*, Vol. 5, No. 1, pp. 21-24.

### Of Related Interest:

[In Search of Your German Roots. Fourth Edition, Updated \[2008\]](#)

This guide is designed to help you trace your German ancestry not only in Germany but in all the German-speaking areas of Europe. First, it discusses the LDS Church's International Genealogical Index (IGI), which contains hundreds of thousands of entries from German parish registers. Then the narrative takes the reader back to the Old Country, where sources and archives are discussed in detail, especially Evangelical and Catholic Church records and records of state and city archives. Finally, Mr. Baxter presents a list of family archives, a list of

genealogical associations in Germany, a list of German genealogical associations in the U.S., and a bibliography. The 2008 update to the fourth edition includes many websites for these records.

### [German-American Names. Third Edition](#)

The third edition of *German-American Names* by Prof. George F. Jones is longer than the earlier editions and has several thousand more entries. Like its predecessors, it attempts to explain the meaning of names that derive from the German language or its dialects. Moreover, it deals with the Americanization of some of those names, explaining the social and historical phenomena that contributed to the distinctive character of German-American names. It deals as well with names many of us would never have thought of as German.

### [Encyclopedia of German-American Genealogical Research](#)

This work concentrates on German genealogical research in America, with special focus on immigration records, German ethnic religious bodies in America, and manuscript and published source materials, both in America and Germany. One of the most important parts of the book is the section on the "Locations of German-Speaking Congregations in the United States, 1906," based on a federal religious census of the time. This census gives considerable data on a number of the larger German-speaking denominations, enabling the researcher to establish the state and county in which German congregations were located.

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### **Blog: Spanish-American War**

Sometimes referred to as the "100 Days War," the Spanish-American conflict of 1898 famously established the United States as an imperial power. Could one of your ancestors, have served in that "bully little war"? Maybe even alongside Teddy Roosevelt. If so, be sure to read Carolyn Barkley's latest article on our blog, [www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com](http://www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com), for tips on how to find him.

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### **CONTACT US**

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To order other than online, you can:

1. Order by mail: 3600 Clipper Mill Road, Suite 260 - Baltimore, Maryland 21211-1953
2. Fax your order to 1-410-752-8492
3. Call toll-free to our sales department at 1-800-296-6687