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GENEALOGY POINTERS (03-11-08)

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"THE GERMANS AND GERMANY," by Angus Baxter

[This article is condensed from the chapter by the same name in the newly updated Fourth Edition of Mr. Baxter's classic how-to book, IN SEARCH OF YOUR GERMAN ROOTS. Readers should note that, in the interest of brevity, a number of tables in the book which describe the migration and distribution of the German population and the contemporary archival holdings of other nations that have a bearing on German genealogy have been omitted from this except.]

The development and coalescence of the German nation took many centuries. The word "Deutsch" (German) was first used in the eighth century, but it only referred to the spoken language of the area known as eastern Franconia. This empire reached its height of importance under the Emperor Charlemagne (Karl der Grosse), and after his death in 814 it disintegrated. The western section eventually became the area we now know as France. The eastern section varied in area over the centuries, but the main area--the heartland--became known as the Deutschland (the land of the Germans). By 911 the Duke of Franconia was elected King of the Franks, and later King of the Romans. By the 11th century the area became known as the Roman Empire, and by the 13th the Holy Roman Empire. In the 15th century the words "German nation" were added.

Before and during all of these dynastic and political events, the German tribes overran most of the original Roman Empire as far east as the Elbe River--beyond it were the fierce Slavic tribes. During this period the tribes took firm root in what we now know as Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Austria, northern Italy, the Netherlands, and the Baltic states. They were also invited into Transylvania by the Hungarian king in 1150. Siebenburgen--the German name for Transylvania--derives from the seven fortified towns established by the Germans. Although they came from the Rhine and Moselle areas, they were known as "Saxons." Some 5,000 settlers were given as much land as they could cultivate and allowed to retain their own customs and language. Some did not stay long but moved south into the area known as the Banat, or west into Hungary proper. After eight centuries their descendants are still in Transylvania. However, there are now only some

half-million of them, since the rest fled to Germany when the Communists took over after the Second World War.

While all of this was going on, the Order of the Teutonic Knights and the Livonian Brothers of the Sword were extending German power into the Baltic countries of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. The Teutonic Knights were formed originally to take part in the Crusades, but they eventually settled in Prussia in 1309 and then extended their power and influence eastward into Livonia and Courland. At the same time King Andrew II of Hungary called on the Teutonic Knights to protect Transylvania from the Cumans and the Mongols in the east. So both northeastern and southeastern Europe were "colonized" by the Germans. The prime aim of the Knights was conquest and loot, but behind them came settlers, bringing a predominant German influence into the conquered territories. The Drive to the East (Drang nach Osten) started with Charlemagne's armies and the Teutonic Knights and ended with Hitler.

During this period there were also smaller migrations to Schlesien (Silesia), which is now divided between the Czech Republic and Poland, and to Bessarabia--until 1945 Romanian and now largely in Moldova. In the reign of the empress Maria Theresa of Austria (1740-1780) many Germans--the so-called Danubian Swabians--migrated to four areas of Hungary: Bacska, the Banat, the Kingdom of Croatia, and part of Slovakia. A number of these settlers later moved into Ukraine, Bessarabia, and other areas of southern Russia. Others, like the Zipsers, settled in Slovakia.

After the First Partition of Poland in 1772, Frederick the Great of Prussia (1740-1786) settled West Prussia and the area around Bromberg with German immigrants from Wurttemberg and Baden-Durlach.

In the middle of the 18th century the empress Catherine the Great of Russia (1762-1796) invited all foreigners who possessed skills of some kind to come to her country as settlers and colonists. In cases of financial hardship, the cost of transportation was paid. In addition, all settlers received a loan of money toward the cost of building a house and buying livestock and farm or trade equipment, with repayment required in ten years.

The proclamation of the empress was distributed throughout Europe but did not meet with any great response except in the Germanic area and, to a much smaller degree, Sweden. Most of the colonists came from Hesse (Hessen) and the Rhineland, but all German-speaking areas were represented in varying numbers.

The areas opened up for settlement by the empress were under-populated and open to frequent attacks by the Ottoman Turks. The Germans, for their part, were eager to settle for a variety of reasons. Germany as we know it today did not exist. It was a vast conglomeration of 1,789 kingdoms, principalities, grand duchies, dukedoms, electorates, free states, and free cities--down to tiny independent states of a few hectares. Men were dragged off into various warring armies, women and children were raped or killed or both, agriculture was ruined by the constant wars, and people starved. There was also religious persecution, high taxes, civil disturbances, and in many areas a high population

density. Life was miserable and dangerous for ordinary people, and it was no wonder the grass in the next field looked much greener.

The whole story is documented in a remarkable two-volume work by a very remarkable man, Dr. Karl Stumpp. It is entitled "The Emigration from Germany to Russia 1763-1862" and was published by the American Historical Society of Germans from Russia (AHSGR). This work lists the names of some 50,000 German settlers, with their places of origin and settlement.

When the German armies invaded the USSR in 1941, they were welcomed by the majority of the Germans living in Ukraine. When the Wehrmacht retreated in 1942, many of the German settlers left too, fearing reprisals from the Red Army, and they were wise. They made their way back to Germany, the fatherland their ancestors had left more than a century before, and those left behind in Ukraine were killed or imprisoned.

Millions of Germans in other areas of Europe became refugees after the Second World War. In 1945 Czechoslovakia regained the Sudetenland. This German-speaking area had been taken from Austria in 1919. In 1938 it was reunited with Germany. After 1945 the three-and-a-half million German inhabitants were expelled and their property and possessions confiscated. Other refugees from Poland and the USSR brought the total number of Germans returning home to over 13 million.

Quite apart from the mass movements of population shown above, there was, of course, a continual movement to and from the multitude of German states before and after unification in 1871. Most of these movements of individuals were recorded, and the records are in the various state archives. If a man wished to move from Hannover to Brunswick, for example, he would notify the Hannover police of his impending departure and his destination. On arrival in Brunswick he had to report to the police within three days. They, in turn, notified the Hannover police that he had arrived.

Although these tremendous upheavals will have a major effect on your ancestor-hunting, you must also become aware of other problems ahead. For example, there are large numbers of Germans still in Denmark, Belgium, and Alsace (Elsass), and many German speakers in the South Tirol--now in Italy.

In addition, you must consider the "lost territories" of Germany and what has happened to their genealogical records. These territories consist of the following areas:

To Belgium: In 1919 Eupen, Malmedy, and Moresnet

To Czechoslovakia: In 1945 the western part of Silesia (Schlesien)

To Denmark: In 1920 North Schleswig

To France: In 1919 Alsace (Elsass)

To Poland: In 1945 the eastern parts of Brandenburg, Pomerania (Pommern), the southern part of East Prussia (Ostpreussen), Posen, the western part of Silesia (Schlesien), West Prussia (Westpreussen), and Danzig

To the USSR: In 1945 the northern part of East Prussia (Ostpreussen) and Memel

The Process of German Unification

Germany only existed as an undivided country from 1871 until 1945--in contrast with England and France, which had been unified for more than five centuries. Systems of government in the various German states ranged from absolute monarchies to the near-democracy of some of the electorates and free cities. Various forms of confederation or economic grouping took hold, flowered for a few years, and died. Each state had its own laws, archives, and system of recording events. You cannot say, for example, that "censuses were first held in Germany in 1871." That is true for the unified Germany, but censuses were taken in Wurttemberg in 1821, in Baden in 1852, and so on. The only unified force in the Germanic area was the church--first the Catholic and later the Lutheran.

By the middle of the 19th century the number of self-governing German states had been reduced to 34. Some of these formed the German Confederation, which also included Austria--still trying to assert its position as leader of the German people. However, the alliance was a shaky one because of the emerging power of Prussia, under the leadership of the great Bismarck. The two rivals did join together in an attack on Denmark in 1866 and seized Schleswig-Holstein, which they divided between them. A few months later they quarreled over the "spoils" and Prussia took over the whole territory. At this point Austria withdrew from the German Confederation and joined with Hungary in 1867 to form the Austro-Hungarian Empire.

The German Confederation was then renamed the North German Confederation under the leadership of Prussia, and it included all the states north of the River Main. The eastern boundary was extended as far as Memel. In 1871, following a short and successful war against France, Prussia persuaded the southern states to join the Confederation with its new name of German Empire (Deutsches Reich). The king of Prussia was then proclaimed emperor on January 16, 1871. Suddenly, in the very center of Europe, a most powerful new country existed, and for the first time in over a thousand years the German people were one nation under strong leadership.

In the short period of a quarter of a century the German people had developed a pride in their nation, which was strong enough to overcome the hatreds and mistrusts of a thousand years of division and despair.

The new empire included the following territory:

- (a) Kingdoms of Bavaria, Prussia, Saxony, and Wurttemberg
- (b) Grand Duchy of Baden
- (c) Free Cities of Bremen, Hamburg, and Lubeck, and Anhalt, Brunswick, Darmstadt, Hesse, Lippe, Mecklenburg, Oldenburg, Reuss, and the various states comprising Thuringia. (Justice, education, health, and police were left under the control of the individual states.)

During the period of unification between 1871 and 1945, little or no attempt was made to centralize records in one place such as the capital, Berlin. Instead, records remained in the capital cities of the original states. In retrospect, this was a blessing to ancestor-hunters because the destruction of German records during the Second World War was surprisingly small. Imagine what would have happened if everything had been in Berlin! Details have already been given of the post-war dismemberment of Germany and the transfer of territory to Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the USSR. The remaining part of Germany was then divided into the eastern half, occupied by the USSR, and the western half, occupied by Britain, Belgium, France, and the United States. These two parts later became the German Democratic Republic (Deutsche Demokratische Republik, or D.D.R.) and the Federal Republic of Germany (Bundesrepublik Deutschland, or B.R.D.). Details of the division were as follows:

D.D.R.: Anhalt, Brandenburg (western part), part of Brunswick (Braunschweig), Mecklenburg-Schwerin, Mecklenburg-Strelitz, Reuss, Sachsen-Altenburg, Sachsen-Meiningen, Sachsen-Weimar, Schwarzburg-Rudolstadt, and Schwarzburg-Sondershausen. Also four provinces of the State of Prussia (the parts remaining after territory taken by the three countries mentioned above).

B.R.D.: Baden, Bavaria (Bayern), part of Brunswick (Braunschweig), Coburg, Lippe, Oldenburg, Schaumburg-Lippe, part of Thuringia (Thuringen), Waldeck, Westphalia (Westfalen), and Wurttemberg; and five provinces of the State of Prussia--Hanover (Hannover), Hessen-Nassau, Rhineland (Rheinland), Schleswig-Holstein, and Sigmaringen.

After the division of Germany in 1945 various changes were made in each section of the country, and they were administered as follows:

D.D.R.: Originally this consisted of five provinces (Lander). These were abolished and replaced by 15 districts (Kreise). However, the D.D.R., unlike the B.R.D., was not a federal state, and all power was centered in the capital (East, or Ost, Berlin).

B.R.D.: Originally this consisted of ten federal states (Bundeslander, or just Lander): Baden-Wurttemberg, Bavaria (Bayern), Bremen (city-state), Hamburg (city-state), Hesse (Hessen), Lower Saxony (Niedersachsen), North Rhine-Westphalia (Nordrhein-Westfalen), Rhineland-Palatinate (Rheinland-Pfalz), Saarland, and Schleswig-Holstein. The city-state of Berlin (West) was integrated into the legal and economic system of the Federal Republic. The republic was further divided into 25 administrative areas (Regierungsbezirke), 327 counties or districts (Kreise), and about 8,500 municipalities. [Today] the 16 states of the unified country and their capital cities are:

Baden-Wurttemberg (Stuttgart)
Bayern (Munich/Munchen)
Berlin
Brandenburg (Potsdam)*
Bremen

Hamburg
Hessen (Wiesbaden)
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern (Schwerin)*
Niedersachsen (Hannover)
Nordrhein-Westfalen (Dusseldorf)
Rheinland-Pfalz (Mainz)
Saarland (Saarbrücken)
Sachsen (Dresden)*
Sachsen-Anhalt (Magdeburg)*
Schleswig-Holstein (Kiel)
Thuringen (Erfurt)*

The Lander marked with an asterisk () are the political divisions of the area previously known as East Germany. They replace the 15 districts (Bezirk) mentioned [above]. The names of the districts within each of the five Lander are:

Brandenburg: Berlin, Cottbus, Frankfurt, Potsdam
Mecklenburg-Vorpommern: Neubrandenburg, Rostock, Schwerin
Sachsen: Dresden, Chemnitz (formerly Karl-Marx-Stadt), Leipzig
Sachsen-Anhalt: Halle, Magdeburg
Thuringen: Erfurt, Gera, Suhl

The Continuing Migration

After the Second World War, approximately 13 million Germans left their homes in other European countries and found refuge in the Fatherland. Since the unification of Germany and free emigration from the former Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, there has been a huge influx of ethnic Germans. Nearly 400,000 came in 1989, followed by more than 200,000 annually between 1991 and 1995.

The Germans in Kazakhstan may number as many as a million--some descended from the Germans who originally settled in the Volga Basin at the invitation of Catherine the Great, and others who were exiled from Ukraine by Stalin.

If you know you have German relatives in the former Soviet Union, Poland, or Romania you may be able to make contact through the International Red Cross or the Federal Ministry of the Interior in Bonn. [END OF ARTICLE]

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ANGUS BAXTER & ERNEST THODE: One-Two Punch for German Researchers

Hopefully, the foregoing excerpt from Angus Baxter's IN INSEARCH OF YOUR GERMAN ROOTS has whetted your appetite for an excellent, reader-friendly introduction to German genealogy. Other equally informative chapters cover German-Jewish records, the German records of the LDS Church, the archives of Germanic

genealogy, the Germans in the U.S. and Canada, record holdings in Germany, and much more.

If you have German ancestors, it's only a matter of time before you will have to contend with documents written in German and, if you go back prior to 1945, the German fraktur style of writing. You won't find all the thousands of specialized terms that arise in German genealogical source documents in a standard German-English dictionary. You WILL find them in Ernest Thode's masterful GERMAN-ENGLISH GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY. Since 1992, Mr. Thode's DICTIONARY has established itself as the most valuable desktop tool for translating German genealogical documents.

Scroll down to learn more about the best one-two punch for Germanic genealogy available in print.

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 updates to the fourth edition includes many websites for these records.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=396&NLC-GenPointers1

GERMAN-ENGLISH GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY

Ernest Thode's 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. 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.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5758&NLC-GenPointers1

Of related interest:

GERMAN-AMERICAN NAMES. Third Edition

This 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 borne today by Americans 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.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3077&NLC-GenPointers1

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF GERMAN-AMERICAN Genealogical Research

A worthy companion to Mr. Baxter's book, above, the emphasis of this work, by Clifford Neal Smith and Anna P-C Smith, is 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. The ENCYCLOPEDIA also provides American researchers with background material on German customs, sociological stratification, governmental organization, and ethnographic considerations having a bearing on immigrant ancestors.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5442&NLC-GenPointers1

MORE MARCH RELEASES from Clearfield Company

Although you won't find the following titles highlighted on our website's home page, we've just released them this month. In addition to reprint editions of five volumes from William Armstrong Crozier's venerable series, "Virginia County Records," Virginia lovers can choose from groundbreaking works on Lower Norfolk County, Virginia, by John Anderson Brayton, and the reconstructed records of the churches of St. Thomas' Parish, Orange County, Virginia, by Lizabeth Ward Papageorgiou. Volume XV of Vernon Skinner's "Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland" is now available, as is Gaius Brumbaugh's classic two-volume collection, "Maryland Records." Rounding out what is essentially a mid-Atlantic March collection of Clearfield new releases is "Kentucky Marriage Records" from The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society. Read on for more details.

VIRGINIA COUNTY RECORDS. Volumes VI, VII, IX, X, and Volume I (New Series)

The works of William Armstrong Crozier are so well known that they require little introduction. In 1905, Crozier launched an ambitious series entitled "Virginia County

Records." The series, which was originally published in magazine format, ended eight years later after 10 volumes in the first series and one in a new series had been published. Since a number of the Crozier books have been out of print for some time, Clearfield Company is pleased to make five of the volumes available to genealogists in paperback editions. With the exception of Volume I (New Series), which focuses on Westmoreland County, the articles in these reprints range over numerous Virginia counties and records categories.

There is no duplication of information in any of the four "Miscellaneous" volumes; however, since the contents of volumes VI, VII, IX and X were originally prepared for a periodical, researchers will find that the same record subject (e.g., Accomack County Land Grants) is often treated in more than one volume. In such cases, researchers may wish to acquire all the "Miscellaneous" volumes related to their county(ies) of interest. For a complete list of the contents of each volume, see below:

VOLUME VI: Miscellaneous County Records

Accomack Co. Land Grants; Caroline Co. Marriage Bonds; Cumberland Co. Land Grants; Dinwiddie Co. Land Grants; Elizabeth City Co. Wills and Land Grants; Fauquier Co. Land Grants and Militia Lists; Fincastle Co. Land Grants; Goochland Co. Land Grants and Marriage Bonds; Halifax Co. Land Grants; Hanover Co. Wills; Henrico Co. Land Grants; Isle of Wight Co. Land Grants; King and Queen Co. Land Grants; Lancaster Co. Land Grants; Loudoun Co. Land Grants; New Kent Co. Land Grants; Norfolk Co. Marriage Bonds; Northampton Co. Wills, Land Grants and Marriage Bonds; Northumberland Co. Land Grants; Orange Co. Marriage Bonds; Prince George Co. Land Grants; Rappahannock Co. Wills; Rappahannock Co. Wills and Land Grants; Richmond Co. Wills; Surry Co. Records; Sussex Co. Land Grants; Westmoreland Co. Land Grants; York Co. Wills and Land Grants; Lists of Early Settlers, Militia, and Revolutionary Soldiers; and Family Histories of Anderson, Fitzhugh, Strother, Taylor, and Walton. Contains an index of 10,000 names.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1246&NLC-GenPointers1

VOLUME VII: Miscellaneous County Records

Accomack Co. Land Grants and Other Records; Albemarle Co. Records; Brunswick Co. Land Grants; Caroline Co. Marriage Bonds and Land Grants; Charlotte Co. Land Grants; Fauquier Co. Records; Gloucester Co. Land Grants; Henrico Co. Land Grants and Other Records; Isle of Wight Co. Land Grants; King and Queen Co. Land Grants; King George Co. Records; Middlesex Co. Land Grants; Norfolk Co. Marriage Bonds; Northampton Co. Marriage Bonds; Orange Co. Marriage Bonds; Patrick Co. Land Grants; Prince William Co. Records; Rappahannock Co. Wills; Richmond Co. Wills; Sussex Co. Land Grants; Warwick Co. Land Grants; York Co. Land Grants; Lists of Early Settlers, Militia, and Revolutionary Soldiers and Pensioners; and Family Histories of Anderson, Faure, Fitzhugh, Lanier, Morton, and Tazewell. Contains an index of nearly 5,000 names.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1247
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1247&NLC-GenPointers1)

VOLUME IX: Miscellaneous County Records

Amelia Co. Marriage Bonds; Caroline Co. Marriage Bonds; Dinwiddie Co. Land Grants; Gloucester Co. Land Grants; Halifax Co. Land Grants; Henrico Co. Records; King George Co. Land Grants; Loudoun Co. Militia Lists; Northampton Co. Wills and Marriage Bonds; Orange Co. Marriage Bonds; Pittsylvania Co. Marriage Bonds; Rappahannock Co. Land Grants; Richmond Co. Land Grants; York Co. Wills; Lists of Early Settlers, Militia, and Revolutionary Soldiers and Pensioners; Heraldic Records from the College of Arms of Canada; and Family Histories of Hill, Lyon, and the Baronets of Nova Scotia. Contains an index of about 1,000 names.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1249
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1249&NLC-GenPointers1)

VOLUME X: Miscellaneous County Records

Accomack Co. Land Grants; Chesterfield Co. Wills; Henrico Co. Land Grants and Other Records; Northampton Co. Wills; Orange Co. Marriage Bonds; Richmond Co. Land Grants; Lists of Early Settlers, Militia, and Revolutionary Soldiers; Seigneuries and Seigneurs in the College of Arms; and Family Histories of Cowherd, Freeman, and Twyman.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1250
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1250&NLC-GenPointers1)

VOLUME I (New Series) Westmoreland County

The final volume is devoted exclusively to Westmoreland County, Virginia, and contains will abstracts, 1654-1794, and land grants, 1653-1793. The will abstracts, typically, furnish the name of the testator, dates of death and probate, and the names and relationship to the deceased of all persons identified in the will. The index to land grants gives the name of the grantee, date and size of the grant, and source of the original record in Westmoreland County. The index refers to about 2,000 persons.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1251
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1251&NLC-GenPointers1)

TRANSCRIPTION OF LOWER NORFOLK COUNTY, Virginia Records. Volume One: Wills & Deeds, Book D, 1656-1666

John A. Brayton's latest publication marks the beginning of a new series, the transcription of Lower Norfolk County's colonial records. Lower Norfolk County was established in

1637. It was the parent county of Norfolk and Princess Anne counties, which today have been superseded by the metropolises Chesapeake City and Virginia Beach, Virginia. This inaugural volume is a verbatim transcription of the county's oldest extant records, Wills and Deeds, 1656-1666, and quite a treasure it is.

In addition to wills, deeds and other land records, Volume One contains hundreds of depositions, orphans' court proceedings, dispositions of widows' estates for second and third husbands, law suits resolved and unresolved, punishments for moral offences such as bastardy and truancy, powers of attorney, petitions of every fathomable variety, assignments of county precinct officers, announcements of travel "out of the county," lists of Quakers, and edicts from the Crown conveyed by Governor Berkeley. There are even some court records from Nansemond and James City counties, announcements of forthcoming marriages, and an entire page of Dutch.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9924&NLC-GenPointers1

THE COLONIAL CHURCHES OF ST. THOMAS' PARISH, Orange County, Virginia.
With Notes on Sites in Orange, Greene, and Madison Counties

St. Thomas' Parish in Virginia was formed from St. Mark's Parish in 1740. The new parish encompassed present-day Orange, Greene, and a strip of southern Madison counties. Based on an extensive examination of primary sources, the work at hand is the first accurate description of the formation of St. Thomas' Parish, its member churches, its ministers, and others who played a significant part in its colonial history. As author Lizabeth Ward Papageorgiou explains in her Preface, Spotsylvania and Orange County road orders comprise the backbone of her study. The road orders' value to the genealogist is that they identify the overseers and work crews assigned to maintain the road and any bridges along it.

The Introduction explains how, when, and why St. Thomas' was established from its parent and grandparent parishes, St. Mark's and St. George's. Next, the author uses the road orders and other sources to pinpoint the timing and location of each of the parish's houses of worship. The third chapter gives the tenure of every parish minister and his family members. The final chapter recounts how previous writers--notably Bishop William Meade and Philip Slaughter--have recorded the history of St. Thomas' Parish and where, more often than not, they went astray. Students of Virginia church history will welcome the comprehensive bibliography that follows the appendices.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9936&NLC-GenPointers1

ABSTRACTS OF THE TESTAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS of the Prerogative Court of Maryland. Volume XV: 1719-1721 [Liber 24, 25 (pp. 1-87)]

Volume XV is the fourth new installment in V.L. Skinner's Prerogative Court of Maryland series for 2008. It consists of abstracts of the records for the period 1719-1721, as found in Liber 24 and part of 25. The abstracts are arranged chronologically by court session. For the most part, the transcriptions state the names of the principals (testators, heirs, witnesses, administrators, and so forth) as well as details of bequests, names of slaves, appraisers, and more. In all, this volume refers to between 7,500 and 8,000 residents of the Province of Maryland during the first quarter of the 18th century.
http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9997&NLC-GenPointers1

MARYLAND RECORDS--Colonial, Revolutionary, County and Church from Original Sources. In Two Volumes

This is the most comprehensive collection of genealogical source materials ever compiled on the state of Maryland. Along with the 1776 census--which lists every inhabitant in every household in eight of the then-existing Maryland counties--are marriages, loyalty oaths, tombstone inscriptions, pensions, naturalizations, surveys, rent rolls, and other types of lists. The marriage records--to cite only one example--cover the counties of Anne Arundel, Charles, Frederick, Montgomery, St. Mary's, Washington, and Worcester; while church records include birth and death records of All Saints Parish, Frederick, 1727-1781, and parish registers of Prince George's Parish, Prince George's County, and St. Martin's Parish in Worcester County. More than 50,000 individuals are named.
http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=750&NLC-GenPointers1

KENTUCKY MARRIAGE RECORDS from "The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society"

Except for a series of newspaper abstracts by G. Glenn Clift (KENTUCKY MARRIAGES, 1797-1865), this volume contains every list of marriages known to have been published in "The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society" since 1903. The following 19 of Kentucky's oldest counties are represented, some of which, either in whole or in part, spawned a great many later counties: Barren, Bourbon, Christian, Floyd, Franklin, Grant, Greenup, Hardin, Lawrence, Lincoln, Madison, Mercer, Montgomery, Muhlenberg, Nelson, Pike, Shelby, Union, and Woodford. Based on courthouse records--primarily marriage bonds, licenses, ministers' returns, and marriage registers--the combined lists, which are fully indexed, contain references to approximately 50,000 persons!
http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3157&NLC-GenPointers1

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BACK IN STOCK: Fabulous Four-CD Set: "Virginia Genealogy Records"

Over the years, we have published hundreds of collections of Virginia source records and compiled genealogies--books like Lyon Tyler's massive five-volume "Encyclopedia of Virginia Genealogy" and John Gwathmey's definitive "Catalogue of Revolutionary Soldiers and Sailors of the Commonwealth of Virginia." Clayton Torrence's celebrated index, "Virginia Wills and Administrations, 1632-1800," is just one of our many definitive sourcebooks that provide Virginia family historians with authoritative, time-saving research aids. In fact, most of our Virginia books are the pre-eminent books on their subjects.

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http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7550&NLC-GenPointers1

VIRGINIA COLONIAL RECORDS

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VIRGINIA MILITARY RECORDS: Colonial Wars, Revolutionary War, War of 1812

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WHAT'S NEW at the Genealogy Warehouse for March

Is it possible that your missing ancestors were living in New Hampshire at the outbreak of the American Revolution?

Did they back the losing side in the conflict, ultimately packing their belongings and emigrating to Canada?

Or were your ancestors Irishmen/women who departed the Emerald Isle for the greener pastures of 19th-century America?

If any of these questions strikes a chord, be sure to consider the three books we have added to the Genealogy Warehouse this month, our discount department for genealogy books.

Speaking of the Emerald Isle, with St. Patrick's Day on the horizon we are also highlighting a number of other Irish titles available in the Genealogy Warehouse. For example, you can choose from our core collection of Irish passenger records from the Irish Famine era, as well as other ship records for Northern Ireland and the classic two-volume bibliography on Irish and Scotch-Irish genealogy.

If Irish genealogy is not the focus of your research, try browsing the complete collection of books in the Genealogy Warehouse, where every title is reduced by 40%, 50%, or more off the retail price. Just access: http://www.genealogical.com/content/products_warehouse.html&NLC-GenPointers1 and browse for some hot bargains!

****New****

INHABITANTS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, 1776

In 1776, at the outset of the American Revolution, the New Hampshire Committee of Safety directed that all males over the age of 21 sign the Association Test--a kind of loyalty oath to the Patriot cause. This resulted in a unique census of the adult male population inasmuch as the names of both signers and non-signers were recorded, making it the most comprehensive list of New Hampshire residents available before the first federal census of 1790. Previously available in two separate, unindexed booklets, the

present publication has placed all the names--well over 9,000--in one alphabetical sequence to enable the researcher to find a person and his town of residence at a glance. Was \$18.00 Now \$9.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=6422&NLC-GenPointers1

****New****

EARLY ONTARIO SETTLERS

This sourcebook contains official records of the early settlers of Upper Canada, or Ontario. The core of the work consists of two provisioning, or ration, lists for 1784 and 1786, which provide the name of each head of household, place of settlement, and statistical details of the family. Most of the settlers named in the records were from the American colonies, and a very substantial proportion were from New York, especially from the Albany area and the Mohawk Valley.

Was \$28.50 Now \$18.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1225&NLC-GenPointers1

****New****

GOING TO AMERICA

To gain a fuller perspective on the life and times of your 19th-century emigrant ancestors, Terry Coleman's masterpiece, GOING TO AMERICA, is must reading. Author Terry Coleman recounts the Atlantic crossing from 1846, when many emigrants still sailed in old brigs, through 1850, when they were mostly crossing on the big American sailing packets out of Liverpool. Coleman then brings the reader to 1855, by which time the introduction of steamship travel had made Atlantic passage in steerage tolerable. Told by a brilliant storyteller, GOING TO AMERICA is a saga you won't want to put down.

Was \$21.95 Now \$12.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1125&NLC-GenPointers1

****Irish Titles in the Genealogy Warehouse****

THE FAMINE IMMIGRANTS. Lists of Irish Immigrants Arriving at the Port of New York, 1846-1851

The blight that struck the Irish potato crop in the winter of 1845-46 brought ruin to countless tenant farmers and laborers, reducing almost all of Ireland to poverty. As a result, between 1846 and 1851 more than a million men, women, and children immigrated to the U.S. and Canada, mostly through the port of New York. The seven-volume FAMINE IMMIGRANTS series was conceived for the purpose of enumerating all Irish passengers who entered the port of New York between 1846 and 1851.

The passenger lists found in THE FAMINE IMMIGRANTS are arranged by ship and date of arrival in New York. Each person is identified with respect to age, sex, occupation, and family relationships, where such was indicated in the original manifests. Additionally, every volume boasts a complete-name index.

Here is the availability status of the seven volumes in this series: Volume I is available at full price in a paperback edition. Volumes II, VI, and VII are temporarily out of print. The remaining in-print volumes, which are available in the original cloth edition, are described below:

VOLUME III: July 1848-March 1849

Volume III shows that 70,000 Irish men, women, and children immigrated to New York in just these nine months.

Was \$45.00 Now \$22.50

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2213&NLC-GenPointers1

VOLUME IV: April 1849-September 1849

Reflecting an intensification of the effects of this horrible famine, Volume IV accounts for more than 80,000 Irish immigrants, twice as many as in the previous six months.

Was \$45.00 Now \$22.50

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2214&NLC-GenPointers1

VOLUME V: October 1849-May 1850

In the period covered in Volume V, about 60,000 Irish men, women, and children immigrated to New York.

Was \$45.00 Now \$22.50

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2215&NLC-GenPointers1

RETURN OF OWNERS OF LAND in Ireland 1876

In 1873, clerks of Ireland's various Poor Law Unions drew up lists of the owners of land of one acre or more from the property valuation and rate books in their custody. These lists, forming the basis of this book, include the names of small landowners as well as large--owners of modest acres as well as great estates--and they stand as a census of a significant proportion of the population of Ireland in 1876.

Was \$40.00 Now \$28.00

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2963&NLC-GenPointers1

IRISH PASSENGER LISTS, 1803-1806

Except for the brief period from March 1803 to March 1806, no official registers of passengers leaving Irish ports were ever kept. The exception refers to lists contained in the so-called Hardwicke Papers, now located in the British Library, London. Some 4,500 passengers are identified in the 109 sailings recorded in the Hardwicke Papers--most cited with their all-important place of residence.

Was \$25.00 Now \$15.00

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3857&NLC-GenPointers1

THE HUGUENOT SETTLEMENTS IN IRELAND

This work demonstrates the French Protestant contribution to the history of Ireland, and, in particular, the Huguenot influence in trade, the professions, and Irish social life. In successive chapters, the author Grace L. Lee describes the Huguenot presence in the city of Cork, Cork County, Waterford and Wexford, Carlow, Portarlinton, western Ireland, and Dublin. She furnishes specific biographical and genealogical details concerning the more successful Huguenot families who settled in those localities in the wake of the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685 by King Louis XIV in France.

Was \$29.50 Now \$19.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9208&NLC-GenPointers1

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