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GENEALOGY POINTERS (04-22-08)

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ONE-WEEK SALE on Irish Books & CDs

(Sale prices in effect until 11:59 PM EDT, Monday, April 28, 2008)

We are celebrating St. Patrick's Day a month late this year by putting our best-selling Irish and Irish-American books and CDs on sale for the next seven days. Any one of these terrific reference works could help you nail down your Irish forebears--titles like the third edition of John Grenham's acclaimed TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS, Brian Mitchell's recently reprinted A NEW GENEALOGICAL ATLAS OF IRELAND, or the CD index to the greatest of all 19th-century Irish resources, Griffith's Valuation. Read on and see if you don't agree that our Irish guidebooks and CDs are second to none in their field. Remember, sale prices expire at 11:59 PM EDT, Monday, April 28, 2008.

TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS. Third Edition

John Grenham's TRACING YOUR IRISH ANCESTORS is arguably the best book ever written on Irish genealogy. Not since Margaret Falley's "Irish and Scotch-Irish Ancestral Research," written in the early 1960s, has there been a book that combines all the best features of a textbook and a reference book. This work expertly describes the various steps in the research process while at the same time providing an indispensable body of source materials for immediate use.

With its step-by-step instructions in the location and use of genealogical records, its discussion of civil records of birth, marriage, and death, along with land records and wills, and its list of Roman Catholic parish records and county source lists, it is easily the most useful book in Irish genealogy.

Was \$24.95 Now \$16.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2385&NLC-GenPointers1

A NEW GENEALOGICAL ATLAS OF IRELAND. Second Edition

This ATLAS, by Irish genealogist and geographer Brian Mitchell, is a key resource in Irish genealogical research. Why? Because successful genealogical research in Ireland depends on a knowledge of geography, and this ATLAS maps the six administrative divisions into which Irish records fall: counties, baronies, civil parishes, dioceses, poor law unions, and probate districts.

For the second edition, Mr. Mitchell has added maps detailing the location of Roman Catholic parishes in all 32 counties of Ireland and Presbyterian congregations in the nine counties of Northern Ireland. Now, for the first time ever, this one volume contains a complete geographical picture of the major religious denominations in Ireland during the middle years of the 19th century.

Was \$20.00 Now \$14.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3853&NLC-GenPointers1

AN INDEX TO GRIFFITH'S VALUATION OF IRELAND, 1848-1864 (CD)

This CD is an index to the greatest of all Irish genealogical resources, Griffith's Valuation, or the Primary Valuation of Ireland. Carried out between 1848 and 1864 under the direction of Sir Richard Griffith, this survey of Ireland was intended to determine the amount of tax each person should pay towards the support of the poor within their poor law union. The Valuation is arranged by county, barony, poor law union, civil parish, and townland, and it lists every landholder and every householder in Ireland at that time--- about 1.25 million people.

Was \$59.99 Now \$44.99

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7188&NLC-GenPointers1

RICHARD GRIFFITH AND HIS VALUATIONS OF IRELAND

This work is divided into two parts. The first part treats the history and method used by Griffith and his colleagues in producing the valuations. In the second part, the author burrows into the intricacies of the valuations, showing how an understanding of the abbreviations and shorthand used by the valuers can lead the researcher from the valuation to other Irish records and additional discoveries concerning one's ancestors. The rich appendices to the work include a glossary of key terms appearing in the valuations, among other things.

Was \$22.95 Now \$16.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9371&NLC-GenPointers1

GENERAL ALPHABETICAL INDEX to the Townlands and Towns, Parishes and Baronies of Ireland, Based on the Census of Ireland for the Year 1851

Since research in Ireland usually starts at the parish level, there must be a reference tool that keys the townland to the parish in which it is located. The work described here was prepared under the auspices of the British government for almost that purpose. The 968 densely printed pages show the county, barony, parish, and poor law union in which the 70,000 townlands were situated in 1851, as well as the location of the townlands on the Great Ordnance Survey maps. Appendices contain separate indexes to parishes and baronies.

Was \$60.00 Now \$44.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2962&NLC-GenPointers1

SPECIAL REPORT ON SURNAMEN IN IRELAND [Together with] Varieties and Synonymes of Surnames

This is actually two works in one. Together, they are a valuable instrument for tracing Irish family origins. The first, the "Special Report," shows the areas in Ireland with which about 2,400 family names are most frequently associated. "Varieties and Synonymes of Surnames," the second report, is a 32-page list of 2,091 names and their variations as well as a separate key to the Registers' Districts and Unions in which the surnames are located.

Was \$25.00 Now \$17.95

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3830&NLC-GenPointers1

IRISH NAMES AND SURNAMEN

This work begins with an illuminating history of Irish names, followed by the great dictionary--700 pages of Irish names in two arrangements: English-Irish and Irish-English. The English-Irish section contains 3,500 given names and surnames, each dealt with as a separate group. The Irish-English section, containing more than 7,000 entries, gives the original form of the surname and its precise meaning, then its English equivalent and the former and present location in Ireland.

Was \$50.00 Now \$37.50

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=6510&NLC-GenPointers1

IRISH FLAX GROWERS LIST, 1796 (CD)

The Flax Growers List of 1796 is known officially as the Spinning Wheel Premium Entitlement List, or more commonly the Flax Growers Bounty List. At various times, the government introduced special incentives to encourage the production of linen, usually

giving away spinning wheels and looms. In 1796, the Irish Linen Board published a list of almost 60,000 individuals who had received awards for planting a specified acreage of flax. Those who had planted one acre were awarded four spinning wheels, and those planting five acres were awarded a loom. Arranged by civil parish in each county (except Dublin and Wicklow), the Flax Growers List contains the names of those individuals recognized by the Irish Linen Board as having planted specific acreages of flax.

Was \$29.99 Now \$19.99

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7271&NLC-GenPointers1

IRISH IMMIGRANTS TO NORTH AMERICA (CD)

This CD comprises 10 volumes of Irish passenger lists naming approximately 60,000 immigrants, the earliest list dating from 1735, the latest 1871. Originally published by GPC, the majority of these lists derive from homegrown Irish sources. This is what makes the CD so remarkable, because the Irish generally did not maintain emigration records. In fact, what information we do have on Irish immigrants comes almost entirely from American sources, and prior to the 1890s that information is woefully spare, usually limited to name, age, occupation, and sex (in accordance with the U.S. immigration laws of the time).

Was \$29.99 Now \$19.99

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7257&NLC-GenPointers1

To browse our entire list of Irish and Irish-American books and CDs, please access the link below:

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=products_country&country=Ireland/Irish&NLC-GenPointers1

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DECIPHERING OLD ENGLISH HANDWRITING

Just about anyone who takes genealogy seriously is destined to face the challenge of reading original (or microfilm copies of) records written in an unfamiliar cursive style. If your research takes you back to at least the 19th century, you'll encounter census records, wills, deeds, and multifarious other records that you'll strain to decipher. Records from the colonial period will elicit a double-take if you've never seen them before. You'll run into "ff" where you might expect an f," and an "f" sometimes stands for "s." The ancient abbreviation "Maps" should be read as "Mass" for Massachusetts. The letters "U" and "V," as well as "u" and "v," were used interchangeably. On the whole, the following lowercase letters are most difficult to read, especially in 17th-century documents: "c," "e," "h," "r," "s," and "t."

Once you've figured out what the letters are, you'll need to bone up on old abbreviations for terms in common usage today. For instance, "o.s.p." is short for "died without issue"; "yt" stands for "that"; "als" signifies an "alias"; "d.v.m." means "died while mother was living"; while "d.s.p." means "died without issue." Did you know that "B.L.W." means bounty land warrant, or that "do" was short for "ditto, or the same as above," a notation you'll encounter repeatedly in census records?

The challenges don't end there. You'll have to learn to decipher numerals as well as letters. Even after you get familiar with a certain era's lettering, you may find that what was conventional in 1700 is unrecognizable 50 years earlier. Then, of course, there is the problem of individual styles of writing.

For the novice, decoding early handwriting can be an intimidating task. If you are a beginner, you may wish to get your hands on Kip Sperry's excellent handbook, **READING EARLY AMERICAN HANDWRITING**, the best tool we know of for teaching how to read and understand the handwriting found in documents commonly used in genealogical research. This guide explains techniques for reading early American documents, provides samples of alphabets and letter forms, and defines commonly used terms and abbreviations.

Perhaps best of all, the volume presents numerous examples of early American records for the reader to work with. Arranged by degree of difficulty (from the relatively easy-to-read documents of the 19th century to the more difficult ones of the 17th), the documents showcase examples of handwriting styles, letter forms, abbreviations, and terminology typically found in early American records. Each document--there are nearly 100 of them at various stages of complexity--appears with the author's transcription on a facing page, enabling the reader to check his/her own transcription. This strategy allows the researcher to attain proficiency in reading the documents at a natural rate of progression.

Listen to what the experts have to say about **READING EARLY AMERICAN HANDWRITING**:

"The further back in time our research takes us, the more 'plain English' looks like a foreign language. That's why Sperry's 'plain English' guide to not-so-plain English writing is an absolute basic book for every genealogy shelf," says Elizabeth Shown Mills, CG, FASG.

According to the "National Genealogical Society Quarterly," "'Reading Early American Handwriting' is a timeless reference whose value will increase as more early-American documents become available to researchers of many disciplines."

If you're planning to consult original records of the 19th, 18th, or 17th century, or earlier, we encourage you to let **READING EARLY AMERICAN HANDWRITING** be your guide.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5513&NLC-GenPointers1

11th EDITION of "The Handybook for Genealogists"

If your first association with genealogy came through the Internet or some computer software, you may never have heard of THE HANDYBOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS, by Everton Publishers. THE HANDYBOOK is THE best-selling book in American genealogy, with over one million copies sold since its first edition in 1947. Even if you have used previous editions of this publication, you should consider the important changes found only in the new 11th edition.

The popularity of THE HANDYBOOK stems from its capacity to provide the researcher with at-a-glance genealogical guidance for every county in the U.S. Arranged alphabetically by state, the book contains a chapter on each of the 50 states. Every chapter commences with an essay about the genealogical history of the state and its records. This is followed by an up-to-date listing of genealogical archives, libraries, and societies and a bibliography of valuable printed sources. At the heart of the chapter is an alphabetically arranged table of counties, which is keyed to a corresponding state map. For each county, the table furnishes a map index number, the date of the county's creation, the parent county(ies) or territory(ies) from which it was created, and the address and phone number for the appropriate county court. A thumbnail description of each county's surviving genealogical records completes that entry. Every county in the U.S. is enumerated in the index.

In preparing the 11th edition, Everton Publishers has updated all the county-by-county data, descriptions of major record repositories, Internet and mailing addresses for all repositories, and the state-by-state bibliography of books. For the first time, readers have the option of purchasing THE HANDYBOOK by itself or with an accompanying CD. The CD allows the user to search the book and download and print out the full-color maps found throughout the volume.

Other standard features include: (1) a "tracker" for every county shows how boundaries have changed over the years, and (2) "migration trail" maps give detailed descriptions of the paths your ancestors traveled.

Whether or not you own a previous edition of this extraordinary publication, the blockbuster 11th edition is one book you must have for your reference shelf.

Please note: because of its hefty size and page count (8 ½ x 11 inches; 944 pp.) and hardcover binding, the HANDYBOOK has special postage & handling charges: USPS: one copy \$6.00, each additional copy \$6.00; UPS ground: one copy \$10.00, each additional copy \$10.00; Canada and international orders: please contact us for details.

THE HANDYBOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS (\$52.00)

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1721&NLC-GenPointers1

THE HANDYBOOK FOR GENEALOGISTS. With CD (\$62.00)

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1722&NLC-GenPointers1

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TWO NEW ENGLAND CDs Back in Stock & Priced to Move!
(Special prices in effect until 11:59 PM EDT, Monday, April 28, 2008)

We've just re-stocked two of our New England CDs. The first of these, GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY OF NEW ENGLAND, 1600s-1700s, is, without exaggeration and fear of hyperbole, the best value in New England genealogy. The other, entitled NEW ENGLAND FAMILIES #2, 1600s-1800s, consists of eight volumes of family histories published by the Lewis Publishing Company about a century ago. At a retail price of \$29.99, either of these CDs would be a steal. For the next seven days (until 11:59 PM EDT, Monday, April 28, 2008), you can save \$10.00 off the retail price of each.

GENEALOGICAL DICTIONARY OF NEW ENGLAND, 1600s-1700s

This extraordinary reference tool incorporates the two greatest works ever published on New England genealogy: "Genealogical Dictionary of the First Settlers of New England," by James Savage; and "Genealogical Dictionary of Maine and New Hampshire," by Walter G. Davis, Sybil Noyes, and Charles T. Libby. Given the tight, interlocking nature of New England genealogical research, you're destined to make repeated use of the reference works on this fully indexed CD. When you compare the \$29.99 price of the CD with the nearly \$200.00 retail price of the books it encompasses, this is a no-brainer purchase for any New England researcher.

Was \$29.99 Now \$19.99

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7169&NLC-GenPointers1

NEW ENGLAND FAMILIES #2, 1600s-1800s

This Family Archive CD contains electronically searchable text of the First and Third series of William Cutter's popular compendium, "New England Families, Genealogical and Memorial." The eight volumes that make up these two distinct series contain about 2,000 genealogies and refer to approximately 20,000 related individuals.

Was \$29.99 Now \$19.99

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7159

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FEATURED BOOKS FOR APRIL

Researchers with Virginia and/or Welsh ancestry will have a field day with our featured lineup of books for April. Three Virginia standards are now back in print: (1) Carol McGinnis's stellar guidebook, "Virginia Genealogy: Sources and Resources," (2) Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck's comprehensive "Virginia Colonial Soldiers," and (3) "'Old' New Kent County [Virginia]" by Malcolm Harris, a reconstruction of some of the oldest records for the Tidewater ever achieved.

We have also reprinted two of the three basic works on Welsh genealogy (authored and/or edited by John and Sheila Rowlands in conjunction with the Family History Societies of Wales), so students of Welsh genealogy now have access to all three: (1) "Welsh Family History," (2) "Second Stages in Researching Welsh Ancestry," and (3) "The Surnames of Wales."

Other April reprints include a collection of genealogies of prominent Americans, the family history of the Maryland "Key" family (including the Key of "Star Spangled Banner" fame), and early source records for Kentucky, North Carolina, and Alabama research. Following are brief descriptions of the April books featured on our website this month.

VIRGINIA GENEALOGY: Sources & Resources

The author, Carol McGinnis, devotes entire chapters to such subjects as Virginia land, people, and history; immigration and migration; vital records; Bible and church records; census records; land and court records; manuscripts and records abroad; ethnic Virginia; slavery and African Americans; counties and their records; independent cities and their records; genealogical collections; and genealogical societies. Several sections are based on answers to questionnaires that the author sent to Virginia courthouses and historical and genealogical societies. The bibliography alone runs to 125 pages and contains references to 1,421 books and articles on all aspects of Virginia genealogy. This is a real giant of a book--and the standard by which all future guidebooks on Virginia genealogy will be measured.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3526&NLC-GenPointers1

VIRGINIA'S COLONIAL SOLDIERS

Based on research in county court minutes and orders, bounty land applications and warrants, records of courts martial, county militia rosters, Hening's "Statutes at Large," the Draper manuscripts, and manuscripts in the Public Record Office in London, Mr. Bockstruck has produced an authoritative register of Virginia's colonial soldiers. And it is not merely a dry catalogue of names and dates. Included are the military's "size" rolls,

which routinely give each soldier's place of birth, age, residence, occupation, and physical description. Little is known of the ordinary people of colonial Virginia for they left no diaries or journals, but now we have the rare privilege of coming almost face to face with them in this remarkable book.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=490&NLC-GenPointers1

'OLD' NEW KENT COUNTY [Virginia]. Some Account of the Planters, Plantations, and Places in New Kent County. Two Volumes in One

Dr. Malcolm Harris' two-volume history and genealogy of "Old" New Kent County is one of the great achievements of Virginia local history. It takes on even greater importance in light of the loss of county records in New Kent County and King and Queen County and the survival of mere fragments for King William County prior to 1865.

Because the author's objective was to aid researchers in locating the sites and the inhabitants of the region during the colonial period, a pleasing narrative--supported by numerous photographs--links New Kent's plantations, ancestral homes, landmarks, and artifacts with its ancestors and their descendants. The work is arranged by county and thereunder according to the Episcopal parishes that comprised each county, namely Blisland and St. Peter's in New Kent; Stratton Major, St. Stephen's, and Drysdale in King and Queen; and St. John's and St. David's in King William. Besides the many local and family histories, the book contains an inventory of extant records at each county clerk's office, a number of lists of landowners (including a comprehensive list of King William County land tax assessments for 1782), marriage or other source records, and a comprehensive name index.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9891&NLC-GenPointers1

WELSH FAMILY HISTORY. A Guide to Research. Second Edition

This handbook on Welsh genealogy deals primarily with those aspects of family history research that are unique to Wales. Originally published by the Association of Family History Societies of Wales, it is considered to be the best book ever written on Welsh genealogy. It is certainly a very comprehensive handbook, with more than 20 chapters treating the essential elements of Welsh genealogy.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5030&NLC-GenPointers1

SECOND STAGES in Researching Welsh Ancestry

Anyone who has had any success in researching their Welsh ancestry will know that a grasp of specialized Welsh genealogical methods and sources is only one of several factors that contributed to that success. They will know, for example, how important it is in Welsh research to have some understanding of the social, cultural, religious, and economic backgrounds of the communities in which those ancestors lived. This book attempts to broaden that understanding, especially for the period prior to 1800, when most researchers begin to experience difficulties. In addition, it aims to make readers more aware of some little-known sources and the special uses that may be applied to the information found in these sources.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5028&NLC-GenPointers1

THE SURNAMENES OF WALES for Family Historians and Others

This book provides the reader with a detailed insight into the origins and occurrence of common Welsh surnames, together with some consideration of those surnames that are associated with particular locales, thus helping to suggest a likely place of origin within Wales.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5032&NLC-GenPointers1

THE PROMINENT FAMILIES of the United States of America

Of the three great Burke's volumes produced on American families, this one is generally thought to be the most authoritative. Hundreds of pedigrees are included, each beginning with the living subject and showing his descent from the earliest known forebear.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=802&NLC-GenPointers1

KEY AND ALLIED FAMILIES

Mrs. Lane is a descendant of the author of the "Star Spangled Banner," Francis Scott Key. Her book traces Key's ancestry back to the American immigrant, Philip Key of London, who settled in St. Mary's County, Maryland, in 1720, and forward to a number of Key lines in the U.S. of her own era. In addition to the lineages of Key families in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and the Carolinas, the author traces the Key connection to the allied families of Bibb, Cantelou, Clarke, Garrett, Keith, Kilpatrick, Marshall, Martin, Randolph, Tandy, Terrell, Waller, and White. Richly illustrated and indexed, this work also features a history of the "Star Spangled Banner."

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9940&NLC-GenPointers1

ABSTRACT OF EARLY KENTUCKY WILLS AND INVENTORIES. Copied from
Original and Recorded Wills and Inventories

The author, Junie King, has here abstracted the earliest wills of 38 Kentucky counties formed between 1780 and 1842 (with the exception of Crittenden County), representing the state as a whole. The information includes dates of instrument and probate, names of spouse and children, and names of witnesses. The arrangement is alphabetical by county, each with its own index. This work covers the following Kentucky counties: Barren, Bourbon, Bullitt, Caldwell, Christian, Clark, Crittenden, Daviess, Fayette, Franklin, Gallatin, Garrard, Greene, Hardin, Harrison, Henderson, Henry, Hopkins, Jefferson, Jessamine, Knox, Lincoln, Livingston, Logan, Madison, McCracken, Mercer, Muhlenberg, Nelson, Nicholas, Ohio, Scott, Shelby, Spencer, Todd, Warren, Washington, and Woodford.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3190&NLC-GenPointers1

ABSTRACT OF NORTH CAROLINA WILLS [1663-1760]

This work contains abstracts of wills found in the office of the Secretary of State of North Carolina. While it covers the period 1663 to 1760, it does contain a few later wills. The work is arranged alphabetically according to the name of the testator. The abstracts give the name of the testator, place of residence, names of wife, children, legatees, witnesses, and probate officers, names of plantations mentioned, and remarkable items or noteworthy passages in wills. The extensive 200-page index contains all the names mentioned in the will abstracts--nearly 20,000!

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2390&NLC-GenPointers1

ALABAMA CENSUS RETURNS, 1820 and an Abstract of the Federal Census of
Alabama, 1830

In 1818 the government of the Alabama Territory authorized that a census for its 29 counties be taken in 1820. The federal census of 1820 for Alabama was completely destroyed by fire, but the returns for eight of the 29 counties are on file in the Alabama State Archives. This publication, based on the information found in the Archives, sets forth the only extant record of the 1820 census. It contains the returns for the counties of Baldwin, Conecuh, Dallas, Franklin, Limestone, Shelby, St. Clair, and Wilcox. About 4,000 heads of families are listed by county.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=60&NLC-GenPointers1

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BLOG: MOTHER'S DAY IDEAS for Family Historians

Since Mother's Day is just over two weeks away, why not make this year's celebration one for the ages? In "Make It a Special Mother's Day," the latest article posted on our BLOG, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com, Carolyn Barkley shows you how to honor the mothers and grandmothers in your lives AND how to further our understanding of our family history. In this article, Carolyn describes a number of enjoyable activities you can do with your mothers and, at the same time, learn more about the people and settings that make up your family history. Read more about a "Special Mother's Day" at genealogyandfamilyhistory.com today.

Note: This newsletter includes time-sensitive special offers previously announced only to e-mail subscribers of Genealogical.com's Genealogy Pointers. To sign up for this free weekly newsletter, [click here](#).

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2. Fax your order to 1-410-752-8492
3. Call toll-free to our sales department at 1-800-296-6687