

GENEALOGY POINTERS (05-15-07)

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TRACING BELGIAN ROOTS

The history of Belgium is entwined with the religious and political wars of early modern Europe. Part of the Low Countries--which today comprise Belgium, Holland, and Luxembourg--Belgium was ruled by Hapsburg Spain from 1516 until 1713 and was an important battleground in the extraordinarily violent Thirty Years War from 1618 to 1648. Over the next hundred years, Austria, France, and Holland (which had attained its own independence) alternately ruled over Belgium. Belgium became an independent constitutional monarchy in 1830 and continues to be one today.

Unlike Protestant Holland, whose Flemish language is identical to Belgium's, the population of the latter is almost entirely Roman Catholic. Flemish is the official language of Belgium's northern provinces, home to the Flemings, while French dominates among the Walloons of the south.

Belgium has been a relatively small source of immigrants to the U.S. According to one source, less than a quarter-million Belgians have emigrated over the course of U.S. history. Most of these newcomers arrived before 1950, with most having arrived before the outbreak of World War I. More persons of Belgian heritage live in Michigan and Wisconsin than in any other states, although small pockets exist in Illinois, Minnesota, North Dakota, and other Midwestern states. During the 19th century, Belgians comprised the backbone of the eastern glass industry. As more and more took up residence in the Midwest, they divided their energies between skilled trades--especially building trades--and farming.

The foregoing narrative is by way of introducing our groundbreaking title for May, **SEARCHING FOR FLEMISH (BELGIAN) ANCESTORS**, by Jozef Goethals and Fr. Karel Denys. This first-ever guidebook to Belgian genealogy teaches the reader the ins-and-outs of Flemish records and repositories in the U.S. as well as in Flanders.

Among other things, this new book contains a glossary of Flemish genealogical terms and instructions for reading ancient Flemish documents--advice that can be applied to deciphering Flemish genealogical documents for Holland as well. For Americans of Flemish ancestry, whose knowledge of the Flemish language is waning, this feature of

SEARCHING FOR FLEMISH (BELGIAN) ANCESTORS is crucial if they wish to delve into their Flemish family history.

To provide our readers with a greater understanding of the design and objectives of this guidebook, we have reprinted Mr. Goethals' "Note to the Reader" from the book itself:

"An examination of guidebooks on genealogical research of European countries has convinced us that there is a need for the present publication. There are outstanding research manuals in Flemish showing the way through genealogical sources. Publications in English, however, treat Belgium only in a skeletal manner. Fr. Karel Denys, a life-long genealogy enthusiast and co-founder of the Genealogical Society of Flemish Americans, published a series of articles in the "Flemish American Heritage" magazine, filling, in part, this void. We decided that presenting our combined experiences to a wider American public would benefit the Flemish American researcher.

"The main thrust of this work is to introduce you to the genealogical sources that are obtainable in the United States, i.e. sources that could save you a trip to the 'old country,' and to assist you in finding and interpreting these sources. The introduction sketches the history of Flanders and Belgium and the waves of emigration to America. This basic information will allow you to place your ancestors in a historical context.

"The first section describes some Belgian sources available in the United States which should be reviewed before you venture into the civil and parish records of Flanders: Internet websites, genealogical societies, library collections, etc.

"In the second and third sections you find a detailed analysis of the vital records of the Civil Registry (1796-1900) and Parish Registers (ca 1600-1796). Birth, marriage, and death records are analyzed and translated from Flemish, French, and Latin.

"The fourth section introduces you to the history and content of other sources of the so-called Ancien Regime (Old Regime) before 1796: court records, orphan bench records, notary records, tax records, et al. These sources provide you with information which make the vital records come alive.

"In the appendices we provide some practical research tools: among other things, an introduction to Flemish first names and surnames, state archives in Flanders, and a glossary of genealogy terms in Flemish, French, and Latin.

"Since the greatest number of emigrants to the United States originated from Flanders and our combined research experience concentrated on Flemish sources, the book is limited to the search for Flemish/Belgian ancestors, as the title suggests."

In our judgment, for persons of Flemish ancestry SEARCHING FOR FLEMISH (BELGIAN) ANCESTORS will prove to be a godsend. To buy or learn more about this exciting new guidebook, please consult the following link:

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9313
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9313&NLC-GenPointers1)

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TRACING CANADIAN ANCESTORS (Books & CD)

For many genealogy wayfarers, the journey includes a stop in Canada. This makes a lot of sense when you consider that from the colonial period through the 1920s tens of millions of emigrants from Great Britain and continental Europe landed in North America, many through Canadian ports. For example, during the 1840s and 1850s, many Famine-era Irish immigrants arrived at the port of St. John, New Brunswick, because the fare was cheaper. Some of these same people ultimately joined family members in the U.S. once they had accumulated the necessary funds. During the colonial wars for control of North America, Canadians such as the Acadian French of Nova Scotia were banished and compelled to take up new homes in places like New England and Louisiana. Conversely, following England's defeat in the American Revolution, thousands of people who were still loyal to the Crown fled to Canada, sometimes leaving patriot family members behind. Not surprisingly, along the 3,000-mile peaceful border that separates the U.S. from its northern neighbor, there are innumerable families who share common ancestries as a result of their desire for greater economic, religious, or political freedom--in one country or the other.

If you are currently researching your Canadian ancestors, we have a wonderful array of resources available. The titles range from Angus Baxter's excellent how-to book, "In Search of Your Canadian Roots," to the massive "Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, Genealogies" by George S. Brown. Scroll down to see a sampling of our Canadian publications.

IN SEARCH OF YOUR CANADIAN ROOTS. Third Edition (Temporarily out of print)

For both beginners and experienced researchers alike, this third edition gives common-sense tips on where to begin your research, how to work backward in time from the known to the unknown, how to test your facts and avoid common mistakes, and, ultimately, how to create a family tree. It discusses the great migrations of Scots, Irish, English, Germans, Huguenots, Ukrainians, and Jews to Canada; describes the records of the national archives in Ottawa; summarizes the holdings of the LDS Church relating to Canada; and explores the vast nationwide record sources such as census records and church registers. It also provides a province-by-province survey of genealogical sources--in effect, a step-by-step guide to the records and record repositories in each of the 10 provinces and the Yukon and Northwest territories.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=391&
NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=391&NLC-GenPointers1)

ONTARIO AND NOVA SCOTIA SETTLERS, 1796-1860 (CD)

While there is no single body of records that identifies all immigrants and settlers in Nova Scotia and Ontario before Confederation in 1867, the six books included on this CD comprise the largest pool of information on early Canadian settlers available, naming over 130,000 settlers from Ireland, Scotland, England, and colonial America, many of them Loyalists from disbanded regiments or pro-British refugees fleeing New York and New England. Based on the best primary and secondary sources available, these works contain a mix of data featuring name, occupation, residence, place of origin, age, family members, name of ship, date of arrival, military affiliation, and land grants. As a group, they form a virtual encyclopedia of early Nova Scotia and Ontario families.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=7274&NLC-GenPointers1

NOVA SCOTIA IMMIGRANTS TO 1867 [Volume I]

Col. and Mrs. Leonard H. Smith labored over a decade to construct this vast index of heretofore widely scattered Nova Scotia immigrants from numerous archives in North America and abroad (Part 1); and from 450 articles in Nova Scotia periodicals (Part 2). This is easily the most comprehensive sourcebook on Nova Scotia immigrants ever published, and it is a great tool for New England ancestral research, whether the ancestor's origins are Scottish, Irish, English, German, or Loyalist.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5474&NLC-GenPointers1

NOVA SCOTIA IMMIGRANTS TO 1867, Volume II

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

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=5476&NLC-GenPointers1

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 the 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.

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

ONTARIO PEOPLE: 1796-1803

After the American Revolution, several thousand families came to settle in the western part of Quebec, later called Upper Canada, then Canada West, and today Ontario. These settlers were former members of American Loyalist regiments, discharged British and German servicemen, and some civilians and refugees. They were offered grants of 200 acres of land on condition that they take an oath of allegiance and remain loyal to the British regime.

Subsequently, thousands of settlers appeared before the magistrates in district courts throughout Upper Canada. The magistrates provided additional information in the records, which have been preserved in the National Archives of Canada and are usually called the District Loyalist Rolls of 1796. These rolls have been carefully transcribed for the first time by Dr. E. Keith Fitzgerald, who has supplemented the 4,000 entries with further data from his own research. Details supplied by the settlers, the magistrates, and Dr. Fitzgerald now provide a rich source of information on the early inhabitants of Ontario. Some entries show, for example, relationships, deaths, military service, maiden names of married women, and remarriage of widows and widowers.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=1855&NLC-GenPointers1

IRISH EMIGRATION TO NEW ENGLAND Through the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841 to 1849 (Temporarily out of print)

The Canadian port of Saint John, New Brunswick, was a magnet for Irish emigration during the decade that culminated in the Great Famine. A majority of these destitute Irish emigrants were required to take temporary refuge in the alms and work houses, hospitals, and asylums of Saint John before relocating to Boston or elsewhere in New England in order to rejoin their families. Mr. Daniel F. Johnson has compiled this surrogate "passenger list" of 7,000 persons of Irish birth from the records of alms houses, hospitals, parish houses, etc. This is a major contribution to the literature of Irish emigration to North America.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9202&NLC-GenPointers1

GUIDE TO QUEBEC CATHOLIC PARISHES and Published Parish Marriage Records

The bulk of this work consists of county-by-county lists of parishes within the Province of Quebec. All known Catholic parishes are listed to 1900. Each list gives the names of all the parishes within that county, arranged in order of formation, with the date of the oldest records for that parish. A reference letter and name after the parish indicates the compiler and publisher of a marriage register for that parish, or whether the marriages for that parish may be found in the important Loiselles Marriage Index.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9580&NLC-GenPointers1

GENEALOGIST'S HANDBOOK for Upper Saint John Valley Research

This impeccably prepared guidebook teaches us how to find ancestors on both the Maine and New Brunswick sides of the Upper Saint John River Valley, a region that ultimately became home to the indigenous Maliseets, Acadians, French-Canadians, Irish, a few Scots, and a few (mostly English) Loyalists. The extant records of the valley (found in both local and distant archives) extend from 1792 to the 20th century, and, following his historical introduction, Mr. George L. Findlen devotes the bulk of his narrative to an inventory of them. The researcher will find separate chapters devoted to each of the following record categories: church registers (probably the most valuable of all records), vital records, marriages, cemetery records, censuses, land records, will and probate documents, newspapers, as well as the various record repositories themselves.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9788&NLC-GenPointers1

For a complete list of our Canadian books and CDs, please access the following link:

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

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MORE CLEARFIELD RELEASES for May

Florida records specialist Lawrence Feldman has unearthed some original 18th-century population lists for British inhabitants of that colony, some of which, dealing with West Florida, are pertinent for Alabama ancestry as well. You will find those lists transcribed in his new book, *COLONIZATION AND CONQUEST: British Florida in the Eighteenth Century*. If your Scottish ancestors detoured to a German municipality or principality, you may find a reference to them in David Dobson's latest title, *SCOTTISH-GERMAN LINKS, 1550-1850*.

Unless you stumble across the aforementioned new books on our website, you won't find them highlighted at www.genealogical.com because we didn't have room for them on our "Featured Books & CDs" page (see the last article in this newsletter). They represent the two original titles out of a group of seven Clearfield books published in May that we publicize to our online customers strictly in "Genealogy Pointers." Other Clearfield titles consist of a collection of marriage records extracted from the Baltimore "Sun" for the decade of the 1850s; Judy Jacobson's excellent guide for genealogy field trips; an expert account of that prototypical clash of wills in 17th-century Virginia, Bacon's Rebellion; and collections of source records or compiled genealogies for Rhode Island, Georgia, and Grayson County, Virginia. You will find brief descriptions of each of these outstanding titles immediately below.

COLONIZATION AND CONQUEST: British Florida in the Eighteenth Century

Lawrence Feldman is the author of two previous Clearfield Company publications pertaining to pre-statehood Florida: (1) "Anglo-Americans in Spanish Archives," a collection of census data on British-Americans who settled in Florida during the second period of Spanish domination (1784-1821); and (2) "The Last Days of British St. Augustine, 1784-1785," the transcription of a Spanish census of the English colony of East Florida. For this latest work, Mr. Feldman has transcribed a variety of population lists for East and West Florida, dating from 1763 to 1784, based on British sources. Mr. Feldman discovered these records among the files of England's Public Record Office that had been copied for and deposited in the Library of Congress in the 1920s. These heretofore unpublished sources consist of lists of refugees, signatories to oaths of allegiance, lists of inhabitants, council members, militia, intra-Florida migrants, and more. Each list has the virtue of placing individuals in a specific location at a particular point in time. In some cases, the schedules also give a person's marital status, number of children, race, and/or occupation.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9975&NLC-GenPointers1

SCOTTISH-GERMAN LINKS, 1550-1850

The majority of Scots who were found in the various German principalities during the early modern period arrived as soldiers of fortune, especially during the Thirty Years War. Students also were attracted by the educational opportunities available in Germany and Wurzburg; Ratisbon in particular attracted the sons of Catholic Scots families. Immigration traffic also flowed in the other direction, to a lesser extent, as attested to by David Dobson's newest book, SCOTTISH-GERMAN LINKS, 1550-1850.

While the contents of these transcriptions vary considerably, each one of the roughly 1,200 entries nonetheless identifies a Scots-German by name, date, and city of residence, and the source of the information. In many cases, we learn something about an individual's parentage, spouse, vocation, or more. Consider the following example:

"Bayne, Peter, editor of 'The Witness,' married Clotilda Gerwein, eldest daughter of the late Major General Gerwein, commander of a brigade in Prussian service, in Munster, by the Reverend Shikedauz, a minister of the Evangelical Church of Prussia, on 26 April 1858."

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9815&NLC-GenPointers1

INDEX TO MARRIAGES in The (Baltimore) Sun, 1851-1860

The marriages in this volume are arranged alphabetically by bridegrooms' surnames. There also is an index of brides and others mentioned in the marriage notices. About 15,000 marriages are recorded, and with the others mentioned, about 35,000 persons are cited in the text. INDEX TO MARRIAGES in The (Baltimore) Sun, 1851-1860 is the sequel to Mr. Thomas L. Hollowak's earlier book, "Index to Marriages and Deaths in The (Baltimore) Sun, 1837-1850," which is presently out of print.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=2820&NLC-GenPointers1

A FIELD GUIDE FOR GENEALOGISTS. Second Edition

A FIELD GUIDE, by Judy Jacobson, is designed to remove any number of stumbling blocks and to answer thousands of other practical questions that quite naturally arise during a research trip. For example, the FIELD GUIDE includes sections on the basics of dating photographs and identifying historical eras from hairstyles or clothing. Similarly, legal terms found in genealogical records are identified in one of the several glossaries--glossaries of genealogical terms, nicknames, surnames, place names, and occupations. The author has prepared a section on problems to anticipate at the county courthouse, offers hints for deciphering old handwriting, discusses different types of calendars, and has incorporated time lines of American history, migration, and transportation.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9411&NLC-GenPointers1

FAMILIES OF SOUTHEASTERN GEORGIA

This is a reprint of the third and final volume of "Georgia's Coastal Plain: A History," the volume that holds greatest importance for genealogists. Each of the roughly 1,000 sketches arranged here gives the subject's place and date of birth, educational background and military service, career, civic interests, church affiliation, hobbies, and so on. In almost every case, the author furnishes the names of the subject's parents, spouse, children, and spouse's parents, usually citing the subject's date of marriage and the dates or places of birth and death of at least these three generations of family members.

http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9409&NLC-GenPointers1

THE HOME LOTS of the Early Settlers of the Province Plantations [Rhode Island]. With Notes and Plats

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

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9189
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9189&NLC-GenPointers1)

PIONEER SETTLERS of Grayson County, Virginia

Grayson County, in southwestern Virginia, is famous as the cradle of the New River settlements--perhaps the first settlements beyond the Alleghenies. Ranging from the 18th through the 19th centuries, and into the 20th, and encompassing, on average, as many as a half-dozen generations in each line, the genealogies in this work typically provide the names of the progenitors of the Grayson County line and dates and places of migration and settlement, and then the names of all offspring in the direct and sometimes collateral lines of descent. Altogether, about 4,000 persons are named in the genealogies and indexed for ready reference.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=4215
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=4215&NLC-GenPointers1)

BACON'S REBELLION, 1676

This volume resumes the story of Governor William Berkeley upon his return from England in 1659, then moves the reader quickly to that quintessential political imbroglio of 17th-century America--Bacon's Rebellion of 1676. Convinced about the Governor's lack of concern for their safety and economic well being, a group of rebellious frontier planters cast their lot with Berkeley's cousin and former ally on the Governor's Council, Nathaniel Bacon. Bacon soon found himself at the head of a force of 2,000 men that routed the Pamunkeys and temporarily took possession of all of Virginia west of the Chesapeake Bay.

[http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9497
&NLC-GenPointers1](http://www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=9497&NLC-GenPointers1)

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FEATURED BOOKS & CDs for May

Our groundbreaking title for May is Jozef Goethals' guidebook, **SEARCHING FOR FLEMISH (BELGIAN) ANCESTORS**. This first-ever introduction to Belgian genealogy teaches the reader the ins-and-outs of Flemish records and repositories in the U.S. as well as in Flanders. Among other things, the multi-lingual Mr. Goethals has provided a glossary of Flemish genealogical terms and instructions for reading ancient Flemish documents--advice that can be applied to deciphering genealogical documents for Holland as well.

Now that we have finished our campaign of major reference titles pertaining to 17th-century Virginia ancestors, we find ourselves needing to reissue a number of popular textbooks and how-to books that are, or were, on the verge of going out of print. These

May reissues include: EVIDENCE! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian, by Elizabeth Shown Mills; THE RESEARCHER'S GUIDE to American Genealogy, by Val Greenwood; THE MAP GUIDE to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920, by William Thorndale and William Dollarhide; and EMIGRANTS IN CHAINS, Peter Coldham's definitive telling of forced emigration from Great Britain to colonial America.

Still other reprints include last year's TRACING ANCESTORS IN BARBADOS, by Geraldine Lane; a REVISED edition of Elizabeth Mills' popular QUICKSHEET, a concise guide to citing online sources; and the four-volume collection of Virginia genealogies that originally appeared throughout the complete run of the magazine, "Tyler's Quarterly."

May's featured CD-ROM titles are replete with genealogies or source records pertaining to southern and northern New England; West Virginia (including ancestors who lived in the Virginia counties that later became West Virginia), and hard-to-find passengers arriving at American ports prior to Independence. Another great value this month is THE GENEALOGIST'S ALL-IN-ONE ADDRESS BOOK, consisting of three books by Elizabeth Petty Bentley: the "County Courthouse Book," "Directory of Family Associations," and the "Genealogist's Address Book."

Following is a complete list of our featured titles for May. Immediately below is a link to the page on our website where you'll find short descriptions of each:

http://www.genealogical.com/content/products_new_genealogy.html&NLC-GenPointers1

CDs:

Early Maine and New Hampshire Settlers, 1600s-1900s
Early West Virginia Families
Immigrants to the New World, 1600s to 1800s
The Genealogist's All-in-One Address Book
Pilgrim Genealogies and Histories

BOOKS:

Searching for Flemish (Belgian) Ancestors
Emigrants in Chains: A Social History of Forced Emigration, 1607-1776
Understanding Colonial Handwriting
Getting Started in Genealogy Online
The Researcher's Guide to American Genealogy
Psychic Roots: Serendipity and Intuition in Genealogy
More Psychic Roots: Further Adventures in Serendipity and Intuition in Genealogy
Tracing Ancestors in Barbados
Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian
QuickSheet: Citing Online Historical Sources "Evidence" Style. First Revised Edition
Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920
Genealogical Notes on Barnstable Families
Persons Naturalized in the Province of Pennsylvania, 1740-1773

Genealogies of Virginia Families from "Tyler's Quarterly." In Four Volumes

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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