

Genealogy Pointers (09/06/11)

In this issue:

Half-Price Sale on Canadian & “Old Northwest” Genealogy CDs & Books

“A Bygone Reason for Thanks on Thanksgiving Day,” by Denise R. Larson

Featured Titles for September 2011

Blog: Using Divorce Records

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Half-Price Sale on Canadian & “Old Northwest” Genealogy CDs & Books

(Prices reduced by 50% or more until 11:59 p.m. EDT Wednesday, September 7, 2011.)

If you have Canadian ancestors, or are yourself a descendant of America’s “Old Northwest” (the future states of Ohio, Indiana, Michigan, Illinois, or Wisconsin), be sure to give the following eight CDs or books a good look. From now until tomorrow night just before the stroke of midnight, you can save 50% or more on all of these classic research aids. Some were already discounted before we halved their prices, and some are low in stock, so act quickly before you lose out on one terrific sale!

[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. Together, they name more than 130,000 settlers from Ireland, Scotland, England, and the U.S., 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, for each settler, 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.

Was \$39.99 Now \$19.95

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

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

Was \$30.00 Now \$13.95

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

Whereas the first volume 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).

Was \$32.50 Now \$12.95

[Genealogy at a Glance: French-Canadian Genealogy Research](#)

In keeping with the "Genealogy at a Glance" theme, the four specially laminated pages of this work are designed to give you as much useful information in the space allotted as you'll ever need. Focusing on key record sources and materials for further reference, Denise Larson first provides history and context, then deals with the unique aspects of French-Canadian research such as Acadia and Quebec before moving on to traditional record sources, finishing with a summing up of record repositories and online sources.

Was \$7.95 Now \$3.95

[Ohio Valley Genealogies. Relating Chiefly to Families in Harrison, Belmont, and Jefferson Counties, Ohio, and Washington, Westmoreland, and Fayette Counties, Pennsylvania](#)

This popular work contains genealogies of about 350 families who settled in Pennsylvania between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the Alleghenies, and genealogies of those families who migrated across the Ohio River and made the first settlements in the Northwest Territory, now part of Ohio.

Was \$18.50 Now \$8.95

[Michigan Military Records](#)

The major portion of this valuable source is devoted to a listing of Revolutionary soldiers buried in Michigan, giving for each soldier his full name, date of birth, and date and place of death and burial; parents' names; names of wife and her parents and the wife's date and place of birth and death; names of children and their dates of birth; a record of Revolutionary War service; and a variety of other biographical information.

Was \$29.50 Now \$11.95

[Indiana Land Entries. Volume 2, Part 1: Vincennes District, 1807-1877](#)

This volume covers approximately the central third of the Vincennes District, comprising all of the present Indiana counties of Daviess, Gibson, Knox, Martin, Pike, and more than half of Monroe and Lawrence. Beginning in 1807 and extending as late as 1877, the records transcribed here give the names of about 12,000 purchasers of land as well as the specific location of their land and the date of the record.

Was \$25.00 Now \$11.95

[Roster of Ohio Soldiers in the War of 1812](#)

Here is the complete roster of all Ohio soldiers and officers in the War of 1812, according to official records. It includes the names of about 25,000 soldiers and officers, with such information as rank, dates of service, and source of information.

Was \$19.50 Now \$8.95

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A Bygone Reason for Thanks on Thanksgiving Day, by Denise R. Larson

Thanksgiving Day, observed on the fourth Thursday in November in the U.S., falls on the 24th

this year, the day before one of America's earliest national holidays, Evacuation Day. Never heard of it? Evacuation Day celebrated the departure of the last of the British forces and loyalists from New York City on Nov. 25, 1783. It's a holiday that is no longer marked on our calendars, but Americans celebrate a national day of thanks at that very same time of year. Coincidental? Perhaps – or perhaps not.

Historian Maya Jasanoff, author of *Liberty's Exiles: American Loyalists in the Revolutionary World* (Alfred A. Knopf, New York, 2011) suggests that the profound feelings of thanks, relief, and celebration of freedom from war and tyranny were so imbedded in the consciousness of the new nation that Evacuation Day evolved into Thanksgiving Day. But she does not dwell on the feasts and proclamations. Her viewpoint is from the stern of the last British ship carrying refugees from a civilized place they had called home for generations to the wilds of Nova Scotia to start anew as their Pilgrim ancestors had when they left England.

Jasanoff correctly terms the movement of a mass of reluctant people a diaspora, and the one of 1783 in particular the Loyalists Diaspora. We usually think of a diaspora as a forced movement, completely involuntary on the part of the emigrants, but the British found the systematic uprooting of a large, select population to be a quick and practical solution to a political and military problem.

BRITISH EFFICIENCY MADE FOR EFFECTIVE FORCED EMIGRATION

In 1745 supporters of Charles Edward Stuart, aka Bonnie Prince Charlie, who had fought to reclaim the throne from King George II of England, were rounded up by British military forces and deported from the Highlands of Scotland. The action worked so well that the British again used the tactic in 1755. They seized land, destroyed villages, and deported the Acadians in Nova Scotia who would not sign an oath of allegiance to the British monarchy. Half of the French-speaking population was removed, approximately 7,000 individuals. They could not be sent to Quebec, which was still under French rule and would remain so until the end of the Seven Years' War in 1763, so the nonconformists were distributed throughout the other British colonies.

The Acadian diaspora, called Le Grand Dérangement, had a few snags. Some families were separated, with family members taken to different colonies. The story has been immortalized in Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's *Evangeline*. The Acadians were given no supplies with which to start over, and any compensation for seized property was a pittance and many years in coming.

But practice makes perfect. Jasanoff notes that commissary officer Brook Watson was part of the British forces in Acadia in 1755 during the diaspora and was the commissary-general for the loyalist diaspora from New York City in 1783. Watson provisioned the approximately thirty thousand fleeing British subjects with food, clothing, household goods, tools, and whatever else he could purchase and have loaded onto the ships to ease the transition for the refugees. Pledging loyalty to the British king and the Anglican Church brought the benefits of an orderly evacuation, guaranteed rich farmland in Nova Scotia (conveniently cleared of Acadian settlers), provisions, and reimbursement for losses through the Loyalist Claims Commission.

THE FORGING OF ANGLO-CANADA

Not forgetting the industry that had made the former colonies so successful, the new arrivals in Nova Scotia focused on building a new(er) New England, a loyal British North America. They joined with the English, Scots, Irish, and Hessians who had already carved the city of Halifax out of the wilderness. The sudden, large influx of English-speaking emigrants changed the tone of Canada. Nova Scotia was divided in 1784 and the province of New Brunswick was formed, with New Brunswick being a loyalist stronghold. St. John, New Brunswick, was said to be a new, smaller version of New York City, the former home of many of the new arrivals. The motto of New Brunswick is "Hope Restored." At its soul was loyalty to the British monarchy, church (of which the king was head), and empire.

MUSTERS AND CLAIMS OF LOYALISTS PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION

The British were great empire builders, people movers, and, thankfully for genealogists, record keepers. Peter Wilson Coldham has compiled information on 15,000 individuals named in the papers of the Loyalist Claims Commission and assembled it in his book [American Migrations 1765-1799](#). Leonard and Norma Smith used the public archives in Nova Scotia, elsewhere in Canada, the United States, and Europe to produce [Nova Scotia Immigrants to 1867: Volume 1](#). The Smiths gained access to diaries and journals and non-Nova Scotia periodicals to produce a [second volume](#).

Family historians who find that an ancestor appeared in Nova Scotia ca. 1783 would do well to read Carolyn Barkley's article ["Is There a Loyalist in Your Family Tree"](#) (2009) on GenealogyandFamilyHistory.com, which references [Loyalists in the American Revolution](#), a Genealogical Publishing Company publication that names thousands of loyalists from all of the British North America colonies. Marion Gilroy's *Loyalists and Land Settlement in Nova Scotia* might also shed some light on the relocation of colonists from the New York area to maritime Canada.

For families whose loyalists ancestors moved west to Ontario, [United Empire Loyalists](#) by Alexander Fraser might include information on their claims for compensation for losses and services to the British empire. William D. Reid has produced [The Loyalists in Ontario](#) to document the sons and daughters of the American loyalists of Upper Canada.

Although the majority of loyalists had lived in or near New York and were transported to Nova Scotia (and present day New Brunswick), there were enclaves of colonists loyal to the British monarchy in the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, Mississippi, and Louisiana. When evacuated, many of these southern loyalists were taken to other warm-climate British holdings such as the Bahamas, the West Indies, Africa, or India.

Genealogical Publishing has several volumes that pertain to the southern loyalists and their emigrant destinations. Among them are: A. Talbot Bethell's [The Early Settlers of the Bahamas and Colonists of North America](#), Murtie June Clark's [Loyalists in the Southern Campaign of the Revolutionary War](#), and Robert O. DeMond's [The Loyalists in North Carolina During the Revolution](#).

Though it was a time of tragedy and uncertainty among the people on both sides of the American Revolution, family historians have a wealth of sources to examine and the military's, and,

specifically, the British's love of organization and documentation for which to be thankful.

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Featured Titles for September 2011

In September we are publishing new titles from four of our authors. Carol McGinnis, author of the popular textbook for Michigan genealogy has given us the first state research aid in our "Genealogy at a Glance" series: *Michigan Genealogy Research*. Joseph Lee Boyle has completed the "prequel" volume in his collection of colonial Maryland newspaper notices, "*When Drunk is Very Bold: White Maryland Runaways, 1763-1769*". Jeff Bowen has added three more volumes in his recently begun series, *Applications for Enrollment of Creek Newborn—Act of 1905*. And David Dobson has amassed a new collection of emigration records, entitled *The French in the Americas, 1620-1820*.

Accompanying these new releases are quite a few September reprints of genealogy classics. Researchers hoping to scale a brickwall in their research, or simply hoping to make the best use of census records, will be glad to learn that Elizabeth Mills' *Quicksheet. Genealogical Problem Analysis*, and Thorndale and Dollarhide's *Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920* are available again. Researchers looking for persons specific to a particular locality can choose from reprints covering Ireland, New England, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, or Pennsylvania. Still other genealogy topics covered in our September offerings include the English Civil War, the Revolutionary War, and the American Civil War.

Following is a complete list of our featured titles for September. 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.

- [*Genealogy at a Glance. Michigan Genealogy Research*](#), by Carol McGinnis
- [*Quicksheet. Genealogical Problem Analysis*](#), by Elizabeth Shown Mills
- [*Map Guide to the U.S. Federal Censuses, 1790-1920*](#), by Wm. Thorndale & Wm. Dollarhide
- [*Applications for Enrollment of Creek Newborn—Act of 1905. Vols. II , III & IV*](#), by Jeff Bowen
- [*"When Drunk Is Very Bold." White Maryland Runaways, 1763-1769*](#), by Joseph Lee Boyle
- [*The French in the Americas, 1620-1820*](#), by David Dobson
- [*Pioneer Irish in New England*](#), by Michael J. O'Brien
- [*"Fire Cake and Water." The Connecticut Infantry at the Valley Forge Encampment*](#), by Joseph Boyle
- [*Infestation of Yankees. Reference Guide to Union Troops in Confederate Territory*](#), by Gilbert S. Bahn

- [*Genealogical and Memorial History of the State of New Jersey. A Record of the Achievements of Her People in the Making of a Commonwealth and the Founding of a Nation*](#), by F. B. Lee
- [*A History of Preston County, West Virginia*](#), by Oren F. Morton & J. R. Cole
- [*History of Mercer and Boyle Counties \[Kentucky\]*](#), by Maria T. Daviess
- [*History of Macon County, Georgia*](#), by Louise Frederick Hays

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Blog: Using Divorce Records

Carolyn Barkley's latest posting on our blog, www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com, describes the value and nature of divorce records. While divorce was a fairly rare phenomenon before 1900, it has become ever so commonplace in the aftermath of the two World Wars. If your family history includes a chapter on divorce, be sure to take in Carolyn's excellent article today.

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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