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## **Genealogy Pointers (09/08/2009)**

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### **Clearfield Bargain Books for September**

Have you hit a brick wall in searching for your Ohio, Virginia, or Georgia ancestor? Could they have emigrated to the Bahamas first? Might they have descended from members of the British peerage, or qualified for a federal pension. No matter which category your elusive ancestor falls into, each of the following books holds potential clues for scaling your brick wall. Even better, we have reduced each of these sources by 25% or more through September 30.

#### [The Early Settlers of the Bahamas and Colonists of North America](#)

Persons searching for Bahamian ancestors will want to study the various lists of names that appear in this book, including the census of inhabitants for New Providence in 1671, a mid-17th-century list of the first settlers of Eleuthra, a list of some 800 Loyalists who fled to the Bahamas from East Florida in 1784, a 1791 census of lot owners on Harbour Island, and various lists of Bahamian officials. The book also includes biographical sketches of descent for more than 200 contemporary Bahamians of distinction.

**Was \$26.50 Now \$19.50**

#### [A Genealogical History of the Dormant, Abeyant, Forfeited, and Extinct Peerages of the British Empire](#)

This work sets forth, alphabetically, the lineage of each of the nearly 2,000 British noble houses that had succumbed to extinction up to 1883. In preparing the volume, author John Bernard Burke examined public and private records, heralds' visitations, Post Mortem Inquisitions, Patent Rolls, Lords' Entries, funeral certificates, and printed books, among them the works of Dugdale, Douglas, Lodge, and Nicholas. Each article begins with the exact date of the patent's creation and proceeds to the lineage, which commences with the first known representative of the line and carries through successive generations up to the time of the extinction of the title. The text refers to 40,000 persons in all.

**Was \$69.95 Now \$51.95**

[Gateway to the West. In Two Volumes](#)

*Gateway to the West* had a short but spectacular life as a periodical. In slightly more than 10 years, from 1967 to 1978, it managed to cover some of the least accessible yet most important genealogical records of 76 of Ohio's 88 counties. From common pleas court records, guardianships, naturalizations, and deed abstracts to the more conventional births, marriages, deaths, cemetery records, and wills, *Gateway* offered a range of genealogical source materials unmatched by any other Ohio periodical. At its peak, it had a circulation of nearly 2,000, and when it ceased publication with Volume 11 in 1978, its fame had surpassed even that of the *Old Northwest Genealogical Quarterly*. For this set, the principal articles, arranged under their respective counties, have been consolidated into two large volumes--each with its own index. Altogether, in some 350 articles naming more than 95,000 persons, in records ranging from Adams County to Wood County, from court records to church records, from township records to cemetery records, the researcher now has permanent access to a priceless body of material.

**Was \$165.00/set Now \$125.00/set**

[Revolutionary Pensioners of 1818](#)

Part A of this important sourcebook contains the names of 3,814 invalid pensioners, arranged alphabetically under each state or territory, with their rank and annual stipend. Part B contains the names of 2,086 additional pensioners with their rank, annual stipend, and starting date of the pension.

**Was \$42.50 Now \$31.95**

[Marriages of Isle of Wight County, Virginia, 1628-1800](#)

The marriages in this work are based on the records of the ancient shire of Isle of Wight. The records include marriages from the area of present-day Southampton County, erected from Isle of Wight in 1749. They derive chiefly from inferential sources, in particular will books, deed books, and order books, though marriage bonds, ministers' returns, and Quaker records also figure significantly in the list of sources. The work identifies some 6,300 persons, every one of whom is cited in the index.

**Was \$19.50 Now \$14.50**

[A History of Halifax County \[Virginia\]](#)

Although entitled a "History," this work consists almost entirely of genealogical records and includes more than 150 pages of genealogical sketches. The records include abstracts of court records, deeds, and wills, as well as other legal documents, arranged alphabetically by family name; marriages, 1753-1850, arranged alphabetically by name of groom; and an appendix listing colonial soldiers, burgesses, 1753-1775, delegates, 1778-1830, Revolutionary War Officers, and Virginia military Pensioners, 1835.

**Was \$48.50 Now \$35.95**

[Georgia Intestate Records](#)

This work contains abstracts of the intestate records of the 57 Georgia counties formed before the 1832 Land Lottery, plus those for Dawson (1857), Fulton (1853), Webster

(1853), and White (1857) counties. Besides the name of the deceased and the dates of the various court papers, information in the abstracts includes the names of the administrators, sureties, and guardians (often relatives of the deceased), names of the surviving spouse and children, names of orphan children and heirs, and, where a will is recorded, names of legatees.

**Was \$39.50 Now \$29.50**

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**"The Potato Famine Was Not the Exclusive Cause of Irish Emigration to North America," by Terrence Punch**

In the popular imagination, the Irish Potato Famine of the late 1840s is considered the main explanation for Irish emigration to North America. However, for much of Atlantic Canada, this was not the case. Except for Saint John, New Brunswick, no other major port in the region was inundated with Famine refugees. Contemporary records make it clear that large numbers of Irish had reached the region well before the 1840s. Without downplaying the importance of the Famine, my series of books, [Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-1853](#), emphasizes the earlier Irish presence in the four easternmost provinces of Canada.

British subjects in the British Isles were British subjects still in British North America, so there are no naturalization records. Either through indifference, or from feeling overwhelmed, local officials failed to create and retain passenger lists and records of landed immigrants. Governments seldom kept the records genealogists hope to find, such as birth and death information. Even marriage records tend to be spotty well into the 19th century. Not all the early census records survive, and many of those were household, rather than nominal, enumerations. In an effort to repair some of these deficiencies, I combed a wide variety of records in search of people who had come from Ireland. The end result of this research is my book, *Erin's Sons*.

Several matters of wider impact turned up in my research. In the late 1700s, having lost the thirteen colonies, British courts had to look for other places to ship convicts sentenced to transportation for terms ranging from seven years to life. For a time, Atlantic Canada was such a destination. The wreck of a shipment of Irish convicts off Cape Breton Island in 1789, however, became the proverbial "last straw" that persuaded Britain thereafter to transport its convicts to Botany Bay, thus beginning the European settlement of Australia. For many Australians, having a convict ancestor is as good as being a "Mayflower" descendant is to North Americans!

In 1798, the United Irishmen, led by patriots such as Robert Emmet and Lord Edward FitzGerald, staged a rebellion against British authority in Ireland. In the aftermath, British authorities sought fugitive rebels. One record of this hunt showed up at Halifax, Nova Scotia--the result of the interrogation of the passengers on an Irish ship to determine whether any was a rebel.

Another result of the failed rebellion was passage of the Act of Union, by which the Irish

parliament voted itself out of existence in exchange for a set number of seats for Irish constituencies in the Parliament at Westminster and a pledge to remove the remaining civil disabilities from Roman Catholics. The Union took place in 1801, but the promise was dishonored, and Ireland seethed with resentment.

Daniel O'Connell led a popular movement to gain Catholic rights, a victory he won in 1829. The other matter, the annulment of the Union, agitated Ireland from then until the Famine began in 1845. Across the Atlantic, in cities and towns of the U.S. and eastern Canada, Repeal societies were formed wherever there was a settled Irish population. Lists of Repealers, often with their place of origin, were published in newspapers in Atlantic Canada, enabling present-day researchers to discover for the first time the origins of some of the Irish immigrants.

Another major event impacting the region was Britain's long war against the expansionist policies of Napoleon. When the war ended in 1815, the British began to dismember their huge military establishment. Hundreds of Irish were among the thousands of servicemen discharged in British America, and many others had gone AWOL in the previous 15 years. Those who were given their discharge were often granted land as part of the plan to settle the colonies. Not a few of those who had deserted the British military headed for the U.S. and eventually became American citizens.

Since thousands of other immigrants passed through Atlantic Canada to points beyond the immediate region, my books, *Erin's Sons* (Volumes [1](#), [2](#), and [3](#) are in print), offer researchers the potential of genealogical discovery far beyond eastern Canada. While all too often a record says merely that someone came from Ireland, the sources used to prepare this book break new ground by looking for details in such unexplored places as regimental depot succession and description books, newspaper lists of Irish Repealers, and an array of other contemporary documentation. It is no exaggeration to claim that some of the clues revealed in this book have never before seen printer's ink. [END OF ARTICLE]

For more information about the three volumes of *Erin's Sons*, please access the following links:

- [Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853. Volume I](#)
- [Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1761-1853. Volume II](#)
- [Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada 1751-1858. Volume III](#)

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### **Huge 24-Hour Savings on Irish Genealogy CDs**

*(Sale prices expire at 11:59 PM EDT, today, September 8, 2009)*

In keeping with Mr. Punch's article above, we have slashed the prices on four Irish immigrant CDs by 40% or more until midnight tonight. Be sure to take advantage of the

remarkable prices on these searchable, content-rich CDs before they expire at 11:59 EDT.

### [Irish Source Records](#)

Irish genealogical source records have been prey to an astonishing amount of destruction, the most serious instance of which was a fire at the Public Record Office in Dublin in 1922, which destroyed virtually all pre-1901 census records, recorded wills, and Church of Ireland parish registers. Since then, reconstructing the lost records has been a passion of historians and genealogists alike, who have succeeded in patching together substitute records and bringing to light the various indexes, abstracts, and transcriptions of records that had been made before the fire. Many such records have been published by Genealogical Publishing Company and are included on this CD.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$19.99**

### [Irish Flax Growers List, 1796](#)

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 also 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 \$39.99 Now \$19.99**

### [Tithe Applotment Books, 1823-1838](#)

Along with Sir Richard Griffith's "Primary Valuation of Ireland," the most important body of Irish land records are the Tithe Applotment Books of 1823-1838. Preceding Griffith's Valuation by a full generation, this work names 200,000 Irish landholders--owners and tenants alike. Tithe surveys were undertaken to calculate the amount of tax payable by the landholders of Ireland for the upkeep of the Church of Ireland. Following the Composition Act of 1823, a valuation survey was carried out in every civil parish in Ireland to determine how much each landholder should pay. Over the ensuing 15 years, this survey listed all landholders in a given parish. Our CD identifies landholders by townland, size of holding, land quality, and types of crops. In all, 233 parishes are covered.

**Was \$49.99 Now \$29.99**

### [Ontario and Nova Scotia Settlers, 1796-1860](#)

The six books included on this CD comprise the largest pool of information on early Canadian settlers available, naming more than 130,000 settlers from Ireland, Scotland, England, and colonial America, some of them Loyalists from disbanded regiments or pro-British refugees fleeing New York and New England. Some of the Irish settlers named here would ultimately make their way to 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.

**Was \$39.99 Now \$19.99**

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**"Marriages Are Made in Heaven--But Where Are They Recorded? Part One: Direct Records of Marriage," by Robert Barnes**

**Parish Registers**

I have discovered that there are many sources of information for the marriage record, a basic building block of family history. They include civil and religious sources as well as some perhaps unsuspected sources. Of course, an ecclesiastical parish register contains the entry that a marriage between two parties took place on a particular day. Usually no information was given beyond the names of the parties and the date of marriage. Occasionally one finds more data, as in the following example:

William Jacob of the City of Annapolis & Province of Maryland, son of Zachariah Jacob of Anne Arundel county, m. Mary Monk, dau. of Rinaldo Monk of the City of London, in that part of Great Britain called England, by Rachel his wife (who was the widow and relict of Edward Riston of Baltimore county, deceased). William and Mary were married 19 July 1772 in Rangers Forest in the county aforesaid, on Sunday 19 July 1772 by Rev. William Edminston at about 3:00 p.m. (St. Paul's Parish Registers).

In Maryland, Catholic Church records often gave a great deal of information on the birth places and parents of French immigrants. Anglican records usually did not give such information unless the parties were very prominent, or, in the latter 18th century, the man or woman was a freeborn immigrant. Records of the Society of Friends usually gave the parents of the parties and also the birth place, especially if one or both parties were from a different Quaker meeting.

**Administrative Records of a Church**

In addition to the usual parish register of marriages, Presbyterians and other denominations recorded baptisms, marriages, and funerals in the Session Minutes or other records of the church. Vestry minutes of the Anglican parishes are also helpful. Consider the following:

Thomas Phelps, on 26 Aug 1738, with Mark Ford, was summoned to the vestry of St. George's Parish to declare that they both had been married to her who is now called Rose Phelps. She was first married to [-?-] Swift, and she eloped from him and Phelps declared he married the said Rose on 18 May 1710 (HAGE:104).

On 11 April 1737: George Farmer, Church Warden, was ordered by the vestry of St. George's Parish to inquire whether Godfrey Vine and Sarah Beddo cohabit together still.

On 6 June 1737 Vine and Beddo were summoned to appear at the next vestry and answer their contempt. On 5 July 1737 Vine and Beddo appeared, but could not prove their marriage. "The vestry was pleased to give them until the last Saturday of the month to produce a certificate. On 4 Oct 1737 Godfrey Vine and Sarah Beddo produced a certificate to show they had been married on 14 Feb 1733 by Rev. James Cox, minister of St. Paul's Parish in QA Co (HAGE:104).

### **Pastoral Registers**

These are registers kept by the ministers themselves for their own records. From time to time, new pastoral registers come to light. Peter Wilson Coldham discovered the marriage register, covering the years 1764 to 1777, of Rev. David Love, at one time rector of All Hallows Parish in Anne Arundel County, MD, who returned to England when the Revolutionary War started. Love filed the register with other papers at the Public Register Office in London to support his claim for compensation of lost income due to the revolt of the colonists.

### **Other Types of Official Marriage Documents**

The following categories of marriage records are more commonplace in some colonies/states than others and at one point in time than another. If your research takes you around America and/or back to Europe, you are likely to encounter most, if not all, of them. In Maryland, we are familiar with marriage licenses, but there are also marriage banns, bonds, marriage license applications, civil marriage records and nuptial contracts. In England, there are documents called Marriage Allegations, and in some places there are Marriage Intentions. Following is an overview of the major categories.

**Banns:** First ordered by the Lateran Council of 1215, banns were notices of intended marriages, repeated three times at weekly intervals at the parish churches of both the bride and groom. If the parties didn't want to wait three weeks, they had to obtain a marriage license. Banns might be recorded in the records of the church, but in Maryland they were sometimes recorded by the county courts. In England, separate banns books were maintained regularly from 1754 on. In Maryland, couples married in churches that published the banns did not have to obtain a license. This practice lasted until the 1940s.

Here is an example of a bann with an added note: On 14 March 1670/1, banns of matrimony were published for George Hamblin and Margaret Pepper. A certificate was issued on 5 April 1671 (SOJU DT#7:122). On 10 April 1671 John Pepper wrote: "Mr. Beauchamp this is to let you understand that I do give my free Consent that George Hammell Shold take my Daughter to wife & therefore I pray doe that favour as to Send y Certificatt by the Bearer hereof In wittnes hereof I doe hereunto Sett my hand the tenth day of Aprill this note may be your discharge to keepe you harmless" /s/ John Pepper (SOJU DT#7:160).

**Licenses:** Couples who did not want to wait for three weeks, or well-to-do people who did not want to invite every Tom, Dick, or Harry in the parish to have a chance to protest

their marriage, would obtain a license. In England, licenses were obtained from an official of the diocese; in America, they were granted by the clerks of the county courts.

***Allegations:*** These were formal statements made, under oath, by one of the parties, usually the groom, that there was no legal impediment to the marriage. Consider this example: On 6 Dec 1617 a marriage license was granted to William Crowmer, Gent., of Ockham, Surtrey, bachelor. Age 23, son of George Crowmer of the same place, Esq., AND Margaret Neale of St. Clement Danes, spinster, age 22, dau. of John Neale, Esq., of Northants, dec., 7 or 8 years ago, with the consent of her mother, Mrs. Grace Prythero, widow, and the consent of George Crowmer. The consent of Mrs. Prythero was attested by Raphael Neale, Gent. (*Allegations for Marriage Licenses Issued by the Bishop of London, 1611-1828. Vol. 11. London: The Harleian Society, 1887. 26:56*).

***Marriage Intentions:*** These were statements that a couple planned to be married. They are found in the records of Monthly Meetings of the Society of Friends and in some New England colonies.

***Marriage Bonds:*** These were sums of money posted by one of the parties, or a relative of one of the parties, to guarantee that there was no legal impediment to the marriage or that an under-age child had the permission of his or her parents to marry.

***Pre-Nuptial Contract:*** This is a contract executed between a man and his bride-to-be that describes the property rights of one or the other. Such agreements are usually made prior to a second marriage and are often for the purpose of securing certain properties for the children of a former union. In Maryland, many of these contracts were recorded in the county land records. See the following illustration:

Sep 19 1737: Charles Carroll of Annapolis, son of Charles "the Settler," and his cousin Elizabeth Brooke, had a son, named Charles. Charles and Elizabeth were not formally married, and would not marry until 1757, when their son was almost 20 years old. At the time of their marriage, Charles and Elizabeth signed a pre-nuptial contract by which she waived all claims to Carroll's property, and accepted an annual stipend of 100 pounds sterling, about one-tenth of Carroll's wealth.

***Civil Marriage Records:*** Unlike Maryland, where, until recent times, marriages had to be performed by a clergyman, some colonies/states allowed marriages to be performed by a Justice of the Peace. In Pennsylvania, notarial records (records kept by notaries public) might contain records of marriages.

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** Robert Barnes is one of Maryland's leading genealogists and an expert on marriage records. He is the author of a three-volume series on Maryland marriage records spanning the period 1634 to 1820. His most recent publications include the following:

[Maryland Marriage Evidences, 1634-1718](#)

A collection of 6,500 marriage records found in sources other than church records.

### [Colonial Families of Maryland: Bound and Determined to Succeed](#)

Traces the fortunes of more than 500 Maryland debtors.

### [Missing Relatives and Lost Friends](#)

Contains advertisements for missing relatives and lost friends from scores of newspapers published in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Virginia, as well as a few from New York and the District of Columbia.

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## More September Publications

September is a banner month for new books around here. Perhaps our most intriguing new title is Judy Jacobson's [History for Genealogists](#), which makes a convincing case for the value of using historical time lines in your genealogical research.. Here the reader learns the clues that time lines can suggest about hidden aspects of our ancestors' lives. Mrs. Jacobson illustrates the virtues of time lines with several case studies and a variety of different time lines..

Terrence Punch has produced the third volume of [Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada](#). Based on sources not consulted for the earlier books, [Volume III](#) names thousands more Irish immigrants, many of whom or whose descendants ultimately made their way to New England.

Our three most prolific authors: David Dobson, Vernon L. Skinner, and Jeff Bowen, all have new books in September. Dr. Dobson's offering concerns the [17th-century inhabitants of the Scottish town of Renfrewshire](#) during the establishment of the Ulster Plantation. V.L. Skinner has added the [twenty-first volume](#) to his collection of abstracts of Maryland Prerogative Court records. Mr. Bowen's latest concerns [the dockets of the Cherokee Commission](#) charged with authenticating the citizenship claims of the reservation's inhabitants during the last two decades of the 19th century. Featured alongside Mr. Bowen's new book this month are John R. Swanton's [Indian Tribes of North America](#), the definitive one-volume digest of all Indian groups and their historical locations throughout the continent; and Rachal Lennon's [Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes](#), which teaches Native American family historians to research during the century or so prior to the removal of the Southeastern nations to Indian Territory, the point at which records were regularly maintained.

Besides our September new arrivals, readers can choose from among a distinguished group of book reprinted this month. Included among these titles are books on 17th-century Massachusetts freemen; Quaker arrivals at Philadelphia, 1682-1750; Donna Irish's venerable compendium of colonial Pennsylvania-German marriages; early Virginia marriages extracted from colonial newspapers; a history of the "New River Settlement" that encompassed present-day Mercer and Monroe counties, West Virginia, and Tazewell and Giles counties, Virginia; and Carol Bell's classic manual of Ohio

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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](http://www.genealogical.com/content/products_new_genealogy.html).

- *History for Genealogists. Using Chronological Time Lines to Find and Understand Your Ancestors*
- *Erin's Sons: Irish Arrivals in Atlantic Canada, 1761-185. Volume III*
- *Planters of Early New England: A Sketch of Roger Mowry Mann's Seventeenth-Century Ancestors*
- *Abstracts of the Testamentary Proceedings of the Prerogative Court of Maryland. Volume XXI: 1736-1739. Libers 30 (pp. 208-486) & 31 (pp. 1-32)*
- *Cherokee Commission Dockets. Volume One: 1880-1884 & 1887-1889*
- *The Indian Tribes of North America*
- *Tracing Ancestors Among the Five Civilized Tribes*
- *Scotland During the Plantation of Ulster: The People of Renfrewshire, 1600-1699*
- *List of Freemen of Massachusetts, 1630-1691*
- *Pennsylvania German Marriages: Marriages and Marriage Evidence in Pennsylvania German Churches*
- *Quaker Arrivals at Philadelphia, 1682-1750*
- *Genealogical Abstracts from 18th-Century Virginia Newspapers*
- *A History of the Middle New River Settlements and Contiguous Territory*
- *Ohio Guide to Genealogical Sources*
- *Families of Southeastern Georgia. Excerpted from Georgia's Coastal Plain: A History*

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### **Blog: What Were they Doing: A Look at Resources for Occupations**

Carolyn Barkley discusses the major record categories—and websites—for determining our ancestors' occupations and utilizing job records to those forebears even further back in time. Check it out today at our blog, [www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com](http://www.genealogyandfamilyhistory.com).

*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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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