New Virginia Book by Martha McCartney a Boon for African-American Researchers

Gloucester County, Virginia, was established in 1651. During that decade the county was divided into four contiguous parishes, civil as well as ecclesiastical districts of the colony’s state church, the Church of England. In 1791 Mathews County came into being, carved from Gloucester’s northernmost region, and its boundaries encompassed almost all of Kingston Parish. Fortunately, many Kingston Parish records, including those of its vestry and its parish register, have survived, making it possible for persons with Mathews, Gloucester, and a part of Middlesex counties to trace their forebears much further back in time than in some other Virginia counties.

Despite the prevalence of Kingston Parish records, it was left to one of our foremost students of Virginia sources to discover that the African-American records of Kingston Parish had never been utilized. Martha McCartney, esteemed author of Virginia Immigrants and Adventurers, 1607-1635. A Biographical Dictionary (link to 3505), recently learned that the 1963 publication Kingston Parish Register: Gloucester and Mathews Counties, Virginia, 1749-1827, by Emma R. Matheny and Helen K. Yates, reprinted by Genealogical Publishing Company in 1963, omitted the records of enslavement contained in the original records. In her new book, Kingston Parish Register: Mathews, Gloucester and Middlesex Counties, Virginia—Slaves and Slaveholders, 1746-1827, Ms. McCartney rectifies this omission by producing the names of 1,860 enslaved men, women, and children of African descent found in the parish register.

As noted in her informative introduction, “Extant portions of the Kingston Parish register reveal that the overwhelming majority of the slaves the clergy baptized were infants who were only a few weeks old. . . . Occasionally, a slave’s date of death was recorded. . . . Occasionally, slaveholders from the upper part of Ware Parish . . . had their slaves baptized in Kingston Parish. . . . At least one man from Christ Church Parish in Middlesex County, on the upper side of the Piankatank River, had his slaves baptized in Kingston Parish . . . .”

For ease of use, Ms. McCartney has arranged the given names of the slaves found in the register in alphabetical order, and thereunder chronologically. (In a minority of cases a surname accompanies the slave’s given name.) Each entry gives the slave’s name, the name of the slave owner, date(s) of birth and baptism, and the page number in the original record. A list of slaveholders and the years during which they provided information about their slaves is appended to the transcription itself.

For more information about this exciting contribution to the literature of Virginia and African-American genealogy, please visit the following URL: www.genealogical.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&item_number=3507
48-Hour Sale on New England Books

This week we are discounting some of the best books in all of New England genealogy. Summarized below are eleven reference books that pertain, for the most part, to colonial inhabitants of the region (or in a specific New England state) and their descendants. Best of all, we have dropped the prices on each and every one of these fine books by 30-40% or more until 11:59 p.m. EDT, tomorrow night, March 19, 2014. If you have been waiting to build your reference collection on New England ancestry, there is no better time than right now!

*History and Genealogy of the Mayflower Planters*
Based largely on the genealogy of *Mayflower* planter Stephen Hopkins, this work includes both his male and female lines through a number of generations. Since four of Hopkins' children intermarried with descendants of many of the "first comers" to Plymouth and Cape Cod, this work is brimming with *Mayflower* connections.

*Was $42.00    Now $24.95*


*Scots in New England, 1623-1873*
On the whole, Scottish immigration to New England was small and intermittent; nevertheless, from virtually the earliest period in American history Scots had settled throughout the length and breadth of New England. This work names some 3,000 Scots who settled in New England between 1623 and 1873. Mr. Dobson identifies these Scottish immigrants by place of origin, occupation, date of arrival, place of settlement, and various other details, including their membership in charitable organizations or their service in the cause of the beleaguered House of Stuart.

*Was $28.00    Now $16.50*


*Irish Emigration to New England Through the Port of Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 1841 to 1849*
The Canadian port of Saint John, New Brunswick, was a magnet for Irish immigration 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. The late Daniel F. Johnson 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 immigration to North America.

*Was $32.50    Now $19.50*


*Connecticut & Massachusetts*

*Genealogical Notes or Contributions to the Family History of Some of the First Settlers of Connecticut and Massachusetts*
A cornerstone of genealogy for these two states, this work gives partial genealogies of the settlers, including residence, name and parentage of wife, death dates, and lines of descent almost always to the third generation.

**Maine**

*Maine Biographies. In Two Volumes*

These two volumes of biographical essays appeared originally as Volumes 3 and 4 of Harrie B. Coe's *Maine Resources, Attractions, and Its People*, published in 1928. The subjects of these 1,400 biographies, most of whom were born during the third quarter of the 19th century, are men who were either natives of Maine or who spent the formative parts of their lives there. Most of the sketches give 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. In most instances the subject's lineage can be traced back to the first half of the 19th century.

**Massachusetts**


This is the definitive study of the Indian war of New England known as "King Philip's War" (1675-1677), with muster and payrolls of colonial soldiers, both regular and militia, and biographical and genealogical sketches integrated throughout the narratives.

**Genealogical Notes of Barnstable Families. Two Volumes**

Amos Otis's *Barnstable Families* first appeared as a series of sketches in the newspaper *The Barnstable Patriot*. The sketches were subsequently collected and published in two volumes in
1888 and 1890 and to this day constitute the best genealogical history of the early families of Barnstable, Massachusetts. Based on public records, family archives, and a careful study of original documents, and further enhanced by the inclusion of revisions and additions by Mr. Charles F. Swift, *Barnstable Families* is widely regarded as authoritative. The present edition contains an index that bears reference to some 10,000 persons.

**Was $69.95  Now $45.95**


Rhode Island

*Little Compton Families [Rhode Island]. In Two Volumes*

The town of Little Compton, Rhode Island, was founded by a band of explorers from Plymouth Colony. From its inception Little Compton has been a bastion of *Mayflower* ancestry, including that of the Wilbor [Wilbour] family of compiler Benjamin Franklin Wilbour. Mr. Wilbour devoted much of his life to assembling genealogies of his own and other families of Little Compton. Based on extensive research in primary sources and featuring numerous illustrations, *Little Compton Families* is Mr. Wilbour's legacy to the descendants of some 200 families, many of whom are traced back to the mid-17th century.

**Was $85.00  Now $49.95**


Vermont

*Soldiers of the Revolutionary War Buried in Vermont and Anecdotes and Incidents Relating to Some of Them*

This work contains lists of nearly 6,000 Revolutionary soldiers buried in Vermont, many of the soldiers having emigrated from other states into Vermont during the years immediately following the Revolution. The names were gathered from a variety of sources, but the largest number by far was extracted from a rare list of Vermont Revolutionary pensioners, a list embracing invalid pensioners, pensioners under the Act of March 18, 1818, and pensioners under the Act of June 7, 1832. The soldiers are listed alphabetically by county or town of interment.

**Was $14.95  Now $8.50**


*Irish Famine Immigrants in the State of Vermont: Gravestone Inscriptions*

This work is a prodigious collection in excess of 15,000 gravestone transcriptions. The transcriptions are arranged by cemetery, each of which is named in conjunction with the town or village in Vermont where it can be found. For each deceased Irish individual, virtually all of the following information is given: name, date of birth or age at death, date of death, cemetery code number, and name of spouse or other person possibly related to the deceased.

**Was $54.50  Now $29.95**


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“*Vivre la Différence—French and French-Canadian Genealogy, Part One,*” by Denise R. Larson

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Franco-American gravy—is that canned staple of American home cooking made from an old Parisian recipe or is it a North American invention to make a quick platter of poutine, a favorite French-Canadian snack food of French fried potatoes drizzled with chicken gravy and grated Cheddar cheese?

The same quandary puzzles genealogists—Are Americans who claim French ancestry descended from French citizens or French-Canadians? Should that question of heritage on census returns reflect the oldest origin or include a sojourn that might have lasted for one or many generations, or even centuries?

The answer might be that no recipe or culture is developed in a vacuum. Just as the Canadian poutine developed from a basic Velouté sauce to which additions were made and fresh local cheeses were substituted for French imports, French and French-Canadian heritage is a blend of Old World basics and New World influences.

The lure of European finesse

Many Americans who claim France as their country of origin are proud of their Old World ancestry, with its connection to fine culture and prominence in history. Some of them claim to be descendants of French aristocrats who fled the revolution of 1789. They might disdain their “country cousins” who entered the U.S. through Canada, Voltaire’s “few acres of snow.” There is no way of knowing from U.S. census check-offs whether or not the ancestors of those claiming French heritage had lived in French-speaking Canada or came directly from France, but J.G. Rosengarten has gathered evidence of royalists fleeing the French Revolution and included it in French Colonists and Exiles in the United States (CF9731). He also deals with other French immigrants, such as the French in Louisiana, those fleeing Santo Domingo, and pioneers who helped form the new nation.

The bottom line is that there can be social differences between the French émigres and the French-Canadian habitant and immigrant. From 1608 to 1759, the French government and mercantile companies closely controlled who could travel to New France, which was treated as a remote trading post for furs and raw materials, limiting its residents to clerks, craftsmen, and essential workers and their families. There was a vetting process, and only men in good social and political standing and whose skills were needed were allowed to sail to Canada or Acadia with their families. (In contrast, the English, who claimed the east coast of North America from mid-Maine to Florida, developed the land for food production and tobacco plantations and as relocation centers for its surplus population, especially malcontents who protested against religious persecution, poverty, and social repression in Britain.)

Huguenots fled France before the Revolution

The French were not immune from religious persecution. Anyone following ancestral immigration from France circa 1685 but not to a port in Canada should consider a Huguenot connection. French Protestants fled the country after the Treaty of Nantes was revoked, resulting in the sudden flight of thousands of people to Britain, its colonies, other European countries, and even South Africa. Hannah F. Lee wrote a history of the Huguenot exodus in The Huguenots in
France and America (CF3320), published in 1843 and reprinted in 2005 by Clearfield Company. She did include family names but focused on providing a factual foundation for understanding the origins, development, and perilous situation of the French Protestant. The work is considered a classic in genealogical historical accounts.

Charles W. Baird thoroughly covers the American aspect of the exodus in Huguenot Emigration to America (two volumes, GPC250). It is considered an impeccably researched resource book. Authors who deal with Huguenot immigration to specific states include Robert Alonzo Brock (Huguenot Emigration to Virginia, CF675), Arthur Henry Hirsch (The Huguenots of Colonial South Carolina, CF9100), Albert F. Koehler (The Huguenots or Early French in New Jersey, CF9205), and Ammon Stapleton (Memorials of Huguenots in America with Special Reference to Their Emigration to Pennsylvania, CF5550).

Arthur Louis Finnell has compiled a collection of genealogies of families with Huguenot ancestry in Huguenot Genealogies, A Revised Selected Preliminary List 2001 (CF9349). He worked with the files of an American Huguenot lineage organization to compile the volume National Huguenot Society Bible Records (CF9181).

Charles Edmund Lart included families in England and Holland as well as America in Huguenot Pedigrees (two volumes, CF3290), with references to 1,500 names and a complete index.

Huguenots in Canada should not be discounted even though they were not numerous. George Elmore Reaman recounts in The Trail of the Huguenots (GPC4810) the avenues the French emigrants took to start new lives, including traveling to Canada as well as Europe, South Africa, and the U.S.

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