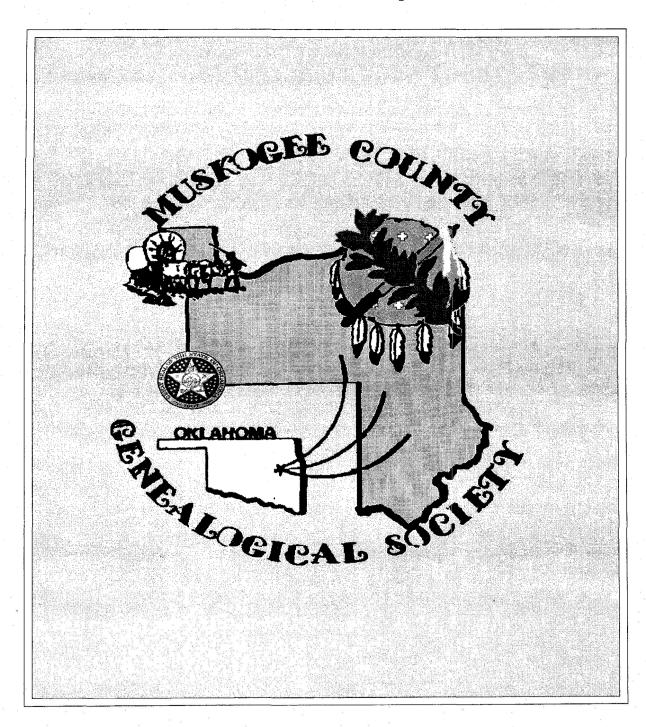
Volume 20, Issue 3 & 4

September—December 2003

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Quarterly Publication September—December 2003



Muskogee County Genealogical Society General Information

Purpose:

To defray the cost of postage for mailing your issue of the asking that you please pick up your issues at the monthly meetings in March, June, September and December.

The MCGS was formed in 1983 for the purpose of promoting the general study of genealogy through workshops, seminars and monthly programs; and to discover and preserve any material that may establish or illustrate the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families.

Meetings and Membership:

MCGS meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:00 pm at the Muskogee Public Library, 801 West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma. The Board of Directors meetings are held prior to each monthly meeting beginning at 5:45 pm at the library. All members are invited to attend the Board meetings.

Membership in the MCGS is open to anyone promoting the purpose of the Society. Membership subscriptions are \$10.00 for individuals and families living in the same household per calendar year, without a quarterly subscription. To have the Quarterly added to your subscription is an extra \$10.00 per calendar year. Members joining after January membership month will receive all previous quarterlies for that year.

Publication and Query Information:

The MCGS Quarterly is published four times a year: March, June, September and December. Back issues of the Quarterlies are available for \$5.00 each, plus \$1.50 for shipping and handling.

The Society also publishes books of genealogical interest, focused on Muskogee County and Muskogee Indian Territory. A complete listing and price list is available on page 44 of this quarterly.

MCGS will assist with search questions from members and non-members at no charge, but a donation is appreciated. Please send your requests with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society c/o Muskogee Public Library 801 West Okmulgee

Muskogee, OK 74401

Or you may email them to: mucogeso@yahoo.com

2003 Board Members:

Sue Tolbert, President

Jerrell Powell, Past President

Alissa Hill, Vice President

Wally Waits, Temporary Editor

Sue Johnson, Treasurer

Members at Large:

Stacy Blundell, Secretary

Susan Chriestensen, Ann Gardner



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Special Thank Yous!

To: Mr. Paul Betow:

MCGS would like to thank you for all your hard work and long hours and many years of dedication to being Editor in Chief of this Quarterly publication and to the society. You will be missed. You helped make this publication a success. Thank You.

To: Mr. Wally Waits:

Thank you to Wally for taking on the task as Temporary Editor. We know your schedule is very busy and we appreciate your time spent helping us. Thank You.

To: The Quarterly Committee and Contributors for this issue:

To Stacy Blundell, Mr. John Born, Aldena Powell, Sue Tolbert and Barbara Downs and the MCGS Quarterly Committee, your efforts made this publication happen. MCGS appreciates your contributions to this Quarterly. Thank You.

United States Occupational Records A Little Hard Work A Lot of Information By: Stacy Blundell

Occupational Records have details of interest that few other sources do. Occupational records can help make our ancestors real people instead of a bunch of names and dates. They also provide a lot of illusive information.

Armed with a little knowledge on how to use occupational records the reward is well worth the effort. I learned this procedure in an article in the Family History Magazine by Debra Marsh. She explained a simple three step process that took me to resources I never new existed.

First you need to identify your ancestor's occupation, which can be done easily with your greatest resource – your current family members. When you interview your family members about your ancestors be sure to ask about their occupations. If an ancestor had an unusual or prominent profession, that information was more than likely passed down through generations.

Don't forget to search the available Federal Census Records. Beginning with the 1850 Federal Census the population schedules recorded an occupation for every person –even children. The 1930 Census is great because it recorded the class of the worker and the type of industry or business.

Since many old occupations no longer exist or may be called something different in the 21st century, it may take a little detective work to find out exactly what it was that your ancestor did. For instance, a Boniface could be an innkeeper, a hawker a traveling salesman, a cordwainer a shoemaker and a cooper a wooden barrel maker. These are just a few occupational definitions that you

can find in Barbara Jean Evans' book, <u>The New A to Zax: A Comprehensive Genealogical Dictionary</u> for Genealogists and <u>Historians</u>, 2nd edition (Champaign, IL, 1990, 929.103Eva, GF, MPL)

There are many good websites you can find by checking Cyndi's List (www.cyndislist.com) under "Occupations".

Other sources include probate and military records, obituaries, and local histories. Don't overlook the city directories. Muskogee Public Library has local city directories from 1903 to the present. Check newspapers and gazetteers. The Oklahoma State Gazetteer and Business Directory for selected years from 1901 –1918 are available in the Grant Foreman Room at the Muskogee Public Library. All of these commonly provide occupational and professional information.

The Second step is to determine what records are available for that particular occupation.

A good place to start is the Family History Library Catalog which is available online at: www.familysearch.org or at our local Family History Center at 170 North Country Club Road, Muskogee.

Occupational records can be found at all jurisdictional levels so be sure to do a thorough search of the catalog.

- Subject search for occupational records in general
- Location search for occupational records in all jurisdictions where your ancestor lived and worked.
- Keyword search option if you are using the CD-Rom version of the catalog –search for your ancestor's precise occupation.

There is a wonderful guide to this catalog, How to Use the Family History Library Catalog, available for \$4 through their website, www.familysearch.org.

When you find something in the catalog you'd like to look at in more detail, you can order the microfilm through the Muskogee Public Library or the local Family History Center.

There are other ways to find occupational records too. Try using www.google.com to search on the internet. Just type in your ancestor's occupation in the search window and hit enter and see what comes up. Contact local universities, historical societies and public libraries where your ancestor lived and worked.

The <u>Handybook For Genealogists</u>, 10th Ed. (Logan, Utah: Everton Publishers, 2002) is a resource that lists contact information for record sources in every county of every state. An earlier edition is available in the Grant Foreman Room at the Muskogee Public Library.

There are specialized directories that contain detailed information about societies, associations and guilds. A good one is the <u>Encyclopedia of Associations</u> (Detroit: Gale Research Co., Inc.) Volumes 1, 2 and 3 are available in the Grant Foreman Room – 061.3 Gal.

Guilds began in the 11th Century in Western Europe and in England and in Ireland in the 12th Century. Most members of a guild were middle to upper class, usually Protestant, and hardly ever a woman. A person became a member by: service, apprenticeship, right of birth, right of marriage, by

grace especial—people having no connection to commerce or industry and by complimentary or honoree admission. Guilds were associated with the official or state church and each guild had a Patron Saint.

Examples of these are:

- Guild of St. Bartholomew Bricklayers and Plasterers.
- Guild of Blessed Virgin Mary -Weavers.
- Guild of St. Luke –Apothecaries.

There were basically three different types of guilds – Craft & Trade, Religious and Military.

Many of the guild records are detailed in the <u>Directory of Historic Dublin Guilds</u>, by Mary Clark, available through interlibrary loan. Information found in guild records consists of name, relationship for those that were apprenticed under a relative, father's name if they were a freedman by birth, and place of residence.

The Third step is to search available records. You have to take time to make a record of your discoveries and list every place you've searched so that you don't backtrack over the same dead end. Be sure to site your sources in detail and keep a reference list on how you got to that record and how to use that record. The information available in occupational records may vary. Some published records go back as far as the 16th century, some are as current as 2003. The Social Security Death index, available on several online search sites is a good source of vital information on your ancestors.

If you are searching in the colonial period try looking under apprentices and indentured servants. Peter Wilson Coldham's Child Apprentices in America from Christ's Hospital, London 1617-1778 (Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., ca 1990) available through interlibrary loan is a wonderful source. Many occupations required a government sponsored license. Many applications for these licenses are available on microfilm.

After the Revolutionary War many new types of occupations came about, clergymen, lawyers, doctors and craftsmen. One of the best sources to research is the biographical directory. There is even a directory for all the different kinds of directories of this type. The Directory of Directories:

An Annotated Guide to Business and Industrial Directories, Professional and Scientific Rosters, and Other Lists and Guilds of All Kinds (Detroit: Information Enterprises through Gale Research, 1980) available through interlibrary loan. One of the bet things about the biographical directory is

that it includes source citations for the material it represents.

As the Industrial Revolution reinvented our country's economy, occupations changed too The Labor Union was born. Warner W. Pflugs's <u>A Guide to the Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs</u> (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1974) available through interlibrary loan is a good source to look at.

The Railroad also played a large factor in the Industrial Revolution. The Railroad Retirement Board maintains records on employees who received pensions. There are several repositories for these employee cards. Some are available on microfilm from the Family History Library. Holly T. Hansen published a great guide to Railroad research, The Directory of North American Railroads, Associations, Societies, Archives, Libraries, Museums and their Collection (Croydon, Utah, H. T. Holly Research Service, ca 1999) available through interlibrary loan. The Railroad Retirement Board will do a search for you as well for a fee. Unfortunately there are no records for the Katy Railroad that can be researched easily so it is usually necessary to have them do the search for you. Use www.google.com, type in "railroad employee records" for a start.

These are jut a few suggestions on how to research a source that is sometimes overlooked. So concentrate on what your ancestor's occupation was, find out what records are available on that particular occupation and start a thorough search. There's no telling what you might find and sometimes even who you'll find.

Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter-Day
Saints
Family History Center
3008 East Hancock
Muskogee, OK
687-8861
Hours of Operation:
Tuesday
8:30 am to 3:30 pm
Wednesday
8:30 am to 3:30 pm
6:30 pm to 9:00 pm

Volunteers on Duty!

Do you have a Genealogy Question?

Have you hit a brick Wall?

MCGS Member Volunteer will be available at the

Grant Foreman Room

1st and 3rd Monday's of the month

6-7:30 pm

Photograph:

Teacher and her students. School and date are unknown.
Teacher is Carry Johnston Hancock.
Photo submitted by John Born of Tulsa.



Virginia Hancock

Virginia Hancock was born 11 January 1898 in Muskogee, Indian Territory, the daughter of Numa Fletcher and Virginia Stafford Hancock. After attending Franklin and Central High Schools in Muskogee, she worked her way through the University of Oklahoma. In September 1918, Virginia was chosen as the maid of honor for Oklahoma when the Confederate Veterans had their annual reunion in Tulsa, Oklahoma. On a visit to North Carolina, Virginia met Allan Kent Owen in Winston-Salem. They were married 21 April 1926 in a big wedding at the Hancock home in Muskogee, Oklahoma. They lived in Winston-Salem where their children were born. Allen was in the construction business with his father. Eventually they were divorced. Virginia Owen was living in the Winston-Salem Moravian Home at the time of her death 22 May 1980 and was buried in the God's Acre Cemetery in Old Salem.

Contributed by John Born, Tulsa, OK

Numa Fletcher Hancock

Contributed by John Born, Tulsa, OK

Numa Fletcher Hancock, born April 11, 1859, was the sixth of twelve children born to Ezekiel Wheeler and Mary Magdeline Allen Hancock, born on the family farm in Wentworth Township, Rockingham County, North Carolina. He was named for the popular Rockingham County Methodist Minister, Numa Fletcher Reid. Numa was educated in Wentworth where he was a druggist in 1883. He served as Wentworth Postmaster July 1885 until February 2, 1887 when he began working as a drug clerk in F. M. Mathews Drug Store in Reidsville, North Carolina. In the next few years he studied to be a druggist and passed the North Carolina Board of Pharmacy Exam, November 13, 1889. In February 1890 he was working for James L. Gibson in a drug store in Little Rock, Arkansas, then in Muskogee, Indian Territory.

Numa returned to North Carolina and married Virginia Alma Stafford, November 14, 1895, in Winston and moved his bride and her mother Cornelia Stafford to the Indian Territory town of Pryor Creek until Numa could find a suitable home in Muskogee. In Muskogee he was the Prescription clerk of the Palace Drug until he opened his own drug store, the Muskogee City Drug. By 1906 the family had built a large, two story home at 504 Denison where they lived until after Numa died in 1936. Along with their two children Allen and Virginia, they helped to educate a Hancock nephew and two nieces, all from Rockingham County. Claude Mitchell, son of Dora Hancock Mitchell; Ellen Burton, daughter of Harriet Wilmoth Hancock Burton; and Caroline Hancock, daughter of John Wesley Hancock.

In Muskogee, Numa served as a County Commissioner and Oklahoma State Drug Inspector. He was a life long Methodist and Sunday School teacher in Wentworth and at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Muskogee. He was a 32nd degree Mason, a Past Commander, Shriner and Woodmen of the World. Hancock street, in Muskogee was named in honor of Numa because of his contribution as an outstanding citizen.

Numa Fletcher Hancock died September 6, 1938 in a Vinita, Oklahoma hospital and was buried in the family plot in Greenhill Cemetery, York and North Streets, Muskogee, Oklahoma, Lot A, Block 69.



Muskogee Weekly Phoenix 16 February 1899

Court House and Jail Notes:

There are 186 Prisoners in the US jail at this place, and only one case of sickness is reported.

Paul Anderson, one of the inmates of cell No. 3 at the US Jail is quite a fine pen and crayon artist, having made some fine drawings. Two deaths occurred at the jail last Sunday evening, one a man by the name of Wm. Barnes, who was brought in from Sallisaw, took sick at 10 o'clock Sunday night and died at 1 o'clock next morning. Another, Lewis Larney, who was brought in from Holdenville, took sick at 8 o'clock Sunday night and died within two hours. It is supposed that both deaths were caused by spinal meningitis, as every symptom indicated the same.

Z. T. Walrond, referee in bankruptcy, attended to official matters at Wagoner Tuesday.

Deputy Davis, of this place returned Monday from an extended official trip over to Keokuk Falls, O. T.

Clerk Berry, of the marshal's office, was confined to his room the first of the week with an attack of the grippe.

Criminal business has been rather light with the commissioner the past week and not much court has been held by Judge Jackson.

Looking for descendants of D. M. Meredith who was possibly a judge, worked and/or lived at 49 Surety Bdwy. Mary Dibrell Meredith was a freshman at Muskogee Central High School in 1916.

Steve Decker has a copy of Mary's diary that he would like to return to the family.

Contact him at: Sdeckone@aol.com



Looking for information on this family:

John Edward Mobley b. 28 Jan 1930, Gore, OK

Mary Barnett Mobley d. 21, Jan. 1930, Stigler, OK

Nora Ella Davis Mobley d. 3 Feb. 1930, Gore, OK

John Mobley d. 5 Mar. 1930, Gore, OK

John and Nora Ella Mobley had 7 children, 5 of whom were sent to the Tipton Orphanage when their parents died. The oldest, Willie Ruth Mobley Thompson was about 15 years old and married. She kept the youngest, Lela May, who died before she was 1 year old. The 5 children taken to the orphanage were: Helen Louise, 11; William Peyton, 9; John Edward, 7; Susie, 5; and Geneva 3. Susie and Geneva were adopted almost immediately but the others spent 3-4 years in the orphanage.

Names of those that signed the orphanage paperwork were: Uncles: Bob Barnett (Webbers Falls), Dick Mobley (Holdenville). Brothers of the parents: Francis Marion Davis (Gore), Bill Davis (Pitcher), Willie Mobley (Gotebo), Tom Mobley (Indianola), Sallis Summerlin (Webbers Falls), Mary ?? (Webbers Falls), and May or Mary Davis (Foss).

Mary Mobley's husband was W. P. (?William Peyton?) d. 1910 near Webbers Falls. The children's maternal grandparents were M. V. (d. 1906, Wagoner) and Martha (d. 2 Dec. 1907, Braggs) Davis. John Mobley and Nora Ella Davis were married 6 April 1911, Gore.

Contact: Carolyn Mobley Sorter: CarolynSorter@aol.com

Dear MCGS,

I am looking for the following people:

1920 Muskogee, OK

Ollie Willey Farmer, age 32

Wife - Nessie, age 25

Children - Laura E. age 5, born in OK.

Jenny Farmer, age 51, mother to Ollie.

Helen Farmer, age 16, daughter to Jenny.

1930 Muskogee, OK

Ollie, 43 years

Wife - Cora, age 39

I wonder if you might be able to find Jenny Farmer maybe she died there and buried there. Also her son Ollie might have died there.

Thanks,

Donna Hively Mason 6144 Whiteford Center Toledo, OH 43613-1070

Welcome to New Member

Carol Rice

Carol lives in Council Hill and she is researching the surnames of:

Thompson, Henry 1684

Kitch

Tyree

Search

She has also done research on her husband's name of Payne.

Thanks Carol! And Good Luck on your Research!

Hello,

I am looking for some information. I have been trying to find a James P. Moulton and his wife Sarah. I recently found a 1920 census record for Muskogee, Muskogee Co., OK, and Sarah Moulton was in it. It said she was born about 1849 in Indiana. My Sarah was born in 1849 in Indiana. She was in the home of James Molten (her son), she was 72 years old. What I am looking for is cemetery records for Sarah, her husband James P. and her son James H. Moulton. If I could get these death dates, I could send for death records. I didn't find her in the 1930 census or her son. I had hoped they would be buried together.

Thank you for your help, Terry Mayberry

PO Box 232

Depew, OK 74028

Wainwright Baptist Church Membership Records, 1911-1980 Wainwright, OK

Transcribed By: MCGS Member Aldena Barnes Powell Listing Continued from MCGS Quarterly Vol. 20, Issue 1, March 2003

<u>Date</u>	How	Surname	First Middle	e City	State	Removed
1927		Conley	Curtis			
1915		Conley	Frank			
1927		Conley	Howard			
		Conley	Neff		Letter 11/0	6/1958
1927		Conley	Nelly Mrs.			
11/29/59	Baptism	Cooper	Benny		Letter 01/0	6/1961
09/01/1953	Baptism	Cooper	Eugene		Letter 01/0	6/1961
06/00/1958	Baptism	Cooper	Leona	Staton	To Church o	f Christ
09/06/1959	Baptism	Cooper	Leroy		Letter 01/0	6/1961
09/01/1953	Baptism	Cooper	Lettie		Letter 01/0	6/1961
09/06/1959	Baptism	Cooper	Nerea		Letter 01/0	6/1961
04/11/1954	Baptism	Cooper	Paul	В	Letter 02/0	1/1967
04/11/1954	Baptism	Cooper	Paul Mrs.	В	Letter 02/0	1/1967
06/17/1956	Baptism	Cooper	Paula	Mickie	Letter, Tahlo	equah
		Crandall	Lucille			
11/05/1978	Prof Faith	Creat	Annie Lay	Wainwright	OK	
01/12/1966	Letter	Crenshaw	David		Letter, Morr	is
01/12/1966	Letter	Crenshaw	Roberta		Letter, Morr	is
		Crossland	Joe			
		Crossland	Krystallin			
		Crossland	Tammy			
05/17/1967	Baptism	Culver	Betty	Council Hill	OK	
05/17/1967	Baptism	Culver	Boyd	Council Hill	OK	
04/11/1954	Baptism	Curry	Aaron	Oktaha	oK	
05/06/1954		Curry	Mollie	Oktaha	OK	

Date	How	Surname	First	<u>Middle</u>	e City		State	Removed
		Curtis	Duane					
		Curtis	Jeannie	e .				
10/15/1959	Letter	Darrow	Buddy				Letter 11/	16/1960
10/15/1959	Letter	Darrow	Jack M	rs.			Letter 11/	16/1960
10/15/1959	Letter	Darrow	Jack Re	ev.			Letter 11/	16/1960
10/15/1959	Letter	Darrow	Jackie				Letter 11/	16/1960
10/15/1959	Letter	Darrow	Ruthie				Letter 11/	16/1960
1927		Davis	Н	В				
03/09/1952	Letter	Diacon	Clarenc	e			Letter 11/	16/1960
03/09/1952	Letter	Diacon	Emmit				Letter 11/	16/1960
03/09/1952	Letter	Diacon	Mrs.				Letter 11/	16/1960
		Dodds	Harriso	n			Death 194	15
06/00/1943	Baptism	Dodds	Hellen				Letter 04/	20/1954
01/01/1933	Baptism	Dodds	Lucille		Wainwright	OK	Death	
	, , , ,	Dodds	Neva				Death 09/	00/1942
1927		Downs	Lester					
1927		Downs	Mr.					
		Dry	Amanda	a .				
07/19/1946	Baptism	Dunn	Christin	е			Letter 05/	15/1949
04/21/1946	Baptism	Dunn	Weldon				Letter 05/	15/1949
04/21/1946	Baptism	Dunn	Weldon	Mrs.			Letter 05/	15/1949
		Elam	Greg					
09/00/1947		Ellis	Mary		Ann			
		Epperson	Mrs.					
1927		Evans	Byron					
06/25/1911	Charter Mem	Evans	E		Eliza		Death 09/	22/1961
06/25/1911	Charter Mem	Evans	J		Τ .			
08/09/1915		Evans	Lee					
		Fanning	Alicia					
			Anna					
		Fanning	Jerri		, 1			

<u>Date</u>	How	Surname	First	Middl	e	City		State		Removed
04/20/1952	Baptism	Hatcher	Johnn	ie				Letter	08/02/	1961
11/19/1978	Letter	Hatcher	Mary	Ann	Wain	wright	OK			
4/1967	Baptism	Hatcher	Paula							. "
11/19/1978	Letter	Hatcher	Polly		Wain	wright	OK			
6/22/1952	Baptism	Hatcher	S.	Α.	Oktah	ia	ok [°]	Death		
6/25/1911	Charter Mem	Hatley	Н	C.						
6/25/1911	Charter Mem	Hatley	H Mrs	. C.						
8/8/1915		Henderson	K	R., Jr.						
8/8/1915		Henderson	Kastle	er	e s					
8/8/1915		Henderson	L	N.						
8/8/1915		Henderson	Mrs.							
8/8/1915		Henderson	N	J.						
8/8/1916		Henderson	W.	J.						
1927		Henry	Arthur							8
1927		Henry	Charle	s .						
1927		Henry	Gussie	9. *						
1927		Henry	Palme	r						
1927		Henry	Ray					Letter	1/6/19	46
1927		Henry	Roy			in a				
1927		Henson	Mabel							
1927		Henson	Ollie							
		Hiler	J.	B.						
1957	Baptism	Hill	Billy					Moved	ı	
1927		Hill	Lola							
6-14-1953	Baptism	Hill	Louise)				Letter	10/04/	1962
6-14-1953	Baptism	Hill	Norvil	Mrs.						
6-14-1953	Baptism	Hill	Raymo	ond						
12/17/1940	Letter	Hiner	R. (Rev	v.)	1.			Letter	5/12/1	942
12/17/1940	Letter	Hiner	R. Mrs	·	I.			Letter	5/12/1	942
7/7/1963	Letter	Hirst	Eula			Counc	il Hill	OK	Letter 1	L970
7/7/1963	Letter	Hirst	J.		L.	Counc	ii Hill	OK	Letter 1	L970

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Date Ho	w Surn	<u>ame First</u>	Middle	City	State	Removed
1927	Jenn	ings Cole	man			
1927	Jenn	ings Floyd	İ			
1927	Jenn	ings Jame	es			
1927	Jenn	ings Roer	na			
9/6/1959	Jiles	Alice				
6/17/1956 3/11/1959	Jiles	Betty	<i>(</i>			Letter
6/1958	Jiles	Junio	or			
6/1958	Jiles	Kenr	neth			
	Johns	son Amaı	nda			
8/31/1941	Johns	son Billy	Jr.			Letter 3/1948
8/1941	Johns	son Eva	Lucil	le		Letter 3/1948
4/1946	Johns	son Gene	eive			
6/1943	Johns	son Melb	a Jo			Letter 3/1948
8/1944	Johns	son Robe	rt, Mrs.			Letter 11/7/1962
8/1943	Johns	on Rubie	e June			Letter 3/1948
6/1958	Johns	on Walte	er	Wainwright	OK	Death
8/1941	Johns	on Willie				Letter 9/2/1953
8/1941	Johns	on Willie	, Mrs.		2 N	Letter 3/1948
9/6/1959	Jones	Debb	ie	Oktaha	OK	Letter 5/14/1972
10/24/1973	Jones	Debb	ie	Oktaha	OK	Letter 5/18/1975
	Jones	Leona	ard			
6/1975	Jones	Lori			Letter	9/13/1980
2/21/1958	Jones	Pegg	y Cole			
	Jones	Ross			Letter	4/1943
11/29/1959	Kappe	el Joan				
	Kelly	Brand	die			
	Kelly	Levi				
	Kelly	Sand	y			

		Patterson	Ann		
Date	How	Surname	First Middle	City	State Removed
		Patterson	Cecil		
5/17/1967	Baptism	Peel	Arzella Stanley	Wainwright	OK
12/17/1967		Peters	Don		
9/13/1964	Letter	Peters	Eddie		
9/13/1964	Letter	Peters	Linda		Letter 8/18/1965
1912		Peters	Mr.		Letter 8/18/1965
12/17/1967		Peters	Sandra		
11/30/1975	Baptism	Peterson	Teresa		
1927		Porter	C. Mrs.		
1927		Porter	Charles		
1927		Porter	Pearl		
2/4/1959	Letter	Powell	Lowell		Letter 3/11/1959
2/4/1959	Letter	Powell	Lowell (Mrs.)		Letter 3/11/1959
7/8/1971	Letter	Pratt	Peggy N	Muskogee OK	Letter 8/9/1978
7/8/1971	Letter	Pratt	Roger N	Muskogee OK	Letter 8/9/1978
8/1943	Letter	Pruet	Dave		
8/1943	Letter	Pruet	Dave (Mrs.)		
	Letter	Pruet	Euel		Letter 11/28/1956
11/16/1969	Letter	Psomas	Clay N	Muskogee OK	Letter 3/4/1971
11/16/1969	Letter	Psomas	John N	Muskogee OK	Letter 3/4/1971
11/16/1969	Letter	Psomas	Mary N	Muskogee OK	Letter 3/4/1971
11/16/1969	Letter	Psomas	Gary N	Muskogee OK	Letter 3/4/1971
7/22/1973	Baptism	Qualls	Andrew		
		Qualls	Angela		
7/22/1973	Baptism	Qualls	Joyce		
1948		Ramsey	Dale		
		Ramsey	Ruby Mrs. Jigg	gs	Death 12/12/1957
6/5/1980	Baptism	Randells	Sondra [Drury	To Assembly of God
		Reeling	Jay		Letter 3/31/1946
8/23/1939	Letter	Rehling	Норе		Letter 4/5/1946

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8/19/1939	Letter	Rehling	Jacquelin		Letter 1949
<u>Date</u>	How	Surname	First Middle	City	State Removed
12/24/1979	Letter	Richards	Albert	Muskogee	ОК
		Richards	James		
12/24/1979	Letter	Richards	Janice	Muskogee	ОК
12/24/1979	Letter	Richards	Paul	Muskogee	ОК
5/18/1975	Letter	Richards	Ruth		
9/1976	Letter	Richey	David		
2/20/1977	Letter	Richey	Elda		
2/20/1977	Letter	Richey	Gene		
9/1976	Letter	Richey	Hilda		
1/24/1965	Letter	Rodgers	Eleanor	Wainwright	OK
		Rodgers	Jeff		
5/17/1967	Baptism	Rodgers	Ronnie	Wainwright	ОК
		Rodgers	Susan		
1/24/1965	Letter	Rodgers	Ted	Wainwright	ОК
1963	Letter	Roe	Janice		
5/17/1967	Baptism	Root	Doug		
5/17/1967	Baptism	Root	Liz		
5/17/1967	Baptism	Root	Rita		Death
11/20/1977	Baptism	Ross	Marion		
6/25/1911	Charter Mem	Rowell	Cora		
9/1/1946	Baptism	Rowells	Jane		
9/1/1946	Baptism	Rowells	Lela Faye		Letter 12/5/1962
7/5/1961	Letter	Ryles	Annie		Letter 2/8/1964
		Sawvel	Brian		
		Sawvel	Donnie		
	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a	Sawvel	Laura		
6/17/1976		Schreiver	Carol	s	
11/30/1975		Schreiver	George		
11/30/1975	Letter	Scriber	Carol		
5/1945	Baptism	Scriber	Chris		

	Baptism	Scriber	Patti				
Date	How	Surname	First Midd	le	City	State	Removed
		Sevier	Emogene				
		Shaver	Donald				
		Shaver	Seiko				
12/4/1974	Letter	Shopshire	Gale			Letter	7/28/1976
12/4/1974	Letter	Shopshire	Lola			Letter	7/28/1976
5/2/1948	Letter	Smith	B. (Mrs.)	W.			
5/2/1948	Letter	Smith	B. (Rev.)	W.			
11/16/1969	Letter	Smith	Bessie		Muskogee	OK	Letter 4/24/1971
12/30/1979	Baptism	Smith	Gary		Muskogee	OK	
		Smith	Jim				
12/30/1979	Baptism	Smith	Sandra		Musk	ogee	OK
		Snyder	Claud				Death
		Snyder	Mavis				Death
		Snyder	Randy				
		Snyder	Susan				
		Spartman	Crystal				
3/1922		Spurgeon	Alice			Letter	6/24/1953
10/10/1933	Baptism	Spurgeon	Austin			Exclus	ion 5/10/1942
		Spurgeon	Roy			Letter	10/21/1951
1/5/1939	Baptism	Standifer	Inez			Letter	9/5/1942
		Standifer	Scottie				
	Baptism	Stanley	Mike			To ano	ther Church
		Starkey	Jeremy				
		Starkey	Joeline				
		Starkey	Kenneth				
		Starkey	Tyler				
0/3/1915		Stevens	Flossie				
.0/3/1915		Stevens	J. D.				
3/1922		Stone	A. C.				Letter 11/1947

Page 28			The second secon		M	uskogee Co	unty Gene	alogical Society
9/1938		Stone	Jewell				Letter	11/1947
<u>Date</u>	How	Surname_	First Middl	e City		State		Removed
4/8/1928		Stone	Olen			Letter	1941	
3/1922		Stone	Pearl			Letter	11/194	17
4/1980		Stout	Lisa					
1912		Strayhorn	Mr.					
3/13/1977		Sullins	Gerald					
3/6/1977		Sullins	Mildred					
4/1967		Sullins	Teresa					
		Sullins	Terrence					
2/22/1976		Sutton	Mary					
2/22/1976		Taylor	Beverly			Letter 3	3/14/1	.971
10/1971		Thomas	David			Letter 2	11/17/	1971
		Thomas	Jimmy					
10/1971		Thomas	Lisa			Letter :	11/17/	1971
		Thomas	Rebecca					
		Thurston	Cora			Death 2	2/13/1	.945
1927		Thurston	Don				9	
1927		Thurston	Doris					
		Thurston	Maude			Letter 7	7/29/1	945
		Tidwell	Gene					
2/9/1952		Tidwell	Grace	Wainwright	OK	Letter 5	5/14/1	.972
6/17/1956		Tidwell	Harvey					
11/26/1958		Tidwell	Matha Curtis			Letter 4	4/11/1	.962
1915		Tolbert	Mr.					
10/30/1951		Toon	Motha			Letter 8	3/1957	•
10/30/1951		Toon	Motha (Mrs.)			Letter 8	3/1957	
10/22/1978		Tracy	Lola	Wainwright	OK	Death		
		Turner	Fannie Jean					
2/6/1916		Underwood	Lester					
5/17/1967		Vanderpool	Sharon					
3/9/1960		VanWinkle	Charles					

Baptism

12/1956

Yandel

Don

1915		Young	Oma			
Date	How	Surname	First Middle	City	State	Removed
10/6/1974		Ziegler	Bob			
		Ziegler	Jarod			
8/11/1974	Baptism	Ziegler	Joanne			
11/19/1978	Baptism	Ziegler	Laura			
		Ziegler	Lisa			
6/1975	Baptism	Ziegler	Rhonda			
10/6/1974	Baptism	Ziegler	Ron			
6/1975	Baptism	Ziegler	Rhonda			
10/6/1974	Baptism	Ziegler	Ron			

Sooner in the War Magazine, v. 1, n. 19 (17 March 1919), p. 49-50

List of the Council of Defense members for Muskogee County. Sent by Wally Waits, MCGS Member.

Executive Committee

The officers and members of the council are as follows:

Tams Bixby, chairman, W. D. Egolf, first vice-chairman, E. S. Emert, second vice chairman, G. A. Gesell, secretary, Benjamin Mossman, treasurer. George S. Ramsey, J. C. Stone, G. Gibbons, E. W. Smartt, Hayden Linebaugh, Paul Williams, H. C. Montague, All Topp, Byron Bronson, J. M. Daily, Eugene M. Kerr, B. A. Enloe, W. P. McGinnis, Wm. Owen, Theo Lipscomb, Porter Spaulding, C. W. Miller, Connell Rodgers, Vest Reynolds, Isaiah Kirby, Thomas Hayes, J. A. Banks, George W. Barnes.

Boynton Index Newspaper

Friday, Dec. 10, 1926

Transcribed By: Jere Harris, MCGS Member

Page 1

Advertisements:

Allred Hardware Company, Furniture-Hardware-Harness-Implements

Williams Drug Co., Boynton, OK

First National Bank, Boynton, OK

American State Bank

Creek Land & Loan Office, Haskell, OK, Howard H. Hart, Special Agent

Personals:

Page 1

All members of Boynton Lodge No. 595, I.O.O.F, business meeting, Clyde Playter, D. D. G. M.

Boynton Lodge No. 370, A. F. & A. M. officers were elected: F. E. Bushnell, W. M.; H. E. Kirkpatrick, S. W.; J. E. Foust, J. W.; C. O. Davis, Sec; T. A. Woods, Treas., C. O. Davis, Sec.

Mesdames L. H. Smith and W. J. Allen were in Muskogee, Wednesday.

Mrs. Edith Lusk, dau. Of Mr. & Mrs. O. O. Hampton, was married Wednesday afternoon of last week at 3 o'clock to Mr. Charles Lusk of Chickasha. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Dr. Broome of the first Methodist church, Muskogee, Mrs. E. E. Freetly, Mrs. Lavon Hopkins, Mrs. O. O. Hampton, Mr. & Mrs. E. C. Hampton, Mrs. F. A. Croman were all mentioned. Mr. Lusk has been cashier of Boynton Gas & Electric Co. and is a prominent farmer of Chickasha.

The Public Speaking Class, Boynton High School will host the Adamson-Jones Lyceum Troupe, Friday evening at the High School Auditorium.

Pages 2 & 3

No local items.

Page 4 Advertisements

Gaither Motor Co., Phone 134

Wisdom's

J. W. Pickens Market

Bowles Motor Co., Inc. The Garage of Personal Service

G. F. Stone's Grocery

Pearce's Pharmacy

Boynton Hotel, C. G. Haley, Proprietor

Mack's Café

Surety Barber Shop, H. G. Boler, Proprietor.

Personals:

The S. S. S. Club attended basketball games and then went to home of Wm. Harris. The following officers were elected: president, Wilma Hyer; vice-president, Marie Webb; secretary, Evelyn Harris; treasurer, Mrs. Wm. Harris. Miss Josephine Plemons, guest.

Party honoring Miss Neva Greer, who leaves this week for Oilton included these guests: Opal Drake, Gladys Drake, Alice Yadon, Martha Murphy, Marion Sutton, Velma Eads, Opal Eads, Bessie Adams, Mary Edna Granfield, Woodrow Grandfield, Herbert Dean Wineland, Rosemary Green, Truman Roy Guinn, Charles Drake, Myrtle Moynhier and Norman Eads.

Also attending were: Mrs. H. T. Lyne, Mesdames Lyne, Drake, Hawley, Cummings, Guinn, Naumann, Hann, Schnaible, Junia Williams, Kelly, Minor, Moynhier, Ead, Mitchell, Grandfield, Murphy, Foust, Green, Adams and Greer, Messrs. Drake, Lyne, Green and Greer.

Prof & Mrs. J. Mack Oyler and children of Deifer, visited Mrs. Grace M. Clare over the week-end.

Prof., & Mrs. Paul S. Wheeler, Of Bartlesville, and Robert L. Cherry of Tulsa, were the week-end guests of Mrs. Cherry and Family.

C. L. Cochran is putting on big Christmas sale.

Mrs. I. D. Allred and daughter, Alafroncille, spent last week-end visiting relatives in Wagoner.

Mrs. Geo. M. Wisdom was hostess to the Pollyanna club at her home last Friday.

Mrs. Edna Chipman, of Muskogee, spent the week-end with Mrs. Bessie Lorrey in this city.

Mrs. & Mrs. W. J. Allen were called to Tulsa Friday by the serious illness of Mrs. Allen's brother, Mr. Roy Camden.

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Advertisements:

Sutton's Markets, phone 115

Lockridge & Watley, phone 176, Boynton, OK

White Grocery Co., phone 102

The Long-Bell Lumber Co., J. L. Garrett, manager, phone 86, Boynton, OK

A Musical Play by the choir of the First Christian Church. Members of the cast include: Clyde Playter, W. A. Calkins, C. O. Davis, W. I. Markley, Roy P. Fields, Otto S. Allred, F. C. Smith, Lillian Allred, Wilma Hyer, Addie Rakestraw, Mrs. C. E. Allred, Mrs. W. A. Calkins, Mrs. Bessie Lorrey, and Ellen Markley.

Dr. W. E. Pearce, Practice limited to Eye, Ear, Nose & Throat, Office in City Drug Store.

Dr. S. W. Minor, Physician and Surgeon, Boynton, OK

J. R. Graves, M. D., Physician and Surgeon, Office with Boynton Drug Co.

Boynton Theater

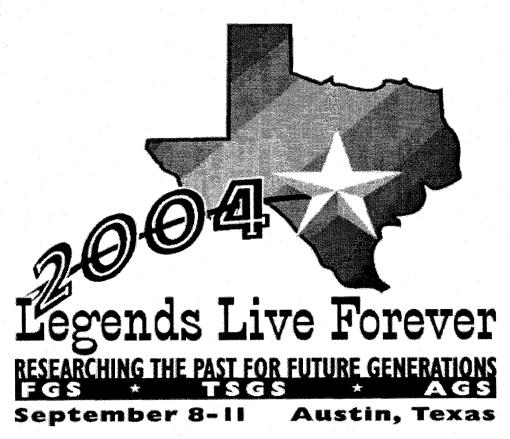
Oklahoma Gas and Electric Company, W. H. Crutcher, manager.

Dearmore's Grocery store, phone 162

Federation of Genealogical Societies 2004 Conference

Austin, Located in the heart of Texas, Austin is the site of the 2004 Federation of Genealogical Society's Annual conference <u>"Legends Live Forever, Researching the Past for the Future Generations."</u> This genealogical extravagance will be held from 8-11 September 2004, and will be co-hosted by the Federation of Genealogical Society, the Texas State Genealogical Society, and the Austin Genealogical Society.

The 2004 conference will be held at the Austin Convention Center. It is located in the heart of downtown Austin, between the shores of Town Lake and historic Sixth Street. The center is located conveniently across the street from the conference hotel, the Hilton Austin Conference Center Hotel.



Let's go MCGS Members!

We can learn so much for our Society, and have fun while doing it!

If you are interested in going to Austin, TX for the FGS Conference email the society at mucogeso@yahoo.com
or Alissa Hill at alissannii@yahoo.com.

The Contribution of Afro-Americans to the American Revolution (The Role of Black Soldiers in the American and British Armies)

By

John E. Ernest, Genealogist, Sons of the American Revolution (Seattle Chapter)

Introduction

Black soldiers and sailors of the American Revolution? Not a creditable statement in light of what most Americans have read about the Revolutionary War. We have heard of Casimir Pulaski, the Pole, Marquis de Lafayette, the Frenchman, and Baron von Steuben, the German, but not about black participants. Yet, more than 5000 black Americans did fight in the war against the British, and many others who served as laborers, spies and guides (sometimes called pioneers). The population of the 13 Colonies at the beginning of the Revolution was 2,256,000 including more than 500,000 slaves.

The Negro, slave or free, was not slow in responding, frequently by petitions and lawsuits, to the spirit of the opening passages of the Declaration of Independence.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness"

Those words in and of themselves probably did not mean much to slaves because it was assumed by both blacks and whites that they applied to white persons only and not to blacks. However in combination with the Revolutionary War, it did give much incentive to blacks to fight for their freedom. By the end of the war, about 60,000 slaves had been set free, many because they had helped to win the Nation's freedom, many because their contributions helped pass laws in the Northern states to abolish slavery shortly after the war.

The absence in our general histories of their activities in this struggle lies with the misconception that the black Americans have contributed little or nothing towards the creation of the United States to and its subsequent development. In most studies made of the Revolutionary era, there has been little impulse to search for evidence of service by blacks, except perhaps to note the existence of slavery. ⁴ In part it also has to do with the fact that soldiers were rarely identified by race in the Muster Rolls.⁵

Because Afro-Americans brought many aspects of their culture with them, names like Juba, Cudjo, Quok, Mingo, Cuffee, Quashe, and Sambo - all names of African derivation - could easily be an indication of race. Because most slaves were obtained from sub-Saharan Africa, it is possible that they were given names like Pharaoh and Hannibal by slave owners who had some knowledge of North African or classical history. A group of classical names (Caesar, Cato, Pompey, Pliny, Scipio, Primus, Nero, Neptune, and Jupiter were probably given. The names Prince, Titus, and Pero, the surname Freeman, and Biblical names, common among blacks as well as white, were not listed unless they appeared with another name that had Afro-American Characteristics (e.g., Cato Freeman and Ham liberty). Place names like Africa, Congo, London, Bristol, Boston, and York were frequently given to blacks. Given names that were an indication of status like Free, Liberty, Freedom were also were common among the black population. There are names that have specific connotation such as the surname or given name "Negro" (e.g., Negro Jim and Cato Negro),

and sometimes there are notations in the records that a person was a slave, colored, a mulatto, a servant, or black.⁶

A question arises as to the role of the black soldier in the American Revolution and what duties he performed while in the military. Benjamin Quarrels' study found that the "typical" black soldier supported the infantryman, and often served as an orderly, cook, or in some other form of semi-domestic service. He also found that blacks were used as drummers, or in performing duties disliked by white soldiers. Blacks were also used as spies, messengers and scouts (pioneers).

In spite of prohibitory statutes and distinctions based on race, blacks were eventually accepted for military service. Facing possible defeat in the Revolution by the British, the American patriot commanders permitted the enlistment of negroes. Not only did free Negroes freely enlist in the Revolution, bondman and slaves likewise participated.⁸

This was a particular problem in the southern colonies where slaves outnumbered whites. There was a concern that arming blacks, particularly slaves, might pose a worse threat then the British. It was feared that armed blacks would turn on their masters. However in the northern colonies, the problems were different. Slaves were, generally speaking, made up a smaller portion of the population.

However, this article is not about the American Revolution, its causes, or its many battles won or lost, but about black Americans and their participation in that conflict

The American Army and Navy

The use of blacks as soldiers, whether freemen or slaves, was avoided by Congress and General Washington early in the war. In the latter part of 1775, George Washington held several war councils which decided to exclude slaves from the Army and "to reject Negroes altogether."

In September 1776, the Continental Congress established the size of the Continental Army at eighty-eight battalions (also called Regiments). The Regiment was the basic unit of the Continental Army, as it has been in the British Army since Cromwell's time. A Regiment at full strength would be 680 men made up of ten companies. However most American Regiments were chronically below the prescribed strength of 680 men. In 1778 after two years of military disasters, the dwindling number of enlistments, numerous desertions and expiration of enlistments, Washington had become convinced that blacks should be encouraged to enlist in the Army. However many colonies were not happy with this change of policy.

By 1779, as many as one in seven people in General Washington's Army was black. At the beginning of the war, Washington had disallowed black Americans from fighting, but when he became short of men and heard how well they had done at Bunker Hill, he changed his mind and enlisted blacks.¹²

The 5,000 or more represented only about one percent of the black population, but without them the war would undoubtedly have lasted longer and would cost the colonies more dearly. Washington's army is said to have averaged about 50 blacks per battalion. The exact number will never be known because Revolutionary muster rolls usually did not indicate race.

The use of Negroes in ships of the Continental Navy and those of the State Navy as well as hundreds of privateers was inevitable in view of manpower shortages. The waterways of the Atlantic coast bred black seafaring men as well as whites. Many of the black seamen were freeborn inhabitants of New England waterway towns but there were many who were slaves. American navel officers showed no reluctance to make use of Negroes who had previously seen service with the royal navy. The use of Negro sailors was easily

accepted. The services of blacks varied from "captain's boy" to gun crew and a few were gun commanders. ¹⁵ In all of America there were more than 2,000 black seamen. ¹⁶

Careful comparisons between muster rolls and church, census, and other records have helped identify many black soldiers. Additionally, various eyewitness accounts provide some indication of the level of black Americans' participation during the war. Baron von Closen, a member of Rochambeau's French army at Yorktown, wrote in July 1781, "A quarter of them [the American army] are Negroes, merry, confident and sturdy." The continental Army was so integrated that a Hessian officer of the British army commented: "......no regiment is to be seen in which there are not Negroes in abundance and among them are ablebodied, strong and brave fellows." 17

The prospect of armed slave revolts proved more threatening to white society than the British. General Washington allowed the enlistment of free blacks with "prior military experience" in January 1776, and extended the enlistment terms to all free blacks in January 1777 in order to help fill the depleted ranks of the Continental Army. Because the states constantly failed to meet their quotas of manpower for the army, Congress authorized the enlistment of all blacks, free and slave, in 1777. Of the southern states, only Maryland permitted blacks to enlist. In 1779, Congress offered slave masters in South Carolina and Georgia \$1,000 for each slave they provided to the army, but the legislatures of both states refused the offer. Thus, the greatest number of African American soldiers in the American army came from the North.¹⁸

The British Army

Prior to 1778, the American Army and state militia groups were in a turmoil regarding the enlistment of black slaves or blacks of any kind. However, the British Army had been active in organizing Negro troops. Lord Dunmore, Governor of Virginia, as early as November, 1775, had issued a proclamation, inviting the Negroes to join the Royal forces. A great many slaves responded, and were organized into companies. A regiment had been organized by the British on Long Island in 1776. It was reported by a Negro slave, that was captured by the American Army on Coney Island, that 800 Negroes collected on Staten Island by the British were to be formed into a regiment.¹⁹

Sir Henry Clinton invited them by the following proclamation:

"Whereas the enemy have adopted a practice of enrolling Negroes among their Troops, I do hereby give notice that all Negroes taken in arms, or upon any military Duty, shall be purchased for the public service at a stated price; the money to be paid to the Captors. But I do most strictly forbid any Person to sell or claim right over any Negro, the property of a Rebel, who may take refuge in any part of this Army. And I do promise to every Negro who shall desert the Rebel Standard, full security to follow within these Lines, any Occupation which he shall think proper." It highly probable that many Negroes made their way to the British camps particularly in the southern colonies.²⁰

Connecticut

In 1672, the Laws of Connecticut required all males from sixteen to sixty to bear arms. Several occupational exemptions are listed, but none on the basis of race. In 1715, the slave population of Connecticut was 1,500.²¹ by the outbreak of the Revolution, the slave population totaled 5000²², with a white population of 178,881.²³

Service As Freemen

Ceaser Stewart and Toby Pendall are listed as free blacks on Norwich records. Stewart first served in Boston in 1775 and re-enlisted again in 1777. Pendall enlisted for the first time in 1777. Both men died in the service the following year. Peter Lewis of Stratford, a free black served at Boston in 1775 and again from 1777 to the end of the war.²⁴

Two free black soldiers who served from 1777 to 1783 were Ebenezer Hill and Samuel Bush. Hill was born in Stonington around 1740, but he had achieved his freedom before the start of the Revolution. He fought in the battle at Saratoga, New York and witnessed in 1777 the surrender of the British army there. Hill received a Federal pension.²⁵

Bush enlisted from Stamford and served in a unit under the command of General Washington. Bush boasted after the war that on one occasion he personally helped Washington to cross a stream. Washington signed his discharge in 1783, supposedly with the advice, "take this and keep it with care, it may someday be of use to you." Another free black soldier was Cuff Capeny of Waterbury. The unfortunate Capeny was wounded in 1777 and died by March of 1778. Samuel Bush received a Federal pension.²⁶

A Connecticut black family known as the Jacklins provided several soldiers during the war.²⁷ Ebenezer Jacklin received a Federal pension.²⁸

Service For Freedom

The story of the slave-soldier is the story of the Revolution. To him the war meant freedom and liberty. There was little gained for a slave to fight for his own freedom after spending a lifetime in slavery only to end up as did Zechery Prince of Simsbury, whose record in Connecticut's archives reads: "Rec'd his freedom........... now Ded." Gad Asher enlisted from the town of Guilford. His owner, Linius Bishop, was drafted as part of the town's quota, but offered Asher his freedom if he would serve in his place. Asher consented, although he received an injury during the war that eventually led to blindness. Gad received a Federal pension. Gad received a Federal pension.

The most notable Connecticut case was that of Jack Arabas of Stratford. He was enlisted in the army by his owner, Thomas Ivers, and served from 1777 until 1783. When Ivers reclaimed him at the end the war, Arabas fled, was apprehended, brought to New Haven, and placed in jail. Arabas brought a suit against Ivers, claiming that he was entitled to his freedom. The court decreed that his service in defense of America's liberty was reason enough that he should have his liberty.³²

Chatham Freeman of Wallingford was freed by his owner, Noah Yale, so that he could serve in the place of Yale's son. When Freeman returned after the war, he wanted to marry one of Yale's slaves and agreed to work for his former owner for seven years so that she could be his wife. Yale agreed, and the marriage took place. Freeman received a Federal pension.³³ Bristol Baker of New Haven was another example of how service in the Revolution could work in a slave's favor. He fought in three regiments from 1777 until his discharge in 1783. The next year his owner emancipated him and wrote of Baker:

"... he has been a good Soldier and frugal of his Interest and capable of Business Equal to most white men in Way of Husbandry, and being as he says but about 38 years old, thinking that it is reasonable that he should be set free as he has been fighting for the Liberties of the Country."³⁴

Baker lived as a free man in New Haven for nine years until he died in 1793.

Less fortunate then Baker was Pomp Endore. Endore had been emancipated before he entered the army, but on the condition that he completes his tour of duty. He served from 1777 to 1783, but spent the last two years of this time in the Invalid Corps. After his discharge, he was too ill to care for himself and had to rely on his former owner for support and died a short time later. Still less fortunate then Endore was the case of Thomas Sackett, a slave of Joseph Wadsworth of Cornwall. Sackett enlisted in Connecticut's Seventh Regiment of the Continental Army in March of 1778 and Wadsworth emancipated him in April. Sackett served throughout the summer, but became ill by September and had died by November.

Jeff Liberty of Woodbury was freed by Jonathan Ferrand. Liberty's grave in Woodbury's Judea Cemetery is commemorated by a marker that reads, "Jeff Liberty and his Colored Patriots." Jeff Liberty received a Federal pension. 36

Service With No Promise of Freedom

At the Battle of Bunker Hill, a slave of Lieutenant Thomas Governor of Pomfret fought beside his owner. This action was incorporated into the painting John Trumbull made of that battle. Some sources have identified this black soldier as possibly Peter Salem of Massachusetts who won distinction during the battle. There is another black soldier included in the painting, and while this soldier may have been Peter Salem, he is not identified as such.³⁷

A good example of a slave who fought in the war without a promise of freedom was Jason Yawpon who was owned by Benjamin Brewster of Lebanon. Brewster permitted Yawpon to join a state brigade in 1781 to help defend the port at Horseneck. Yawpon's tour of duty was to have ended in March of 1782, but he was wounded in January and did not return to Lebanon until July.

Lambert Latham, Jordan Freeman, and Ned are three examples of Connecticut slaves who fought in the war for reasons other then a promise of personal freedom. None of the three had to fight against the British. The 1779 raid by the British on Danbury began on April 25. About 150 men defended the town, but were quickly defeated. One of the defenders of Danbury was Ned, a slave of Samuel Smith of Redding. Why Ned went to Danbury is uncertain, but Smith called him "a very zealous friend to the American cause." Ned joined whites and fought alongside them. When there resistance was broken, these defenders were ordered to be killed. A British officer shouted that a black was among them and asked what should be done. Another officer replied, "damn him, kill him." The first officer ran Ned through with his sword, and when Ned tried to rise and shoot him, the officer cut off his head.

The British raid on New London in 1781 was an attempt to destroy military supplies. Connecticut militia forces went immediately to Fort Griswold which was located across the river from New London. Among the American defenders were two blacks, Lambert Latham and Jordan Freeman. Both were the slaves of officers at the Fort. During the British attack, Freeman helped to spear a British officer, Major Montgomery, as he attempted to scale the Fort's wall. Freeman was killed a short time later. When the Americans surrendered to the British, a massacre of the unarmed defenders began and many Americans, including Lambert Latham were killed. The names of the dead were commemorated in stone at the fort. In American custom, the names of Latham and Freeman were segregated from the names of the whites, and were placed at the bottom of the list.³⁸

Another aspect of Connecticut's forces was the formation in 1781 of an all-black company, including five Indians, in the Fourth Regiment commanded by Colonel Durkee. This was an exception, since almost all of the units which saw service in the war were integrated. Another black company was the Second Company of the Fourth Regiment which was formed in 1781. All of the officers and noncommissioned officers were white, and all of the privates were black, however the drummer in this company was white. This company consisted of forty-eight men, not counting officers. It was treated on an equal footing with other companies in that it was given the same amounts per man in provisions and pay. Among its members were Jack Arabas, Jeff Liberty, Bristol Baker, Jeffrey Sill, and Pomp Endore. ³⁹

Blacks who served in the Navy

Following are names of black sailors, Jambo Dee(marine), Richard Hendrick (marine), Brittian Negro, George Negro, Gist Negro, Ham Negro, Harry Negro, Josephus Negro, Livy Negro, Peter Negro, Daniel Peterson, Pharoah Sharper, Cato Tyng (marine), and Amasa Waterman.⁴⁰

<u>Pensions</u>

Unfortunately many black soldiers had to apply for Invalid Pensions that were granted by an Act of Congress in 1818. Congress provided pensions for veterans who needed financial assistance or who otherwise unable to work. Gad Asher received a disability pension has early as 1783. Samuel Bush apparently took Washington's advice and saved his discharge, because he had little difficulty in obtaining his pension in 1818. Ebenezer Hill also applied and received an Invalid pension despite the fact that he had lost his discharge. Pharaoh Hart and Jack Green, who had both lost their discharge papers, were able to secure their pensions on the testimony of friends. Cuff Smith was a pauper in the town of Haddam in 1818. He also had lost his discharge but was able to secure an Invalid Pension. Smith died in 1832.⁴¹

Among those who received Federal pensions were Aaron Brister⁴², John Brister⁴³, Aaron Carter⁴⁴ Edward Carter⁴⁵ Cato Cuff⁴⁶, Caesar Negro⁴⁷ and Prince Duplex⁴⁸

Records indicate that of those who served in Connecticut units, thirty-five blacks were casualties. This would be about one-eighth of the 289 known blacks who fought from Connecticut.⁴⁹

Delaware

In 1715, Delaware and Pennsylvania had a combined total of 2,500 slaves.⁵⁰ At the beginning of the War, Delaware had 9000 slaves⁵¹, and a white population of 26,000.

In 1741, the government of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex upon Delaware established a militia. It required all freemen to arm themselves; all males from seventeen to fifty are to be enlisted. Bought servants and slaves are excluded from serving in the militia. Concern that an enemy could bring about an insurrection of slaves is listed, at the head of the act, as one of one factors making it desirable that a militia be formed.⁵²

The Delaware Council of Safety in January, 1776, warned recruiting officers against signing of apprentices "or indebted Servants"; the latter presumably included slaves. In September, 1776, Delaware was required by Congress to raise one regiment for the Continental Army.⁵³ Despite restrictions, much unauthorized servant enlistment went on in Delaware and elsewhere. The substitution law of 1777 limited the recruiting of servants or apprentices to those whose terms of servitude had no longer then two years to run.⁵⁴

One of the most famous paintings of the Revolution shows George Washington crossing the Delaware River on Christmas night. Washington's Army was about to attack Trenton. In the boat, helping to row

across the River, was Prince Whipple, a slave who was the bodyguard of General Whipple. The tall black man may have been the first to step ashore when Washington's boat landed. The black bodyguard was so highly trusted by General Whipple that he was once sent with a large sum of money from Salem, Massachusetts to Portsmouth. When two robbers attacked him on the road, near the town of Newburyport, Prince Whipple knocked down one of the highwaymen with the handle of a heavy whip and shot the other with a pistol, saving General Whipple's money.⁵⁵

Georgia

At the beginning of the War, Georgia had 16,000 slaves⁵⁶, with a population of 17,000 whites.⁵⁷ A major concern in Georgia was that should the British invade, black slaves would be encouraged to join them, promising them their freedom. It was felt that at least 20,000 Negroes would join the British.⁵⁸ The white people in Georgia were also very concerned about placing guns in the hands of slaves, fearing a slave revolt. However, Congress was forced into decisive action by the British occupation of Savannah and the opening of a second British campaign to subjugate the South. On March 29, 1779, Congress recommended to Georgia that they "take measures immediately for raising 3,000 able-bodied Negroes." These would be formed into separate battalions with white officers. Owners of the slaves were to be compensated. If the slave served "well and faithfully" to the end of the war, they would be freed and receive \$50.⁵⁹

Georgia as well as some other states, made military use of hired blacks as laborers. In June of 1776, the Georgia Council of Safety authorized the military to hire enough Negroes to complete the entrenchments around Sunbury. Colonel Andrew Williamson was empowered to hire Negroes to repair the roads between Ogeechee and Alatamaha.. Georgia slave owners objected to the idea of impressment, however the Council of Safety having been requested by American General Charles Lee to enclose the military storehouse at Savannah, ordered that 100 Negroes be impressed to do it. In September 1777 a comprehensive act was passed obliging slaves to work on the several Forts, batteries and public works. 60

Slaves of Loyalist or British masters, were regarded as the spoils of war. In 1776 the Council of Safety ordered that 20 Negro axeman taken from the plantations of two Tory masters to be employed in building a battery at Typee. In June 1778 militia captains were authorized to take slaves for service as pioneers(scouts) in a proposed expedition against East Florida.⁶¹

Austin Dabney, of Burke County was a Negro artilleryman. A former slave, he was freed in order to enlist as his master's substitute. Dabney who served in Colonel Elijah Clark's artillery corps, sustained a broken thigh at the battle of Kettle Creek early in 1779. Forty years later the Georgia assembly passed an act for Dabney's relief, voting him 112 acres of land in recognition of the "bravery and fortitude" he served "in several engagements and actions" against the enemy.⁶²

A notable black unit, recruited in the French colony of St. Domingue (present-day Haiti), fought with the French and patriots at the Battle of Savannah (October 9, 1779). A French fleet of thirty-three ships arrived offshore of Savannah, Georgia, to assist in the Continental army's attempt to recapture the important seaport. On September 12, an army of 3,500 put ashore eight miles south of the city and joined the American siege. Within the French army were 545 blacks, known as the Volunteer Chasseurs. On September 12, the joint American-French force attacked the British defenses, only to be beaten back with severe losses.

The Volunteer Chasseurs did not directly participate in the assault but played an important role in the American-French withdrawal following the unsuccessful attack. According to the French official accounts of the battle, "the Legion saved the army at Savannah by bravely covering the retreat." This unit included

Henri Christopher, a 12 year old who was wounded in the fight before Savannah. He later became the liberator and then King of Haiti. Another black in the French force who would later gain fame was Martial Besse, who was promoted to general by the French.⁶⁴

Two weeks later, the French fleet, along with the Volunteer Chassuers, sailed away from Savannah and returned to the West Indies. The Volunteer Chassuers played no further role in the Revolutionary War, but many of its veterans would use the skills they had developed at Savannah to lead the second successful revolution against European colonizers in the new world.⁶⁵

Maryland

In 1715, the General Assembly of Maryland exempted all Negroes and slaves from any kind of military service. The slave population was then 9,500.⁶⁶ However, at the beginning of the Revolution the slave population had increased to 80,000.⁶⁷ The white population was 122,600.⁶⁸ By the summer of 1780, in order to meet its quotas, the Maryland militia were welcoming blacks, and in October the state legislature ordered that any able-bodied slave between sixteen and forty years of age who enlisted with his master's consent might be accepted as a recruit. In 1781, Maryland was able to raise 750 black soldiers to serve in white Regiments.⁶⁹ However the Maryland legislature turned down a request to raise a separate black regiment.⁷⁰

Massachusetts

In 1707, a law was passed requiring free blacks of sixteen years and upwards to report for military duty in times of alarm and provided penalties for failure to comply. In 1715, Massachusetts had a slave population of 2,000⁷¹ and in 1775, Massachusetts had a slave population of 3,500.⁷² However in 1770, the white population numbered 231,808.⁷³ In September, 1776, Massachusetts was required to raise fifteen regiments for the Continental Army.⁷⁴

Blacks served in the battles of Lexington and Concord. Lemuel Haynes⁷⁵ and Peter Salem, a freedman, stood on the green at Lexington facing the British when the first battle broke out. One of the last men wounded in the battle as the British escaped to Boston was Prince Estabrook, a black man from West Lexington. Other black minutemen who harassed the British on their march back to Boston were Cuff Whittmore, Cato Wood, Cato Stedman⁷⁶, Pomp Blackman, Samuel Craft⁷⁷ and Lemuel Haynes.⁷⁸

At least 20 blacks, including Peter Salem, were in the ranks two months later when the British attacked an American position outside Boston in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Salem had been honored for firing the shot that killed Major Pitcairn, the British officer who led the British when they had attacked his small unit at Lexington. Also awaiting the charge at Bunker Hill were black patriots Cato Tufts, Caesar Dickerson, Sampson Talbot, Grant Cooper, Cuff Hayes, Titus Coburn Coburn Coburn Burr and Prince Hall.

Thomas Kench, an artillery officer in Colonel Craft's Regiment of Artillery, sent a letter, on April 3, 1781, to the Massachusetts House of Representatives, pleading with them to establish a regiment of 100 black soldiers. He further stated that he would like to take command of such unit if it is established. This unit would be engaged to the end of the war, and then be free men. The House of Representatives later approved the enlistment of blacks, but not as a separate unit.⁸³

There is evidence that one all-black company, the Bucks of America, was organized in Boston, but it never left the city or saw action against the British. It was commanded by Colonel George(?)⁸⁴ Middleton, the first black Army officer.⁸⁵ It apparently was more of a police auxiliary intended to guard against Loyalist

sabotage then an actual military organization. There are relics of their service on display at the Massachusetts Historical Society. There is in the Society's collection a silk flag, forty by sixty-two inches, featuring a pine tree and a buck deer in its center, with a the old of thirteen stars in the upper left corner. Below the pine tree is a scroll with the words "The Bucks of America" and the initials "G. W. and J. H." Accompanying the flag is a silver shield, likely a coat badge, with the same design of pine tree, buck, and stars over the inscription "The Bucks of America" and an added French fleur-de-lis.

Deborah Gannett was a black woman who served in the Massachusetts militia for nearly a year and a half. Deborah enlisted under the name of Robert Shurtliff, in Captain Webb's company, in the 4th Massachusetts Regiment on May, 20th, 1782, and preformed the duty of a soldier to October 23, 1783. Deborah exhibited an extraordinary instance of female heroism, by discharging the duties of a gallant soldier. The Court of Massachusetts granted her the sum of thirty-four pounds in 1783. She also received a Federal pension.⁸⁷

Barzillai Lew was a cooper by trade. A giant of a man, he loved excitement and adventure and had served as a soldier and musician during the French and Indian Wars. On May 6, 1775 he enlisted in the Twenty-Seventh Massachusetts Regiment and became famous for his musicianship. He along with other musicians, kept up a continuous stream of music to encourage the embattled patriots at Bunker Hill.

He escaped injury or capture because later in the War, he organized a band of Negro men all from one family and engaged in anti-British guerilla warfare in New England. It is known that he participated in the action at Ticonderoga in 1777.⁸⁸ He received a Federal pension for his services.⁸⁹

New York

In 1715, New York had only 4,000⁹⁰ slaves, but by 1775, New York had 15,000 slaves. ⁹¹However the white population numbered 147, 920. ⁹² In 1772, the New York General Assembly approved an act that required the enlistment of all persons from sixteen to fifty. Militia commanders are required to conduct periodic inquiries as to whether list able persons are listed, armed, and properly equipped. Negroes and persons of color are not exempted from this service.

In an act passed by the Legislature of New York, in March of 1781, for the purpose of raising two regiments upon the inducement of "bounty lands unappropriated," is to be found the following:

"And be it further enacted that any person who shall deliver a male slave [s], to serve in either of the said regiments or independent corps, shall for every male slave be entitled to a grant of land."

The act goes on to say that the owner shall no longer be responsible for that slave and such slave shall serve for the term of three years. At the end of such service, the slave will be declared to be a free man of this state. 93

The victory of General "Mad Anthony" Wayne at Stoney Point in 1779 was made possible by the spying of a black farmer named Pompey, who was given his freedom as a reward. 94

New Hampshire

In 1715, New Hampshire had only 150 slaves. 95 On May 13, 1718, Colony of New Hampshire required all males from sixteen to sixty to bear arms and train with the companies in their regions. Indians and Negroes were exempted from training, but are not listed among those exempted from military service. By the beginning of the War, New Hampshire had 629 slaves 96 with a white population of 61,767. 97 On April 12, 1776, the Committee of Safety requested all males above twenty-one to sign a declaration pledging themselves to

oppose British hostilities with arms; lunatics, idiots, and Negroes were excepted. Six months later the legislature barred Negroes and Indians from the state armies. 98

By 1778, New Hampshire had, like the other states, difficulty in fulfilling their military quotas. The enlistment of Negroes aroused little controversy or concern in New Hampshire. Slaves and free Negroes unobtrusively filtered into state militia, generally signing up for three years and receiving the same bounty as whites. Massachusetts appointed committees to hire men to enlist. These committees were told to get them as cheaply as possible. The committees were seldom deterred by a man's color. The town of Barrington enlisted five Negroes, all of whom received a bounty and a mileage allowance. Other New Hampshire towns furnishing Negroes were Newmarket, Epping, Exeter, Northwood, Stratham, Durham and Kingstown. 99

New Jersey

In 1668, the General Assembly passed an act requiring training and mustering of all man from sixteen to sixty. It further states that Negroes or persons of color were not included among the exemptions. In New Jersey in 1715, the slave population was 1,500¹⁰⁰ and by 1775, 7,600.¹⁰¹ At that time the white population was 109,831.¹⁰² In 1777, the New Jersey militia act allows for the recruitment of free blacks but not slaves, as does Maryland's legislature in 1781.

Led by General George Washington, with an Army of approximately 12,000¹⁰³, against British General Clinton, more than seven hundred blacks participated in the Battle of Monmouth, on June 28, 1778. 104

Samuel Charlton, a New Jersey slave, born about 1760, was placed in the Continental Army as a substitute for his master. He fought in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, and Monmouth. For a time he was with the baggage train of General Washington and was commended by the General for his courage. 105

The black Oliver Cromwell was born in Columbus, New Jersey, and at the outbreak of the War enlisted in the Second New Jersey Regiment. Cromwell fought in the battle of Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Monmouth and Yorktown where he claimed to have seen the last soldier killed in the War. After serving six years under the command of General Washington, he received a Federal pension of \$96 per year. 106 107

Pennsylvania

In 1715, Pennsylvania and Delaware had 2,500 Slaves. At the beginning of the Revolution, Pennsylvania had 10,000 slaves with a white population of 230,057. In September, 1776, Congress required Pennsylvania to raise twelve regiments for the Continental Army. 109

The capture of British-Major General Prescott on July 9, 1777 was an occasion of great joy. American Colonel Barton was able to get past the guard at the place where General Prescott was staying. The rest of Barton's men surrounded the house and Tack(Prince) Sisson, a Negro, used his head to smash through the front door and again smash his way into the landlord's apartment. The landlord under threat, pointed to the General's door which was instantly opened by Tack's head.¹¹⁰

The battle of Brandywine saw many black soldiers in Washington's ranks, none of them braver then the artilleryman Edward Hector. Sir William Howe, at the head of an army of some 17,000 British and German soldiers, marched against Philadelphia in the late summer of 1777. To meet this danger to the capital, George Washington placed his army along Brandywine Creek. Among those who waited was the thirty-three year old Private Edward Hector of the Third Pennsylvania Artillery. The battle did not go well for the

American army as Howe was able to move most of his large force behind the American army that retreated in confusion. When the British crossed the Creek, Edward Hector's artillery battery poured shot and shall into the enemy ranks.

When Edward Hector was ordered to abandon the ammunition wagon he had driven to the field, Private Hector shouted, "Never! I will save my horses or die myself!" He instantly started on his way and amid the confusion he gathered up a few stands of arms, and safely retired with his wagon. Edward Hector's full wagon of ammunition rolled with the Third Pennsylvania Artillery as usual.¹¹¹

North Carolina

In 1704, the assembly of the Province of North Carolina made a provision for enlisting slaves in the militia in times of alarms. It also required that captains of companies to make a list of the Negro and Indian slaves who they deemed serviceable. The slave owner was required to properly arm and outfit the slaves. Penalties were provided for slave owners refusing to obey this directive.

In 1715, the number of slaves in North Carolina was 3,700.¹¹² By the outbreak of the War, North Carolina had 15,500 slaves¹¹³, with a white population of 181,700.¹¹⁴ In November, 1776, the General Assembly authorized a militia that shall be composed of all freeman and servants, aged sixteen to sixty with no exceptions of any kind.¹¹⁵ The state never authorized the enlistment of slaves. Nevertheless, critical manpower needs encouraged some commanders to accept black recruits without concern about their ownership.¹¹⁶

At the outbreak of the War, the climate of fear was intensified by the widely belief that the British had decreed that every Negro who put his master to death would come into possession of his masters plantation. The latent distress of the slave seems to have been deliberately exploited by Southern Patriots as a means of arousing animosity toward the British. Such propaganda was effective in stilling any inclination to make a warrior of the Negro. However, slaves were continuing to run away, many joining the British. North Carolina resorted to guards to search for and seize "all kinds of arms whatsoever" which Negroes might possess. In 1779 the Assembly strengthened its Negro patrols by giving rewards to those who served as searchers. 118

In the final campaigns of the War the British continued to employ Negroes on a very large scale. Blacks accompanied the moving Army as Cornwallis departed Charleston in the winter of 1781 and moved northward to Yorktown, Virginia. In his complicated maneuvers across the state of North Carolina his Army lived off of the country; Negroes were assigned the task of collecting provisions. Going out in parties, sometimes numbering into the hundreds, Negro foragers drove off the livestock of rebel farmers and stripped their store-houses of food supplies stored for winter use. 119

In North Carolina, slave Ned Griffin was produced as a substitute by William Kitchen, a deserter who had been caught. Ned was promised his freedom. However Ned was re-enslaved following his honorable discharge. Ned was subsequently liberated by the Legislature. 120

Louisiana

Shortly after the Spanish declared war on Great Britain, Bernardo de Galvez, governor of the Spanish territory of Louisiana, began recruiting an army to expel English settlements from the Mississippi River Valley and the Gulf Coast. As of August 2, 1779, he accepted freeman into his army, and by the twenty-third he had enlisted eighty-three blacks and organized them into two companies.

The two black companies along with 670 white soldiers, marched on the British garrison at Baton Rouge. Along the way, another 600 man, black and white, joined the force. Records do not give the exact members of black soldiers from that point, however black estimates are that during the next three years blacks never accounted for less then 10 percent of Galvez's army and may have at times approximated 50 percent.

On September 21, Galvez defeated the British at Baton Rouge and secured not only the town but also Fort Pamure in Natchez. In his official report of the battle, Galvez wrote,

"No less deserving of eulogy are the companies of Negroes and free mulattoes who were continually occupied in the outposts, in false attacks and discoveries, exchanging shots with the enemy..... conducting themselves with as much valor and generosity as the whites."

In 1780, Galvez occupied Mobile, Alabama, and began preparations to drive the British from Pensacola, Florida. The following February, 260 blacks from Havana, Cuba, organized into two battalions, joined the Louisiana Spanish army. On April 8, 1781, Galvez with his black and white soldiers, captured Fort George, Florida, forcing Pensacola to surrender on May 9, 1781.

While black soldiers in the Continental army rarely, if ever, rose above the rank of private, both the French legion at Savannah and the Spanish force in Louisiana appointed blacks as noncommissioned officers. Galvez placed white captains in command of his black companies, but blacks filled many of the lieutenant positions. These black officers were the first of their race to earn official commissions in any army in North America. 121

Rhode Island

In 1715, the Rhode Island slave population numbered about 500¹²², but by the beginning of the Revolution, that number had increased to 4,373¹²³, with a white population of 53,823. In 1718, the General Assembly passed an act requiring all males from sixteen to sixty to bear arms and train with the militia. In times of alarm, all males from sixteen to sixty including those who are not listed soldiers and who do not train with the militia, are to report to the company for duty. There are no exemptions for blacks or Indians.

Rhode Island found it impossible to provide sufficient white replacements to man its two allocated Continental Army battalions. In February 1778, the General Assembly of Rhode Island passed a law permitting slaves to join the Revolutionary Army. It provided that "every able-bodied Negro, Mulatto or Indian Man slave, may enlist in either of the two (Continental) Battalions" which the Congress had requisitioned and which Rhode Island was desperately trying to raise. All slaves so enlisting were to serve for the duration of the war. ¹²⁴

Sparsely populated and suffering restrictions from the British occupation of its major port and two-thirds of its territory, Rhode Island had few choices in terms of personnel. General James M. Varnum commander of the Rhode Island troops, proposed to George Washington on January 2, 1778, that his two diminished regiments be combined into one unit and that the surplus officers return to Rhode Island to recruit an all-black battalion. In a letter outlining his idea and recommending that Colonel Christopher Greene, Lt. Col. Jeremiah Olney, and Major Samuel Ward recruit a new force in Rhode Island. Varnum noted, "It is imagined that a battalion of Negroes can be easily raised there."

General Washington endorsed Varnum's request the same day and forwarded the documents to Rhode Island governor Nicholas Cooke. In his endorsement, Washington wrote that Varnum's request was "an important subject" and might help the state fulfill its commitment to the Continental Army. Governor Cooke

referred Varnum's letter to the General Assembly, which passed a law authorizing the formation of a black battalion. The act promised freedom to any slave accepted into the Rhode Island battalions and authorized bounties and pay equal to that of the state's other Continental Army soldiers. Governor Cooke supported the law and in a letter to Washington on February 23, 1778, he stated that recruitment was under way.¹²⁵

While most Continental regiments were integrated, a notable exception was the First Rhode Island Regiment. Colonel Green recruited much of his First Rhode Island Regiment from the towns of North Kingstown and South Kingstown. Mustered into service in July 1778, the First Rhode Island numbered 197 black enlisted men commanded by white officers. Baron von Closen described the regiment as "the most neatly dressed, the best under arms, and the most precise in its maneuvers." The regiment, commanded by Colonel Christopher Greene, participated in the battle of Rhode Island (Newport) on August 29, 1778, successfully defeating three assaults by veteran Hessian troops. The Hessians suffered heavy casualties. Proof of the involvement and importance of the First Rhode Island Regiment in the battle comes from their casualty figures. Casualties were three killed, nine wounded, and eleven missing. 127

When Colonel Greene was surprised and murdered, at the Croton River near Points Bridge, New York, on the 14th of May, 1781, his black soldiers heroically defended him till they were cut to pieces, and the enemy reached him over the dead bodies of his faithful Negroes. ¹²⁸ Suffice it to say, that the Black Regiment played an active role in the winning of American independence. Colonel Jeremiah Olney then assumed command. This Regiment was one of the few units of the American Army, which was enlisted for the duration. It fought at the Battle of Rhode Island, Red Bank, Points Bridge, Yorktown and Fort Oswego. For a period in 1779 it also helped guard Rhode Island. ¹²⁹

The gallant defense of Red Bank in which the black regiment bore a part, is among proofs of their valor. In this battle, 400 men met and repulsed, after a terrible and sanguinary struggle, fifteen hundred Hessian troops, headed by Count Donop. 130

At the siege of Yorktown, on the night of October 14, 1781, the regiment's light company participated in the assault and capture of Redoubt 10. On June 13, 1783, the regiment was disbanded, receiving high praise for its service.

South Carolina

An act of the General Assembly made on December 23,1703, permitted slave owners to arm and equip slaves in the time of invasion. Also provided freedom as the reward for a slave who kills or captures one of the enemies. Provides compensation for a slave owner whose slaves are killed in action. In 1715, South Carolina had 10,500 slaves. At the beginning of the war, there were an estimated 70,000 whites and 110,000 slaves. Early in the War, the state authorized the use of slaves for public works, transport services and the building of military facilities including defensive positions. Because slaves outnumbered whites, slave owners believed that putting muskets in the hands of slaves was tantamount to inviting insurrection. 134

For the majority of the slaves, the arrival of the British Army was a liberating moment. Because of General Clinton's proclamation concerning Negroes, thousands of South Carolina's slaves chose to interpret his offer of freedom as a general emancipation. Presuming themselves to be "Absolved from all respect to their American masters, and entirely released from servitude", men, women and children streamed to the British lines. 135

On March 29, 1779, Congress recommends to South Carolina that they take "measures for raising three thousand able-bodied Negroes." These would be formed into separate regiments with white commissioned and non-commissioned officers. However it was sometime before South Carolina would act on this request. ¹³⁶

However South Carolina did use blacks as spies. In March 1783, Antigua, a slave, was cited by the legislature for his work in "procuring information of the enemy's movements and designs." The legislature decreed that he, his wife Hagar, and their child should be freed from slavery. Negroes were also hired as messengers. Most blacks needed no roadmap in the areas in which they worked. 137

Virginia

The year 1705 brought the first true slave code. Under this code, slaves were excluded from military service. This code also denied free blacks the right to serve in the militia. In 1715, Virginia had a slave population of 23,000, by far the largest slave population in the 13 colonies. By 1775, Virginia had a slave population of more then 165,000 with a white population of 282,016. The code of 1723 assigned free blacks only a role as drummers or trumpeters.

In 1756, the legislature increased the authorized strength of Colonel George Washington's Regiment to 1500 men. But when white recruits did not join in sufficient numbers, free blacks took their place. Some 36 black soldiers formed part of Washington's force ready to attack the British held Fort Duquesne in October, 1758. 139

In September 1776 the Continental Congress established the size of the Continental Army at eighty-eight battalions (also called Regiments)., fifteen of which were assigned as Virginia's quota. Of the southern colonies, Virginia had more than 500 blacks in their land and sea forces. 141

The Royal Eithopeans

In 1762 Lord Dunmore was promoted to the governorship of Virginia. His popularity quickly faded when he announced his continued allegiance to his King and his opposition to the independence movement. In 1773, Dunmore dissolved the Virginia House of Burgesses. The defrocked governor was determined to do everything within his power to maintain British rule, including arming all of the man he could muster. Dunmore announced his intention to "arm all my own Negroes and receive all others that will come to me who I shall declare free." On November 7, 1775, Dunmore prepared his official proclamation promising freedom to all slaves who joined him.

Slaves began to escape from their masters and made their way into Dunmore's Army. By December, Dunmore's Army contained about 300 British soldiers and an equal number of escaped slaves. Dunmore issued each member of the black regiment a uniform complete with the embroidered slogan "Liberty to Slaves." Although Dunmore acted without direct authority from the British Government, his pledge was honored by successive British commanders in America. 142

On December 9,1776, Dunmore marched out of Norfolk with his white and black regiments and met the Americans about nine miles outside of Norfolk at a crossing of the Elizabeth River known as Great Bridge. Dunmore established fortification on his side of the bridge while the Americans established their defense on the other side of the bridge. The British Regiment charged across the bridge supported by artillery. However the American force held their fire until the British and their allies were within 50 yards of the American's defensive position. A volley of musketry killed their leader, Lieutenant Fordyce, and riddled their

ranks. Another volley sent the British reeling backward. Dunmore ordered his black Regiment to counterattack. The Ethiopian Regiment attacked across the bridge but were driven back. Several black soldiers were killed and wounded on the bridge. The rebels then counterattacked, put the British to rout and spiked their guns. Dunmore and his followers took refuge in the ships in the Harbor while the pursuing Americans occupied Norfolk.

William Flora, a black freeman, was with the American force holding Great Bridge. He gained fame for standing his ground and firing eight times as the British overwhelmed his position. Flora, a volunteer Sentinel, was the last to leave the bridge "amidst a shower of musket balls." Long after the other Americans had left, Flora made his retreat. He became a leading businessman after the war.

Saul Matthews was among the Virginia slaves who served in the State militia as a rifleman for six years. When the British occupied a position near Portsmouth, Virginia, in 1781, Colonel Josiah Parker assigned Saul to the dangerous mission of obtaining information. Matthews infiltrated the British lines and noted things in such detail that he was made responsible for leading a raiding party against the British. The raid was successful and netted a number of prisoners. The British were forced to change positions. In 1792, the Virginia legislature granted Matthews his freedom.¹⁴⁴

Black crewman were used extensively on the Virginia Man-of-war vessels, Patriot, Liberty, Tempest, Dragon, Dilegence, Hero and the Jefferson. Joseph Ranger served on four of these ships, and had one of them blown out from under him. Joseph Ranger enlisted in the navel service in 1776. He saw action on the Hero and Dragon before joining the Jefferson which was blown up by the British on the James River. He came aboard the Patriot only to be taken prisoner by the British shortly before the British surrendered at Yorktown. He was discharged in 1787 and received a Federal pension of ninety-six dollars a year and a land grant from the Commonwealth of Virginia. 146

After the War

Revolution brought change for some blacks, although nothing approaching full equality. The courageous military service of blacks and the revolutionary spirit ended slavery in New England almost immediately. The middle states of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey adopted policies of gradual emancipation from 1780 to 1804. Many of the founders opposed slavery in principle (including some whose wealth was largely in human property). Individual manumissions (to free from slavery) increased following the Revolution.

The fate of black Loyalists varied considerably. Some were captured by the Americans and either returned to their owners or treated as war loot and sold back into slavery. Approximately 20,000 were with the British at the end of the war, taken into Canada, England, or the Caribbean.¹⁴⁷

In early 1784, London swarmed with refugee black Loyalists from America. Some had lived in England for as long as ten years; others had arrived as recently as early January, coming on the last British ship to leave Manhattan. A few black Loyalists had also migrated to Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and the West Indies. A few of the London refugees, like Joseph Galloway or William Smith Jr. of New York, were distinguished man who were well known in both America and England. But a far larger proportion of the exiles were ordinary and obscure. Many black Loyalists were former slaves. It is estimated that blacks had joined the British by "the tens of thousands." There they were to encounter hardships, discrimination, reluctant charity, and irresistible pressures to emigrate. Is

In the eyes of well- to- do London whites, the indigent, unemployed, despised, and forlorn blacks were "alarmingly conspicuous throughout the streets as common beggars." There was some financial help from the British Government. Henry Smeathman proposed a plan to the British to transport some of the trouble-some blacks to Sierra Leone. However some of the blacks were reluctant to settle in Africa. For those blacks that actually left England, the settlement in Sierra Leone was a failure. Most studies of the Sierra Leone colony have seen it as a benevolent, well intentioned, even somewhat a Utopian scheme. ¹⁵⁰

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Itinerary includes:

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Sponsored by Tulsa Public Library. Kathy Huber, genealogy librarian, will accompany the group and be available for assistance.

For more information and registration forms, contact Linda Myers of Designed Destinations Travel. Imyers@fullnet.net or 918-825-4514

Or Kathy Huber, Tulsa Genealogy Library, khuber@tulsalibrary.org or 918-669-6063 Price Structure will be available by Mid-November.

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

Presents

George G. Morgan

Saturday, March 27, 2004 9:00a.m. -- 4:00p.m.

Muskogee Campus

Northeastern State University Conference Center

Session Topics:

All About the Census: Becoming An Expert

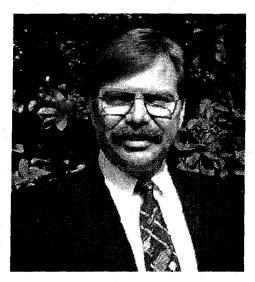
Genealogy Orienteering: Using Maps to Find the Right
Place

Bring 'Em Back to Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile

Limited Seating-\$35 per person until Feb. 1, 2004. \$45 per person after Feb. 1, 2004.

See our website for registration information.

George G. Morgan



George is the author of the book, <u>The Genealogy Forum on America Online: The Official User's Guide</u>, published by Ancestry.com. His most recent book is <u>Your Family Reunion: How to Plan It</u>, <u>Organize It</u>, <u>and Enjoy It</u>, and has written chapters in several other genealogical and family compilation books.

He is the author of the highly popular weekly genealogical column, "Along Those Lines ...", which is published on Friday each week at the Ancestry.com Web site, and in the Ancestry.com Daily News E-mail newsletter. For more than three years, he wrote the *Genealogy Tip of the Day* for Emazing.com, and has written a number of articles for Singapore-based ChineseRoots.com. He is a proud member of the International Society of Family History Writers & Editors (ISFHWE), and a winner in their prestigious 2001 Writing Contest.

George has also published cover articles for the quarterly *Genealogical Computing*, as well as articles in a number of magazines, periodicals and newsletters, including *Ancestry Magazine* and *Southern Queries*. He is the editor of the Federation of Genealogical Societies (FGS) monthly online newsletter, the *Delegate Digest* and was Program Chair for the Federation of Genealogical Societies 2003 Conference.

George owns and operates Aha! Seminars, Inc., a seminar company specializing in the high-tech workshop topics. He works closely with library cooperatives and consortia in the field of continuing education for library personnel. His curriculum also includes genealogical seminars, including Genealogy for Librarians: How to Best Serve Your Patrons. He is a frequent speaker at genealogical societies and conferences, and coordinates production of his own genealogy presentations in Tampa each year. He is a member of the Genealogical Speakers Guild, the Florida State Genealogical Society's Speaker's Bureau, the Association of Professional Genealogists, the International Society of Family History Writers and Editors (ISFHWE), and a member of the Board of the Florida State Genealogical Society. Visit George's website at: http://ahaseminars.com/atl/

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George G. Morgan Seminar Topics

All About The Census: Becoming An Expert

The U. S. Constitution called for a regular enumeration of the population of this new country, beginning in 1790 and continuing every ten years through the most recent census of 2000. For genealogists and family history researchers, census records are an essential and invaluable source for geographically locating their family over time, as well as for pointing to other original, primary records for other information.

Unfortunately, though, a very significant number of researchers lack an understanding of the records themselves. They don't know that most of the population schedules they examine are probably transcripts of the original, or even second transcriptions. Likewise, few researchers ever look beyond the population schedules to the other schedule documents like Veteran's and Widows' Schedules, Slave Schedules (which are useful to both African and non-African ancestored researchers alike), Agricultural Schedules, Manufacturing Schedules, Social Statistics Schedules, and the Schedules for the Defective, Dependent and Delinquent Classes. Federal Enumeration District Maps, too, can provide insights for more quickly locating the schedules on which ancestors are listed. Even the important Soundex and Miracode finding aids are little understood or used.

This seminar is essential for those who wish to improve their understanding of the Federal Census records of all types and to hone their skills in working effectively with these important resources.

Genealogy Orienteering: Using Maps to Find the Right Place

Maps are an essential part of our everyday life. We consult them to plot travel routes as we move from place to place, check them to determine correct postal codes, and use them in a variety of other ways. Throughout history, maps have changed again and again. Country and county boundaries moved, towns came under different jurisdictions, and place names changed.

As we use maps in our genealogical research, it is essential to understand the geographical history of an area. Many genealogists hit "dead ends" and waste inordinate amounts of time because they either fail to understand the importance of properly using maps in their research or they don't possess the skills.

This seminar presents and discusses a methodology and some resources to help you use maps to quickly and effectively locate the right place to conduct your research. This includes:

- Using current printed and Web-based cartographic resources,
- Using resources to determine former place names,
- Determining what agency had jurisdiction of a location when your ancestors were there, and

Methods of locating the records from that time period.

the information we collect into a biographical profile can help you begin to recognize character traits and decision patterns. And the profile also provides an invaluable, portable research tool that avoids your taking voluminous amounts of notes with you on research trips.

Continued on page 42

George G. Morgan - Seminar Topics Con't

Bring 'Em Back To Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile

In the course of our genealogical research, we often become engrossed in the collection of information snippets, failing to put them into a logical perspective. We lose sight of the fact that the people we're tracing participated in the life of their historical times, led complex lives, and interacted with one another.

Organizing the information we collect into a biographical profile can help you begin to recognize character traits and decision patterns. And the profile also provides an invaluable, portable research tool that avoids your taking voluminous amounts of notes with you on research trips.

This seminar presents a methodology and a structured model for taking the details you collect about your ancestor and creating a biographical profile. We will discuss:

- Establishing your ancestor's every location,
- Learning about other people in your ancestor's life,
- Studying local, state and national history to determine what events may have influenced or motivated your ancestor,
- Studying personal events that may have influenced or motivated your ancestor, and
 Effectively organizing materials into a profile that can be used for additional research and for writing.

This approach will not only help you organize your research, it can become the basis for writing detailed biographical sketches or novels about the people whose lives you have been researching.

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Session Schedule

8:00 - 8:45	Registration and Browse
8:45 – 9:00	Welcome
9:00 – 10:15	All About the Census: Becoming An Expert
10:15 – 10:45	Break and Browse
10:45 – 12:00	All About the Census: Becoming An Expert
12:00 - 1:00	Lunch and Browse
1:00 – 2:15	Genealogy Orienteering: Using Maps to Find the Right Place
2:15 – 2:45	Break and Browse
2:45 - 4:00	Bring 'Em Back To Life: Developing an Ancestor Profile

Registration

A \$35 per person, postmarked by Feb. 1, 2004. \$45 per person after Feb. 1, 2004. Seating is limited. Registration includes all sessions, vendor displays and source book. Early registration includes your surnames in the source book.

Cancellations must be received by March 10 to receive refund, less \$5 processing fee.

Confirmations of registration will be sent after March 1, 2004.

A box lunch, consisting of an Arby's Market Fresh Sandwich, chips and drink is available for \$6.50 with <u>advanced</u> registration only. Please enclose payment and check your choice of sandwich on the registration form.

Make check payable to:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society
801 W. Okmulgee

Muskogee, OK 74401

For More Information:

Email: <u>mucogeso@yahoo.com</u>

See our website: http://rootsweb.com/~okmuscgs/

Or call: 918-683-0014 or 918-682-2279

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Muskogee County Genealogical Society Publications

Cherokee Indian Rolls Doubtful and Rejected

25.00

Transcribed by: Betty Taylor Harris. An alphabetical listing of Cherokee names classified as "Doubtful and Rejected" by the Dawes Commission. 263 pages.

Cemeteries of Muskogee Co. OK, Vol. 1

15.00

Complied by: Deone Duncan Penquite. Includes Agency, Bemo, Boynton, Brewer, Briartown, Brushy Mountain, Butler Creek, Council Hill, Doyle, Ft. Gibson/Anderson Bottom, Frozen Rock, Grayson, Plainview, Rock Grove, Starnes, Starr, Taylor, Walker and 2 unidentified. 155 pages.

Cemeteries of Muskogee Co. OK, Vol. II

25.00

Complied by: Deone Duncan Penquite. Includes Harnage, Harris, Harris Family, Haskell, Jennings, Jobe Family, McClure, Middleton Chapel, Oktaha Community, Park, South Bethel, Summit and 1 unidentified. 291 pages including index.

Index to Divorce Cases, Muskogee Co., OK 1914-1920 Complied by: Jimmie D. Benson and Loretta Dillon Benson. 103 pages including index.	16.00
Marriage Records, Muskogee, IT, 1 st US Court Northern District Complied by: Rae Lindsay & Mickey Hooper Hagan. 108 pages including index.	11.00
U.S. Deputy Marshals, Indian & Oklahoma Territory, 1893-1896 Complied by: Walter Heck Penquite, 66 pages.	10.00
Genealogical Data Extracted, Muskogee Weekly Phoenix, IT 1888-1902 Complied by: Sheri Sharpnack Siebod, 198 pages.	20.00
Genealogical Data Extracted, Boynton Index Newspaper, 1926 Complied by: Lillie Hodge Wiedel, 100 pages.	10.00
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To order send check or money order to:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

801 West Okmulgee Muskogee, OK 74401

Or email us at: mucogeso@yahoo.com

Society News

Christmas Potluck Dinner and MCGS 20th Anniversary Party

MCGS would like to invite all members and their guests to attend the

Annual Christmas Potluck Dinner

December 11, 2003

6:00 pm

Muskogee Public Library.

Come and join us for fun and fellowship as we celebrate the Society's 20th Anniversary and Honor our charter members. We will be celebrating with cake and ice cream for everyone. Don't forget to bring

Honoring the MCGS Charter Members

We would like to extend our gratitude to the people that started the MCGS and made a wonderful organization for people to come together and share the interest of Genealogy and local history. To all of you we say Thank You!

Charter Member List:

Clista L. Anderson

Wilma Bloom

Richard and Janet Carr

Linda Durbin

Mrs. Earl Graves

Pete and Mickey Hagan

Maxine Harris

Mrs. M. G. Lindsey

Georgia Perkins

Sheri Siehold

Charles and Pat Slane

Sue Kerr Wood

Betty Lou Acord

Earl and Lulu Boggs

Dr. and Nancy G. Cook

Carole Ellsworth

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Christine Hall

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Walter and Deone Penquite

Louise Simpson

T. J. and Dessie Smotherman

Marty Anderson

Joan E. Baily

Mary Cheeseman

Grace and Marvin Greer

Norman and Jo Marie Galloway

Frances Hunt

Gladys Jackowski

Ray Napier

Wilburn and Saxon Siffing

Arta Sue Spotts

Gary Wilburn

MCGS Volunteering

The society sure could use your help! We have <u>a lot</u> of committees that needs <u>a lot</u> of help!

Nominating Committee

Research Committee

Workshop & Education Committee

Publication Committee

Publicity Committee

George G. Morgan Seminar Committee

Membership Committee

Library Committee

Ancestor Fair Committee

Finally Muskogee County Genealogy T-Shirts and Merchandise!

Wear them to the meetings, workshops and seminars.

All merchandise has the MCGS official COLOR logo!

Show your support for the Society.

White T-Shirt White Golf Shirt Baseball Jersey	\$16.99 \$19.99 \$19.99	THE COLUMN THE PARTY OF THE PAR	Logo Options: Large Logo on front or back. Small Logo on front pocket Size Options:
Women's Fitted T-Shirt	\$16.99	COMMON STORY	Small
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BBQ Apron	\$16.99		Large X-Large
Baseball Cap	\$14.99		XX-Large (add \$3.00)
Tote Bag	\$14.99	Official MCGS Logo Will be in COLOR!	

Name: ______ Phone: _______ Address: ______ City, State, Zip: ______ Email: ______ Items Size Price

Send form and payment to MCGS, 801 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401 or email: mucogeso@yahoo.com Deadline: December 31, 2003

Total Enclosed:

Muskogee County Genealogical Society

801 W. Okmulgee

Muskogee, OK 74401

Application for Membership

Address: City:								Address
1 year membership with Quarterly subscription: \$201 year membership without Quarterly subscription: \$10. Membership shall begin with payment of dues and shall run for the calendar year thereafter Make check payable to: Muskogee County Genealogical Society Quarterly back issues are available at \$5 each. Queries are free to members and \$1.00 for a strictles and contributions for the quarterly should be sent to the above mailing address MCGS meetings are held the 4th Thursday of each month at 7 p. m. at the Muskogee Public West Okmulgee, Muskogee, Oklahoma. URNAMES YOU ARE RESEARCHING: Name Event County State Year			7 N	Dl /	7:n C-1	Ctata		7:4
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MCGS Quarterly Publication Information

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The Editors invite contributions of public records, articles, Bible records, and transcripts from members and nonmembers. Contributions should be those focused on the history of Indian Territory and Muskogee County and its families. Neither the Editors nor the Board of Directors of the Muskogee County Genealogical Society take responsibility for errors of fact/data submitted. The views expressed in articles and reviews are those of the authors concerned and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, the Board of Directors, nor the members of the MCGS. The Editors retain the

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