

POLLEY POINTERS

A periodic newsletter dedicated to the furtherance of genealogical research on the surnames Polley, Polly, Polleys, Poley, Pauley, Pauly, Pawley, Pelley, Pooley, etc.

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Editorial

According to the calendar Spring is but three short weeks or so away as you read this the first time. However, if you find any icicles, drifting snow, or my lost glove within the inner pages, it's because much of this issue was written during the Blizzard of '96. People in the Baltimore area don't cope well with snow measured in feet and the situation afforded us several days off from the job to work on this issue.

Earlier, the day after Christmas, our family went on a tour of England and Scotland. We saw castles and palaces, cathedrals, abbeys and minsters too numerous to recount, the homes of Shakespeare and Wordsworth, and department stores that would send your credit cards into meltdown. However, nothing was melting during our trip as it was the coldest weather and worst snow in the north since WW II.

There was no time available for any genealogy research other than checking local phone books as we are wont to do wherever we travel. Although POLLEY and POLLY were found they were not nearly as numerous as one might find in the smaller US cities. We did find that the surnames POLE and DE LA POLE are still found as they appeared in the time of Richard III. We will put this on our agenda of things to look into someday. Perhaps some Polleys did rub elbows with royalty centuries ago.

In the past quarter we've had inquiries from several different global areas including Australia, South Africa and Peru. The latter was from an American at the embassy in Lima. It looks like we're on our way to becoming a truly international publication.

Regarding this issue, we hope we have something for everyone. For the southern cousins we have two excellent articles on the Virginia and Kentucky ancestors. Subscribers Gwen Boyer Bjorkman and Susan Jurban have shared their research work with us in the form of summary articles. We hope they serve as inspiration to others who are in a position to set their findings on paper. **POLLEY POINTERS** is your forum.

Dick Randall

Canadian Polleys



In the December '95 issue, we discussed the research contributions of our Canadian correspondent, Bill Jackson, of Simcoe, Norfolk Co., Ontario. We alluded to a potential series of articles on the descendants of Alpheus Polley and we follow up on that idea this quarter.

Alpheus Polley was one of three sons of Matthew Polley and his wife Martha of Connecticut.¹ He and his brothers Amasa and Uriah were all born at a time that put them at the right age to be a soldier when the Revolution became a shooting war. Amasa was the oldest, Uriah the youngest.² All three initially entered the service of the colonists' cause.³ However, Alpheus apparently had Loyalist leanings and, after a period of service, second thoughts motivated him to desert the American forces and make his way to New Brunswick. He is documented as serving in Delancey's Brigade in support of the British thus earning him the label of Loyalist of the United Empire.⁴ The records indicate he was granted land in Westmorland County, Upper Canada.⁵

Alpheus eventually married Catherine (Young) Coltman, daughter of John and Mary Young. Catherine was the widow of Lieutenant William Coltman.

With Coltman, Catherine had two sons, John and William, apparently named for her father and her husband respectively. Notations on a family chart by Charles Hesson, indicate the son William died in England in 1826 and John was killed in 1812 at Pt. Neuf [location uncertain].

She and Alpheus had at least four children together, Martha, Mary, Charlotte, and John. John Polley was the eldest, born 29 Jan 1788. The family of Alpheus uprooted from New Brunswick and went west into Upper Canada (Ontario) spending a number of years in the vicinity of Toronto.⁶ [It does appear odd that Catherine would have two sons named John living at the same time, but this is what Hesson's chart indicates.]

It is recorded that John Polley came to Norfolk County in 1833 and first settled in Lynn Valley. After two years he came to Simcoe, purchased a block of land and built a frame residence at the

junction of Colborne and Windham Streets. About 1836 or 1837 he built a foundry on the balance of his land. The principal product of the foundry, and the one best remembered according to a 1929 history of Simcoe, was the Polley plow, for which John Polley held a patent. The Simcoe history states, "The Polley plough held its place in Norfolk as the Cockshutt plough from the Cockshutt Works, Brantford, held Brant County."⁷

The Polley Foundry eventually passed to John's son, Alpheus Young Polley. It became known as the Norfolk Machine Works. Alpheus Y. Polley was the iron founder and his partner, Thomas Madden, was a machinist. The founder was responsible for pouring the metal castings and the machinist turned the castings into finished products. A facsimile of an 1869 ad for the firm of Polley and Madden, from the *Norfolk Reformer*, appears at the right.

Both John and Alpheus Y. were active in their community. John was an elder of his church and served from about 1836 until his death on 12 March 1873. An historical sketch of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Simcoe, published ca. 1953, says of John Polley, "His godly and practical life was a blessing to the church and community; and his home was for many years the minister's headquarters in Simcoe. ... Mr. Polley served in St. Andrew's church after the division of 1846." [The division refers to an 1846 rift in the Church of Scotland in which a splinter congregation was formed called the Free Church of Scotland. Polley remained loyal to the traditional, established church who formed St. Andrew's congregation.]⁸

Polley and his son Alpheus each served a term on the village council during the years of its existence from 1851 to 1877. They are so listed among the others who also served in the 1929 *History of Simcoe*.

John Polley married Abigail Curry, daughter of Robert and Margaret Curry, 13 December 1827. They had three children, Alpheus Young, Margaret Jane and Mary Catherine. Margaret was the wife of Samuel Rollin Hesson who begot the Hesson family we talked about last quarter. Mary Catherine never married. The two Polley sisters are interred in the Hesson plot at Avon-

dale Cemetery in Stratford, Ont. Headstone inscriptions show the following: Mary Catherine died 1 May 1907, aged 74 and Margaret Jane died 13 April 1909, aged 78.

Alpheus Young Polley was the oldest of John's children and was born 23 Dec 1828.⁹ He married Isabella Brown and together they appear to have had six children, Ada C., Isabella (called Bella), Thomas, Frederick, Hugh Roy, and John. However the last two may be nephews or grandchildren.¹⁰

Additional research on this family is in order, beginning with the four male Polleys in the household of A.Y. Polley of Simcoe, Ontario. Armed with the mobility afforded by the railroads

as the 20th century began, and later by the automobile, the descendants of these four Polleys could have ended up virtually anywhere. Since Canadian crossings to the U.S. were so easy, it may well be that they spawned Polley lines that are currently stumping researchers who have not looked northward. rcr



Norfolk machine Works, SIMCOE, C.W.

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THE above establishment, having been thoroughly refitted with machinery, the subscribers are now prepared to manufacture and repair all kinds of Machinery.

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Ploughs and Agricultural Implements of all kinds on hand or made to order at the Lowest Prices for Cash.

Old Iron, Copper, and Brass taken in exchange.

A.Y. POLLEY,
Founder.
Simcoe, May 7, 1869

THOS. MADDEN,
Machinist

1753 (Barbour Coll., Middletown, Vol. 2, p. 19). Uriah was born 26 May 1760 (Barbour Coll., Lebanon, Vol. 1, p. 245).

3. The National Archives records of Revolutionary War participants from Connecticut indicate the following:

Alpheus initially enlisted at Norwich, CT, 4 Jan 1777. He was a private in Captain Richard's Company, 1st Connecticut Regiment. His home of record was given as Lebanon. His unit later became part of the 5th Connecticut Regiment. It was from this unit he was listed on a Return of Deserters, dated 12 August 1782.

Amasa is listed as a private serving in Captain Lovejoy's Company, Col. Enos' Regiment, 1776-1777 [detailed dates and date of enlistment are not provided]. During this period, he is also recorded as being at Peekskill [NY] in April and May 1777 as a private in Captain Edward Griswold's Company, Col. Thomas Belding's Regiment of the Connecticut Militia. He also served as an armorer, entering service for this tour on

1. From the Barbour Collection of Connecticut Vital Statistics, Alpheas Polley, son of Matthew and Martha, was born 18 August 1755. Middletown records, Vol. 2, p. 19. Another record, from the Connecticut Church Records Index, indicates the baptism of Alpheus Polley, son of Matthew, on 12 Sep 1756 at Berlin at the Kensington Congregational Church. Volume 2, p. 494. His line of descent from Woburn is: George¹, John², Matthew³, Matthew⁴, Alpheus⁵.

2. Amasa was born 25 March

1 Sep 1779 at Suffield, CT, serving under Col. Ezechieel Cheevers as a private in the Commissary General of Military Stores Dept. He had a subsequent enlistment, from Springfield, that ran from 14 Sep 1781 to 31 Dec 1781.

Uriah Polley is recorded as serving several tours of duty. He served as a private in both the 2nd and 3rd Connecticut Regiments. He served as a private in Captain James Clark's Company, Col. Sage's Connecticut Regiment. He also served as a private in Captain Shumway's Company, 1st Connecticut Regiment. The records for the latter tour indicate he had enlisted at Lebanon and left service (either discharged or for discipline) 23 Oct 1780. Uriah was ultimately awarded Warrant No. 6335, for 100 Acres of land, 18 Jan 1798 for his service.

4. Wright, Esther Clark, *The Loyalists of New Brunswick*, Moncton Publishing Co., Ltd., Moncton, N.B., p. 319.

5. According to Charles Hesson's holographic application for membership in the United Empire Loyalists, Alpheus settled in "Township, Hillsbury [or Hillsburg], County Northumberland now Westmorland, New Brunswick."

6. *Prominent Men of Canada*, 1892, pp. 221-222. The reference is a biographical sketch of Charles A. Hesson, a descendent of Alpheus Polley. The sketch, apparently researched by Hesson himself, states, "... Alpheus Polley, ... remaining loyal to the Crown, with other U.E. Loyalists, left his home at the [end of the war] in 1783, and proceeded to New Brunswick, where ... John Polley was born. In 1808 the family removed westward into Upper Canada, and after reaching this province they settled in Toronto, where they remained some years, ... the family afterward settling at Simcoe, County Norfolk." John Polley fought for the British during the War of 1812. For this service, he was entitled to land for which he applied in January 1819. He is identified in his petition as John Polley of York, Carpenter. Details on the death and burial of Alpheus are uncertain.

7. *History of Simcoe*, 1829-1929, p. 33.

8. Dey, Rev. W.J., M.A., D.D., *An Historical Sketch of St. Paul's Church, Simcoe, 1793-1906*, publ. on the 160th Anniversary (ca. 1953), pp. 10-12.

9. Per the 1901 Ontario census. C. A. Hesson's chart shows 24 Dec 1828.

10. Names, birth order, dates of birth, etc. are pieced together from the Canadian censuses of 1881, 1891, and 1901. Ada C. was b. 7 Jul 1858, Bella was b. 26 Sep 1860, Thomas was b. ca. 1864, Frederick was b. ca. 1866, Hugh Roy was b. 22 Apr 1880 and John was b. ca. 1889. A 31-year window of giving birth, with a 14 year gap appears suspect, especially delivery of the last child at an apparent age of 52. The mother, Isabella Brown was b. 13 Mar 1837 according to the 1891 census, which corroborates an age of 44 in the 1881 census. However, a death notice in a Simcoe newspaper, 26 Aug 1915, indicates she died on Sunday, 15 August 1915 in her 84th year. The identity of the deceased is quite certain as the notice gives her maiden name as Brown, and states she was "the relict of the late A. Y. Polley." This would indicate a birth year of 1832, a five year discrepancy. Perhaps Isabella was younger then she let on, padding her age a bit for respectability? As it was, she appeared to be ten years

younger than her husband. On the other hand, there may be a simpler explanation that has yet to emerge. We know nothing of Thomas or Frederick except their approximate ages of 25 and 23 in 1889, the year of John's birth. One can speculate that John was perhaps a grandchild with either Thomas or Frederick as the father. Further research is indicated. rcr

Research Progress

Australian David Freeman, by Internet connection, saw our posting regarding POLLEY on the Roots Surname List (RSL) maintained at the University of North Dakota. In subsequent E-mail correspondence he sent details of his wife's Polley progenitor and many of the descendants.

Freeman's first Polley was known to be an American, Ira Polley, who "came to Australia in the 1840's" and was the son of a John Polley and Lucy Palmerley, born in 1816 in Danbury, CT. It didn't take too long to figure out that this Ira must be a brother of Hiram Polley of the line being researched by subscriber Martha Polley. [See *Research Progress*, Dec '95.]

The thing that took a bit longer to register was the motivation and means for this Ira Polley to emigrate to Australia in that time frame. Then it came to us in a bolt from the blue! In the file cabinet was an extract of a 1932 history of several upstate New York counties that we acquired a number of years ago while researching the St. Lawrence Co. Polleys.¹ The author devoted a whole chapter to the Patriot's War of 1837-38 that took place in Canada. This was a little known, abortive attempt at a Canadian revolution that was to have freed Canada from the shackles of Great Britain. It is also known as the Mackenzie Rebellion so named for William Lyon Mackenzie, an activist from Upper Canada.

The so-called war turned out to be nothing more than a series of guerilla type engagements and was finally suppressed. However, during the active years of this effort, many enthusiastic Americans were more than willing to jump into the fray and help "liberate" their Canadian brothers. In one such guerilla raid on Windmill Point, Ontario, in November of 1838, about 160 Americans were captured by the British. Eleven were immediately hung. Several younger men were admonished, pardoned, and sent home. A balance of 141 Americans were found guilty of aiding insurrection against the Crown and were given prison sentences. They were taken from Canada and transported to the penal colony in Van Dieman's Land (Tasmania), a 160-day sail.

The author, in his account, was thoughtful enough to enumerate by name all of those who

-{Research Progress continued on p. 13}-

Polley on Polley

John Polley of Roxbury, MA is generally accepted as one of the progenitors of Polleys in America. He was introduced to us in the pages of **POLLEY POINTERS** in the June '94 issue, pp. 6-7. During his lifetime (1618-1689) Polley married four times, producing thirteen daughters and one son. The latter was also named John and was baptized in 1673.¹

The December '94 issue of **POLLEY POINTERS** carried a feature on the Roxbury line that spoke of a letter that provided some insight into this Polley family. This issue we publish the contents of the letter and provide some background on the generations leading up to the writer, as well as some new references on the writer's wife and family.²

The only son of the progenitor, John, Jr., married Sarah Williams in Roxbury on 1 January 1704/5.³ He died of smallpox, 21 October 1721.⁴ They had five children, Sarah, Mary, Hannah, John and Joseph.⁵ Their son John, who for this article we shall call John III, was born 7 April 1711 and married Mary Hatch on 4 November 1736.⁶ This couple had four children before the death of John III, which occurred some time between 1748 and 1751. There were four boys, John, Williams, Josiah, and Joseph.⁷

This latter John, born at Boston, 17 February 1743 (O.S.), we identify as John IV. He is also identified as John of Charlton, as his first four children were born there.⁸ A daughter, Levina was born in Monson, MA and died at age five. Another John (John V) is also enumerated among the children. Two more sons, Lyman and Calvin, were born in Holland, MA⁹ as John IV and his wife Phebe Chamberlain¹⁰ moved about from place to place.

Calvin was born 2 May 1792¹¹ and was married to Chloe Wood of Holland, MA on 4 April 1816.¹² He lived to the age of 84. Their son, John Calvin Polley, was born in Holland, MA on 27 January 1828.¹³ He married Julia Ann Merrill who was born 8 June 1834 in New Hartford, CT to James Merrill and Julia Holcomb.¹⁴ John C. Polley and his wife resided in Chicago. Their daughter Fanny was born to them in 1857 and married Frank Raymond Spear in 1879.¹⁵

John C. Polley's grandfather, John Polley of Charlton, served in the Revolution from Massachusetts. His service is recorded as being a sergeant in Captain William Campbell's company, assigned to Colonel Ebenezer Learned's regiment

from 29 April to 1 August 1775. He also served a 21 day stint in Captain Abijah Lamb's company, Colonel Jonathan Holman's regiment. This latter company marched from home to Providence, RI on the alarm of 10 December 1776.

During his service as a sergeant, Polley kept a diary, or "orderly book" for the period 12 May to 22 December 1775, "Wherein is contained an account of the battles and skirmishes which happened near Boston between the American and regular troops when we were engaged in civil war."

The diary was passed from father to son to grandson and finally placed in a permanent repository when it was donated by John C. Polley to the Chicago Historical Society in 1881. John C. Polley, an attorney, living in Chicago at the time, penned a letter to the secretary of the society giving what background and biographical information he knew of his grandfather. The first part of the letter is rich in genealogy and is a good solid reference for this family with the credibility of a Bible record. The second part of the letter about the remembrance of his Aunt Rhoda adds little, but is nevertheless interesting as well as amusing.

The following is a transcription of the holographic letter of John Calvin Polley on file at the Chicago Historical Society:

Vol 21.

Chicago August 29, 1881
A.D. Hazer Esq.
Sec. Historical Society

Dear Sir;

John Polley Sergt of Capt Campbells company that served in the Army before Boston in the Revolutionary War who kept the manuscript records I presented to the "Historical Society" was, I think a native of Dudley Warchester County, Mass. Of his ancestors I know nothing; I remember that my father told me when he was a boy he was "bound out" when he was eighteen years old and compelled to work very hard. He was a carpenter by trade but during the latter part of his life gave his attention mostly to farming. He married Phebe Chamberlain of Dudley and during the War lived in Union Tolland County, Ct. Soon after the close of the war he moved to Holland Hampden County Mass. and settled on a farm he continued to occupy up to the time of his death which occurred in December 1829 at the age of 86 years. He left seven (7) children four boys and three girls: Rhoda Polley, Pliny Polley,

Phebe Polley, John Polley, Parthena Polley, Lyman Polley and Calvin Polley. Rhoda was the oldest and the others were in the order named. They are now all dead. My father Calvin Polley died in West Springfield Mass in 1876 at the age of eighty four; Rhoda always lived in Holland and died about 1857 leaving no children; Phebe died at an advanced age in Enfield Mass. one daughter only survived. She had other children but she survived all but one; Pliny settled near the close of the last century in Homer Cortland County, N.Y. Where he remained up to the time of his death, some twenty years since, he left several sons and daughters. Parthena married Joshua Ballard and settled in Homer at the same time Pliny did, she has been dead many years: she left four or five children; John settled early in Orwell Addison County, Vt. later he moved to Whiting in the same County where he died about 1840, he left no children; Lyman settled about 1826 at Butternuts Otsego County N.Y. He has been dead several years, he left one son and a daughter; Calvin lived on the old homestead in Holland until 1865 When he moved to West Springfield Mass. he had eight children, seven survived him. Six are yet living, one son lives in Richmond Ind. one in Chicago; three daughters are in Springfield Mass. and one in Brooklyn N.Y. one died three years ago in New Hartford Ct. The manuscript was given to me by my father who had received it from his. I was less than two years old when my grandfather died and of course have no recollection of him. As described to me, he was medium height spare in flesh and always active; his judgement was excellent and he possessed rare good sense; In early life he had few advantages for an education by relying on self help he came to be remarkably well informed for those times; he retained the full force of his mind to the close of his life.

Among the recollections of my Aunt Rhoda is her description of the dark day in May 1870, She said early in the morning they learned that one of their cows had got mired in "Bear den" Swamp that her father called some neighbors to assist him, that it was so dark they had to take a lantern with them. The sun rose clear but soon passed behind a cloud, a shower followed with vivid lightning and heavy thunder, from that time it commenced to grow dark and remained dark all day and all night. The darkness was dense and weird; the chickens went to roost the domestic animals became uneasy and

gave expressions of fear; everybody was alarmed and believed some great calamity was impending. The following morning it had all passed away. This description made a deep impression on me which led me to gather facts, so far as I could, to learn its extent. I have found it reached to New Brunswick, Maine, Massachusetts, New York and Virginia, how much further I have no means of knowing, You will doubtful think this is not germane to my subject but I find it among the old memories and trust it will be found to possess some interest.

I commenced this sketch with hesitation and cannot hope to have made it a success still I trust it will to some extent fill the place you may assign to it.

Believe me very truly yours
John C. Polley

Notes:

1. Barlow, Claude W., PhD., "John Polley and His Thirteen Daughters," The American Genealogist, Vol. 41, pp. 206-208.

2. An identifying reference is found in the Canadian Union List of Manuscripts and is reproduced below. Apparently a transcript was provided to the National Archives of Canada in 1918 by the Chicago Historical Society, holder of the original.

POLLEY, John F, Soldier (United States)

7-3236 Transcripts, 22 pages. 1775.

Journal kept while serving with American forces near Boston, 1775; included is a list of Captain William Campbell's Company.

Ref./Réf.: P.A.C., MG 23 (B 5).

Provenance: Chicago Historical Society, Chicago, Ill. (1918).

3. Roxbury, MA Vital Records (Marriages), p. 324. Also recorded in Boston Marriages, 1700-1751, Boston's Record Commissioners, Boston, 1898, p. 14.

4. Roxbury, MA Vital Records (Deaths), p. 616.

5. Roxbury, MA Vital Records (Births), p. 282.

6. Boston Marriages, 1700-1751, Boston's Record Commissioners, Boston, 1898. "John Polley of Boston & Mary Hatch of Hanover by Rev. Saml. Checkley, 4 November 1736." Also recorded in Hanover, MA Vital Records (Marriages), p. 119.

7. The latter three, Joseph, Josiah, and Williams are recorded as children of John Polley and Mary Hatch in the Dudley, MA Vital Records (Births), p. 94. The birth date of John comes from the Ballard Family Bible, Cortland Co., NY Historical Society. His parentage is deduced from Worcester Co., MA Probate document

617:72-Series A Case 47265 for the guardianship of one John Polley.

8. Charlton, MA Vital Records (Births), p. 82.

9. Lovering, Rev. Martin, History of Holland, Mass., The Tuttle Co., Rutland, VT, 1915.

10. Charlton, MA Vital Records (Marriages), p. 199, records the intention for marriage, dated 11 Nov 1769. The marriage is recorded in the Dudley, MA Vital Records (Marriages), p. 209, as 12 April 1770.

11. Ballard Family Bible, Cortland Co., NY Historical Society

12. Lovering, op. cit.

13. Cooke, Harriet Ruth (Waters), The Driver Family, a Genealogical Memoir of the Descendants of Robert and Phebe Driver of Lynn, Mass., John Wilson & Son, New York, 1889, p. 353.

(a) Frank Raymond Spear⁷, born Sept. 9, 1856 [s. Emmons R. Spear and Susan S. Ives]; living in 1887 in Chicago, Ill.; married November 20, 1879, Fanny Polley, dau. of John Calvin Polley and Julia Ann (Merrill), she born about 1857. Her father born in Holland, Mass., January 27, 1828; her mother born in New Hartford, Ct., June 8, 1834.

14. Merrill, Samuel, A Merrill Memorial, Vol II, Cambridge, MA, 1917-1928, p. 466.

15. Cooke, op. cit.

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POLLEY POINTERS Offerings

The following items are for sale to subscribers:

* All **BACK ISSUES** are still available @ \$2.50 each.

* A **PERPETUAL CALENDAR** with a history of the calendar changes that have been made over the centuries. 8½ x 11 format suitable for insertion into a research notebook. \$2.50 each. Quantity discount available for resale by clubs.

* An **INDEX** to the first four issues (Vol. 1) of **POLLEY POINTERS**. Be able to recall where you read something. The index covers all personal and place names as well as many references and organizational names. \$2.50 each.

* An **INDEX** to the second year (Vol. 2) of **POLLEY POINTERS**. The index covers all personal and place names as well as many references and organizational names. [Available June 1996] \$2.50 each.

The Book Nook



History of Chester County, Pennsylvania, with Genealogical and Biographical Sketches, by J. Smith Futhey and Gilbert Cope, was originally published in 1881 by Louis H. Everts, Philadelphia, PA. Reprinted in facsimile by Heritage Books, Inc., 1995, ISBN 0-7884-0206-4, Publ. Catalog No. F873, 782 pp., 2 vols., 8½x11, illus., map, append., index, paper, \$100.00.

If your area of research in Pennsylvania is Chester County and environs, this book is for you. This large, profusely illustrated, two-volume county history is the epitome of the classic "mug book" so popular at the turn of the century. It is divided into thirteen rather broad sections covering the following topics: General History; Proprietary Interests and Land Titles; Township and Boroughs, Etc.; Religious Organizations; Educational and Literary; Agricultural; Mills, Iron Manufacture, Etc.; Internal Improvements; Civil and Judicial Lists; Miscellaneous; Natural History, Topography, Geology, Etc.; Biographical and Genealogical. In addition, there is a 37 page appendix listing those men from Chester Co. who served the Union during the Civil War.

By far the section of most interest to genealogists will be the one containing the genealogical and biological sketches of prominent citizens. This section is all of Volume Two, some 320 pages, devoted to presentation of pertinent facts about the various families in the area. Quantitatively, the articles run in length from two column-inches to more than two full pages. Many of the articles are illustrated with pictures of the subjects. One of the special features of this particular "mug book" is that it contains a host of full page pictures of the residences, businesses and properties of the biographical subjects. This reviewer is envious of anyone who has an ancestor detailed in this fine history, complemented by a picture of the ancestor as well as one of his house.

The history contains a rather complete, original index of names, places, and subjects, which makes this set so much more useful to the researcher.

If you have ties to Chester Co., PA, this wonderful book belongs in your personal library. Available direct from the publisher at 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Suite 300, Bowie, MD 20716. Catalog of other titles also available on request.

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Polley Progenitors - Virginia

**POLLYS OF VIRGINIA**

by Gwen Boyer Bjorkman

4425 132 Ave SE, Bellevue, WA 98006-2126

FIRST GENERATION

In 1753, Edward Polly's boundary line is mentioned on Banister River. [Entry Record Book, p. 135] The Banister River runs west from the Roanoke River through the width of present day Halifax and Pittsylvania Counties. Joseph Polley was granted 400 acres on Banister River 15 Oct 1764. [Entry Record Book, p. 265]

At a Court held for Halifax County, 19 September 1754, Edward Pauley was exempted from paying public and county levies on motion of his son, David Pauley. [Halifax Co. Plea Book 1:450] His son David Polly must have been at least 21 years old by 1754 and the father, Edward, must have been too old or infirm to pay taxes. There are several deeds that name Edward Polley Sr. and Jr. On 20 November 1757, a deed from John Watson of Halifax County to Thomas Watson was witnessed and proved by Edward Polley, Sr. and Joseph Polley. [Halifax Co. Deeds 1:372.] A deed of 16 August 1759 names Edward Pauley, Jr. as grantee for 125 acres on Mill Creek. [Halifax Co. Deeds 2:57] In 1763 Edward Polley, Jr., was granted 400 acres on a branch of Cherry Stone Creek, adjacent to Edward Polley's upper line and Mill Creek. Cherry-stone Creek is a branch of Banister River in Pittsylvania County.

These deeds, along with one recorded in Pittsylvania County in 1769 where Joseph and Peter Polly are witnesses [Pittsylvania Co. Deeds 1:313], give us the basic identifiable family for Edward Polly, Sr. Peter Polly is also on a tithable list with Edward Polly in 1770, while David is on William Witcher's list where he continues until 1781. [Pittsylvania Co. Tithes, List 19, p. 39, List 23, p. 50, List 146, p. 266] There is a James Pauley on the 1767 tithe list along with David Polly and Edward Polley, Jr. [Pittsylvania Co. Tithes, List 9, p. 17, List 11, p. 20, List 14, p. 27]

Edward Polly, Sr., died before 30 August 1770 according to a court order of John Cook against Edward's estate. [Pittsylvania Co. C.O. 1:230] At the March 1771 Court, Edward Polley was granted Letters of Administration on the

estate of Edward Polley decd. "John Watson & Allen Adams came into court & deposed on oath that they heard Edward Polley decd in his lifetime give a feather bed to his daughter Margaret which is ordered to be certified." [Pittsylvania Co. C.O. 1:275-6] From the records, we can be sure that David, Edward, and Margaret were the children of Edward Polly Sr. We can speculate (but not prove) that Joseph, James and Peter were also his sons.

1. **Edward POLLY**, born before 1713, died 1770, Pittsylvania Co., VA. The name of his wife is unknown.

CHILDREN:

- + 2 David, born bef 1733, died 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. He married Agnes ADKINS, ca 1757 in Halifax Co., VA.
- 3 Joseph, born bef 1737.
- 4 Edward, born bef 1738.
- 5 Margaret, born ca 1740.
- 6 James, born bef 1745.
- 7 Peter, born ca 1745.

SECOND GENERATION

David Pauley must have been at least 21 years old in 1754 when he went to the Court held for Halifax County and asked for a tax exemption for his father, Edward Pauley. [Halifax Co. Plea Book 1:450] In 1755 David was paid for one old wolf's head along with William Mullings, Parker Adkins, and others. [Halifax Co. Plea Book 1:488]

In a 1764 Halifax County, Virginia list of polls taken at an election for a Burgess at the Courthouse on 28 November, Edw'd Polley and David Polley voted for Mr. Edward Booker. [Halifax Deeds 3:390] David Polly is on the Tithe List for Pittsylvania Co., VA in 1767 and 1770 with 150 acres of land. In 1777 he is not tithable, but still has his 150 acres. In 1778 and in 1780 David and Edward Polley are listed with one tithe. We will assume that this is David's son Edward. In 1781 David is listed with David Polley, Jun'r with one tithe and in 1782 with Jos. Polley with two tithes. In the 1784 Personal Property tax list, David and Joseph are listed next to each other and in 1785 it is Joseph, Agness and Edward next to each other. David Polly Sen'r died by this date and his wife, Agnes, administered his estate.

At the July 1785 Court, on motion of Agness Polley, "certificate is granted her for obtaining

letters of admx of all & singular the goods & chattels, rights & credits of David Polley, decd, which were of the sd David at the time of his death." She, together with Edward Polley and Moses Atkins, her surety, entered into bond. William Witcher, William Justice, Jeremiah Ward & James Mitchel (or any 3 of them) were to value the personal estate and return an inventory and appraisement. [Pittsylvania C. O. 5:204]

At the August 1785 Court, William Witcher, Jere Ward & James Mitchell were appointed to lay off & allot to Agness Polley, widow of David, her dower & report back to the court. At the September 1785 Court, the inventory & appraisal of David Polley decd, was returned & ordered recorded. [Pittsylvania C. O. 5:221, 232] David Polley's inventory was appraised for a total of £55.2.6 on 26 Aug 1785 by Jeremiah Ward, William Justice, and James Mitchell and recorded on 19 Sep 1785. [Pittsylvania I & A, AC 1:175]

On the 1787 Pittsylvania County tax list, District of Griffith Dickerson, for the Polley family we find Joseph, Edwd., David, and Henry listed. [1787 Census, I:459-460] In 1787 Edward & Agnes sold 250 acres on both sides of Redies Creek to Daniel Witcher. In 1787 Agnes Polley bought 100 acres on Corn Branch from Daniel and Susannah Witcher and then in 1790 Agnes Polly sold that same 100 acres to David Polly. David and Elizabeth Polley then sold the land to James Parker in 1804. Henry and Joseph Polly were living on Big Cherrystone Creek as late as 1804 when Henry and wife Atha sold their property to John Midkiff, Jr. In 1807 Joseph and wife Levina sold their land to Joseph Hatchitt and Obediah Taylor. [Pittsylvania Co., Deeds: 8:16, 19, 479; 14:65, 109, 132, 155, 418]

From the tax lists and deeds we can prove that Edward was the son of David and Agnes Adkins Polly, and be fairly confident that Joseph, David and Henry were also their sons.

2. David POLLY (Edward, 1), born before 1733, died bef 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. He married Agnes ADKINS, daughter of William ADKINS and Lydia OWEN, circa 1757 in Halifax Co., VA. She was born circa 1740 in Henrico Co., VA, died after 1798 in Pittsylvania Co., VA. Agnes POLLY was named in the will of her father in 1784. [Pittsylvania Co., Deeds & Wills 11:136]

CHILDREN:

- + 8 Edward, born 21 Dec 1758 in Halifax Co., VA, died 19 May 1845 at Ermine, Letcher Co., KY. He married Mary Agnes Mullins, 1784 in Pittsylvania Co., VA by Rev. Bailey, a Baptist.

- 9 Joseph A., born 1757/60 in Halifax Co., VA, died 1840/50 in Logan Co., VA. He married Levinia Midkiff/Medcalf, 13 Jun 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA, by David Barr. She was the daughter of John Midkiff and Agnes Parsons.
- 10 David, born 1765 in Halifax Co., VA, died 1847 in Pike Co., KY. He married Elizabeth Justice, 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA, by David Barr.
- 11 Henry, born ca 1767 in Halifax Co., VA, died 1832 in Kanawha Co., VA. He married Athaliel Mullins 1792 in Halifax Co., VA by Rev. Jesse Owen. Consent of William Mullins was given for Athaliel.

THIRD GENERATION

A record of the life of Edward Polly is given in his Revolutionary War pension application. A list of the names of the children of Edward and Mary Mullins Polly are given in two affidavits made on 6 March 1851 and signed by mark of Mary alias Agnes Polly and by their son David Polly. They state that the first five children were born before 1794 and that Edward and Mary or Agnes were married in 1784 in Pittsylvania County, Virginia where they sold a tract of land to Daniel Witcher in 1787. [W9236]

In 1850 Mary Polly made an affidavit stating that she and her husband lived in Pittsylvania County for about eight years after their marriage and then about 1792 they moved to Tennessee where they continued to live together for 30 years when they moved to Letcher County, Kentucky. Edward Polley is found on the 1797, 1798 and 1799 tax lists for Carter Co., Tennessee with no land.

"In Lee County, Virginia, on Dec. 27, 1853, before a Justice of the Peace, Sarah Stout, aged 66 years, made oath: That she was well acquainted with Anna Mullins at the time she was married to Joshua Mullins in Tennessee. That she was present at the time for the marriage and saw Anna Robinson and Joshua Mullins married in Carter County Tennessee in 1798." [W25671] Sarah Polly Stout was born in 1787 if age 66 in Dec. 1853. She was age 11 in 1798 when she attended the wedding in Carter County, therefore she would have been living with her parents. (She was age 64 on the 1850 census [p. 350] and age 75 on the 1860 census [p. 875] of Lee County, Virginia.)

In 1829, both Edward Polly and Joshua Mullins gave affidavits for the pension of William

Buckner. [S37804] They had enlisted together in Sept. 1780 and were discharged 28 Feb 1781. William Buckner stated that he had lived in Carter County, Tennessee "in a part of the country but thinly inhabited."

Edward Polley is first found in Floyd County, Kentucky on the 1810 census with his brother, David Polley. [p. 101-102] Edward Polley was appointed supervisor of the road from Charles Lewis' to the mouth of Rockhouse in Floyd County at the 28 March 1814 court. [Floyd Co. C.O. 2:] 22 Oct 1816 Edward Polley registered his land warrant for 50 acres on the North Fork of the Kentucky River in Floyd County. [Kentucky Land Grants, p. 1605]. This area became Perry County in 1820 and Letcher County in 1842.

8. **Edward POLLY (David, 2)**, born 21 Dec 1758 in Halifax Co., VA, died 19 May 1845 at Ermine, Letcher Co., KY. He married Mary Agnes MULLINS, circa 1784 in Pittsylvania Co., VA by a Baptist minister named Bailey. She was born circa 1765 in Halifax Co., VA, died 24 July 1854, Ermine, Letcher Co., KY.

Her brothers, Joshua and John Mullins, are named in Revolutionary War pension applications. [W 25671, W 9236, W3032]. Joshua Mullins enlisted in Capt. Burton's Company with Edward Polley. Joshua Mullins made a deposition on the pension for John Mullins that his brother, John, enlisted in 1779. John Mullins married Nancy Gentry in 1792, Halifax County, and Henry Polley was the surety. A William Mullins Jr. married in 1798 and his father William Sr. gave his consent.

In 1782 October Court, Wm. Mullins & Mary his wife, were Plts. in trespass assault & battery. In 1786 November Court, Samuel Calland was Pltf. agst. Wm. Mullins & Edward Polley Defts. In 1787 March Court, Harman Cook was Pltf. agst. Edward Polley & Wm. Mullins Defts. [Pittsylvania Co. C.O. 4:493, 5:391-392, 5:426]

The 1787 Personal Property tax list for Pittsylvania County includes Wm. and Wm. Mullins, Jr.; Franklin County has a William Mullans and Charlotte County has a William Mullins. [1787 Census, 1:459-460] If one of these William Mullins is the father of Joshua, John and Mary Agnes Mullins, it seems that it would be the William Sr. in Pittsylvania County.

In the 1823 November Perry County, Kentucky Court, Edward POLLY was paid \$15 for keeping Mary Mullins for 1824. [Minute Book of Perry Co., Kentucky]

CHILDREN:

- 12 Sarah (Sally), born 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA, died aft 1860 in Lee Co., VA. She married 1st Potter, 2nd Daniel Stout, Apr 1819 in Carter Co., TN. He was born 9 Aug 1781 in Shenandoah Co., VA, died 25 Dec 1861, Woodway, Lee Co., VA. [Stout, p. 248]
- 13 Andrew, born 1787 in Pittsylvania Co., VA.
- 14 Mary (Polly), born bef 1794 in Pittsylvania Co., VA.
- 15 Agnes, born bef 1794.
- 16 Henry, born 11 Mar 1794 in Carter Co., TN, died 1881 in Letcher Co., KY. He married Martha (Patsy) Hall, 18 Apr 1819 in Floyd Co., KY.
- 17 Lourania (Raney), born 1796 in Carter Co., TN, died 1874 at Carr's Fork, Knott Co., KY. She married 1st John Penn Haggins, 20 Jun 1818 in Floyd Co., KY. She married 2nd Thomas Francis Jr., 11 Nov 1835, Perry Co., KY.
- 18 Joseph, born ca. 1799 in Carter Co., TN, died 1834. He married Telitha Davis, 22 Jun 1832, Knox Co., KY.
- 19 Edward Oliver, born 11 Apr 1803 in Carter Co., TN, died 25 Oct 1864 in Morgan Co., MO. He married Jane Buntin Adams, 28 Apr 1825 in Perry Co., KY.
- 20 Melvina (Vina), born 1804 in Carter Co., TN, died ca. 1840. She married Hiram Hogg, 6 Dec 1820 in Floyd Co., KY.
- 21 Nancy Jane, born 1805 in Carter Co., TN, died aft 1880 in Letcher Co., KY. She married Archelaus Craft, Jr., 23 Aug 1822 in Perry Co., KY.
- 22 David, born 6 Jan 1809 in Floyd Co., KY, died aft 1874. He married Henrietta Caudill/Holbrook?, 29 Oct 1829 in Perry Co., KY.
- 23 Susannah, born 1812 in Floyd Co., KY, died aft 1860. She married Enoch A. "Dutch" Webb, 4 Jun 1829 in Perry Co., KY.

[Info on this family from a Family Group Record by subscriber Dorothy Amburgey Griffith, 9514 Minerva Ave., St. Louis, MO 63114-3912 (1990)]

[The author welcomes correspondence with comments, additions and corrections.]

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[Editor's Note: Gwen Bjorkman's article appears to be a great leap forward in making sense of the available records of Virginia and Kentucky that are plagued with repetitive first names and multiple spellings of surnames. She has clearly identified and successfully linked three generations of Polleys. Her effort should serve as a paradigm of genealogical presentation for other researchers.]

rcr]

CORRECTION

In the December 1994 issue, Vol 1, No. 3, in the Polley Progenitors feature on the Bowman Station Polleys on p. 9, there is a reference in the first column at the top, to Edward Polley being a Revolutionary War pensioner residing in Pendleton Co., KY. The text should read **Perry Co.** We regret the error. The same error occurred on p. 7, top of column two, in the 1995 complimentary issue, where the Bowman Station story was reprinted. Thanks to the sharp eyes of Gwen Bjorkman for catching the mistake and providing the documentation for the correction. rcr

More VA/KY Polleys

JAMES POLLEY (ca. 1785 - ca. 1816)

by Susan Jurban

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James Polley was born ca. 1785, most probably in Pittsylvania Co., VA and died ca. 1816 in Floyd Co., KY. He was most likely the same James Polly who married Sarah Ford, 4 March 1805 in Adair Co., KY. Sarah was born ca. 1786 and she died between 1834-38 in Pike Co., KY. She was most probably the daughter of Joseph and Ruth (Phillips) Ford. Joseph was a Revolutionary War soldier who served from Burke Co., NC; he moved to Floyd Co., KY ca. 1809.

James Polly is found in the 13 June 1805 Adair Co., KY tax list. In February 1806, James was listed with 50 acres on Crocus Creek in Adair Co. and was again listed in the 1806 tax list. He was not listed in the 1807 Adair Co., KY tax list. It appears he moved from Adair Co. after the 1806 tax list and lived in Ohio for awhile. In the 1807 Butler Co., OH tax list James, David and William Polly were listed. The David listed was most likely David Polly who married 24 January 1803 in Adair Co., KY to Nancy Ford, and the William Polly was probably the William who married 12 June 1799 in Adair Co., KY to Jemima Kelso. It is not known if James, David and William Polly were related; however it is possible they were brothers or cousins. James' daughter Ruth stated in the 1850 Census that she was born in Ohio (ca. 1812). Also, James, the son of David Polly who settled in Lewis Co., KY, claimed to have been born in Ohio ca. 1808 in the 1860 Census.

The parents of James Polley, the subject of this article, are not known; however it is likely he was from the Pittsylvania Co., VA Polley line. Per a court record in December, 1817 Floyd Co., KY, James Pauley was "some years deceased." Two Polleys in Floyd Co., KY at that time were Edward Polley (1758-1845 Letcher Co., KY) married ca. 1784, in Pittsylvania Co., VA to Mary "Polly" Mullins; and David Polley (ca. 1765-ca. 1847 Pike Co., KY) married 21 March 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA to Elizabeth Justice.

Edward has been shown to be a son and David is strongly believed to be a son of David Polley (who died ca. 1785 in Pittsylvania Co., VA) and his wife, Agnes Adkins, daughter of William and Lydia Adkins of Pittsylvania Co., VA.

[Ed. Note: This latter David is developed in the preceding article by Gwen Boyer Bjorkman.]

On 19 June 1799, David Polly entered 200 acres on Crocus Creek and Edward Polly entered 150 acres also on Crocus Creek in Green Co., KY. They were in the 1800 and 1802 Green Co., KY tax lists and in Adair Co., KY tax lists from 1803-1806. On 27 November 1806, David Polly was deeded 70 acres on the Sandy River in Floyd Co., KY, and both David and Edward Polly were listed in the 1810 and 1820 Floyd Co., KY Census records. In 1821, when Floyd Co., KY was divided, David was then living in Pike Co., KY and Edward was in Perry Co., KY.

The names of Edward's children are known from Mary Mullins Polly's widow's pension application, and a son James is not listed. It is unknown how many children David and Elizabeth (Justice) Polley may have had; and it is unknown if they had a son named James. However, James Polley's widow and her children lived in Pike Co., KY where David Polley lived until his death and there appears from various records, a close affinity between David and James' children.

In fact, the oldest child of James, was apparently named David but was called David, Jr. in many records. This situation appears to be a case of a son [James] dying young [31] and the father [David] living close to his grandchildren. The apparently unwarranted "Jr." may have been adopted to differentiate the son from the grandfather. This is matter for further research to verify this assumption.

On 19 January 1818, the Floyd Co. Court ordered that David Polley and William Ratliff be appointed appraisers of the estate of James Polley. On 16 November 1818, Richard Dameron was appointed Guardian for "David, Nancy, Ruth and Betsy Pauley, infant heirs of James Pauley, all under the age 14." Sarah "Sally" (Ford) Polley, widow of James, remarried on 22 March 1817 in Floyd Co., KY to Jared Morgan. In January, 1824, Joseph Ford filed suit in Pike Co., KY against Jared and Sally Morgan to show cause as to why her children should not be bound out according to law. As a result, the children were ordered bound out. The fact that Joseph Ford was involved in this lawsuit indicates a relationship between him and the Polley children; therefore it seems reasonable that he might have been the father of Sarah Ford Polley Morgan. Sarah most likely died between 1833-38. When her daughter Rutha married in 1833, she gave her consent; however when her daughter Elizabeth married in 1838, her brother-in-law, George Powell was listed as her guardian.

CHILDREN of James and Sarah "Sally" (Ford) Polley:

1a) David Polley, Jr. b. ca. 1808 ?OH; d. before 1845 Pike Co., KY; m. 19 March 1829 Pike Co., KY to Anna Thornbury (b. ca. 1815 KY; d. after 1870), daughter of Martin and Milla Atkins Thornbury. He was listed as David Polley, Jr. in the 1830 Pike Co., KY Census, 1835 Pike Co., KY tax list and 1840 Pike Co., KY Census. David was not in the 1850 Census, his wife, Anna was listed as head of the household with three children. Anna remarried on 24 August 1852 in Pike Co., KY to 2) Isaac Epling, Sr. They were listed together in the 1860 Pike Co., KY Census; however apparently divorced by 1870 as she was listed as Anna Polly in the 1870 Pike Co., KY Census living with her daughter Pricey and son-in-law Richard Yates. Isaac Epling was living in his own household in Buchanan Co., VA with a third wife. Children:

1b) James Polley b. 20 December 1832 Pike Co., KY; d. 30 June 1903 Pike Co., KY; m. 24 May 1865 Lawrence Co., OH to Dulcina Rowe (b. ca. 1833; d. after 1880), daughter of Jonathan and Elizabeth Rowe. James served in the Civil War. children: William, John Buckhanon, David C., Louisa Belle, Lorenzo Dow.

2b) John Polley b. ca. 1833-5 Pike Co., KY; d. bef. 1870; m. 30 May 1853 Pike Co., KY to Elizabeth F. Epling (b. ca. 1836-9 Pike Co., KY), daughter of Isaac and Morning Ally Taylor Epling. John was in the 1860 Pike Co., KY Census, age 25. In 1870, he was not listed; his wife, Elizabeth was listed as head of the household. Children: Mary J. or A., James A., ?George E.

3b) Pricey Polley b. ca. 1836 Pike Co., KY; m. 28 December 1852 Pike Co., KY to Richard Yates (b. ca. 1831 VA). They were in the 1870 Pike Co., KY Census, her mother Anna Polly, age 62 was living with them. Children: Mary E. or A., James D., John M., Nancy P., William

2a) Nancy Polley b. ca. 1810 ?OH; d. ca. 1847-50 Pike Co., KY; m. 9 October 1828 Pike Co., KY to George Powell (b. ca. 1797-1803 Montgomery Co., VA). A letter of consent for their marriage was signed by Sally Morgan, late Sally Polley. George owned 200 acres on the Sandy River, 50 acres on Marrowbone, 50 acres on Lick Creek and 50 acres on Powell's Creek in the 1835 Pike Co., KY tax list. The 1840 Census indicates they had 5 males under age 30 and

3 females under age 20 in their household. Since Nancy and George were not married until 1828, the 2 males listed 15-30 and the female 15-20 were probably children from a first marriage for George. George married, after Nancy's death, on 27 October 1853 to Hanna Anderson. George was a Justice of the Peace and performed a marriage ceremony for his sister-in-law, Rutha Polley to William Dameron in 1847. Children known:

4b) Elizabeth Ann b. ca. 1830 Pike Co., KY; m. 31 October 1850 Pike Co., KY to Thompson Ratliff.

5b) Luvanna Polley b. ca. 1833 Pike Co., KY; m. 2 December 1858 Pike Co., KY to William Coleman.

3a) Ruth "Ruthy/Rutha" Polley b. ca. 1812 OH; m. 11 July 1833 Pike Co., KY to 1) George Ramsey (d. before 1840); she m. 27 February 1847 Pike Co., KY to 2) William Dameron (b. ca. 1822-25). When Ruth m. in 1847, she was married by her brother-in-law, George Powell, J.P. In 1824, Ruthy Polley was bound out to Hammon Williamson. When she married in 1833, to George Ramsey, her mother, Sarah Morgan gave her consent for her to marry. Children (1st m.):

6b) James Ramsey b. ca. 1836 Pike Co., KY; d. 3 April 1910 Pike Co., KY; m. 27 September 1855 Pike Co., KY to Emmalin (?Emily) Austin, daughter of John Austin. James served in the Civil War, he is buried in the Damron Cemetery in Shelbyana, Pike Co., KY.

7b) George W. Ramsey b. ca. 1838 Pike Co., KY; d. 15 August 1912, Pike Co., KY; m. 4 August 1866 Pike Co., KY to Elizabeth Little. He served in the Civil War, and is buried in the Damron Cemetery in Shelbyana, Pike Co., KY.

4a) Elizabeth "Betsy" Polley b. ca. 1814 KY; d. after 1880 Pike Co., KY; m. 15 February 1838 Pike Co., KY to John "Jackie" Thornbury (b. ca. 1812 KY; d. 1907 Mouthcard, Pike Co., KY), son of Martin and Milla Atkins Thornbury. In 1824, Betsy was bound out to Allen Lesley. When she married in 1838, George Powell, her brother-in-law was listed as her guardian. Jackie and Betsy settled in Mouthcard, KY in Pike Co. Their son, James M. remembered that his mother had killed a deer with a "battling" stick, an instrument used in washing clothes. There is a Thornbury Cemetery in Mouthcard at the head of Hackney Creek; however it is very hard to get to and has only a few old tombstones that are illegible. This may be where Jackie and Betsy were buried.

Children:

8b) James Madison Thornbury, b. 15 December 1838 Pike Co., KY; d. 4 February 1890 Pike Co., KY; m. 23 August 1860 Pike Co., KY to Mary Jane Stump (b. 10 April 1843; d. 23 May 1917 Pike Co., KY), daughter of George and Elizabeth Williams Stump. James served in the Union Army during the Civil War as a Lieutenant and was taken prisoner in 1864 and was held at Libby Prison. James escaped in December, 1864 when the prisoners were moved to South Carolina. Children: McClellan, Martin, Kizzie Kareen, George Stump, Dolly Peggy, Katherine Dils, Elizabeth B., Lauche Quillen, Daisy Oliva, John Kirby.

9b) Nancy P. Thornbury b. 1841 Pike Co., KY; m. 1 December 1859 Pike Co., KY to 1) Henderson Rowe; m. ca. 1869 to 2) Samuel R. Hurley (b. ca. 1834-5 Pike Co., KY; d. before 1880). In the 1880 Pike Co., KY Census, Nancy P. Hurley, widow, was living with her parents. Children (1st m.): Elizabeth Pricy, William E., Mary Frances, John B.; Child (2nd m.): James E.

10b) Rutha Ann Thornbury b. 1843 Pike Co., KY; m. 13 February 1868 Pike Co., KY to John H. Whitt (b. ca. 1841); married at the home of John Thornbury's. Children: James A., Tilda L., Milla J., Nancy E.

11b) Milla Jane Thornbury b. ca. 1845 Pike Co., KY; never married.

12b) Louisa "Lueasy" E. Thornbury b. November, 1847 Mouthcard, Pike Co., KY; d. 2 April 1903 Pike Co., KY; m. 18 April 1867 Pike Co., KY to Andrew Jackson "Jack" Hackney (b. April 1849 Mouthcard, Pike Co., KY; d. ca. 1930 Pike Co., KY), son of John T. and Frances Hurley Hackney. Children: John M., George McClellan, Elizabeth "Lizzy," James Matherson "Matt," William Thomas "Tom," Emzy "Em" Leonard, Frances S., and Victoria P.

13b) Lucinda Frances Thornbury b. 1850 Pike Co., KY; m. 13 February 1868 Pike Co., KY to William J. Williams (b. 1849).

14b) William Martin Thornbury b. 1854 Pike Co., KY; m. 3 April 1873 Pike Co., KY to 1) Mary Yost (b. 1854); m. 18 October 1875 Pike Co., KY to 2) Pricey Phillips (b. 1858). Children known (2nd. m.): Emsy M., Elizabeth.

[Editor's Note: Susan Jurban has expended great effort in researching the family of her James Polley. Limited space makes her extensive references too numerous to publish. However, interested readers are encouraged to contact Susan for specific sources. The family of James Polley, including grandchildren, is a sizable portion of the VA/KY puzzle. If each Polley researcher in this area put together this much of his ancestor's family, we would be ready to publish a book. rcr]

-{Research Progress continued from p. 3}-

were transported. He also gives their age and their home of record. An Ira Polley, age 22, of Lyme (Jefferson Co.), NY is listed among the unfortunate, unwilling emigrants. At the time we became aware of this Ira, we couldn't connect him anyone. All of a sudden he fits!

The age in 1838 and the known birth year are a perfect match. Also the presumed brother, Hiram, and father, John, are known to have lived in upstate New York. One of Hiram's children, b. 7 Sep 1840, was named Ira. Of course the similarity of the surnames Parmalee and Palmerley and the Danbury, CT birth place also lead one to conclude that Ira is indeed a Woburn descendant of the line: George¹, Samuel², Samuel³, John⁴, Joseph⁵, John⁶, Ira⁷. Recall that Joseph⁵ was a Revolutionary War veteran and John⁴ was one of the colonists who were given land in Nova Scotia, ca. 1760, to encourage British settlement there after the Acadians were ousted.

It looks like Mr. Freeman has found himself a most interesting and colorful, ready made line of Polleys. In turn he has given us 15 descendants of Ira Polley in a totally new environment. We hope to have Mr. Freeman subscribe soon.

On another front, subscriber George Polley sends us a copy of a letter he received in December '95 from a Polley gentleman who is a native and current citizen of South Africa. The writer of the letter speaks of his ancestors coming from England "in the early 1900's to seek their fortune in the diamond fields." His research reveals about 50 households in all of South Africa with the Polley name. We have sent off a letter to introduce ourselves to him.

We promised a conclusion to the Moses Polley story but again ran out of space. In fact, there really is not much more to tell about Moses, from a Polley point of view, except to track down his daughter and any possible descendants.

As for the crime itself, there are volumes of newspaper reports that ensued between the commission of the multiple murders in November of 1883 and the trial that was finally held a year later. These clippings are available to anyone willing to crank microfilm in Jackson Co., MI. Good luck to anyone so interested! You are bound to get wrapped around the axle in all sorts of theories and speculation regarding all the

[The author solicits correspondence regarding her research and will provide references for SASE.]

characters in this horrible tragedy, including Moses, many of which are truly outrageous, and none of which are provable. If anyone wants to pursue research in this area we are more than willing to share what materials we have acquired.

Regarding the POLLEYS families, written up in the last issue, we have gathered a few more facts and some rather genealogically rich obituary clippings. There appears to be enough for a follow on feature, but again, not this issue, for lack of space. rcr

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Welcome Aboard



Mrs. Winfred M. (Slentz) Wood - Mrs. Wood is a long time researcher. We found her through old correspondence with subscriber Esther Walter going back to 1977. She is researching her husband's Polley line that reaches back to Gettysburg, PA. Andrew Polley (also Polly or Pauley) died there 8 March 1825 at the age of 85. He was married to Catharina Slence, dau. of Philip and Bridget Slence. They had 12 children. If anyone can help Mrs. Wood she would appreciate correspondence with them. **Address: 404 Hicks Rd., Castle Rock, WA 98611**

Mr. Robert Underwood - Mr. Underwood first contacted us via Internet E-mail. His Polley line is from Roxbury. Like subscriber Dave Hintz, Bob is a descendant of Bethia Polley and Nathaniel Parker who were married 24 Sep 1677. She was born 12 Feb 1659 to John Polley and Susannah Bacon, one of John's 13 daughter's. Bob is currently stationed with the U.S. Embassy in Lima, Peru. He receives his mail through the U.S. Air Force Postal Service and is also online. **Address: American Embassy Lima, Unit 3725, APO AA 34031. E-mail: underw@amauta.rcp.net.pe**

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Mary Lou Featherston - 1322B N. 43rd St., Waco, TX 76710. Tel: (817) 753-2282

Queries

Gwen Byer Bjorkman - Sarah Polly m. Eligah Baker 1826, Perry Co., KY. They are next to Edward Polly in 1830 Perry Co. census and Eligah signs an affidavit in Edward's Rev. War pension file. Sarah is probably granddaughter of Edward. Among the ch. of Edward, she is possibly daughter of Sarah Polly before she m. Daniel Stout in 1806, or of Andrew Polly. Seeking any and all records of Andrew Polly to determine parentage of Sarah (Polly) Baker.

Jean M. Brewer - Need info on family of Zachariah Polley, b. ca. 1806, m. Nancy ____; their son James Wesley Polley, b. ca. 1841, m. Mary McClary; their son George Wesley Polley, b. ca. 1870, m. Florence Turpin; their son Neff Polley, b. ca. 1923, m. Frances Fuhr. They last lived in Brown Co., IN.

Patricia Zagata - Seeks record/documentation of 1st marr. of Marshall L. Polley, s. of James Madison & Queen Lillian (Farmer) P. He was b. 14 Aug 1909, possib. Webster Co. KY. SSAN was 405-01-7555. Second marriage believed to be with Mildred Polley.

Betty G. Richmond - Seeking parents of Mary (?Polly?) Eldridge, b. PA, ca. 1790. She m. Ebenezer Eldridge ca. 1813-14, prob. NY or PA as his 2nd wife. They had children: Ebenezer, Jr., Mary and Zoeth. All available documentation & census entries ambiguous as to name Polly. Cannot determine if it is maiden surname or diminutive of Mary. Ebenezer, Sr.'s 1st wife, Chloe Orcutt, d. 1813 in Washington Co., NY (no issue). Ebenezer, Sr. lived in Washington Co., NY in the 1800 census, as well as a Thomas Polley in the same town, Salem. Polley was listed with 1 female, 10-16, possibly Mary. Eldridges lived in Erie Co., PA in 1820 census. Ebenezer, Sr. d. in 1830s and Mary moved with her adult children to Sauk Co., WI by 1844-45 and lived with son-in-law Hiram Bailey. Later moved to Los Angeles, CA in 1872 with Zoeth and his family.

Evelyn G. White - Seeks mar. & ch. of Josiah Polley b. 16 Aug 1746, Dudley, MA, son of John Polley (1711-1750/1) and Mary Hatch. Also seek any info on par., mar., or ch. of a Josiah Polley who came to live with Dea. Thos. Buckminster, Framingham, MA, on 6 Jun 1781, at age 11.

James L. Polley, John E. Polley, and Susan M. Randt - All seeking anc. & POB of David Polley, b. 4 Sep 1786; d. ca. 1834, NYC; m. 1 Jan 1811, Hannah Purdy, b. 1 Apr 1795, VT.

Susan M. Jurban - Seeking post-1880 locations of descendants of John Polley (b. ca. 1833 Pike Co., KY; d. prior to 1870); m. 24 Mar 1853 Pike Co., KY to Elizabeth Epling (b. ca. 1836 Pike Co., KY; d. after 1880), d/o Isaac & Morning Ally (Taylor) Epling. John was s/o David & Anna (Thornbury) Polley of Pike Co., KY. John & Elizabeth were in the 1860 Pike Co., KY census w/ch: Mary J., age 4 & James A., age 2. In the 1870 Pike Co., KY census, Elizabeth is listed as hh with Mary A., age 14; James A., age 10; Miles McColeman, age 5; & George E. Polley, age 1. In the 1880 Pike Co., KY census: s. James M. Polley, age 20; w. Nancy V., age 20; s. Wm., age 1; mother Elizabeth, 45; brother, George E., 10; & sister Lucina, age 4.

Jack C. Thompson - Seeks info re John Wesley Pawley, Sr. He m. Margaret Briscoe in 1785 in Nelson Co., KY. He d. 1837 in Hardin Co., KY. Need par., POB, DOB, etc.

Ruth E. Curtis - Need par., DOB, POB, POD, & DOD for Charlotte Polley of "Cobscook," who m. 15 Dec 1800 Joseph Garnett, son of Daniel Garnett, Jr. and Hannah Sherman. Mar. recorded Eastport, ME. Thirteen ch. betw. 1801 and 1823, all recorded Dennyville (Washington Co.), ME. Family res. Pembroke (Wash. Co.), ME.

Judith M. Hull - Seeks par. of Isaac Polley, b. ca. 1815, ME; m. Mary Hatch, b. ca. 1817, ME; both known to be res of Boston in 1850.

E. June Alviso - Seeks par. and other particulars on John Polly, b. ca. 1830, KY; m. Mary Voris, 22 Feb 1855 in Switzerland Co., IN. They had twelve ch. John believed to be a Union vet, but no specifics to uniquely identify records in Nat. Arch.

Richard W. Switzer - Seeks par., DOB, POB, of James W. Polley who m. Sylvania _____. He d. ca. 1865. Had dau. Elizabeth, b. TN, ca. 1790, who m. Isaac Shipley, Monticello, Wayne Co., KY, 15 Jul 1809.

James Albert Polley - Seeks probate info for John Polley and/or Mary Taler whose 1 Apr 1795 marr. is documented in Halifax Co., VA, as well as probate info for John Polley and/or Mary White whose 28 June 1796 marr. is documented in Shelby Co., KY. His John and Mary were both b.

1775 and d. 1849 and are believed to have d. in Breckinridge Co., KY. Attempting to link correct John and Mary to son Joseph W[hite?] Polley, b. 27 May 1799, d. 20 Sep 1878, m. Elizabeth Huff, 10 Sep 1820.

Also seeking contact with other living descendants of James Clark Polley, Sr. whose children were: Benjamin A., Banner, James Clark, Jr., Ellender or Ellenora, and Rolla or Rolly.

Mary Jeanne Wilk - Seeking any info on James Polley, b. 1810, m. Diana (or Diannah) Carey, b. 1812. Ch.: David, b. 1842; Fairchild, b. 1844; George, b. 1850; Marion, b. 1854; James Buchanan, b. 1856; Austin Deatley, b. 1859. The family lived in Lewis Co., KY, possibly Tollesboro. Info sought on children and descendants as well.

Esther L. Walter - Seeks anc. of William Polly, b. 1776, VA; d. 1847, Darke Co., OH; m. 1799, Greene Co., KY, Jemima Kelso (1779-1840), dau. of Robert K. Wm. & Jemima had 13 ch.

Joan Reed Miller - Seeks documentation to confirm birth & par. of Miriam (or Marian) Polley, said to be b. 10 Jun 1856, Lawrence, MA, to Alfred & Elizabeth (Kellogg) Polly.

Shirley S. Gilbert - Seeks par., DOB, & POB of Hilliard Jonathan Polley, m. Sally S. Hill, 28 Sep 1876, Gonzales Co., TX.

Polley Tools

The following is a list of resources that the compiler has found useful in VA/KY research and has shared with us. Additional addresses and phone numbers of additional resources are welcomed for a subsequent Polley Tools.

Adair County, KY Genealogical Society

P.O. Box 613
Columbia, KY 42728 (\$10.00 per year)

Adair County, KY Public Library

(502) 384-2472

BlueGrass Roots (KY Genealogical Society)

P.O. Box 153
Frankfort, KY 40602

Society of Descendants of

Bowman's Station Settlers

Nancy Foley Johnson, Pres.
639 Mint Hill Lane
Lexington, KY 40509-1918

The Filson Club

1310 South 3rd Street
Louisville, KY 40208
(502) 635-5083

Green County Library

116 S. Main Street
Greensburg, KY 42743
(502) 932-7081

Green County, KY County Clerk's Office

203 W. Court Street
Greensburg, KY 42743
(502) 932-5386

Green Co. Record Herald Newspaper

102 W. Court Street

Greensburg, KY 42743
(502) 932-4381 or (502) 932-4441

Gorin Genealogical Publishing

c/o Sandi Gorin
205 Clements Ave.
Glasgow, KY 42141-3409
(502) 651-9114

Green Co. Historical Society

P.O. Box 276
Greensburg, KY 42743 (\$10.00 a year)

Greensburg Masonic Lodge

John Edwards - Secretary
(502) 932-3929

Hart Co., KY Historical Society

P.O. Box 606
Munfordville, KY 42765
(502) 524-0101

Kentucky Kinfolk

P.O. Box 22621
Lexington, KY 40522

KY Vital Statistics Office

(502) 564-4212

McDowell Genealogical Publications

11129 Pleasant Ridge Rd.
Utica, KY 42376
(800) 285-4075 or (502) 275-4075

National Historical Publishing Co.

209 Greeson Hollow Rd.
P.O. Box 529
Waynesboro, Tennessee 38485

Tennessee Family Connections

P.O. Box 241145
Memphis, TN 38124-1145

Virginia State Historical Society

428 N. Blvd, Box 731
Richmond, Virginia 28221-0311
(804) 358-4901

Vigo County, Indiana Library

#1 Library Square Attn: Mary Margaret
Terre Haute, IN 47807
(812) 232-1113

DeWayne Wilson

Cousins Genealogy Publications
550 Myers Road
Campbellsville, KY 42718
(502) 789-1967

Whitley Co., IN Historical Museum

108 W. Jefferson Street
Columbia City, IN 46725

Barbara Wright (KY Gen. Pub.)

150 Busy Baker Rd.
Campbellsville, KY 42718
(502) 465-7125

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OBITUARIES

Robert Webster Polley. Mr. Polley died unexpectedly at his home in Nashua, NH on 17 Nov 1995. He was born in Fitchburg, MA on 23 Sep 1916, son of Alvin H. and Elsie (Lane) Polley. Polley was a licensed professional engineer and served as vice president at several local companies, retiring in 1972. He held memberships in a number of lineage societies including the Sons of the American Revolution. He was predeceased by his brother, Alvin H. Polley, Jr., who extensively researched Polley family history. Survivors include his wife of 55 years, Doris (Montana) Polley; two daughters and a son-in-law, Judith J. and Eugene F. Kusekoski and Carol L. Hutchinson; and two granddaughters, all of Nashua.

*Extracted from The Telegraph (Nashua, NH), 20 Nov 1995.
Submitted by James H. Sarvay*

Dorothy Elaine (Washburn) Polley. We were also saddened on learning, belatedly, of the passing of Dorothy Polley, widow of Alvin H. Polley, Jr., on 16 March 1995. She was born 11 May 1914 in Westbrook, ME to Harry Wm. Washburn and Bertha I. Farwell. Dorothy and Alvin were married in Westbrook on 19 June 1937. She is survived by a daughter, Linda Mock, of Contoocook, NH. Dorothy was a former subscriber. rcr

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: