

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



As Fall approaches and school reopens, the September issue goes into the mail beginning its journey to every corner of the country as well as the other side of the world. When it arrives I hope it finds everyone in reasonably good health and ready to get back to some serious genealogy if you've put it aside for the summer. For those who used the summer for travel and research, I hope you did well and are ready to share your discoveries in **POLLEY POINTERS**.

We extend thanks to our loyal readership. There were 30 renewals due last quarter. Only a few reminders had to be sent and those are coming in now as well. Our overall renewal rate has been well over 90%. That's a number that people at Time® or Newsweek® would die for!

We note many taking advantage of a two-year subscription to lock in the rate. That's a smart move as we don't know how much longer we can hold the line on production costs.

We see many of the readers preparing for the 21st century by getting online with their home computers. We see in this issue alone, four current subscribers and two new subscribers announcing E-mail addresses. For current subscribers we hope we had some small influence through our previous article in the December '95 issue about being online as a genealogical tool.

The returns on the June survey of the readership have been very gratifying. Although the total number returned perhaps could not qualify as a large enough sample for statistical validity, I can report that there were no negative comments. There were some very constructive comments which we shall attempt to implement. If you forgot to send your survey and would like to have a say, send it in now. It's not too late.

A family reunion can be a useful tool for gathering the memories and recollections of the living. We report on two Polley reunions in this issue. Since our travel budget doesn't allow me to cover such gatherings in person, we depend on the readers to forward us stories of these events they attend. We thank you for your help.

Dick Parrott

Canadian Polleys



In 1965, Polley researcher, Alvin H. Polley, Jr., was tracking the siblings of his great-great-grandfather, David Polley, who were said to have headed north toward Canada. He wrote to the Public Archives of Canada requesting a search of their holdings that might mention or relate to anyone named Polley. He got 15 "hits" on Polley and variant spellings. Counting multiple document groupings for the same first name, all in all the archives came up with 22 different documents. We list the document descriptions and their identifications just as Alvin received them.

1. **Benoit Polly**, a resident near Kingston, Upper Canada, is mentioned as having helped to capture some deserters from the army and as having shared a £25 bounty for this, 8, 9, September 1813. (Record Group 8, C715, page 11; C688e, page 198.)
2. **Electra Polley**, the widow of Hecla Polley of Cornwall, is listed on a marriage bond as intending to marry John Mitter, 15 February 1840. (Record Group 5, B9, volume 41, page 8071.)
3. There are numerous letters from **George Frederick Poly**, a lieutenant in the First Battalion, 20th Regiment, which are mainly of a routine nature during his service in Canada, 1847-1853. (Record Group 8, C862, page 19; C863, pages 77, 95, 100, 125, 126, 130, 133, 151; C864, pages 26, 29, 39, 41, 78, 79, 108.)
4. **Harry Polly**:
In a petition dated 6 February 1841, Harry Polly stated that he has lived on lot 19, broken front of Yonge Township for twenty years. He also owned the west quarter of lot 18 and occupied the north east three-quarters of the same lot. The latter was located by, but not deeded to Rice Honeywell. Polly petitioned to purchase this lot. A notation on the petition indicates that it was approved. (Record Group 1, L3, P 1/56, 3 pages.)
5. **James Polly**:
The name James Polly appears on a list of settlers who claim to have fought for the Government in and around Toronto against the

rebels. The list is dated 1 April 1839. (Record Group 1, L3, L21/67, 3 pages.)

6. John Polley:

a) In a petition dated York, 28 November 1818, John Polley stated that he was an emigrant from Northern Ireland who came to Canada in May 1818 with a family of 3 sons and 5 daughters. At that time he drew 100 acres in Cavan Township. This he felt was unsuitable so he leased lot 9 in the second concession south of Dundas Street in the township of Toronto. His eldest son, Richard, was twenty years old. The other sons were 19 and 7 years of age. He expected his brother, Richard Polley, his four nephews and two nieces to emigrate the next spring. Polley, therefore, requested that his 100 acres in Cavan revert to the Crown and that he receive another grant for himself and his family. A notation indicates that he was unsuccessful. (Record Group 1, L3, P 11/99, 2 pages.)

b) A petition from a John Polly for land, dated 12 January 1819 states that he was a carpenter and had lived in York Township for eleven years. During the War of 1812, he served with a volunteer militia group at Prescott and later in the Incorporated Militia for two years. He asked for land for his services. (Record Group 1, L3, P 11/102, 3 pages.)

c) The name John Polley appears on a list of people petitioning for town lots near Cootes Paradise, Upper Canada. It is reported that the land in question is claimed by another and is not the Crown's to give, 7 March 1827. (Record Group 1, L1, volume 32, page 56)

d) A John Polleys swears in a declaration for Aliens, 15 September 1794 that he is a native of the United States, residing in New York State, and that he is in Canada seeking employment. (Record Group 4, B45.)

e) A John Polly of the Talbot District served as a private in the Incorporated Militia during the War of 1812 and as such petitioned for land on 15 January 1845. The petition was recommended. (Record Group 1, L3, P 3/13, 4 pages.)

f) A John Polly submitted a tender to build twenty houses on the Credit River at a cost of £55 10/ each, c.1825. (Record Group 1, E3, volume 37, page 67)

g) A journal kept by a John Polley gives an account of the battles around Boston, 1775 but does not contain personal information. (Manuscript Group 23, B5, 23 pages.)

7. The name **Josiah Polleys** appears on the same Alien declaration as the name of John Polleys. (Record Group 4, B45.)

8. **L. Polly Polly**, the wife of Henry Polly, petitioned for land as the daughter of a United Empire Loyalist, John Munro of Yonge Township, on 17 February 1819. (Record Group 1, L3, P 16/6, 4 pages.)

9. **Mary Polley** in her petition for land dated 23 April 1834, stated that she was the daughter of Jacob Wagoner Jr. of Cornwall, Upper Canada, who was a Loyalist. She was the wife of William Polley who also fought in the war. She asked for 200 acres and a notation shows that her petition was recommended. (Record Group 1, L3, P 19/37, 4 pages.)

10. **Mary Ann Polley** is listed on a marriage bond in which she is to marry Wm. H. Wilson of Cornwall, 9 December 1836. (Record Group 5, B9, volume 32, page 5542.)

11. Moses Polly:

On 20 December 1828, Moses Polly stated that he lived at a Government house at the mouth of the Credit River where he kept a public house for travellers. He asked that a secure lease be given him. (Record Group 1, E1, U.C. State Book I, page 32.)

On 12 September 1839 Polly repeated his earlier petition to lease the six-acre Government Reserve but the Executive Council did not see any necessity for the continuance of any government establishment at Port Credit and so they recommended the land to be laid out in town lots and sold. (Record Group 1, L1, volume 39, page 119.)

12. **Nancy Polley** stated that she was the wife of Varnum Polley of Cornwall and the daughter of Jacob Wagoner, United Empire Loyalist. As she was now over twenty-one, she prayed for land as the daughter of a Loyalist on 24 April 1834. Her husband also fought as a Loyalist. A notation states that the petition was recommended. (Record Group 1, L3, P 18/162, 4 pages.)

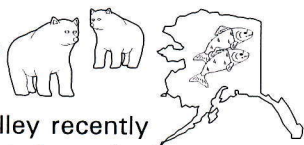
13. Richard Polley:

The name of Richard Polley appears on a list of settlers, 1 April 1839, who claimed to have fought for the Government in and around Toronto during the 1837 rebellion in Upper Canada. The settlers requested land for their services. (Record Group 1, L3, L 21/67, 3 pages.)

14. Samuel Poley:

a) A Samuel Poley appears as a private on a roll of a detachment of the 104th Regiment at Three Rivers, 20 January 1814. (Record Group 8, C1709, page 4.)

Polley Pioneers - Alaska



Reader George F. Polley recently sent us some fascinating information about his father, Beverley Hubbard Polley. The father's first name was the surname of his mother, Belle Beverley. The middle name was taken from his father, Abner Hubbard Polley [see June '96, pp. 20-21, *More Texas Polleys*]. However, the name Hubbard, among the Texas Polleys, comes from Whitehall, NY. It was the maiden name of Rachel Hubbard, first wife of Revolutionary War veteran Jonathan Polley, who had nine children together. The Polley line of descent from Woburn, MA is: George¹, John², Matthew³, Jonathan⁴, Jonathan⁵, Joseph Henry⁶, Abner Hubbard⁷, Beverley Hubbard⁸, George Felbert⁹.

B. H. Polley, as he signed himself, was born 25 Jul 1875 and married Ethel Jane Rockwell some time around the turn of the century. They had three boys in a relatively short time. Beverley Rockwell Polley was born 15 Aug 1901, George Felbert Polley (the contributor to this article) was born 25 Dec 1902, and Henry Mason Polley, was born 29 June 1904. The latter of the three brothers was named for an uncle. George's two brothers are now deceased.

B. H. Polley worked for a short period as a cowboy in the Texas panhandle but was soon overcome with a wanderlust characteristic of a number of Polleys. He became fascinated with the idea of going to Alaska to seek his fortune. When his sons were no older than five or six, he left them in the care of their mother and grandparents and headed north.

George's father worked at many tasks during his Alaskan quest including mail carrier and railroad worker. For a number of years he apparently based himself in Washington State, making extended forays into Alaska seeking the *pot of gold at the rainbow's end*. Although gold was first found in 1850, it was 1880 before the first commercial mining operations in Juneau, and 1886 in the Yukon basin. When gold was found in the beach sands of Norton Sound, it led to the founding of Nome in 1898. Later gold discoveries were made at Fairbanks in 1902; Bonfield, 1903; Kantishna, 1906; Innoko-Iditarod, 1906-8; and in many smaller districts. It must have been reports of these latter strikes that provided B.H. the impetus for striking out to the north.

Over the ensuing years, there was a trickle of communications with his family, in the form of letters, enough for George to locate him in Taco-

ma in 1924. However, in that year B. H. moved permanently to Alaska and set up a home camp on Lake Nerka, one of the Wood River lakes sixty miles north of Dillingham and about 400 miles southwest of Mt. McKinley. Dillingham lies on Nushagak Bay where the Nushagak River and Wood River empty through the Bay and finally into the Bering Sea. Here he was able to pursue his real passions, fishing, hunting and trapping, although he still longed for the *big strike*.

In a letter to George dated May 1932, his father gives a sample of the prospector's dream: "I have the big hope now. I found some fine looking ore last fall. It's mostly silver I am sure and it is pretty low in price but silver glance is high grade and it should run as high as 2000 oz. or 3000 oz. per ton with some gold and looks like there may be some nickel and copper in it. If it would only go 400 oz. with some gold it would be pay enough. It [the location of the ore] has one advantage. Cheap transportation. Good electric power site and timber handy. I feel sure this time. It's what brought me back here and I have looked a lot for it. It is a large vein and well located. I will get an assay early this summer and if it is good I want all three of you [presumably his sons] to get in on it. That is if you wish. I will know it is good before I say so."

In a later letter around Christmas time, B.H. continues the dream while recognizing some of the realities: "... If I make good I may go out and buy me a place somewhere and get a few cattle. I don't know. I love mining and prospecting but here I am handicapped because one has to put in so much of one summer getting grub. Being alone, too, makes it hard for one man— has a hard time getting around the country. I know there is some money here if I could hit the spot, but it takes time."

In the same letter he describes the geography. "If you look up Bering Sea on your map you will find in the southeast corner a bay called Bristol. An area of this is Nu-sha-gak bay into which the Nushagak river empties. Right where the N river enters the bay the Wood river empties on the N.E. side. Wood river drains these 5 lakes. The first is A-lek-na-gik which lies N.W. and S.E. ... The second lake is Nerka (scientific name of red salmon) the third lake is Beverley which I named in 1910. The name is generally spelt wrong but I named and mapped it and sent map to Geodetic survey at Washington D.C. They accepted this name and it is official and is used as such in their reports on fish. With the map you can make out what kind of country I am in. It really is a beautiful place. Lakes and trees and mts."

In a 1933 letter, B.H. relates in great detail his exploits on a moose hunt during which he and his hunting companion came upon an angry grizzly bear emerging from his den. Attempting to back off from the bear he became entangled in his own snowshoes, which do not function well in reverse. With the bear charging him, he had no choice but to shoot at a dangerously close range. It took several rounds to stop the bear and in B.H.'s words, "The bear died. He died within 3 inches of the muzzle of that 30 inch barrel and had one hoof within 2 ft of my left foot. ... The bear measured 9 ft. 2 in. and weighed between 1300 and 1400#, some bear and an old bear. I was scared— yes I was, but I could not get away. I had to stand."

He goes on to enumerate his trapping and fishing catches for the past year: 53 mink, a fox, an otter, and 30 beaver that brought only \$610 plus fish that brought only \$200. He says, "Well lots of people have not made that much in 3 years I am sure. That would be a very good income if prices were as before." He then enumerates the same catch with pre-depression prices and estimates it would have brought about \$1946. He closes the letter with an expression of faith in Franklin Roosevelt to be able to straighten out the U.S. economy.

In the March 1967 issue of Alaska Sportsman, a friend of B.H., at age 89, writes a "letter to the editor" commenting on a previous article in the November 1966 issue about Lake Nerka. She recounts many of the same hardships of life experienced and expressed by Polley as she observed them in 1925 while in his company. In her short letter she vividly makes the point that although the country was beautiful and the dreams magnificent, life was measured by the number of dried fish that could be preserved for the winter and how well you cared for your sled dogs.

Beverley Hubbard Polley died in 1940 and is buried in the Alaska Pioneers Cemetery in Sitka, Alaska. Although his lifestyle may seem to have been somewhat bizarre to some, he literally made his mark on the map of the world. Also, through his letters to his family, we have a firsthand account of the taming of the last American frontier. rcr

George Polley and his wife Audrey made the trip to Alaska in 1966 and spent five weeks visiting the various cities and towns, finally getting to see what had fascinated his father. We are extremely grateful to George for sharing these wonderful letters with us.

rcr

The Book Nook



The Discovery, Settlement and Present State of Kentucke, by John Filson, was originally published in 1784. This seminal work on the history of the fifteenth state has been reprinted by Heritage Books, Inc. The book, ISBN 0-7884-0474-1, Pub. Cat. No. F347, has 120 pp., including a map of Kentucky as Filson knew it. Paper bound, it sells for \$14.50 plus \$4.00 S&H. Heritage accepts Visa, MC, checks, and M.O.

The Filson Club, a well respected Kentucky group, headquartered in Louisville and dedicated to preservation of the history of the Commonwealth was named for the author of this volume. Filson described his little book, designed as a guide for those contemplating settlement in what was then the western wilderness of Virginia, as "an essay towards the topography, and natural history of that important country." Once the reader becomes accustomed to the archaic use of the letter that looks like "f" in places where we now expect "s" and other early spellings, there is much to be absorbed from Filson's account. The book tracks the settlement, natural history and topography of Kentucky from 1754 to its original 1784 publication date. This first published description of Kentucky presents an engaging, detailed narrative to delight and inform readers.

Sections cover such topics as Kentucky's discovery, purchase and settlement; its boundaries and terrain; climate; native animals; economy and trade; and "curiosities." The appendix contains a 30-page narrative of the adventures of Daniel Boone; the minutes of the 1784 council held with the Piankashaw Indians; an account of the Indian Nations within the United States, including sections describing their habits, genius, and religion; and a "new and accurate" map of Kentucky. An all name index has been added to the reprint to make it more useful.

Filson sought and received endorsement for his book from three prominent Kentuckians of the era. A preface page extols Filson's work: "*We the Subscribers, inhabitants of Kentucke, and well acquainted with the country from its first settlement, at the request of the author of this book, and map, have carefully revifed them, and recommend them to the public, as exceeding good performances, containing as accurate a defcription of our country as we think can poffibly be given;... Witnefs our hands this 12th day of May, Anno Domini 1784, DANIEL BOON, LEVI TODD, JAMES HARROD.*"

If you have early roots in Kentucky, this volume will provide the flavor of the environment and conditions experienced by your forebears. Available direct from the publisher at 1540-E Pointer Ridge Pl., Suite 300, Bowie, MD 20716. Catalog of other titles available on request. rcr

A Good Time Was Had By All



One of the ways genealogists gather data in preparing family histories is by talking to the relatives and eliciting their knowledge of events, names, dates and places so crucial to a complete and accurate history. What better place is there to meet elusive distant cousins and revisit aging aunts and uncles than at a planned family reunion? Each person comes to the reunion for their own purposes but most are willing to share their special knowledge with kin. Take advantage of the next reunion of your particular family group, or if they are not frequent enough, try arranging one. Below we have accounts of two Polley reunions from this summer. Perhaps we can turn this into a regular feature.

rcr

Polley Reunion — Arizona*

It was a grand gathering of the clan on Friday and Saturday, 21-22 June 1996 in Tempe, AZ, site of another reunion of the southwest Polleys, all descendants of Texas pioneer, Joseph Henry Polley and his wife Mary Bailey. About 65 attended the festivities. For some it was a renewal of old acquaintances. For others it was the meeting of Polley relatives for the first time.

The events kicked off with dinner at the Fiesta Inn. Since the inn is located on land once owned by the Polley family where they operated a dairy farm, it seemed a fitting place to hold this get together.

The descendants of Mary Augusta Polley (1827-1915), **eldest** child of Joseph Henry, were well represented. Descendants stemming from both of her husbands, Joseph Egbert Polley and Walker Keith Baylor, were there in force. Subscribers Adrienne Reeves, Janice Frost, and Bert Everts were in attendance as well as spouses, many children, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, etc., too numerous to name individually.

From the other end of the time spectrum were some descendants of Walter Webster Polley (1851-1928), the **youngest** of Joseph Henry's eleven children. The family of Abel and Dorothy Parks Ticquet, their daughter Diane and son-in-law Richard Perry represented Walter's line.

As guests arrived they were given color coded name tags so their particular Polley line could be identified easily. A delicious buffet dinner was served as part of the meticulous arrangements

skillfully executed by Kay Salmon. [Ed. Note: No one appreciates the work involved in an affair like this unless they've done it once. Thank you Kay, from all the Polleys.]

Many of the guests brought photos, scrapbooks, various memorabilia and historical data on the Texas 300. One particular photo was of extreme interest. It was taken of the magnificent rosewood piano that had once graced the Whitehall mansion, home of Joseph Henry and Mary. The instrument had been shipped from Whitehall, NY, Joseph Henry's boyhood home town, for which he named his Texas home. The piano now resides with great-great-granddaughter, Diane Perry.

Of course no reunion would be complete without some swapping of family stories and the telling and re-telling of tales of courage, luck, heroism, achievement, accomplishment and good fortune [perhaps enhanced just a bit here and there]. To be sure there are also accounts of hard times, disappointment, bad luck, misfortune, etc. [perhaps recounted in the best light with just a few details left out]. That's what family history is all about. The Polley gathering was no exception.

After dinner, acting as Master of Ceremonies, Alan Polley got the ball rolling and a discussion of family stories ensued for the next two hours featuring the thoughts and comments of the two eldest Polley descendants in attendance, Lorraine Polley Salmon Hawley, 88, and Arthur Marvin Polley, 86. [Subscriber Wesley Egbert Polley, 84, Adrienne's dad, had been scheduled to be part of the "panel of elders" but had to cancel because of illness.]

Typical of the stories is one about a Polley cattleman who befriended Pancho Villa by treating his wounded. Once while rounding up a scattered herd, Polley ventured across the Rio Grande into Mexico. He was confronted by two banditos who forced him back to their camp at gun point, fascinated by Polley's large diamond ring. Not being able to force the ring from Polley's finger they were fixing to take it the hard way, with a machete. As Polley's hand was being placed on a tree stump, Villa stepped into their camp and ordered, "No, no, es mi amigo," and Polley was spared.

Janice Frost took the opportunity to extend remarks about the Polley family history that were about as close to the original source as one can get. Janice being a descendant of Walker Baylor, was fortunate to have heard many detailed

stories from her mother with whom Mary Augusta had lived in her old age. Mary Augusta wrote many things down, as did Janice's mother. Now Janice is in the process of compiling it all. [Ed. Note: She has shared much with **POLLEY POINTERS** and a feature article or two are in the works.]

During the evening's festivities, there was a special recognition of Wes Polley's wife, Essie, who recently became a member of the octogenarian club. Although many had attended her birthday celebration, many more were given the opportunity to give her their best wishes.

Most of the family members spent the night at the Fiesta Inn or other local accommodations. On Saturday morning at the breakfast buffet, people were seated at random based on their draw from a deck of cards. This helped people to mix and get better acquainted with their Polley "cousins." After breakfast it was open mike time and each family group got the opportunity to introduce themselves and tell something of their background, occupation, place where they live, etc.

The reunion was drawn to a close with a prayer of benediction offered by Alan Polley voicing gratitude for the noble Polley heritage, present family closeness and support, and for posterity to come.

The reunion was well recorded. A professional photographer took group pictures of each family group, one generation at a time, until the entire group was included in one large group photo. Audio cassette recordings were made of people sharing information and introducing themselves. Richard Perry made a video tape of the entire reunion. Adrienne Reeves updated family group sheets. At the close, plans were announced for the Polley family gathering in the Spring of 1998.

Anyone desiring pictures, tape copies, attendance lists, or other information about the reunion or plans for the next one should contact Adrienne Reeves at 6942 E. 4th St., Tucson, AZ 85710 for details. Please include an SASE.

** This report is a combined account of the festivities based on input from Adrienne Reeves, Janice Frost, and Bert Everts.*

Polley Reunion— South Dakota

Lisa M. Polley**

Descendants of Daniel and Margaret "Maggie" Polley gathered Sunday July 14, 1996 in Hurley,

South Dakota to attend their annual reunion, which was also the 50th anniversary of this event. Approximately 120 people were in attendance, coming from as far away as California and Tennessee, with relatives attending from several other states as well. This reunion is held each year in Hurley, on the second Sunday of July.

A potluck dinner was served, and the afternoon was spent getting re-acquainted, playing volleyball, basketball, and tennis, and of course, comparing family history notes and sharing information among several of us that are working on putting together our Polley family history.

Daniel and Maggie Polley settled near Hurley, South Dakota in 1878, after being married in Wisconsin and briefly living in Nebraska. They lived out their lives there, and raised six children, all of whom also lived most of their lives within a short distance of Hurley. The reunion was started in 1947 as a way to bring together the many descendants of Dan and Maggie on an annual basis. The reunion has been held in Hurley every year since then, with the exception of one year in the mid-1950's.

*** Lisa Polley is a new subscriber and is introduced in Welcome Aboard in this issue.*

POLLEY POINTERS Offerings

The following items are for sale to subscribers:

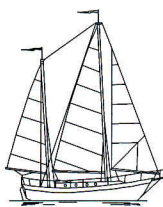
* All **BACK ISSUES** are still available @ \$2.50 each. With each complete volume, four issues, an index will be provided **free**, a \$12.50 value for \$10.00.

* 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. [**Now available**]. \$2.50 each.

Polleys at Sea



Subscriber John E. Polley researched his ancestors back to his great-great-grandfather, James H. Polley, and came upon the "stonewall" that we all eventually reach. He stared at that wall for a number of years until fate put him in contact with Susan Randt, another Polley seeker who would turn out to be his fourth cousin. Together they shared the joy of discovering the names of their common ancestors, 3GGP David Polley and Hannah Purdy. There were four children of this marriage that survived to adulthood, Grahams, James, Francis and Catherine. Although the girl lived into her eighties, the three boys lived tragically short lives, each dying in their forties. However, in retrospect, each in his own way led a full life, making his individual mark on history. James chose the U.S. Navy as his niche in life.

John has worked many years researching the life of his 2GGP, drawing on the usual sources as well as a lot of naval history. His own career in the Navy assisted greatly in accessing some of the naval history sources. As John recounts the life story of James Hatch Polley and his wife, Mary Matilda Booth, he vividly demonstrates his facility at drawing conclusions from facts at hand. Where documented facts are unavailable or as yet undiscovered, John shows us how to synthesize a plausible scenario from peripheral material such as knowledge of a neighborhood, occupational indications, and other facts that normally are not considered genealogical in nature.

rcr

James Hatch Polley

by John E. Polley

James Hatch Polley was born in New York on 8 April 1823,¹ while James Monroe served as our fifth President. He was the son of David and Hannah (Purdy) Polley.² Little is known of James' childhood other than the fact that he lost his father when he was about eleven. Apparently in his late teens, he left home, moving to Washington, the District of Columbia. On 27 April 1842,³ he was married to Miss Mary Matilda Booth⁴ at the Second (Navy Yard) Baptist Church, Fourth Street and Virginia Avenue SE, Washington, DC by Rev. Abner Webb. The bridesmaid was Miss Eliza J. Duvall. Mary previously joined the Second Baptist Church by baptism on 9 November 1839.⁵

Mary M. Polley stated in her 1866 pension application that she was born in Washington, DC on 21 September 1822.⁶ However, her tombstone lists her birth year as 1821.⁷ Although her

parents' names are not mentioned, their birthplaces are listed on her death certificate as: father - Maryland and mother - DC.⁸

A review of the 1830 Federal Census for Washington, DC, when Mary was about nine years old, shows Benjamin Boothe as the only Booth/e with a female child the right age (5-9).⁹ The 1840 Federal Census also shows Benjamin Boothe as the only Booth/e with a female the correct age range (15-19) for Mary.¹⁰ The 1843 city directory, the year after James and Mary married, lists Benjamin as a Blacksmith located on the "West side of 11th east between K and L south nr K."¹¹ This is in the vicinity of the Washington Navy Yard, near which James and Mary lived. Therefore, I believe Benjamin was Mary's father.

The 1846 directory lists Benjamin and a James Boothe as blacksmiths on the "North side GA ave between 10 and 11 east."¹² However, the 1850 Federal Census for Washington, D.C., lists James and his wife Elizabeth (Berry)(married 22 October 1839),¹³ but not Benjamin.¹⁴ In the next available directory, for 1853, Benjamin is not listed, but James is still shown, as a Blacksmith at the Georgia Avenue NE address.¹⁵ I believe Benjamin, who would have been between 56-65 in 1846, probably passed away between late 1846-1850. I believe therefore that James Boothe was Benjamin's son and Mary Matilda's brother.

The 1850 Census also lists a Mary Booth, 58, living with the Daniel Quigley family.¹⁶ Washington, DC marriage records list a Mary Ellen Booth who married Daniel Quigley, on 12 August 1839.¹⁷ The 1850 Census also lists a Tericea Booth, 45, living with James Booth.¹⁸ However, she is aged 45. I believe Mary was Benjamin's wife, because she is the correct age, based upon the age of the eldest female in Benjamin's household in the 1830 and 1840 censuses. Hence, the elder Mary would be Mary Matilda's mother and Mary Ellen Booth Quigley, her sister.

Tericea was probably an unmarried in-law who helped James' wife, Elizabeth, care for four McElwee family members who are also listed as living with James. These were probably the children of another sister of James, Catherine A. Booth, who married Aaron McAlwee.¹⁹ This is confirmed [for me] in James Booth's obituary, which states that his funeral would be from the home of his nephew, Benjamin F. McAlwee.²⁰

On 3 May 1843, James Polley was offered a position as an acting Masters Mate in the Navy²¹ by the Honorable Abner Thomas Smith, Esquire, acting Secretary of the Navy²² under President John Tyler. Sworn in by Mr. Smith on 7 June 1843,²³ James became the tenth senior

of twelve Masters Mates in the Navy. He was temporarily assigned to the receiving sloop BOSTON in Norfolk, VA.²⁴

On 27 February 1846, James received an acting appointment as Boatswain of the Sloop of War DALE²⁵ (16-32 pd guns, 150 men,²⁶ CDR Thos. O. Selfridge Commndng). He reported 18 May, while DALE was in New York finishing being refitted for her second cruise to the Pacific. Sailing 6 June, she arrived at Valparaiso, Chile on 8 September 1846 and cruised the coast of South America until ordered north for duty in the Mexican War.²⁷

DALE arrived off Monterey in January 1847. Cruising the coasts of California and Mexico, she captured several Mexican privateers and merchantmen. Additionally, her landing parties took and raised the flag over the towns of Meleje (September 30 - October 1 1847), Cochori (January 30, 1848) and Guayamas (April 9, 1848), Lower California, Mexico.²⁸

James was transferred in May 1848 to the first class frigate CONGRESS²⁹ (8-8 inch guns, 46-32 pd guns, 480 men).³⁰ On 23 August, she departed La Paz, Mexico for Norfolk, VA, arriving in January 1849 to be placed in ordinary.³¹ James served on board until 7 February. On 22 February 1849, he went on leave for three months. Reporting on board the Receiving Ship in New York in May, he left again on 1 June, for three more months of leave.³²

On 13 September 1849, James transferred to the Sloop of War VINCENNES (20 guns, CDR William L. Hudson Commndng),³³ based in Valparaiso, Chile, protecting American Commerce.³⁴ While he was away from home, on 9 July 1850, President Zachary Taylor died in office and was succeeded by Millard Fillmore, our thirteenth President. Also, on 17 September 1850, the Compromise of 1850 abolished the slave trade in the District of Columbia.

Sometime in September 1850, while VINCENNES was off the coast of California, James was reported to have jumped ship, joining in the California Gold Rush.³⁵ He must not have had any luck for on 9 February 1852, he was recorded on the sick list of the brig, DOLPHIN, (LT S. Phillips Lee Commndng),³⁶ afflicted with an oblique ingroined [inguinal] hernia.³⁷ This condition rendered him unfit for duty. On 21 July, James was discharged from the DOLPHIN as a Boatswain's Mate at the New York Navy Yard. Beginning 13 October 1852, he received an invalid pension of \$6.33½ a month.³⁸

On 9 March 1858, James received his last pension payment and surrendered his pension certificate, shipping on board the Sloop of War PLYMOUTH.³⁹ PLYMOUTH tested new ord-

nance under the command of CDR John A. Dahlgren throughout 1858 and performed duties as a training ship for midshipmen during the summers of 1859 and 1860. She was at Norfolk for repairs during the secession crisis in the winter of 1860-1.⁴⁰ On 17 April 1861, Virginia seceded from the Union. To prevent capture by Confederate forces, COMMO McCauley, Commandant of the Norfolk Navy Yard, ordered the ships present, including the PLYMOUTH, burned and scuttled on 20 April 1861.⁴¹

On 20 June 1861, James applied for and was reappointed to his old position as a Boatswain.⁴² He served in the Second Class Steam Sloop PAWNEE (8-9" S guns, 94 men, CAPT S. C. Rowan Commndng),⁴³ which cruised the Potomac River furnishing protection for surveying parties, bombarding Confederate shore batteries, convoying vessels and performing general blockading duty. In August, she joined the Atlantic Blockade Squadron at Hampton Roads, sailing on the 26th for the North Carolina coast. She participated in the attacks on Forts Hatteras and Clark (28-29), which capitulated and were occupied by U.S. troops. PAWNEE remained at Hatteras Inlet until 3 October, capturing four prizes and retaking two vessels previously captured by the Confederates.⁴⁴

PAWNEE sailed from Hampton Roads 29 October 1861, on a joint Army-Navy expedition to Port Royal Sound on the South Carolina coast. During this battle, PAWNEE was hit by seven shells, which killed two of her crew. Subsequently, an invaluable base was captured for the Union blockade and future amphibious operations. Throughout 1862, PAWNEE continued operations along the South Carolina, Georgia and Florida coasts, often sending boat parties into the various rivers and sounds. On 3 March 1862, she took part in the occupation of Fernandina, Florida.⁴⁵

Prior to 15 May 1862, James transferred to the Ironclad Steamer GALENA⁴⁶ (2-100 pd R guns, 4-9" SB guns, 150 men),⁴⁷ which was commissioned 21 April 1862, one of the first three ironclads built by the Union Navy. Arriving off Fortress Monroe, VA on 24 April, CDR John Rodgers took command, as GALENA joined the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron.⁴⁸

GALENA cleared her decks for action 4-5 May 1862, when the Confederate Ironclad VIRGINIA briefly appeared. On 8 May, she stood up the James River with gunboats PORT ROYAL and AROOSTOOK in an attempt to reach Richmond and compel its surrender. They silenced an 11-gun Confederate battery at Rock Wharf that morning and, in the early afternoon, stoutly engaged a 12 gun battery on Mother Tynes' bluff, silencing all but one of the Confederate

guns. GALENA engaged the remaining gun until the two gunboats had safely passed and then left the battery in flames.⁴⁹

After the CSS VIRGINIA [former USS MERRIMAC] was effectively put out of commission, MONITOR and NAUGATUCK joined with GALENA at James Island, VA on 12 May 1862. On the 13th, they steamed across Harrison's Bar to City Point, where GALENA stopped two steamers and searched for contraband. She opened fire the following morning scattering Confederate sharpshooters, who were waiting in ambush along the river banks. On 15 May, she stood up river, leading the expedition to Drewry's Bluff, about eight miles from Richmond. Moving to within 600 yards, GALENA was hit twice, bringing her broadside guns to bear on a Confederate battery. She nearly silenced the battery, before her shells were expended. Then, the Confederate guns fired upon her with devastating effect. After three hours and 20 minutes, her ironclad sides were riddled by numerous hits, killing 12 and wounding 15 Union sailors.⁵⁰

GALENA returned downriver to City Point. The following days were spent in shelling Confederate soldiers along the river banks and destroying City Point buildings, in which Confederates were entrenched. On 27 June 1862, GALENA bombarded City Point, while two boats went ashore with a landing force, which set fire to the depots. That same day MGEN McClellan came on board GALENA to make a reconnaissance for the position of a new camp, which was subsequently established near Harrison's Landing. On 30 June, MGEN McClellan was forced to withdraw down the James and escaped disaster only because of naval gunfire support.⁵¹

On 6 July 1862, GALENA and her accompanying ships became an independent division, the James River Flotilla, of the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron under COMMO Charles Wilkes. As such, they protected the daily movement of Army transports and supply ships along the James River from Harrison's Bay to the mouth of the Chickahominy. Their presence prevented Confederate troops from moving against McClellan's Army of the Potomac.⁵²

GALENA was detached from the James River Flotilla in September 1862 and assigned picket duty at Hampton Roads and Newport News until 21 May 1863, when she arrived at Philadelphia, where she was decommissioned for repairs.⁵³

On 1 June 1863, James was assigned to the Steam Sloop SHENANDOAH (10 guns, CAPT Dan B. Ridgely Commndng),⁵⁴ a new ship commissioned on 20 June. Departing Philadelphia on the 25th, SHENANDOAH made her trial run to Boston to fill out her crew, on the lookout for the Confederate raider, TACONY. On 11 July, she sailed in search of the Confederate raider, FLORIDA, cruising off George's and Nantucket Shoals, then proceeded to Block Island and Cape Sable. She returned to Boston 27 July and spent 4 August to 8 September in the Philadelphia Navy Yard.⁵⁵

On 12 September 1863, SHENANDOAH arrived off New Inlet, NC, joining the North Atlantic Blockading Squadron. Three days later, on September 15, she destroyed the C.S. Steamer ARABIAN, out of Wilmington, whose cargo was cotton. She spent most of the next 15 months patrolling the Nassau to Wilmington blockade runner routes. She aided in the bombardment of Fort Fisher, NC, 24-5 December 1864 and in its subsequent capture. In fact, James took an active part in the successful naval landing party attack on Fort Fisher, 13-15 January 1865 and was commended for his performance in letters from CAPT Ridgely to RADM David Porter.⁵⁶



James Hatch Polley (1823-1866),
ca. 1865

On 9 April 1865, General Lee surrendered to General Grant at Appomattox Court House, VA. On 15 April 1865, President Lincoln died after being shot at Ford's Theater, the night before. Between April - October 1865, James was transferred to the Sidepaddle Steamer POWHATAN (18 guns, CAPT Dan B. Ridgely Commanding).⁵⁷ In October 1865, POWHATAN sailed from Boston as an escort for the monitor, MONADNOCK to California via Cape Horn. She arrived at San Francisco on 22 January 1866 and joined the South Pacific Squadron. In March 1866, she was sent to Valparaiso, Chile to protect American interests during the Spanish attack.

On 12 April 1866, while ashore, James committed suicide. His death certificate, signed by

his Commanding Officer, CAPT Dan B. Ridgely; the ship's surgeon, I. Rudenstein; and the Fleet Surgeon, Chas. D. Maxwell, stated that he received a pistol shot in the head, dying at 12:30 a.m., 13 April 1866. A signed note found on his body [apparently destroyed] indicated the act was premeditated and did not occur in the line of duty. James was buried ashore by the ship's company in Valparaiso's Protestant Cemetery. He is buried near the U.S.S. Essex monument on a hill overlooking the city and the Pacific Ocean. His description was: 44 years of age, 5'8" tall with a fair complexion.

On 8 June 1866, Mary Matilda applied for a Mexican War pension as a surviving spouse. Her application was rejected on 15 August 1866.

Mary Matilda, aged 44, stated in her December 1866 pension application that she was left destitute with three children:

James Hatch, Jr. born about 1846, was discharged from the Navy 26 January 1866 on account of disability;

William Graham, born about 1851; and

Joseph Edwin, born 17 December 1852.

Mary stated she had no means of support, other than the earnings of one little boy (probably James H., Jr.) and that she was afflicted with deafness and partial loss of sight from the effects of smallpox. However, her pension application was rejected. James' eldest son, John Francis, born 30 December 1842, was married to Ella Stawman Grimes on April 1866, only a month and a half before his father died.

Subsequently, Mary applied at a latter date [unknown] for a widow's pension which was rejected on 31 March 1882. Finally, she successfully applied for and began receiving \$8.00/month on 29 January 1887 under the Mexican War Act of 1887.

Mary died 11 May 1893, four days after contracting pneumonia, at her home, 513 L Street SE, Washington, DC, aged 71 years and nine months. Her obituary in the Washington Star requested Williamsburg, NY newspapers to please copy. Williamsburg [formerly an independent city and now a neighborhood of Brooklyn] was the home of Mary's sister-in-law, Mary (Wright) Polley and James' late brother, Grahams Polley. She was buried 14 May 1893 in lot 184, range 92 of the Congressional Cemetery by T. R. Nalley, undertaker. Her plot was one of four lots purchased by her husband in March 1863, when a child of theirs, probably an infant, passed away. Her occupation was listed on her death certificate as that of a storekeeper.

My next effort will be to review the original ship's logs of the various ships on which James

H. served to determine if he was mentioned for commendable service in any other engagement. After that I plan on composing similar biographies on James H.'s children and grandchildren, but it may take a while.

jep

Notes and References

1. Letter from Caroline (Polley) Taylor to her cousin Elmira C. (Polley) Sterritt, dated 30 June 1916. Letter contains vital data on this Polley family, arranged as Births, Deaths, and Marriages, as if it were a copy of a Bible record.
2. Ibid.
3. Index to Marriage Records of Washington, D.C., compiled by Homer A. Walker, Washington, D.C., 1955 (located at the DAR library).
4. James Hatch Polley. Invalid Pension No. 1224. Certificate No. 1702. B. L. No. 795-160-53. USS BOSTON, DALE, CONGRESS, DOLPHIN, PAWNEE, GALENA, SHENANDOAH and POWHATAN.
5. Volume Two, Minutes of the Second Baptist Church, Washington, D.C. (7 July 1832 - 10 November 1857) and Index of the Members of the Second Baptist Church, located at the University Baptist Church, 3515 Campus Drive, College Park, MD.
6. Polley pension application papers.
7. Located in Congressional Cemetery, Washington, D.C.
8. Washington, D.C. Death Certificate #90,204, Record #90,126 for Mary Matilda Polley.
9. The 1830-50 Federal Censuses for Washington, D.C., Ward 5 & 6.
10. Ibid.
11. The Washington Directory and Government Registers for 1843, 46, 50, 53.
12. Ibid.
13. Walker, DC Marr. Recs., op. cit., p. 119.
14. D.C. Censuses, op. cit.
15. D.C. Directories, op. cit.
16. Ibid.
17. Index to D.C. Marriage Records, op. cit., p. 119.
18. D.C. Censuses, op. cit.
19. Index to D.C. Marriage Records, op. cit., p. 119 and The National Intelligencer newspaper for October 1829.
20. The Washington, D.C. Evening Star for Saturday, 27 September 1873, p. 3.
21. I speculate that Jas. H. Polley, at that time only 21 years of age must have had extensive former merchant ship experience for him to have been offered this very important position. He may have worked on ships running to the Caribbean for sugar, etc., perhaps for his brother's distillery.
22. James H. Polley pension papers.
23. Ibid.
24. Register of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Navy of the United States including Officers of the Marine Corps: Washington, Alexander and Barnard, Printers, and the GPO, 1844.
25. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1847.
26. Surfboats and Horse Marines

27. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume II, p. 233, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
28. Surfboats and Horse Marines.
29. James H. Polley pension papers.
30. Surfboats and Horse Marines.
31. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume II, pp. 163-4, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
32. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1849.
33. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1850.
34. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume VII, p. 527, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
35. Letter from CAPT Hudson to The Secretary of the Navy, September 1850.
36. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1852.
37. Documents in the James H. Polley pension papers.
38. Ibid.
39. Ibid.
40. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume V, p. 331, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
41. Ibid.
42. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1864.
43. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1861.
44. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume V, p. 239, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
45. Ibid.
46. James H. Polley pension file and Register of the Commissioned and Warrant Officers of the Navy of the United States including Officers of the Marine Corps & Others to January 1, 1863, p. 86; Washington, Government Printing Office, 1863.
47. Statistical and Chronological History of the United States Navy 1775-1907 by William Wilden Nessor, Volume II, New York, The MacMillan Co., 1909, pp. 114-5.
48. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume III, pp. 6-7, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
49. Ibid.
50. Ibid. and Statistical and Chronological History of the United States Navy 1775-1907 by William Wilden Nessor, Volume II.
51. Ibid.
52. Ibid.
53. Ibid.
54. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1864.
55. Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, Volume VI, pp. 480-1, published by the Ship's Histories Branch of the Naval Historical Center, Washington, D.C.
56. House of Representatives, 56th Congress, 2d Session, Document No. 314, Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion by Prof. Edward K. Rawson, U.S. Navy, Series I, Volume 11; Washington, GPO, 1900, pp. 539-40.
57. Naval Officer Register, op. cit., 1866.

Welcome Aboard



Mr. Charles W. Polley, Jr. - Charles is our first subscriber with this particular variant of the Polley surname. He hopes to determine if indeed his family name traces back to one of the Polley progenitors here in America or to a Poley in England. To date his research has gotten him back to Civil War veteran Jesse Poley, his 3GGF. Jesse was born in 1833 in Philadelphia. He served the Union as a private in Co. F, 52nd Regiment, Pennsylvania Infantry. He was drafted into service 27 Nov 1863 and discharged at the end of the war on 12 Jul 1865 in North Carolina. His records show his name being spelled both as Poley and Polley. Jesse married Jane Bailey in Philadelphia in 1857. They had three children before Jesse went into the army and another after his service. Jesse established a home in Pleasantville, NJ in 1890 and lived there until he died in 1909. His widow lived until 1913.

Charles has also done extensive research on the Poley surname coming forward from early English records. However, he has yet to find any connection to his Jesse Poley. **Address: 105 Douglas Ave., Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234-1910. Tel: (609) 484-0829.**

Mr. Kent A. Polley - Kent is a first cousin of subscriber Shirley Gilbert. He joins us in reader status. Although very much interested in his Polley heritage, he leaves the research to Shirley. Their Polley line descends from a progenitor named Hilliard J. Polley and a second wife, Sarah S. Hill, whom he married in Texas in 1876. There is some evidence that Hilliard J. was a son of Robert Polley who married Mary Jeanette Darnald in 1810 in Athens, GA. Robert's family ultimately migrated to Texas in 1839. There are also indications (an 1811 will) that Robert's father was Thomas who lived in South Carolina. Thomas and his family are said to have emigrated from Ireland between 1795 and 1805. Kent's proven Polley line is: Hilliard J.¹, John Oliver², Aubrey Hamilton³, Kent Aubrey⁴. Kent makes his home in Oklahoma City, OK.

Lisa M. Polley - Lisa has been researching her Polley heritage for several years but not as intently as she would like. It seems her job as a lead systems analyst for a utility in Nebraska keeps interfering! She and two generations before her were born in South Dakota. Her great-grandfather Daniel was born 1843 in Trumbull Co., OH. He served the Union in a unit from Pennsylvania during the Civil War. Daniel's death

b) A petition submitted by Samuel Polley, 4 January 1850 stated that he had been a settler in Melancton Township for two years. He petitioned to purchase lot 12 in the second concession which was a clergy reserve. The petition was recommended. (Record Group 1, L3, P 6/70, 3 pages.)

15. **William Polley** is named in a marriage bond as intending to marry Mary Wagoner of Cornwall, 27 April 1819. (Record Group 5, B9, volume 14, page 408.)

The current address for the National Archives of Canada is: 395 Wellington St., Ottawa, ON K1A 0N3. Tel: (613) 995-5138.

Research Progress



First, a little sports news. Toward the end of June we were channel surfing one Saturday afternoon and came upon a baseball game featuring the New York Yankees vs. the Minnesota Twins. As luck would have it, The Yanks had just changed pitchers bringing in number 56, left hander, Dale Polley. Immediately the mind shifted gears from baseball to genealogy and I began to wonder where he was from and to whom he might be related.

The NY Times sports section for the next few days brought the needed clues. Dale had just been brought up from the Columbus AAA club where he had been a replacement player. The game where we happened to see him was his major league debut. He was brought in during the eighth inning in a 1-1 tie situation. He finished pitching to one batter, striking him out and induced the next to ground out. The Yanks got a home run in the ninth to win 2-1, the relief pitcher, Dale Polley, getting credit as the winning pitcher.

The Times indicated that Polley, 31, (with a receding hairline) was from Georgetown, KY where his father has a tool and die business. They further wrote that Dale's wife [unnamed] was expecting the couple's second child. A quick look at Switchboard™ on the World Wide Web did indeed reveal Dale at a Georgetown address with a female and a male, all with the same phone number. There were two other male Polleys in the same town at different addresses and phone numbers. The male name living with Dale is Ezra. One of the other males in town is Ezra, Jr. Therefore I would approach this line assuming that Ezra Polley is Dale's father. However, I did not pursue this line any further, thinking that perhaps some of our Virginia/Kentucky researchers might recognize this line and tell us more about it.

===== oo =====

In the June issue, under Readers Write, we presented a synopsis of James Sarvay's Polley line. **A correction is in order.** Ray Edward Stedwell, b. 1933, is the father-in-law of James' daughter. James is not a Polley descendent himself, but his grandchildren are. We regret the error.

Regarding the Polley line being studied by James, it appears that he may have come upon another brother, Hiram, in addition to Solomon, Lemuel, Jr. and Amos. When this new data was sent to your editor, we were able to complement it with additional data regarding Hiram's Civil War service. James, recuperating from recent surgery, is eager to follow up these new leads on his grandchildren's Polley ancestors.

===== oo =====

Subscriber Janice Frost has been in extensive correspondence with your editor and has provided some much needed data to round out the information on the descendants of Joseph Henry Polley. She is a descendent of Mary Augusta Polley, Joseph Henry's first child, and her second husband, Walker Keith Baylor.

Janice heard many detailed stories from her mother with whom Mary Augusta lived in her old age. Janice has provided a thumbnail sketch on each of the Baylor children, carrying many of the lines to present day. Other interesting documentation she provided includes a photocopy of the Polley family Bible record kept by Joseph Henry and his wife Mary Bailey Polley. This photocopy has been scanned and is available as a digital image. Write us for details if interested.

Another fabulous document provided by Janice is a copy of the Polley cattle claim settlement with the Mexican government. It seems that Joseph Henry lost a large number of cattle, destroyed by the Mexicans during the Texas Revolution. About a century later, a settlement was achieved with Mexico. The results of the settlement and the distribution of the reparation funds was published in 1948. No one got rich on this settlement. There were so many descendants listed, since a century had elapsed, that the distribution was broken down to amounts as small as \$.22 per individual. The largest single share was noted as \$32.67. The real significance of this document is its genealogical value. It names people who would perhaps otherwise go unrecorded in the Polley history.

We hope to put together a feature story on the descendants of Mary Augusta Polley in a future issue, building it on the foundation so graciously provided by Janice Frost and other descendants.

rcr

certificate recently revealed his father's name as Ira Polley. Her Polley line proven to date: Ira¹, Daniel², Ford³, Lisa⁴. **Address: 4516 26th Street, Columbus, NE 68601. Tel: (402) 563-3896. E-mail: Impolle@kdsi.net**

Lynne Russell - Lynne, formerly known as Tommie Imogene Polley, has Texas roots going back to Andrus/Andrew Polley who was born in Ireland in 1829. Her proven Polley line is: Andrus¹, Forrest Robert², Frank³, Tommie Imogene⁴. Lynne has been working her Polley problem for quite a few years and has collected a lot of data on many different Polleys. Unfortunately most of it does not pertain to her line. She has also developed quite a network of researchers with whom she corresponds. **Address: 3233 Veda St., Redding, CA 96001-3512. Tel.: (916) 246-0461. E-mail: birdlady@basic-link.com**

- Corrections -

Marian J. (Bryson) McGowen - Marian's area code was incorrectly listed in the June issue and the researcher supplement. Her correct telephone number is: **(405) 226-1643**. We regret the error.

Judith M. Hull - Judy has a new address and telephone number, as well as a new E-mail address, that were not updated in the June researcher supplement. We regret the oversight. The correct information follows. **Address: 3170 Willowridge Rd., Marion, IA 52302. Tel: (319) 373-5918. E-mail: Jmhull@aol.com**

Wanda Lee (Polley) Adams - Wanda has recently gone online. Her Internet E-mail address is: **wpa@vci.net**

Jean M. Brewer - Jean has also gone online. Her E-mail address is very descriptive of her interest: **genebug@epix.net**

Ruth E. Curtis - Ruth also has E-mail capability now. Her ID is: **mrcurtis@ix.netcom.com**

Esther McDermott - Esther has been given a new area code. The exchange and number remain unchanged. **Tel: (540) 752-2444.**

Adrienne Reeves - Adrienne has also been given a new area code. The exchange and number remain unchanged. **Tel: (520) 296-5703.**

Linda K. Wilky - Linda has moved and is now online as well. Her new information: **Address: 10 Knight's Bridge Drive, Randolph, NJ 07869. Tel: (201) 895-1802. E-mail: lwilky@cris.com**

Researcher Listings

IMPORTANT!
PLEASE RETAIN FOR
FUTURE REFERENCE.

Each paid subscriber receives an updated listing of all subscribers actively pursuing research with their first issue. They also receive an update with the June issue. Pertinent data to facilitate communication is listed. Please keep this listing as it will not be republished until June '97. We suggest you keep the list current with pen and ink changes based on the corrections published from time to time. An updated list can be obtained by any subscriber for a large SASE. Library patrons and others desiring to contact a subscriber, whose address cannot be located, may do so through **POLLEY POINTERS**. Please provide forwarding postage. rcr

Queries

Charles W. Poley - Seeking parents of Jesse Poley, b. 27 Apr 1833, Phila., PA. Need names, DOB, POB, etc. Jesse m. Jane Bailey, dau. of John and Mary Bailey, both b. England 1800. Jesse and Jane m. Phila., 17 Jun 1857. They had four ch., Abraham, b. & d. 1858 Phila.; James Hollowell, b. 15 Jan 1860 Phila., d. 7 Mar 1930 Atlantic City, NJ; William Hollowell, b. 1 Jan 1862 Phila., d. Jul 1932 Phila.; John L., b. 1867 Phila., d. 13 Sep 1917, Pleasantville, NJ. Jesse served the Union forces 1863-1865 as a Private in Co. F, 52nd Pennsylvania Infantry Regt. In 1890 Jesse and his wife bought a house in Pleasantville, NJ and lived out their lives there. He died 21 Nov 1909. Jane died 22 Dec 1913.

Janice Frost - Seeking authoritative spelling of the middle name of the father of Mary Bailey Polley, wife of Texas pioneer Joseph Henry Polley. She has seen James B. Bailey's middle name as Brittain, Britton, and Britten. Can anyone researching this family provide the proper spelling for the "Brit" in Brit Bailey's name?

Gwen Boyer 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.

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.

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. Frances Turpin; their son Neff Polley, b. ca. 1923, m. Frances Fuhr. They last lived in Brown Co., IN.

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 Dennysville (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 L. 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.

Anne K. Jacobs Maruhn - Seeking par. and POB for John Robert Pulley, b. ca. 1785, VA, m. 1st Mary Ann Wall; 2nd Ellen Brush, possible dau. of John S. Brush, ca. 1835, New Orleans, LA. Pulley d. 21 Nov 1849, City of Lafayette, Jefferson Parish, LA, now New Orleans, Orleans, LA. By 1st wife he had Josephine and Elizabeth Pulley. By 2nd wife he had Ellen, John Robert, and Charles Henry Brush Pulley. **Address: 1016 Meeker Dr., P.O. Box 507, Kalama, WA 98625-0507. Tel: (360) 673-4962.** [Prospective subscriber]

Readers Write

POLLEY POINTERS GETS LOTS

OF MAIL. WE ANSWER IT ALL INDIVIDUALLY. SOMETIMES IT'S ONLY A POST CARD TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF SOMETHING. SOMETIMES THE ANSWER GOES OUT BY E-MAIL. SOME OF THE MAIL WE GET SEEMS TOO GOOD TO JUST SIT THERE IN THE FILE. IT NEEDS TO BE SHARED.

oo

We opened a letter from Adrienne Reeves and found a newspaper clipping regarding Mary Lou Featherston. The clipping was from The Sutherland Springs Times of 26 June 1996. The story featured a photo (see below) of Mary Lou and her sister, Glenna Hamley, holding a huge dried gourd that looked very much like a big round prize winning pumpkin. The story behind the gourd is quite interesting. Subsequent correspondence with Mary Lou revealed additional detail.

It seems that the gourd was grown in 1856 by Mary Bailey Polley, wife of Texas pioneer settler Joseph Henry Polley. She grew gourds such as the one featured in the story to use as household containers, once they were dried out. They were used to hold flour, dried corn and beans, and other household/kitchen staples.

Mary was like many people today when it came to running a household. Important papers, letters, invoices, bills to be paid, receipts for payments made, etc., had to be kept somewhere where they were readily accessible when you

needed them. [In the Randt household, it's the oval glass banana bowl on the kitchen counter.] In Mary's house it was the gourd featured in the story.

The story was written on the occasion of Mary Lou and Glenna presenting the gourd, with a suitable engraved identifying plaque, to the Sutherland Springs Historical Museum. The gourd had previously been at another museum but was moved to Sutherland Springs where it would receive more exposure to the public. rcr



Sisters Glenna Hamley and Mary Lou Featherston present 140-yr old gourd to museum.

PAULY PRODUCTS

For those readers who keep track of things like this, we unexpectedly came upon some very good cream cheese that happened to have the brand name PAULY®, from Beatrice Cheese, Inc.



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OBITUARY

NEUBAUER, Walter K., beloved husband of Diane, neé Johnson, died 24 July 1996 at his home in Fayetteville, NY, of the effects of cancer. He was 72. Walter along with Diane were charter subscribers to this newsletter and were among its strongest supporters. A retired water supply engineer, Walter developed a keen interest in desktop publishing and contributed a substantial effort to preparing graphics for us for publication. He and Diane were in the process of completing a fully illustrated family history of Diane's Polley ancestors of St. Lawrence Co., NY.

Surviving, in addition to Diane, his wife of 22 years, are three sons, Rory of Salem, NH; Craig of Clay, NY; and Eric of East Syracuse; a daughter, Debra Roberts of East Syracuse; a brother, Richard, of Camden, ME; his former wife, Audrey Neubauer; and five grandchildren.

Walt's expertise and enthusiasm for writing, genealogy, and graphic presentation will be sorely missed. rcr

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

TO: