

IN DEFIANCE



THE MACBRAIR FAMILY ASSOCIATION

VOLUME 12, NO. 1

JANUARY 2001



FROM THE CHIEF ●●●●●●●●●●

As I finally am completing this newsletter in August, I sincerely thank those family members who have shown their support of the Family Association even though I have not kept up to date with this newsletter. I assure you again that I will get caught up as soon as possible. I have a large backlog of interesting information which should keep us going, but of course your new submissions are gratefully accepted.

Many thanks go to those who have sent in their 2001 dues' payments and special thanks to members who have sent in additional contributions to support our family efforts.

The mailing list is gradually being pruned to remove those who are no longer supporting the newsletter as well as a few who said they wanted it but never have made dues payment. Each person dropped was contacted first. Few show the courtesy of even responding to that correspondence so it is not possible to know the reason why there is non-support.

Last issue, on page 2, there was a copy of a letter written by William Wallace Brier in 1853. This letter was from a collection held by Family Association member Jean Roath. Jean has sent me a manuscript with many other letters and with the help of her

daughter Gwen, a number of pictures and copies of certain documents. It is our intention to put this in a new format and print copies of the entire collection as a soft cover book. As this progresses we will let you know more about it and what it will cost to get your own copy. The intent is not to make money, but to provide family memorabilia that you can treasure.

Efforts are continuing to find the link between Scotland and America. A genealogist is making a search as well as other efforts being made by family members. Some of the results are reported in this issue.



PASSENGER LISTS

In the April 2000 issue of *In Defiance*, it was pointed out that finding passenger lists containing the names of our ancestors would be difficult since at the time they first came, no special documentation was required since they were just moving from one part of the British Empire to another. We can liken this to moving from one state to another. Compounding this is the fact they went into Indian territory soon after their arrival. No deeds or grants were required. It was not until the 1750's that William and David showed up on tax rolls, and it was not until 1785 that William had his land surveyed - about 50 years after he had settled it!

Finding recently a book entitled "*Emigrants to Pennsylvania, 1641 - 1819, A Consolidation of Ship Passenger Lists from the Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*" gave a ray of hope. The Introduction to the book points out that the Penn-

sylvania Magazine of History and Biography was one of the better publications to consolidate records. The book is a consolidation of the entire body of literature on passenger lists from the magazine. Unfortunately it sheds no light on our search.

In spite of what is stated in the first paragraph of this article, there was at one time law requiring registration of inhabitants, which if they had been enforced would have given us some clues. William Penn directed passage of laws in 1683 and 1684 requiring registration of births, marriages, burials, wills and letters of administration. Inhabitants were to register in the county in which they lived. It does not appear that the law of registration was ever put into effect. A few partial lists do show up, but they are nearly useless. The penalty for not registering was repealed in 1690 and so we are left without the basis for search.

There are records existing for indentured servants, but we know our ancestors were not in this status. Just of interest, a typical entry follows:

Judith Williams of Phila., spinster, indents herself servant to John Bell of Chester county for two years from this date, to be found in meat, drink, washing, lodging and apparel, but no freedom dues. Consideration £4.17.8.

Some passenger lists are included in the book, most of which are for German Emigrants. Their travel was not pleasant by any matter of means, certainly no cruise ship vacation. For example, the ship "Elizabeth" made a voyage from Amsterdam to Philadelphia in 1819. The Captain, I.M. Adams was obligated to provide passengers with "necessary comfort" and to give them daily the following "proportion of victuals":

Sunday - one pound Beef and half pound Rice

Monday - one pound Flour

Tuesday - one half pound Pork with pease

Wednesday - one pound Beef and barley

Thursday - like Tuesday

Friday - like Monday

Saturday - like Wednesday

One pound Butter, one pound Cheese, six pounds Bread, per week

One glass Gin and three quarters gallons Water per day

There shall also be on board a sufficiency of Vinegar to cleanse the vessel and for the refreshing the passengers.

Children did not receive anything! All this and if you happened to die on board, your family was obligated to pay your passage if you made it half way across. Keep in mind too that it may have taken a couple of weeks to cross the ocean depending on the winds.

There are still some possibilities for finding passenger lists and these are being pursued.



OLD RECORDS

Old records are fun to read, not only because you learn something about the past, but also because the ways

things were said. As stated in the book "**Some Georgia County Records, Vol. 6**", a newspaper is really a chronicle of its time. **The book contains short excerpts from "The Paulding New Era" from 1883-1893.** The entire paper for this period is available at the University of Georgia in Athens. There are numerous entries for McBrayner, including this one from **24 February 1893:**

Cornett, W. D. - Married Lizzie McBrayner last week. Parental objections so they got married before old folks knew what was up. His father Sam Cornett, her father James McBrayner.

Since "Lizzie" is a nickname, William's name was used to find them in Carl McBrayner's book. All that was known previously was that "Martha (Elizabeth) McBrayner, b ca 1872, m William Cornett (Cornet)" and that she was the daughter and fourth child of James Madison (M 189, 5th gen, Andrew - 15, John - 223, Samuel - 360, William - 1) and Martha E. Cleckler McBrayner. Doesn't the short newspaper blurb make them more interesting?

Some other old records regarding the Civil War are being compiled to give as complete a picture as possible to our family's part in this great conflict. I am sure that this list will not be complete, so your input will be most valuable. The lists being researched show interesting things such as alternative name spelling, use of different names and the use of substitutes for service. If anyone has pictures of Civil War ancestors or pictures of artifacts from the war, please send them along. It would be best to copy any pictures (most chain drug stores or K-Marts have equipment that you

can use to do this) since we do not want any precious originals to be lost or damaged. You can also send photos electronically if you have that capability, JPEG format is preferred.

In the October 2000 issue it was noted in the Family Tree Updates that there was a question about the marriage status of **Cameron D. McBrayer** (see page 15 of the October issue). With the assistance of Family Association member Larry McBrayer, this has been clarified. **The Cameron mentioned did not marry.** There is another Cameron D., this one Cameron Dunham McBrayer who was previously identified as possibly being the grandson of Humphry P. McBrayer (see 40-5 in Carl's book). This Cameron actually was the son of William M. and Isabella Tripplett McBrayer.

The amount of information provided by Larry represents the single largest batch since updates have been reported in this newsletter. This is given in the last 14 pages of this issue. As you can see by italicized text, much of the information is new. It can also be said that there can be numerous updates to what is reported. Also, there are clues for further research. Examples of this are a number of deaths/burials reported in Detroit. I intend to track these down in the Main Detroit Public Library since they may clear up some loose ends.

It is somewhat sad to say that the information was made available a number of years ago, but it got put in a file (this one I did not do) and was not passed along. If you have sent in information and it has not been reported yet, please be patient, but if after a couple of issues it does not appear, please remind me.



REST IN PEACE

Starting with this issue obituaries will be reported as originally printed (when available and without change other than font, format and obvious mistakes).

Family information will follow each entry.

The passing of the following family members is sadly reported:

MANSFIELD, TX -- **PAUL MARTINEZ SAMANIEGO**, 71, a farmer, died Monday, Oct. 9,

2000, at his residence. Graveside service: 1 p.m. Friday in Clarendon Cemetery in Clarendon. Prayer service: 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Blessing Colonial Chapel. Visitation: 6 to 9 p.m. Thursday at Blessing Funeral Home. Paul was born in Robert Lee on Dec. 12, 1928. He was a member of St. Jude Catholic Church in Mansfield. Paul was preceded in death by a daughter, Joyce Pedroza. Survivors: Wife, Toni Samaniego; sons, Paul Jr., Lloyd, Johnny, Matthew and Joe Samaniego; daughters, Susan Ramos, Carolyn Blanco, Sylvia Cortinez and Rita Samaniego; sisters, Julie Whitney, Jane Gomez, Joann Conales and Ema Puzon; brother, Felipe Samaniego Jr. and numerous grandchildren. Arrangements: Blessing Funeral Home, Mansfield, (817) 473-1555

(Source: Fort Worth, TX **Star - Telegram**)

◆ Paul was the second husband of Family Association Member **TONI ETHELYN McBRAYER SAMANIEGO** (M 454, 7th, William, Samuel - 360, John - 223, Andrew - 15, Andrew - 18, William Mosley - 454). **Toni reported that cancer was the cause of his death.**

CHARLES P. WALLMAN July 16, 1966-Nov. 15, 1999

Charles P. Wallman, 33, of San Diego died Nov. 15. Mr. Wallman, who was born in San Diego, was a forklift operator for Costco. He enjoyed surfing, snow boarding, auto racing and dirt-bike riding. Survivors include his mother and stepfather, Sonia A. and T.C. "Bud" Wilson, of Carlsbad; father, Patrick D. Wallman of Santee; sister, Lisa Ann Wallman of Pacific Beach; stepsisters, Cheri Zinser of Foothill Ranch, Debbie McCormick of Belmont, and Denise Wallman of Phoenix; and stepbrother, Danny Wilson of Scottsdale, Ariz. Services: 1 p.m. Sunday, Greenwood Mortuary, Interstate 805 and Imperial Avenue, San Diego. Donations: Charles P. Wallman Memorial Fund, in care of Mission Federal Credit Union, 2745 Jefferson St., Suite A, Carlsbad, 92009.

(Source: **The San Diego Union - Tribune**, San Diego, Calif.; Nov 29, 1999; pg. B.5.)

◆ Charles was the only son of **SONIA BROWNING WILSON** and grandson of the late **JUANITA McBRAYER BROWNING CLEMENTS** (M 454, 7th, William, Samuel - 360, John - 223, Andrew - 15, Andrew - 18, William Mosley - 454). Charles was not previously listed in the family records.

✓
DELBERT McBRAYER, 74, of Excelsior Springs, MO, died Wednesday, April 25, 2001, at the home. Funeral services will be 3 p.m. Saturday, April 28, at the Prichard Chapel, Excelsior Springs; burial in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Kearney, MO. The family will greet friends 7-9 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. Mr. McBrayer was born on September 21, 1926, in St. Joseph, MO. He was married on February 14, 1945, to Eletha Westerdorff. A veteran of WWII, he served in the U.S. Navy. He was a meat cutter and was a member of its Union #576. He owned and operated In & Out Restaurant in Excelsior Springs for 19 years. He received the Lord as his Savior in December of 1999. He was a lifetime member of the VFW Post #869. His family includes his wife, Eletha, of the home, a son, William "Bill" McBrayer of Raceland, LA, two daughters, Patricia Ingram of Lexington, MO, and Linda Evans of Liberty, MO; three sisters, Elizabeth Adams and Joan LeSturgeon of Bucyrus, KS, and Mary Ann Pearson of Seattle, WA; five grandchildren, two stepgrandchildren, two great-great-grandchildren, and nieces, nephews and cousins.

(Source: **Kansas City Star**, 27 Apr 2001)

- ◆ (M 29-7/4, 7th, William, Samuel - 360, Samuel - 361, John - 219, Charles 53-5, Arthur Orval 29-7). His obituary gives us new information on his birth date, work history and interests. It also gives an indication of the status of other family members.

✓
KIMBERLY McGREW, 38 Homemaker

TRENTON, Ga. -- Mrs. Kimberly Dawn McGrew of Trenton, Ga., who has family in Polk County, died of cancer Tuesday (June 5, 2001) at Memorial Hospital in Chattanooga, Tenn. She was 38. Born in Parkersburg, W. Va., on July 11, 1962, she moved to Trenton from there. She was a homemaker. She was a member of Lakemead Faith Tabernacle. She is survived by her daughters, Tracy Lynn McBrayer, Amanda Jo McGrew, Jennifer Dawn McGrew, Ashely Nicole McGrew, and Stephanie Anne McGrew, all of Trenton, and Heather Marie Ross, Parkersburg; son, Hugh Douglas McGrew, Trenton; sister, Betty Jane McBrayer, Harrisburg, Pa.; brothers, Leonard Allen McBrayer, Lakeland, Joseph Gregory McBrayer, Clermont, Michael Kevin McBrayer, Trenton, and Christopher Marc McBrayer, Polk City; grandmother, Reva Edna Hamner, Lakeland; seven grandchildren. Moore Funeral Home Chapel, Trenton.

(Source: The Ledger, Lakeland, FL, June 6, 2001)

- ◆ (M 279-1/2, 9th, William, Samuel - 360, Ichabod - 156, James - 193, William - 456,

Lycurgus 288-5, Lewis 283-3, Leonard Allen 279-1). Kimberly was interested in family history and had contacted both Carl and your editor in 2000. An update on her line will be printed in a later edition of In Defiance.

The following deaths were also reported:

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ROBERT WILLARD McBRAYER, (M 414-3/1, 9th, Willard Alson 414-3, William Alsom 427-3, Nonimus E. 314, William 455; Martin 297; William 418; Samuel 360; William 1) of Hampton, GA, passed away on April 2, 2001 at the age of 67. He had recently had cancer surgery on his intestine, was recovering well until an apparent blood clot in his lungs ended his life. Bob was a long serving member of the Hampton City Council. This year marked his 39th year on the Council. He was a Family Association member and attended the National Reunion in Bremen.

(Source: Richard McBrayer, Bob's brother, by e-mail.)

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BERTHA LEONE McBRAYER, (M 212-2/1, 7th, Jesse Elmer 212-2; James 190; Martin 297; William 418; Samuel 360; William 1), of San Luis Obispo, CA, passed away February 17, 2001. She was 95. Leone was a strong supporter of the Family Association and made many contributions to the data base. No details of her passing are known. An update on her line was published in In Defiance, January 2000 issue, page 24.

(Source: Social Security Data Base her SSN 549-34-2188)

✓
WADE FRANKLIN McBRAYER, (M 288-5/10, 7th, Lycurgus 288-5; William 456; James 193, Ichabod 156; samuel 360; William 1) of Williston, SC, died on July 19, 2001 at the age of 82. He was the 10th child of 11 born to Lycurgus and Hannah Ellen Nichols McBrayer. His funeral service was Saturday, July 21 and he was buried in the Williston Cemetery. Like many of our family, he was a coal miner and also served in the army. Wade is survived by his younger brother, John Henry McBrayer of Vandiver, AL, and several nieces and nephews.

(Source: Patricia McBrayer Inabinet, daughter of Wade's older brother William Delbert, by e-mail.)

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ODELL PUCKETT, former husband of Family Association member Martha McBrayer Puckett, lost his bout with cancer in February 2001 at age 63.

(Source: private correspondence from Martha.)

Obituaries are an important source of family data, but it must be kept in mind that much of the data given really are secondary sources. That means that the information is basically "second hand" and more

subject to error. You can usually count on the date and place of death and the burial location being correct, but from there on you may find errors. Some of these are typographical or transcription errors as data are transferred from one document to another. The following two obituaries point these problems out.

McBrayer Parsons.

- Mrs. *Lytton* King is his sister Elizabeth (Bettye) McBrayer King.
- Mrs. Mary Spears - the last name must be wrong as his sister Mary was married to Henry Beldon Wallace who died in 1965, well after John. Where

Id#: 0613019

Name: McBrayer, Rose E.

Date: Nov 26 1955

Source: Cleveland Press; Cleveland Necrology File, Reel #131.

Notes: McBrayer, Rose E. (nee Cox), beloved wife of John, mother of Lillian Lats of Akron, Ralph of Chicago, Earl E., and Lloyd of Willowick, grandmother of 12, great-grandmother of one, sister of Susie Bruchatte of Greenup, Ky., and of Detroit, Thelma Wallaster, Otis, Dempsey and the late Nogh. Friends may call at Silas F. Richards Funeral Home, 15230 Lake Shore Blvd., where services will be held Monday at 1:30 p.m.

Id#: 0613018

Name: McBrayer, John

Date: Sep 28 1960

Source: Cleveland Press; Cleveland Necrology File, Reel #131.

Notes: McBrayer, John, of 1209 E. 172, beloved husband of Lofitic, father, of Mrs. W. H. Lutes, Ralph, Earl and Lloyd, grandfather of 13, great-grandfather of two, brother of Mrs. Tom Parsons, Mrs. Lytron King, Mrs. Mary Spears, Miss Genrain Wade, Ralph and the late Mrs. Rose Sloan and Mrs. Edma Rayourn Friends may call After 7 P. M. Wednesday at Stias F. Richards & Sons Lake Shore Home, 15230 Lake Shore Blvd., where services will be held Friday. Time later.

These obituaries appear on the web site (www.cpl.org) for the Cleveland (Ohio) Public Library in the Necrology File and are shown exactly as they appear on the Web page with the exception of the underlined words. With the help of several family members at the McBrayer - King Reunion (July 22, 2001, Crown Point, IN), along with information previously published by Carl McBrayer, some clarification was obtained and it is hoped that more will be forthcoming.

First to Rose:

- She was John's second wife and the sister of his first wife Bertha Cox.
- Lillian McBrayer Lutes was the daughter of Bertha, not Rose.
- It is thought that her brothers were Otis and Dempsey.
- Brother "Nogh" may be Noah.
- The funeral home is Silas F. Richards.

Now to John:

- "Lofitic" was John's 4th wife. The real name is not known now nor is the name of his 3rd wife.
- Mrs. W.H. Lutes is his daughter Lillian.
- Mrs. Tom Parsons is his sister Charlotta (Lottie)

"Spears" came from is not known. The name does not appear in the index of Carl's books.

- Miss Genrain Wade seems to be a combination of John's sister Georgia who did not marry and Grace who was his brother Waid's (Wade) wife.
- Edna's married name was Raybourn.
- Again the name of the funeral home is Silas F. Richards.

Without seeing the originals it is not possible to see where the errors occurred. A trip to the Library or the Cleveland Press can only solve those problems.



WEDDING

Family Association member Martha McBrayer Puckett announced the marriage of her daughter **KIMBERLY DANNETTE PUCKETT**, (M 299-5/9B, 9th, Martha 229-5/9, Martin 299-5, John 226-5, George 131, Andrew 15, John 223, Samuel 360,

William 1) to **EPHRAIM S. (Henry) HENRI** of Secunderabad, India and Toronto, Canada. Kimberly is a practicing attorney in Dallas, GA, and Henry is a senior consultant for Arthur Anderson in Atlanta, GA.

They were married 21 April 2001 at the District Line United Methodist Church, Bremen, GA. The ceremony was performed by her uncle and Family Association member Dr. R. Terrell McBrayer and her cousin Barbara's husband Rev. Steven Brown. They honeymooned in Kenya, cruised the Red Sea and stopped in Egypt, Turkey and Greece.

(Source: private correspondence from Martha Puckett.)

RYAN PHILLIP McBRAYER, (m 58/1, 10th, Charles William II, 58, Charles William 57, Charles Andrew 48, Andrew 10, Hugh 149, Martin 297, William 418, Samuel 360, William 1) married **NIKKIE ROMPAS** on 1 April 2001 in Newport Beach, CA. He is the son of Family Association member Charles W. and Candice Johnson McBrayer of Laguna Niguel, CA, and the grandson of Family Association member Phillele Deschner McBrayer and the late Charles W. McBrayer.

(Source: private correspondence from Phillele McBrayer.)



FAMILY ADDITIONS

We are pleased to announce the births of the following family members:

REUBEN HILL McBRAYER, IV (M 338-5/1A1, Reuben Hill, III 338-5/1A, Reuben Hill, Jr 338-5/1, Reuben Hill 338-5, David 91, Reuben Hill 338, David 79; William 421, William 1) was born June 28, 2001, in Jacksonville, Florida. He is the son of Dr. and Mrs. R. Hill McBrayer, III. He is the grandson of Mrs. Reuben Hill (Sarah) McBrayer Jr. of Nprfolk and the late Dr. McBrayer. He is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Walter Coles IV of Coles Hill and Mrs. Reuben Hill McBrayer of Danville and the late Mr. McBrayer.

(Source: adapted from newspaper announcement submitted by Family Association member Sarah McBrayer.)

AARON STEVEN PRICE, (M 96-6/1A, 10th, Donna 96-6/1, Donald 96-6, Ralph 335, Seneca 370-1, William 456, James 193, Ichabod 156, Samuel 360, William 1) was born February 28 2000. He is the son of Steven and Donna Gail McBrayer Price. His grandparents are Family Association members Donald Waid and Gail Lois Alexander McBrayer.

(Source: private communication from Donald McBrayer.)



UPCOMING BIRTHDAY

Family Association member **MATTIE LOU McBRAYER SMITH** (M 226-5/6, 7th, John 226-5, George 131, Andrew 15, John 223, Samuel 360, William 1) will celebrate her 95th birthday on September 3, 2001. She is the surviving sibling of 9 born to John Columbus and Martha Elizabeth Worthy McBrayer. She is doing quite well and would invite any members to call to chat, or drop by and see the flowers she tends. She lives at:

1030 Grimes Bridge Road

Roswell, GA 30075

Phone: 770-998-0166



RELIGIOUS SERVICE

A good number of our Family Association members are involved in religious service as active or retired ministers or as lay people. Jim and Bonnie McBrayer have been featured in previous newsletter articles.

This issue we feature **OTISLESTER** (m 323-7, 8th, Otis Ben 323-5, Benjamin 33, Andrew 27, Samuel 365, Andrew 12, Samuel 360, William 1) and **TOMMIE SUE SMITH McBRAYER**.



They are serving as consultants for the Mission Service Corps (MSC) assigned by the North American Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, working through the Baptist General Convention of Texas and commissioned by First Baptist Church, Wylie, Texas. The MSC is a task force of volunteers who give full-time service for four months or more in an assigned

mission/evangelism ministry.

Otis and Tommie are active members of First Baptist Church (FBC), Wylie where Otis serves as a deacon. They are also members of a core group beginning a new church, Redwood Community Church, a mission of FBC.

Otis retired from United Parcel Service after twenty-seven years and Tommie retired from a support staff position at FBC, following work for Collin Baptist Association for ten years and City Secretary/Administrator for the City of Royce City for four years.

They have three children and five grandchildren. Oldest son Philip lives with his wife Kim and daughter Sun-yi Robin in Hong Kong. Kim is a native of Hong Kong and a product of the SBC mission work there. Daughter Beth lives in Lubbock, TX. Son Carlton, his wife Julie and their four children live in North Richland Hills, TX.

If you want to learn more about Otis and Tommie's work, you can contact them at:

505 Rustic Circle
Wylie, TX 75098
Phone: 972-429-0845



Left to right: Jack McBrayer, Sheriff John Whetsel, Carl McBrayer

Family Historian **CARL BERNARD McBRAYER** also has taken on some new duties in retirement. Carl and his son **JACK LEE McBRAYER** were commissioned on August 18, 2001 as Reserve Deputy Sheriffs in Oklahoma City, OK. This followed six months of intensive law enforcement training at the

Reserve Deputy Sheriff Academy. At age 60, Carl was the oldest deputy to graduate of which he is very proud. He held his own in all phases of training with cadets averaging 30 to 35 years of age. They will be working in support of various events and emergencies with the Sheriff's Department.



SEARCHING FOR OUR ORIGINS

In the search for our origins, we have found what we consider to be kin in Ireland. We know some of our Family Association members can trace to Ireland and there is still some question as to where the three brothers were born. Rebecca's obituary states she was a native of Ireland - we still believe her to be of Scots origin however.

In spite of exhaustive research over the years, we are unable to find out direct ties to Scotland. There is a definite gap to be filled.

Making a search on the www.Ireland.com web site for ancestors came up with the following name variations in the Griffith's Valuation Lists.

McBriar, McBrier, MacBrear, MacBrair, MacBrier and McBrear

Actually only the first two name variations are listed in the actual property survey of 1848-64.

While not meant as a genealogical record, it became so when the 1851 census was lost. What is of most interest to us is the listing of our name as MacBriar and its origin.

The surname dictionary used by Irish genealogists is *Sloinnte na hÉireann - Irish Surnames* and was developed based on the number of entries for each surname in Irish telephone directories of the 1980s. One of the objectives of the book is to promote the Irish language so I suspect it would be difficult for any of us to read.

The entry for MacBrair in the dictionary states "Quite numerous; Down etc. Ir. *Mac Bràthar*. The name is Scottish from Galloway. SS." So now we know the Irish acknowledge we are Scots!

The SS refers to the book *Surnames of Scotland - Their Origin, Meaning, and History* by George F. Black, Ph.D. published by The New York Public Library in 1946. The entry in Black's book for MacBair is reproduced below:

MACBRAIR, MACBRAIRE, MACBRIAR. "Of all the families springing from Dumfries the MacBrairs have the longest and most honourable connection, having been virtually hereditary provosts of the burgh for nigh 150 years" (Edgar, p. 197). Andrew McBair was bailie of Dumfries in 1384 (ER., III, p. 125), and in 1473 a remission was granted to Herbert M'Brare (ALHT., I, p. 5). Alexander M'Bair (for M'Brar) and John Dominik M'Bair were witnesses in Bute, 1491 (ADC., p. 203). Robert McBrayr, provost of Dumfries, and Nicholas McBrayr, his son, are mentioned in 1481 (*Dumfriesshire and Galloway Nat. Hist. and Ant. Soc., Trans., 3. ser. xli, p. 106*). Nicholas

McBrar was alderman of Dumfries, 1503 (Simon, 59). Mention is made in 1499 of the 'movable goods and money' of unquhile Guthbert McBrar in Dumfries (RSS., I, 411). Sir John Mc brare, chaplain, was murdered in 1502 (Trials, I, p. *89), and John M'Brar was a canon of Glenluce in 1548. "The name of M'Brar," says Sir Herbert Maxwell, "contains in itself a reproach to a celibate order - *Mac brothair* (braher) the friar's son" (*History of Dumfries*, p. 191). Macbrar 1533, Makbrar 1557, McBraare 1494, M'Braier 1667, Makbrar 1510, Makbraire 1506, McBrar 1500, McBrayr 1444, M'Brayre 1573, McBrayer and McKbrar 1684, Makbrayre 1667, Makbrar 1579.

The references as cited by Black are:

- Edgar "An Introduction to the history of Dumfries" by Robert Edgar. Dumfries, 1915. Written c. 1746.
- ER "The Exchequer rolls of Scotland." v. 1-23 (1264-1600). Edinburgh, 1878-1908
- ALHT "Accounts of the lord high treasurer: Computa thesaurariorum regum Scotorum." 1473-1566. Edinburgh, 1877-1916. 11 v.
- ADC Acta Dominorum Concilia, 1478-1495. London, 1839.
- Simon Liber protocallorum M. Cuthbert, Simonis, A.D. 1499-1513. Also Rental book of diocese of Glasgow, A.D. 1509-1570. Edited by Joseph Bain and Rev. Charles Rodgers.

London, 1875. 2 v.

- RSS Registrum secret, sigillum regum Scotorum. The register of the privy seal of Scotland. v. 1-2 (1488-1542). Edinburgh, 1908-21.
- Trials Criminal trials of Scotland, from A.D. 1487 to 1624. Edited by Robert Pritcairn. Edinburgh, 1833. 3 v.

Referenced also is "History of Dumfries." There are several History of Dumfries and it is not at present clear which one he referred to. The page number (191) is not applicable for Edgar's history, no is it for McDowell's updated version published in 1986. If anyone has the exact citation, please let me know.

Of side interest, the derivation of the name by Maxwell given above is that which was used by the Halbert's organization in their peddling of bogus articles. This means the reference is somewhat readily available.

In the end, this little bit of research got us no closer to out missing roots. The question might be, are we looking in the right place?

Many records exist showing that William, David and James used the name McBrayer in America. We also know that some records show variations of the name. why is this and what does it mean to us in our searches?

William's son David is generally recognized as the origin for the Brier Branch of our family. Several stories have been told for the name change, but it is not clear what the real reason was. Was it what William and David used or was it the enumerator?

Both the 1790 and 1800 U.S. Census records have been studied in the past and it has been reported that William and David were listed as Brier in 1790 and David continued to be listed this way in 1800.

The 1790 census was the first Federal Census and the enumerators identified only the head of the household by name, the others residing there only by age brackets. A twenty-five dollar fine, split between the marshals' assistants and the government, was levied against anyone who refused to answer the enumerator's questions. Quite a hefty sum in those days. It would be about \$245 today.

Back to the 1790 Census first. We see David with two free white males 16 years of age and upwards, including the head of the household. This would account for David, who was 45 or 46, and his oldest son, William. William's exact birth date is unknown but has been given as 1773; if this is correct, he was 17 or 18 at the time of the census. The second son Andrew was born about 1774 so perhaps he was born later in 1775 (after March) so he would be under 16. The other six sons under sixteen were Samuel born 1777; James born 1779; John born ca. 1781; David born ca. 1783; Isaac born 1787 and George who was about 1 at the census. The age of the females was not considered in the census, so the two given would be accounted for by wife Agnes who was 40 or 41 and daughter Hannah who was about 5, her exact birth date is unknown.

Now there is an interesting point regarding the enumeration for William. There is no problem with the free white male above 16, William was about 95. Nor is there a problem with one free white female, Rebecca who was about 86. The question is - who was the free white male under 16? Perhaps a grandson was living with them at that time. If you look at the image on page 9 for William, you may be able to see that the number one in the center column appears to be smudged; it is fairly clear on the computer screen, in fact, it looks like another number was written first. Did the enumerator make a mistake when he transcribed notes? We may never know.

In 1800, there was more of a breakdown in the census and you can begin to get a better idea of family status. David's older sons had begun to move away by this time and the oldest one at home was over 26, perhaps Andrew since William probably was gone by then. The 16 thru 25 age group is more difficult to judge since four sons were in this group and it seems they stayed close to home until after 1800. Isaac was the 10 thru 15 male. Two males under 10 are listed. Son Henry was born in 1792. A son Robert has been reported in other documentation with a birth date of 1803 04. This probably is in error since there was a daughter Rebecca born later. All the children were listed in David's will and all were in birth order otherwise. Robert is listed before Rebecca as is a later son Matthew.

Daughter Hannah was the 10 thru 15 female and Daughter Betsy was born in 1795 to account for the under 10 female. David's first wife Agnes had died in 1793 and he remarried sometime in 1794 to Agnes or Nancy, last name unknown. While her age is not

known, she was young, under 25 according to the census. This was not uncommon in that age since an older husband would want to have a younger woman to raise the children should he die next.

Nathaniel's entries are relatively straight forward. He and wife Agnes fit into the proper age group, he was 52 and she was about 58. It is thought that they had at least five sons and two daughters. The census lists only two sons. These two could have been James, age about 17, and David, age 24. If the others were older, they probably had moved away by 1800. The sons apparently used the McBryar variation of the name.

Over the years, there have been inquiries from folks about McBrayers who lived in New England. We really did not have much to go on. The 1790 and 1800 census reports do not list McBrayer and, as we have seen, our ancestors were listed as Brier. In the 1790 Census Index, there are five Briers in Maine, four in New Hampshire, one in Rhode Island. One Briar was in Maryland.

In 1800, there were three Briers in New Jersey, six in Maine, two in New York, three in New Hampshire, one in North Carolina and one in South Carolina. Are these people related? It will take some digging to find out, but perhaps we can get some more clues as to our origin from this information.



PRIVACY ISSUES

Not many days go by anymore without some news of "identity theft" and concern over privacy. These are nothing to laugh at and we need to be concerned.

An increasing amount of correspondence passes through cyberspace every day. How can we protect ourselves? Here are a couple of ways at least.

1. If you are sending an e-mail to a list of people, instead of putting that list on the "To" line, send it to them by putting addresses in the "BCC" (Blind Courtesy Copy) line. Almost every e-mail program has this capability; you may have to look at your "Help" part of your e-mail to find out how to bring this line up if it is not already showing. When the message goes out, the recipients will see something like "undisclosed recipients" or just their address which may or may not be shown correctly. The

recipients do not see who else got the message and your file copy usually does not have it either. The way to get around this is to put your list in your address book, give it a name and then put the list in the BCC line. Use the "To" line only if there is only one recipient or you want everybody to know who was sent the message.

- Many folks pass along jokes, stories or even useful news by forwarding messages as attachments. I am sure all the e-mail users have gone through the frustration of opening six or seven attachments to finally get to the message originally sent. Think about that for a minute. Not only do you frustrate your friends but you put out a bunch of e-mail address, most of folks you don't even know. That's a good way to spread viruses to a lot of people. If you want to forward a message like this, open the attachments that has the original message. Delete all the addresses by highlighting them and hitting the delete key. Put in just the addresses you want to use and resend the message without all the attachments and addresses. If you do it right, somebody may even think you are the clever one who thought up that joke!

Here's another matter of concern to us all. It appeared in the July 19, 2001 issue of *The Atlanta Journal Constitution*.

GENEALOGY by KENNETH H. THOMAS

A Georgia law went into effect July 1 that has caused the Georgia Department of Archives and History to post the following notice: "State law requires that certain personal information be removed from records before they are made available to the public. Social Security numbers (of all persons), and birth date and mother's birth name (of living persons) may not be released. Access to records containing this information will be delayed or restricted. Primarily, researchers may expect delays or restrictions on unpublished biographical questionnaire files, some property tax digests, genealogical folders (one of their greatest collections, dating back to the 1920s), and portions of some manuscript collections."

This new law does not restrict published materials, court records or research by government officials.

The archives reference staff is hoping to find a way to deal with this effectively. What this means is that

genealogical materials that have long been open for public use are now being closed due to the increasing issue of identity theft.

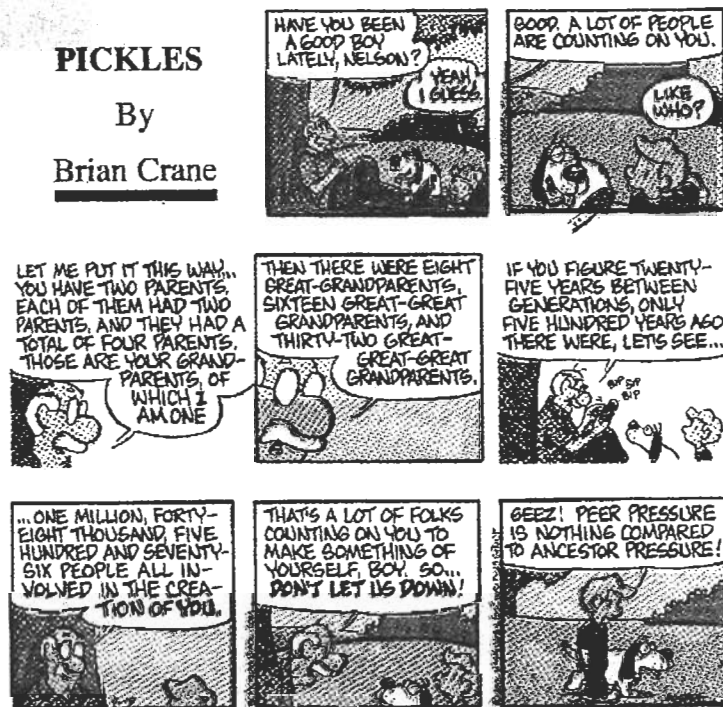
This action no doubt will follow in other states, so be aware of it and let your legislators know your feelings regarding such restriction of data. You might note also that some of the internet genealogical sites either give the option or automatically delete certain information on living people. If information is left out now, will it ever become available? There are examples of this now. U.S. Census records are not made available until seventy years have passed. Social Security numbers are available upon the death of a recipient and then the original application is available. At least our descendant will have access if this continues. Let's make sure new laws permit this.

HOW IMPORTANT ARE ANCESTORS?

PICKLES

By

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