

GAFFIELD NEWS

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Iraq

The war in Iraq dominates the news these days. No matter how we feel about this conflict, we must be concerned for the troops in the war zone. Of all the wars in history this one is covered by media in greater depth, and analyzed by a wider audience, than ever before. In past years, news took weeks, or months sometimes, to reach home. This age of instant communications has its advantages, but also disadvantages. Several years ago, in a yearly birthday letter to a grandson, I traced all of his ancestors that had fought in wars back to the American Revolution. I could not find a person in all battles, but most were represented with one of his ancestors. It was a chance to pass on some personal feelings about the wars to this young person.

Internet vs. Mail?

Publishing the Gaffield News in hard copy form has become a problem lately and trying to include photos in the Gaffield News and send them by E-mail generally is a disaster for me. Obviously I have a lot to learn about transmitting this type of information. I received a web site as a Christmas present and am putting on older copies of the Gaffield News. In order to do this, with my level of knowledge, I have omitted all photos. I may be able to add these later, but for now I thought you might like to see what was in the issues for the last 10 years. Remember how old some information is and it could be out of date today. You can access this site at www.gaffieldnews.com. Currently there is little on it, but I will keep working on it and update it from time to time.

For Gaffield News in future I would like to distribute it via the Web site. That means

you have to have a computer to read it. What problems would that cause you? Let me know your comments. I am mailing this issue of Gaffield News to all without e-mail on the current mailing list so you will have a chance to comment on the proposed system.

Another Gaffield Book

I would like to publish another edition of the "Descendants of Nathaniel Gaffield."

Cleaning up notes is a big job and I expect it will take most of this year to put text in an acceptable order. So if you have information to add please send it along. Will it contain photos? At this point I don't know, it would be nice, but...

A Good Find

This is early News, as I wanted to share some happenings with you. First some old news, back in December I sent information about Oliver Gaffield's wife. If you missed it here it is again.

Recently I visited the Castleton library and Sue LaBerge, librarian, showed me some old Birth, Marriage and Death registers for Northumberland County that has been found in the building. To my surprise there was the death information for Margaret Gaffield, the daughter of Oliver and Rhoda Gaffield. We have searched for a long time to find Rhoda's maiden name, and there is was - Tipets. Here is the rest of the information - Margaret Gaffield's name at the time of her death was Pettigrove, indicating she must have married again after her marriage to Elnathan Alger. She was born 2 April 1825 and died 21 August 1912. She was born in Cramahe Township, Ontario, Canada. The informant of her death was O.M. Alger, possibly a son. She died of Valvular Disease of the Heart and was 87 years, 4 months and 18 days old when she died.

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Gaffield/Garfield Connection

As many of you know I have tried for several years to find the connection between the Garfield families and our Nathaniel Gaffield who came to Canada about 1797. A lot of correspondence has gone back and forth, particularly with Richard Garfield in Florida. At last I think we have a

connection, below is basically this is the information he provided. I hope this chart retains some semblance of order, if you need clarification let me know. There several of new pieces of information from Dick, notably - Benjamin Garfield's second wife was Eunice Cooley!

GARFIELD Pedigree - e-mail 5 March 2003 from Dick Garfield who lives in Florida and researches the Garfield family.

01:01	JOHN b m d 1618	EDWARD b 1575 m Mary(?) Unknown m Rebecca Johnson(?) m Johanna Buckmaster d 1672	RALPH b m d 1607						
01:01									
02:01	SAMUEL b 1624 m Susanna Benfield m Mary Benfield d 1684 :	02:02 JOSEPH b 1637 m Sarah Gale d 1692 :	02:03 REBECCA b 1640 m Isaac Mixer d 1687 :____ MIXER FAMILY	02:04 BENJAMIN b 1643 m Mehitable Hawkins m Elizabeth Bridge d 1717 :	02:05 ABIGAIL b 1646 m John Parkhurst d 1726 :____ PARKHURST FAMILY				
02:02									
03:16	EDWARD b 1664 m Mehitabel Child dAF 1711 :	03:17 ABIGALE b 1667 m Joseph Gleason d GLEASON FAMILY	03:18 BENJAMIN b 1669 m Bethia Howe d 1751/2 :	03:19 JONATHAN b 1671 m Submit Parmenter d :	03:20	03:21 SARAH b 1673 m d 1699 BIGELOW FAMILY	03:22 JERUSHA b 1677 m John Biglow d :	03:23 JOHN b 1680 m d 1758 WARREN FAMILY	03:24 REBECCA b 1683 m Daniel Warren d 1720 NEWTON FAMILY
03:18									
04:17	TABITHA b 1715 m Benjamin Howe D HOWE FAMILY	04:18 SARAH b 1716/7 m Benjamin Mixer d MIXER FAMILY	04:19 BENJAMIN b 1718 m Beulah Parmenter m Eunice Cooley d 1755 (Dick Garfield's information ended here, but has established the connection between Edward Garfield and Nathaniel Gaffield and descendants.)						

Grave Markers

The following interesting piece of information came from the Family Tree Magazine News Service, 27 March 2003

What type of gravestone marks your ancestor's grave? Though parts of the inscription may be weathered and unreadable (usually the dates, naturally), or it may have sunk into the ground so that you can't read the death date, you can still get an idea of when the stone was placed by the composition of the stone and the type of lettering. By identifying the composition of the stone, you can also tell if it's a replacement marker. A granite stone with a death date prior to 1880, for example, is not the original marker.

1830s to 1880s

Marble became popular, although its use can be dated back to the late 1700s. Marble is specially prone to staining and weathering, and it dissolves easily in acid-rain pollution. This breakdown in marble leaves inscriptions unreadable and causes a dullness to appear on the polished surface, followed by a roughened texture that eventually becomes pitted and grooved. In the early 1850s, the use of photographs (daguerreotypes) secured to tombstones began. The vast majority of these graven images portrayed the deceased alive, but

some were postmortem photographs.

1880s to 1910s

Soft gray granite and cast-metal markers began being used. Raised lettering on granite became popular. This soft granite weathers somewhat and is prone to lichen and moss. In the early 1900s, sandblasting replaced stone carving by hammer and chisel.

1920s to present

Granite is the most popular marker and is often polished. This polished granite appears to be durable enough to withstand elements such as pollution, weathering, lichen and moss.

Excerpted from "Your Guide to Cemetery Research" by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack, \$19.99. Reprinted here with permission from the publisher, Betterway Books. Available in bookstores or online at: http://www.familytreemagazine.com/special_offers.asp?EMgcr032703

Let's keep in touch.

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Please note that if you received this Gaffield News by regular mail that I intend to distribute future issues only by e-mail or a web site. If you do not have a computer, do you know someone who does and who would receive it for you? If so, please provide me with their e-mail address. Thanks, Roger

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