



Toronto Family History Centre Bulletin 2015-30

August 13, 2015

<http://torontofhc.blogspot.ca/>

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- **The Forum** – Suggestions for one of last week's questions but no new questions
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Announcements

All Resources List - The list of all the holdings at the Toronto Family History Centre has been updated to include recent additions. To download a pdf version of this list, click [List of All Resources](#).

OGS Toronto Branch Announcements

Scottish Family History Lecture – Friday, September 18th, 3pm-5pm

Down and Out in Scotland – Researching Ancestral Crisis by Chris Paton

For more information and to register, please click [here](#).

Irish Genealogy Workshop – Focus on Ulster – Saturday, September 19th, 9am-4:45pm

Enjoy a full day of fascinating lectures on the people of Ulster from the 17th to the 20th centuries and learn about the resources available to find your Ulster ancestors. Hear the lead speakers, William Roulston and Chris Paton, talk about different aspects of Ulster history and the best avenues for starting your own research into Ulster history. Rounding out the day will be lectures by Leigh-Ann Coffey, David Elliot and Linda Reid. Early bird registration is in effect until August 22nd. For the full details and registration information, please click [here](#).

What's New

FamilySearch has updated or added to the following collections:

- Added indexed records to images for Italy & Mexico
- Additional Philippines civil registration images

Ancestry's updates or additions include:

- UK Apprentices indentured in Merchant Navy 1824-1910 New (342,000 records)
- UK City, Town and Village Photos 1857-2005 (The Francis Frick Collection) I had a look around these pictures and found the ones of Chrystal Palace very interesting. New (220,000 records)
- Idaho Death Index 1890-1964 – Updated (258,000 records)

FindMyPast has added the following datasets

- No Friday records released at the time of writing – Thursday afternoon

See [FindMyPast Record Sets](#) for the complete description of the new records.

ScotlandsPeople.com has released the next year of statutory birth, marriage and death indexes. You can now view the updated indexes for statutory records until the end of 2014, and in addition to this, images for births until 1914, marriages until 1939 and deaths until 1964. You can also purchase an Extract, a fully certified copy of a birth, marriage or death certificate, for 12GBP.

The Forum:

Questions.

Q2015/29/1. Ireland to Canada to the US?

My great grandfather Richard Stockdale, born in County Tyrone in 1844 came to Canada with his brother Nathaniel Stockdale born about 1840, his mother, Eliza Heagan Stockdale Cummings and his stepfather Samuel Cummings. They first appear in the Census of 1851 living in Hillier, Prince Edward County. There is a PRONI record from Carnteel, Church of England of the birth of a Nathaniel born July 19, 1840 to Richard Stockdale, farmer of Rehaghy and wife Eliza ? (surname?)

In the 1861 Census Richard reverts to his surname Stockdale (his father's name) and appears in Hillier. Nathaniel now appears in the Census in Kingston, just transcribed as Stockdale, born about 1841, England and occupation: clerk. Family history states that Richard and Nate studied the bakery trade in Kingston; then Nate became a steward on an Atlantic steamer. In the 1891 Census a Nathan Stockdale, steward, is listed as living in Centretown Yarmouth, Nova Scotia, aged 46, born England? (wife Jennette born about 1856; son Dick age about 8, daughter Jennie, age 7, daughter Lizzie age 5, and son Willie age 4 - all children said to be born in England?) In the Massachusetts' Death Records there is a Nathaniel Stockdale listed, father Richard Stockdale, death 1900 Massachusetts. I was not able to access any further details of his death (or of his life). Can anyone offer any help on finding further details of Nate's life and death?

FamilySearch appears to resolve the problem of Nathaniel's death. The death record transcript and its image record that Nathaniel died in Boston, Massachusetts on November 1st at the age of 62. His parents are listed as Richard Stockdale and Elizabeth Heagens; all three are recorded as born in England. FindAGrave.com has a picture of Nathaniel's tombstone with his wife, Janet, from Bennington Street Cemetery in Boston.

As for Nathaniel's life, the 1900 US census taken just before he died shows Nathaniel, a steward, born July 1840 in England; Janet, his wife born in 1850 in Scotland; and four children: Nathaniel born in 1874 & Richard born in 1879 in Scotland, Elizabeth born in 1886 & William born in 1887 in England. They had all arrived in the US in 1892 and Nathaniel and Janet had been married for 29 years.

FamilySearch records a marriage between Nathaniel Stockdale and Janet Paterson in Glasgow in 1870 and a number of children after that: John Paterson in 1872, Nathaniel in 1874 and Richard in 1881. Because Nathaniel was a ship's steward, it is not surprising that he married in Glasgow and that he does not appear there in 1871. In the 1871 Scottish census, Janet is in Govan, Glasgow as the head of the household living with 3 Paterson's. There is also a confusing 1881 Scottish census in Glasgow that has a Janet C.P. Stockdale (perhaps Janet Campbell Paterson Stockdale) living in Glasgow with her husband, James S Stockdale born in England about 1838 and three children – John 9 years, Maskan (Nathan?) aged 7, and Janet C P aged 2 years. A look at the 1881 census image on ScotlandsPeople would indicate her husband's occupation and whether Maskan is actually Nathan. The 1891 census in Yarmouth NS is probably the family, although the names and ages of the children are a bit odd.

There is a Nathan(iel) Stockdale born in England in 1840 but this Nathan(iel) was born in Filey, Yorkshire and lives in the area for the rest of his life. It seems that the researcher's Nathaniel does not really know where he was born.

Were You Aware...

Genetic Genealogy

Linda Reid has suggested a couple of good blogs to read on Autosomal DNA Testing 101. They are from Roberta Estes's blog, [DNAeXplained – Genetic Genealogy](#) and are: [Autosomal DNA Testing 101 -- What Now?](#) and [Autosomal DNA Testing 101 -- Tips and Tricks for Contact Success](#). These are quite lengthy articles and I suggest getting a cup of tea before sitting down to read them.

Linda also liked Blaine Bettinger's post on [How Much of Your Family Tree Do You Know? And Why Does That Matter?](#). Linda writes: "One of the things I really like about genetic genealogy is that it encourages me to look at my genealogy data in different ways. Blaine questions how confident can we be at assigning genetic matches to particular ancestors if we only know some of our ancestors at that level. So I am now analysing my pedigree chart. I know, for example, that I have

identified all my 2xgreat-grandparents but three of them are still the end of my line on my research. So while I have most of my lines back before 1800 (and some much earlier), I still have these sticking points. It is motivating me to revisit them.”

[FamilyTreeDNA](#) Discount

On the subject of autosomal DNA testing, FamilyTreeDNA is offering a discount until tomorrow (I think) - 15% off tests less than \$140 using the code **CJS2015** and \$30 off tests over that using the code **CGS30**. This would bring the FamilyFinder (autosomal) test down to a reasonable \$84.15 USD.

***Banished* and My Convict and a Challenge**

I have been watching the television series *Banished*, about British convicts sent to Australia. It is a rather over-the-top fictionalized account but does use the real names of the people involved. Earlier this year I read an excellent book about the founding of Australia, *The Fatal Shore* by Robert Hughes. This 1986 book is a classic, making the lives of the aboriginal Australians and the convicts come to life. It was important for my own family history as my gggg grandfather was a convict, sent to Tasmania in 1817 – one of the earlier convicts to arrive. There is a website called [Claim a Convict](#) where one can “claim” your convict and the claim allows contact about this person with other researchers. I had claimed “my” convict a number of years ago and had contact with someone who wrote a book on the social history of the convicts and whether their descendants in Australia ended up doing better than their counterparts who stayed in Britain. Aaron Chevell was even mentioned in the book, *Australia’s Birthstain*, by Babette Smith. The *Claim a Convict* website now allows a biography to be submitted and I have submitted the bio below.

My challenge to readers is for you to write an interesting story about one of your relatives to publish in the Bulletin. One paragraph would be just great. If your family history is just names and dates, try to find some interesting tidbit about just one relative to write about. Even if you do not send it to the Bulletin, you may find the exercise useful. I am sure that each ancestor has at least one interesting story they would like told. Just one paragraph. Think about it! Do it!

Shortish Biography of Aaron Chevell, 1789-1857

Aaron Chevell was born in 1789 to John Chevell, a tailor, and Elizabeth Grey in Littleport, Cambridgeshire. He followed in his father's footsteps and also became a tailor in Littleport. He married Rebecca Crabb on 20 September 1808 and they had five children: Mary 1809, Susanna 1810, William 1812, Elizabeth 1815 and Aaron 1816. He was transported for stealing and rioting.

On the evening of May 22nd 1816, a group of men gathered at the Globe Inn in Littleport, Cambridgeshire. They were very unhappy about the high price of wheat and tempers flared as more drink was consumed. After calling out more villagers from their houses, they rampaged through the streets of Littleport, breaking into houses and stealing property. After rioting through the streets of the town, they went on to Ely and continued their protest. The Royal Dragoons were promptly called in and arrested 82 men and threw them all in the tiny Ely gaol. The trials took place on the week of June 17th. Five prisoners, William Beamiss the elder, George Crow, John Dennis, Isaac Harley and Thomas South, were executed in Ely on June 28th for stealing and their parts in the riot. A stone plaque on St Mary’s Church reads: “May their awful fate be a warning to others.”

Nine others were sentenced to be transported to Australia: Mark Benton, John Easy and John Walker for seven years; Richard Rutter for fourteen years; and Joseph Easey, Aaron Chevell, Richard Jessop, John Jefferson and James Newell for life.

These seven men (not Mark Benton or John Walker) spent several months in the convict hulk, *Justicia*, in the Thames, before being transported together on the *Sir William Bensley*, which left London on October 9, 1816 and arrived in Sydney, NSW on March 10, 1817. This voyage was remarkable in that all but one of the convicts aboard arrived in Sydney alive – credit was given to a relatively new policy of having a surgeon on board each convict ship (one man drowned). After arriving in Sydney six of the Littleport convicts were transferred to the *Elizabeth Henrietta* along with 78 others from the *Bensley* for the voyage to Van Diemen’s Land [now Tasmania]. Half of the men, including Richard Rutter, disembarked at Port Dalrymple in the north of Tasmania and the rest arrived in Hobart on September 28, 1817.

The physical description given for Aaron was: tailor, 29, 5’9”, ruddy complexion, brown hair, and hazel eyes. In 1822 holding a ticket of leave, he was found guilty of stealing several sheep, the property of Thomas Dixon, and was sentenced to forfeit his ticket of leave, and to be transported to Macquarie Harbour for the remainder of his original term of transportation. I do not think that he actually went to Macquarie Harbour, because in 1838, he was given a pardon – he had held a ticket of leave for 8 years and it was observed that: “No offence on record for the last ten years and his conduct very favorably reported”. [Macquarie Harbour was a terrible place to be sent.]

Aaron died of ascitis in 1857 in the general hospital in Hobart, Tasmania. Although the Lieutenant-Governor William Sorrell had written a letter in 1820 saying that four of these Transportees are now "well enabled" to support their families and offers his support to allow the families of these men to immigrate, they remained divided as no action was ever taken by the powers that be in Cambridgeshire. Aaron was buried on 15 September 1857 at Holy Trinity parish in Buckingham County (Hobart), Tasmania.

Rebecca and her oldest daughter, Mary, ran a "petty" shop on High Street in Littleport for many years. Rebecca died in 1875 at the age of 85 years.

Of the five children, Aaron, who was born after his father was put in gaol, died of cholera at the age of 18 months. Mary remained single; Susanna, William and Elizabeth all married and had families in Littleport.

Listing of New Films at the Toronto FHC has been discontinued.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours:

(Always phone us if you do not have a booking to ensure that we are open.)

Tuesday 9:30 am to 2 pm (Linda)

Wednesday 9:30 am to 3:45 pm (Ann, Joe am, Helen & Leslie pm); 6:30pm to 9:30pm (Helen)

Thursday 9:30am to noon (Don & Roberta); 6:30 pm to 9:30 pm (Don & Roberta)

Saturday, 2nd & 4th of each month, 10am to 1pm (Grace & Charlene) For Chinese research

For a copy of a searchable listing of all films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre in pdf format, click [here](#).

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[Hugh Wallis IGI Batch Numbers](#)

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