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## Announcements

### The New Family History Online Film Ordering

Patrons must now go online to <https://film.familysearch.org> to order a film. I found the registering and ordering processes very simple and am now awaiting the first two films I ordered. One thing that I liked about ordering the films was that I was shown a description of the film content so that I knew that I had ordered the right film and had not typed an incorrect number. Patrons can send their comments and questions to: <https://film.familysearch.org/contacts/>.

### FHC Closures

We will be closed Tuesday, August 31 and for the Labour Day weekend, September 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>, inclusive. Call before you come if you do not have a booking.

## The Forum

### Questions:

No new questions from readers this week.

### Suggestions:

#### Q1/28/2010. General.

I have 12 medals which were awarded to my Father during his high school & university days, for various sporting events, around 100 years ago. They range in size from about a 25 cent piece, to larger than a silver dollar. I would like to display them in something that would show both sides of the medal. I've tried for 2 or 3 years to come up with ideas from various people. Does anyone have any display suggestions?

Brian Watkins writes: "I have an idea for the medal display you were talking about. I have a certificate that has information on both sides and the frame was constructed with glass on both front and back. You could perhaps find a piece of nice cardboard that would support the medals and cut a hole for each that would hold them securely enough. Then put the cardboard in a frame with glass front and back."

#### Q1/33/2010. England.

In checking the England and Wales Will and Administration Indexes, online at Ancestry.com, I have been pleased to find many relevant references to my family. Two had Letters of Administration (with the Will annexed). I thought that Wills and Administrations were mutually exclusive - there either was a Will, or not. Can anyone explain this to me?

Brian Shields replies: "Basically Letters of administration with the will annexed are granted where the will does not name an executor (now called "Trustee")."

## News From The Trenches

### Less Used Resources: Settlement Certificates

For those of us with pauper ancestors in England, there are a number of little used resources which may help fill out our knowledge of those ancestors. The Poor Law Acts of 1691 and 1834 indicate the kind of information one needs to look for. Until 1834 a parish was responsible for the maintenance of poor people settled there; afterwards it became the responsibility of the Poor Law Union, a group of parishes, and settlement certificates were no longer needed. If a poor man or family moved into the parish for work, the parish would not wish to have to support that family if they could not make ends meet. The poor man/family needed a "Settlement Certificate" from his home parish so that if he became a charge on the parish, that new parish could send him back to his "home" parish. I say "home" because it may not be where the person was born. A settlement certificate may have been given to a person who had been apprenticed to a master in a town and was then considered to be eligible for a settlement certificate from that town.

A settlement certificate was given to state clearly where the bearer's place of settlement was, with a promise that he would be accepted back there if he or his family became a financial burden on his current place of abode. Settlement certificates were usually issued and signed by the churchwarden(s) and overseer(s) of the parish of settlement, and were further signed by two magistrates. Many people moved from parish to parish without a certificate, but once a single man acquired a wife and child, a settlement certificate was likely to be requested from the man's parish of settlement.

A recent podcast from the National Archives UK suggested that few original settlement certificates remain. People had to carry them with them as they travelled around the country looking for work and after a time they deteriorated. They were often covered with another piece of parchment to protect them. However, the parish records of the settlement examinations remain.

Not everyone who had a settlement certificate was a pauper. Most people were required to present one to the parish officers of the parish to which they moved, including tradesmen and craftsmen, and farmers and yeomen.

The parish stated as the parish of settlement may not be the previous abode of the bearer. Settlement certificates may have been re-used many times for as long as they were valid. A certificate issued to a man automatically included a wife and children, whether he had them or not. Legitimate children gained their father's place of settlement at birth, and a married woman or widow's place of settlement was the same as that of her current or deceased husband. Illegitimate children took their settlement from their place of birth, unless they were included on a settlement certificate issued to their mother before they were born.

Where does one find these types of records? They are not so popular that Ancestry or FindMyPast is about to index them. Settlement certificates, removal orders and settlement examinations may be found in the archives of Quarter Sessions courts and of parishes. If one puts ENGLAND "SETTLEMENT CERTIFICATES" into the Keyword search of the FHL Catalog of FamilySearch, you will find 605 matches and many of these are Poor Law Records or Parish Chest Records for a particular parish – you may have hit gold if your parish is mentioned. Typing "SETTLEMENT CERTIFICATES" into Access to Archives (A2A) at the National Archives (<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/a2a/>) results in 10,656 records mentioned. Many of these refer to specific names. Cambridgeshire Record Office has the most references, I think, with 565 records, and many of these name specific people. [My ancestor has an entry here: *John Chevell, 22, tailor and wife Elizabeth. Born in Ely Trinity. Apprenticed to John Ellis of Thetford, Norfolk. Worked for William Topping of Littleport, tailor and was allowed to stay in Littleport.*] Norfolk has 47 references and there are 157 in the Yorkshire region. A number of Family History Societies are producing CDs with these kinds of records on them. Lincolnshire, for example, has a CD of Settlement Certificates from 1688 to 1834; it contains abstracts of all the genealogically useful information. The Toronto FHC has a CD of Oxfordshire Quarter Session Index Records from 1687 to 1830 and a CD for Shropshire of Quarter Sessions Index 1831-1920.

Other records in Parish Chest and Poor Law Records include Bastardy Examinations. When a woman became pregnant out of wedlock, the parish would “examine” her (i.e. interrogate her) to find out who the father was. If the father was named, the parish would attempt to get child support from him rather than having to support the mother and child themselves. As pointed out in earlier Bulletins, the Cambridge Record Office has a number of Bastardy Examinations on the A2A website (see above).

### Were You Aware...

#### The Newfoundland Regiment in WWI

*The Rooms*, Newfoundland’s museum, art gallery, and archives in St. John’s, has a very interesting on-line exhibit about the Newfoundland Regiment in WWI. It is a description of their involvement in four parts, starting here: [http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part1\\_entering\\_the\\_great\\_war.asp](http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part1_entering_the_great_war.asp). In the third part, there is a database of all the soldiers who served with the regiment: [http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part3\\_database.asp](http://www.therooms.ca/regiment/part3_database.asp) and by just clicking on a name, you will get the soldier’s attestation papers, telegraphs, discharge papers, etc. For the soldier I chose, there was even a letter written by the soldier’s mother asking why she had not received any money for several months and a telegraph sending his mother four pounds for Christmas.

#### Films received in the 8 days ending 26 August 2010 and due for return on 23 September 2010.

Film Content	Film No
ENG DEV Yarcombe PRs 1539-1837	0917559
ENG SOM Stogumber Ch Ward Accts/Vest 1613-	1565824
ITA Ciano BMDs 1816	1641973
ITA Ciano Indexes 1806-1845	1641108
ITA Cosenza Luzzi BMD 1809-1815	1519025
ITA Cosenza Luzzi BMD 1815-1821	1519026
ITA Cosenza Luzzi BMD 1822-1828	1519027
ITA Cosenza Luzzi BMD 1861-1865	1539414
ITA Cosenza Rovita BMD 1809-1812	1607347
ITA Cosenza Rovita BMD 1812-1828	1607348
POL Poreba Radina RC PR Births 1790-1870	0995397
POL Poreba Radina RC PR BMD 1790-1955	2062558
POL Poreba Radina RC PR Deaths 1790-1870	0995399
POL Poreba Radina RC PR Marr 1790-1870	0995398
PRU Gross Kruschin PR's Marr/Death 1836-1905	0527153
PRU WPRU Strasburg Marriages 1797-1944	0245662

A patron wishing to view a film ordered by another patron should check first with staff. The patron who ordered the film will always have priority. Any patron may renew a film ordered by another patron although the original patron's name will continue to appear on the label. The description of the film given above may not be a full description. A film number search in the Family History Library Catalog will reveal the full content of the film. The geographical abbreviations used above are based on the Chapman codes.

Toronto Family History Centre Current Opening Hours.

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

Monday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday 9.30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday 9.30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thursday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon and 6.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

Friday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon  
Saturday 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Summer Closures: August 31; September 4 to 6.

**You can request, by email, a copy of a searchable listing of all the films, fiche, CDs and books held at the Toronto Family History Centre. These will be sent to you as a pdf file attachment to an email but are about 2Mb in size and so high-speed internet connection is desirable.**

*Should you decide that you no longer wish to receive this bulletin, reply to this email with the word "Delete" in the subject line.*

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