



## RAMBLERS' RAMBLINGS

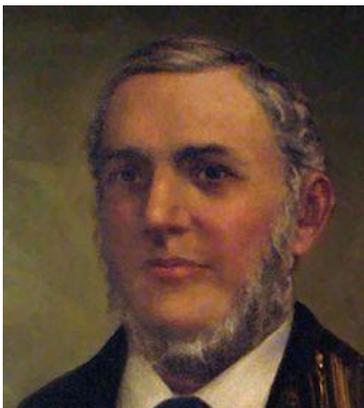
Volume XXI Number FOUR WINTER 2011

### EXILED IN TEXAS

Reprinted from the *TEXAS READER*, Copano Bay Press,  
Rockport, Texas

From 1863 to 1865, Governor Thomas C. Reynolds convened his cabinet at Marshall, Texas in a rented house. He and his wife resided in a small, but well-appointed 'Governor's Mansion' rented from a Mrs. Mary Key for the outrageous sum for \$225 a month.

Here's the twist: Thomas Reynolds was not the governor of Texas, but of Missouri. How could this happen?



It started with the election of 1860. As you probably know, Mr. Lincoln won, which lit the fuse of secession among the Southern states.

There wasn't a lot of love for the new president in Missouri. He had come in fourth there. But there wasn't a lot of sentiment for leaving the Union and fighting a war either. Claiborne Jackson had just been elected governor and Thomas Reynolds his lieutenant. Jackson tried to sit the fence, declaring that Missouri would be neutral in the coming fight. Old Abe was hearing none of that.

Lincoln sent Jackson a letter ordering Missouri to provide four regiments to fight the rebellion. Jackson responded, "Not one man will the State of Missouri furnish to carry on any unholy crusade."

Jackson did order the state militia to assemble near St. Louis for drills. Union general Nathaniel Lyon visited to camp disguised as a woman and was not pleased to find most of the commanders were secessionists. The Federals soon took the field and the Missouri government was on the run.

By 1863, Jackson was dead of stomach cancer, Reynolds had ascended to the

governorship and all state officials had fled to Texas.

Marshall, Texas was something of a rear staging area for the Trans-Mississippi Department. It had a powder mill and a hat factory where Confederate kepis were made. It was from Marshall that Governor Reynolds lobbied his friend, Confederate President Jefferson Davis, to approve an expedition into Missouri to restore his authority.

In 1864 he got his wish and accompanied General Sterling Price on a raid into the state. But the Confederates were repulsed and Reynolds soon found himself back in Marshall, a GOVERNOR without a state.

When Lee surrendered to Grant in the spring of 1865, General John Pope offered the same surrender terms to his Confederate counterpart in the Trans-Mississippi, General Kirby Smith.

Smith refused and summoned all the governors of the region to Marshall for a conference. There was much talk of carrying on a guerrilla war. They also discussed forming a defensive line on the Brazos, behind which men from across the South could rally and regroup, but few practical steps were taken. Confusion reigned and it was obvious the fight could not continue. General Pope was informed that the occupation could commence and would not be resisted.

That same day, what was left of a Missouri cavalry brigade started for Mexico. When they arrived at Austin, Texas Governor Pendleton Murrah joined the flight. Governor Reynolds, along with the governor

of Louisiana, caught up with them in San Antonio.

Reynolds took up residence in Mexico City where he became a railroad commissioner and unofficial adviser to the Emperor Maximilian.

## TEXAS TRIVIA

What government is currently in exile in Texas? (Answer on last page.)

## ANALYZING PROBLEMS

BY HENRY HANSON

When Mary Cooper taught her genealogy class she had a lesson on "**Analyzing Problems**," which included a family cluster sheet. The use of that worksheet is the subject of this article.

The Family Cluster Sheet allows the researcher to list other families in the same area where his family is listed in a public record, such as census, marriage, deed and other vital records.

This research technique continues to solve questions in my family research, just when I begin to think my research has hit the proverbial *Brick Wall*.



Before I started my genealogical research, a cousin, Jo Berta Flickinger, told my wife Nancy that she had gathered a lot of family information on our grandparents' family.

Once I started my research, she loaned me her family group sheets so I could make copies and a couple years later, I loaned her my FTM DVD so she could start using her computer to maintain her family files.

I learned from Jo Berta that her grandfather and my grandmother were children of William Perry Reddin, who was the son of James Mitchell Reddin, who was the son of Isaac Reddin and Martha Jane McCracken. Isaac was the youngest son of John Reddin and Sidney Sevier. John Reddins' birthplace was in question, but early records appeared in East Tennessee actually before Tennessee became a state. So was John born in North Carolina or Virginia? My first family information indicated the family migrated to middle Tennessee. Some family stayed there, others moved to western Tennessee; later some of those moved to Missouri, Arkansas and Texas.

After I took Mary Coopers' genealogy class, I started using my genealogy lessons and I was able to fill in the blanks on collateral family members; it became apparent that a cluster of Hardin County, Tennessee residents left Tennessee for Calhoun County, Arkansas around the 1850s. Later in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, a cluster of families, including my grandparents, left Hardin County, Tennessee for Sweeny, Brazoria County, Texas. All these family connections began to answer a number of questions.

Cluster sheets are not primary records, but they are a very efficient way to break down your brick wall and give you a road map that

shows how your family migrated. Just knowing where your grandfather might have met his future wife can direct you towards records that have previously escaped you.

## IN GOD WE TRUST

Reprinted from Texas Reader; Copano Bay Press, Rockport, TX.

**An interesting story about the insight Admiral Nimitz had into the "Mistakes" the Japanese made when they bombed Pearl Harbor.**

Tour boats ferry people out to the USS Arizona Memorial in Hawaii every thirty minutes. We just missed a ferry and had to wait thirty minutes. I went into a small gift shop to kill time. In the gift shop, I purchased a small book entitled "Reflections on Pearl Harbor" by Admiral Chester Nimitz.



According to the book, Sunday, December 7th, 1941--Admiral Chester Nimitz was attending a concert in Washington D.C. He was paged and told there was a phone call for him. When he answered the phone, it was President Franklin Delano Roosevelt on the phone. He told Admiral Nimitz that he would now be the Commander of the Pacific Fleet. Admiral Nimitz flew to Hawaii to assume command of the Pacific Fleet. He landed at Pearl Harbor on Christmas Eve, 1941. There was such a spirit of despair, dejection and defeat--you would have thought the Japanese had already won the war.

On Christmas Day, 1941, Adm. Nimitz was given a boat tour of the destruction wrought on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. Big sunken battleships and navy vessels cluttered the waters everywhere you looked. As the tour boat returned to dock, the young helmsman of the boat asked, "Well Admiral, what do you think after seeing all this destruction?" Admiral Nimitz's reply shocked everyone within the sound of his voice. Admiral Nimitz said, "The Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could ever make or God was taking care of America. Which do you think it was?" Shocked and surprised, the young helmsman asked, "What do you mean by saying the Japanese made the three biggest mistakes an attack force ever made?"

Nimitz explained. **Mistake number one:** the Japanese attacked on Sunday morning. Nine out of every ten crewmen of those ships were ashore on leave. If those same ships had been lured to sea and been sunk--we would have lost 38,000 men instead of 3,800.

**Mistake number two:** when the Japanese saw all those battleships lined in a row, they got so carried away sinking those battleships, they never once bombed our dry docks opposite those ships. If they had destroyed our dry docks, we would have had to tow every one of those ships to America to be repaired. As it is now, the ships are in shallow water and can be raised. One tug can pull them over to the dry docks, and we can have them repaired and at sea by the time we could have towed them to America. And I already have crews ashore anxious to man those ships.

**Mistake number three:** every drop of fuel in

the Pacific theater of war is stored in above ground storage tanks five miles away over that hill. One attack plane could have strafed those tanks and destroyed our fuel supply. That's why I say the Japanese made three of the biggest mistakes an attack force could make or God was taking care of America.

I've never forgotten what I read in that little book. It is still an inspiration as I reflect upon it. In jest, I might suggest that because Admiral Nimitz was a Texan, born and raised in Fredericksburg, Texas--he was a born optimist. But anyway you look at it--Admiral Nimitz was able to see a silver lining in a situation and circumstance where everyone else saw only despair and defeatism. President Roosevelt had chosen the right man for the right job.

**We desperately needed a leader that could see silver linings in the midst of the clouds of dejection, despair and defeat.**

## WRITING FAMILY HISTORY

BY MARY COLLIE COOPER

*Reprinted from the Summer 2001 newsletter*

One of the joys of family research is the revelation of the fascinating blend of groups and types and classes that makes each individual unique. We see the rise and fall of prosperity and subsistence that brought each of us to his own place in the scheme of things. We see with greater clarity what opportunities we have to make our own contribution in this fascinating, fluctuating on-going life.

The intricate picture of an individual's ancestry is revealed slowly and is sometimes very fragmented. Realization that some parts of this picture will never be discovered is a fact of life that family historians must live with. However, the exciting prospect of discovering another piece of the puzzle keeps us searching, reading, studying, interviewing, hoping that around the next corner we will find it! The new puzzle piece is not always what we had expected; sometimes it is not what we wanted, but any new piece is welcome.

Discovering the facts about our forebears is only a part of the pleasure that family research brings. Getting to know the people that make up our family tree is the real reward. What were they like? Handsome? Homely? Tall and skinny? Short, rotund? Which branch of my family tree do I most resemble? - - How did they make a living? Farm? Most seem to have been farmers, but they had other skills, too - a carpenter perhaps, a blacksmith, or one of the professions, like a lawyer or a doctor. And then we get to the harder questions like - why did they pick up their family, get into a small boat and sail for this great, almost unknown country? Or a little later, why did they move from one state to another? We do have a general answer to these last questions because we can be assured that they moved because they felt that the new place would give them a better opportunity financially, or in some manner improve their situation.

Let's discover together those facts about our forebears, but most of all let us look for the human beings behind the data. What can we discover about their personality, their ambitions, their life goals? What was important to them? What did they really work for? We cannot always find these interesting little things about our forebears, but - oh, what treasures when we do!

Sharing the results of search and research is another joy for family historians. The time comes when we must put aside the gathering of family history and begin to write about the wonderful stories we have found. This is an obligation to the future generations. It is our bit of Immortality.

Join our 2012 Ramblers Writers Workshop meeting quarterly in March, June, August and November.

## THE BULLETIN BOARD:



### Opening of the 1940 Census

by Lynn Betlock

The online debut of the 1940 census is now only four months away. At 9 a.m. on Monday, April 2, 2012, the National Archives will make the census available for research. The 1940 census will provide some challenges for researchers used to typing a name in a search box and immediately locating an ancestor's place of residence. There is no index to the 1940 census. The National Archives [FAQ page on the 1940 census](#) reports that in lieu of an index, "You

can locate people by identifying the enumeration district in which they lived in 1940 and then browsing the census population schedules for that enumeration district."

If you don't know where an ancestor lived in 1940, you can follow the suggestions on the [Start Your 1940 Census Research Page](#):

1. Make a list of all the people you want to look for in the 1940 census. 2. Determine their addresses using sources such as city directories, 1930 census information, and World War II draft records. 3. Identify the enumeration district for each address. Follow the steps provided online to search 1940 census maps for enumeration district numbers and descriptions. You can also try the [search utilities](#), which allow you to convert 1930 EDs to 1940 ones and search for 1940 EDs by using addresses or locations.
2. You can view a clock that is counting down the days, hours, minutes, and seconds until the census opening — and a wealth of information on the 1940 census on the [National Archives website](#).

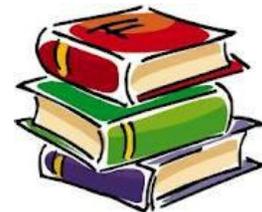
Steve Morse's [1940 census information page](#) contains numerous strategies for locating ancestors using his free [One-Step Tools](#) and a source checklist that might yield 1940 addresses. Mr. Morse also provides useful background on the 1940 census. For instance, "There were several new and interesting questions in 1940. Some examples are name of informant (so you can see if the information was provided by someone knowledgeable), highest school grade completed (to see if education level

affected whether or not a person had a job in this recessionary period), country of birth as of 1937 borders (because the borders of Europe were changing fast and furiously in 1940), place of residence in 1935 (to see how migratory the population was due to the recession and great dust bowl of the 1930s), and income."

On his website, Mr. Morse speculates that a complete name index to the 1940 census will be available about six months after the census is released. So if some of your ancestors prove elusive, other search options will become available over time.

Reprinted from [The Weekly Genealogist](#) Vol. 14, No. 49 Whole #560 December 7, 2011 Edited by Lynn Betlock, Jean Powers, and Valerie Beaudrault [dailygenealogist@nehgs.org](mailto:dailygenealogist@nehgs.org)

## READ A GOOD RESEARCH BOOK?



Have you read any good research books that you would like to share with other members? Francis Martin recommended the book "Albion Seed," by David Fischer. The book, written about the four folkways of American colonization, is a real page turner. Send an email to the Newsletter Staff with your book recommendation or send research tip that you found useful. We will include these in the upcoming newsletter.

## GENEALOGY TIPS:

The following information regarding researching in Arizona was taken from the Williamson County Genealogical Society Newsletter, September 2011;

*Search the history of Arizona Birth and death certificates from 1878 @ <http://genealogy.az.gov>.*

Recently, the Arizona Department of Health Services established a new free genealogy web site (<http://genealogy.az.gov>). This genealogy website contains public microfilmed images of county or state issued certificates and is available in accordance with § 36-351. Birth certificates recorded more than 75 years ago or death certificates recorded more than 50 years ago are available as public records. You can search Arizona public records there and view images of original birth and death certificates in PDF format. You will need the free Adobe Acrobat® Reader to view these images. You can then download the image and/or print copies on your own printer.

## A FEMME CONVERT:

By DICK EASTMAN

This phrase typically refers to a married woman and one whose legal rights are controlled by her husband.

## RAMBLER INDEXING GROUP

The Rambler Indexing group has been working every Monday at Carnegie Library on a huge stack of old Eagle newspaper clippings of deaths and obituaries from the 1980s to 1990s. Carmel, Jan, Georgianne, Dean and Sue have been working on Excel spreadsheets and as of our second session on October 10<sup>th</sup>, we had indexed almost 600 names. The spreadsheet template is an easy one to use and we would welcome anyone who is interested in this project to join us. We go in the back door to Carnegie Library

every Monday at 9:00 a.m. (Just knock on the door if it is not open) and work two hours or more. The Carnegie has brand new computers that are nice to work on. The library is closed on Monday. Give Sue a call if you are interested in this project.

## VOICES FROM OLD NEWSPAPERS

Reprinted from the September 5, 1831  
"Goliad Ayuntamiento"

"Because of Comanche attacks, settlers by decree must carry arms when outside the town. Non-compliant survivors will be fined."

## HISTORICAL TEXAS DOCUMENTS AT RISK

Reprinted from Houston Chronicle



In dusty basements and boxcars across Texas, thousands of historical documents are at risk of theft, loss or destruction by bugs, rats or weather, according to a recent report.

Issued by the Texas Court Records Preservation Task Force, the report studied preservation in the state's 254 counties. "Conditions range from excellent to abysmal, despite most county officials' good intentions," the group said.

"The majority are passionate about their records and the need to do more to preserve these documents," the report said of county and district clerks.

The volunteer task force, appointed in 2009 by the Supreme Court, surveyed district and county clerks and visited courthouses. It recommended better training for clerks, the adoption of better preservation policies and procedures, and stronger enforcement against theft of the documents, among other measures.

### Prizefighters' Arrest

Among the historic documents the task force learned about were Sam Houston's probate records in Henderson County, Galveston County records from the arrests of prizefighters Jack Johnson and Joseph Choynski for illegal fighting in 1901, and Harrison County records regarding Rebecca McIntosh Hawkins Haggerty, the wealthy daughter of a Creek Indian chief.

"While the Harris County district clerk's office now has a good system for preserving pre-20<sup>th</sup> Century court records, some of the documents are so old that they already had faded or crumbled before being placed in protective covers," said Bill Kroger, a partner at Baker Botts law firm and task force chairman.

"They've had 160 years of deterioration," Kroger said of some of Harris County's oldest records.

Due to limited funding and space, some counties store irreplaceable historic records in poorly maintained structures.

### TRIVIA ANSWER:

*Vietnam...kinda...sorta* A group calling itself the Government of Free Vietnam has

been headquartered in Missouri City (Houston area) since 1995.

## DO YOU KNOW THIS RAMBLER MEMBER?



## CHIEF KANATOOGA ... WHO WAS HE?

By Mary Jane Millender



In the Fall issue of the Ramblers' Ramblings, we published a picture of an Indian chief along with the teasing line, "Who is This Man?" Last issue's teasing picture along with the chief's story in this issue will be the beginning of a new quarterly column "Who is This Person?"

The newsletter staff wants to encourage Texas Ramblers to submit their ancestors' pictures and stories (all genealogists have interesting family stories to tell) for publication in this new column and, hopefully, at least one in time for our Spring publication . . . or Henry, Jane, Joyce and I will have to continue to dig deeper into our own family trees. **Please Contribute.**

But back to the story of the chief: He was Cherokee Chief Kanatooga, my 6<sup>th</sup> great grandfather, but this story really centers around the Monteith family name and one member's marriage to an Indian (Native American) in the 1700s, which subsequently led to a family feud and a different spelling of an old Scottish surname.

As the family story goes, in 1751 John Monteith and his brother Henry sailed from Scotland aboard the ship *Rebecca*, arriving in King George County, Virginia weeks later. Not long after their arrival, John met and married Mildred Al Lin Nih Aline, a Cherokee and the daughter (according to our family legend) of Chief Kanatooga. The marriage was violently condemned by Henry Monteith, John's brother. The condemnation was so intense that John changed his surname from Monteith to Mantooth ... and John and Mildred lived "happily ever after" with their name change and the nine children their union produced.

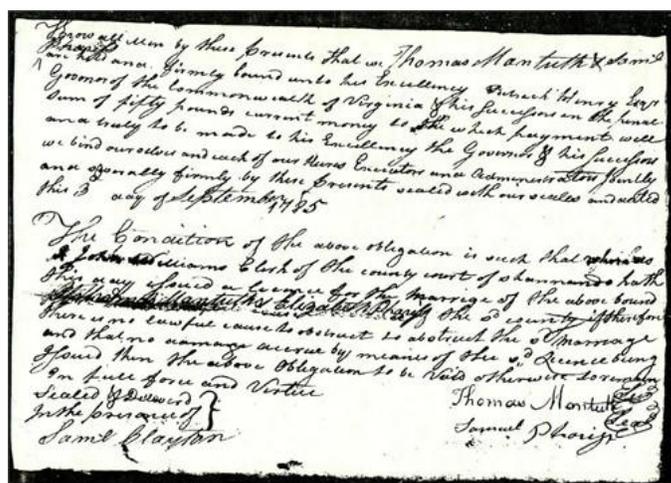


MILDRED AL LIN NIH ALINE

One of the nine children was Thomas Mantooth, my 5<sup>th</sup> g. grandfather. His friends nicknamed Tom "Cherokee Tom" because, as two Cherokee applications stated, "Tom had the color, the hair and the general deportment" (not sure exactly what that description might prove) of an Indian. And

Thomas Mantooth was called "Cherokee Tom" from childhood on.

An early marriage bond, dated September 3, 1758, is the first proof that a Monteith name change had occurred; it shows that Elizabeth Phariss agrees to enter into a state of holy matrimony with Thomas Mantuth." In the 1830 Cocke County, Tennessee census, Mantuth had become Mantooth.... And it has remained Mantooth ever since.



#### MARRIAGE BOND

Now is this family story true? All the Mantooths I've known, including my maternal grandmother, stood by their "facts," which included pointing out our family's high cheekbones, dark eyes and dark hair as proof that we had Indian blood mixed in with our Scotch, English and Irish heritage. Was Chief Kanatooga my 6<sup>th</sup> g. grandfather, according to family history? Do my high cheekbones, dark eyes and dark hair prove an Indian connection? To the Cherokees? To Chief Kanatooga? Not too sure about all that, but it does make for a fun story!

I think DNA may be my next stop.

# CHRISTMAS PARTY



TOP LEFT PICTURE; Barbara Brodigan, Francis Martin, Sue Foy Gayle Sewell & Helen Kunz

TOP RIGHT PICTURE; Barbara Brodigan, House Mother of Still Creek Ranch, Shelby Rowan

BOTTOM LEFT; Fred & Leatrice Bouse & Jane and Martin Ranck

BOTTOM RIGHT; Dean Duncan, Rodger Koppa, Georgianne Bigham (standing) and Pat Koppa





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