I am seeking all genealogical and biographical details for the family documented below including their ancestors, children, and grandchildren and the spouses thereof, including the full names of those spouses' parents. All additions and corrections within this scope, however speculative, will be greatly appreciated.

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**Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut**

The Nicholson line represents one of the few cases in my ancestry in which I know the name of an early male ancestor but I have been unable to link that ancestor back to an immigrant. Through papers inherited by my paternal grandmother, my link back to Francis Nicholson was partially documented. Through correspondence with Lowell S. Nicholson, I was able to identify Francis' paternal grandparents as Henry and Hannah (Spencer) Nicholson. Through Lowell, I was also introduced to Jean (Nicholson) Maack who provided invaluable information on the true Spencer ancestry and many marriages of Hannah (Spencer) (Nicholson) (Burt) (Glover) Brooks.


> In the summer of 1862, the man that was born in the Swamp concluded he would make a Record of the Descendants of Francis and Rachel Nicholson. It took a good deal of time and expense to collect the records of the different branches of the family but perseverance will accomplish a great deal. The following pages are principally a copy of that record. There will be other Records added to it as time advances. (24)

The descendants of Francis and Rachel (Loveland) Nicholson owe an incredible debt of gratitude to Ambrose.

1. **Henry Nicholson**, born 1682 or earlier; died at Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts after 1722; he was married in Boston on 9 January 1702 by Rev. Christopher Bridge, "Rector of King's Chapel People," to Sarah Stratton. Sarah was born in Watertown, Massachusetts; she was the daughter of John and Mary (Smith) Stratton (Harriet Russell Stratton, *The Book of Strattons* [hereinafter *Stratton*]; [New York: The Grafton Press; 1908], 183).
Nothing further is known of Henry's ancestry; however, one might speculate that he had some connection to an Osborn family, this surname was used as a given name for one of his sons. Possible immigrant ancestors for our Nicholson lineage include:


As you will read below, the name, Edmund, is found multiple times in the descendants of our earliest confirmed ancestor, Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut. Another potential immigrant ancestor was:

Henry Nicholson was at Greenwich, Connecticut in 1640 and 1656 (Lowell S. Nicholson, correspondence, [10 October 1983]).

When Sarah (Stratton) Nicholson's brother, James, died in Bristol County, Massachusetts in 1701, his estate was administered by his brother-in-law, Henry Nicholson, barber, of Boston, 1702-03 (Stratton, 183).

It should also be noted that Sarah's sister, Hannah Stratton, was married at Woburn, Massachusetts in 1702 to John Sanderson (Stratton, 183). As shown further below, Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut had a daughter who also married a Sanderson. Perhaps this Sanderson connection is evidence to support the theory that Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut was the son of Henry Nicholson of Boston.

In addition to the records provided below from Boston Births, 1700-1800, a Christopher Nicholson was born to Christopher and Sarah (___) Nicholson on 22 December 1705; recall that Edmund Nicholson named a son Christopher. Other Boston contemporaries of Henry and Christopher identified in Boston Births, 1700-1800 included the following couples: John Jr. and Dorothy (Nicholson) Rolston, married 9 March 1707 by Benjamin Wadsworth; Francis and Abigail (Badger) Nicholson, married 10 March 1707 by Ebenezer Pemberton; William and Elizabeth (Falkner) Nicholson, married 9 July 1707 by Thomas Cheever; (Boston, MA Marriages 1700 - 1751 from the Record Commissioners Report 150 [1898]). Perhaps Henry, Christopher, William and Francis were brothers or otherwise closely related descendants of Edmund Nicholson.

The given name, Francis, also appears among the descendants of Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut. In the 1990s, on PBS, in the television series, The Woodwright's Shop, the woodworking tools of Francis Nicholson of Glastonbury, Connecticut were featured; he was characterized as a master planemaker. This reference was presumably attributed to Francis Nicholson (Ambrose, Henry, [Henry], ...). Francis and his father, Ambrose, were woodworkers. Were they somehow related to an earlier Francis Nicholson who was also a planemaker?

There is ample evidence to buttress the claim that Francis Nicholson (b. 1683) was the first American planemaker to imprint his signature on his work, and it is likely that he did so at least 50 years before the beginning of the American Revolution. Not content to simply mark his planes with his name, Nicholson
adopted an elaborate style for his stamp which incorporated his workplace of Wrentham, Massachusetts and used the curious convention of "living in" as part of his imprint. The "living in" mark was subsequently utilized by a number of other early planemakers and there is no solid evidence as to why it, and imprinted planes, for that matter, suddenly appeared out of nowhere. (Martin J. Donnelly Antique Tools, [9 February 2000])

Given the possibility that Henry Nicholson of Hartford originated in Boston, Massachusetts the following Nicholsons are of great interest:

NICHOLSON—Brough Under Stainmore, Westmorland, England seems to be the like ancestral home of the Nicholsons who arrived in Boston shortly before 1700. In the Suffolk Co., MA probate record 423f.5sh 6 p. is the division of the estate of George Nicholson. The inventory was presented at Boston 11 Aug 1692 by his widow, Hannah. The probate was completed on 20 April 1700. At that time Hannah now Hannah Ruck and the sum to be distributed was L-423 5s 6d. Next of kin were brother, Edward Nicholson citizen and gunmaker of London England, brother Robert Nicholson of Brough [under] Stainmore, in Westmorland [England], Thomas and Elizabeth Nicholson of Brough children of deceased brother John Nicholson and Samuel and Isabell Kidd children of sister Anna Kidd alias Nicholson. The parish records of that area include many of the name Henry [Nicholson]. Further research might be profitable. (Jean Nicholson Maack, Corrections and Additions to "The Nicholson Ancestry" [manuscript])

Brough is a parish in the East Ward of Westmorland near Kirkby Stephen. In the 1674 Hearth Tax for Westmorland, several individuals named Henry Nicholson are identified as residents of the East Ward in the Constablewicks of Crakenthorpe and Stainemoore Midlequarter; and of the West Ward in the Constablewicks of Bampton, Barton above the Church, Kirkby-thure, and Low Winder.

Children, born Boston, Massachusetts (Boston Births, 1700-1800):

i. [William], b. say before 1700; m. Mary __; theoretical placement as a son of Henry and Sarah (Stratton) Nicholson based solely on the fact that he named a son Henry Nicholson.
   Children, surname Nicholson:  1. William, b. 8 April 1724.  2. John, b. 26 June 1728.  3. Henry, b. 13 April 1726.  4. Charles, b. 16 March 1734.]
   ii. Sarah, b. 29 March 1703; bapt. 4 April 1703; m. by Dr. Cotton Mather 12 Oct 1722 to Samuel Cowdrey.
   iii. Elizabeth, bapt. First Church of Boston, MA 24 Sep 1704.
2. iv. Henry, b. 25 May 1706; perhaps identical with the Henry Nicholson of Hartford, CT who m. Hannah Spencer.
   v. Osborn, b. 28 July 1707; m. by Mr. Sam Checkly 6 Aug 1728 to Frances Nolton.
2.  **Henry Nicholson** ([Heney], ...), of Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut was perhaps the son of Henry and Sarah (Stratton) Nicholson of Boston, Massachusetts; this has by no means been proven and should not be presented as a forgone conclusion. However, if so, he was born at Boston, Suffolk County, Massachusetts in 1706. Henry died at Hartford, Connecticut on 23 July 1739. He was married at Hartford, Connecticut 8 June 1729 (Hartford Vital Records, D:29 and FFS:34) to **Hannah** 4 **Spencer** (Disborough 3, Obadiah 2, Thomas 1), she was born in 1705 and died at Springfield, Hampden County, Massachusetts in 1782, the daughter of Disborough 3 and Abigail (Elmer) Spencer.

Until it is proven or refuted that Henry Nicholson of Hartford, Connecticut was the son of Henry Nicholson of Boston, Massachusetts, we must consider alternate possibilities. Ambrose Nicholson included the following remarks in his genealogy, which may indicate that Henry Nicholson was of Welsh, rather than English or Scottish origins:

The Nicholson family of which this book will confirm the Records, descended on the male side from the Welsh, but by intermarriage with English, the children of Francis Nicholson were but one-eighth Welsh (24).

Unfortunately, Ambrose revealed nothing further about Welsh origins for the Nicholson family. If this claim is accurate, it follows that Francis Nicholson was one-quarter Welsh; his father, Ambrose Nicholson was one-half Welsh; and thus, his grandfather, Henry Nicholson, was entirely of Welsh origins. If taken literally, the indication is that Henry was born in Wales and that he was the immigrant ancestor. Even if Henry was not Welsh, there is often some kernel of truth at the core of a family legend. In time, we may discover that his mother, or some other more remote ancestor, was born in Wales. As noted above, the Nicholson family of Boston, Massachusetts may have originated in Westmorland, England. Historically, Westmorland was part of Cumbria. Is it possible that the words Cumbria and Cymru (Welsh) were somehow confused in legends about the family's origins?

Hannah (Spencer) Nicholson is widely, albeit incorrectly, identified as Hannah 4 Spencer (Jared 3-2, Thomas 1), the daughter of Jared 2 and Sarah (Day) Spencer as a result of Donald Lines Jacobus' excellent series, "The Four Spencer Brothers," (The American Genealogist, vols. 27-30). Although the many-times-married Hannah descended from the same Spencer immigrant, a careful analysis of numerous primary sources by Jean Nicholson Maack has clearly shown that Hannah was actually the daughter of Disborough 3 and Abigail (Elmer) Spencer ("Hannah (Spencer) (Nicholson) (Burt) (Glover) Brooks," The American Genealogist, vol. 47; no. 1, p. 33-36 [Jan 1971]; hereinafter JNM).

Hannah was married second to ___ Burt. She was married a third time at Springfield on 1 May 1749 to Peletiah Glover. Peletiah was born at Springfield on 27 August 1687; he died there on 25 January 1754; he was the son of Peletiah Jr. and Hannah (Parsons) Glover; he was first married after 4 July 1734 (intentions) to Mary Wright. (Thomas B. Warren, Springfield Families, Springfield, MA City Library; hereinafter SF). The following text is excerpted from the will of Peletiah Glover:

In the Name of God Amen. This Twenty fourth day of October Anno
Domi 1753 I Peletiah Glover of Springfield in the county of Hampshire in the
Province of Massachusetts Bay in New England Yeoman... make this my last Will and Testament.

I give and Bequeath to Hannah my Dear and well beloved Wife and to her heirs and assigns forever all my Real Estate Lands Tenements Edifices and Building and Right and Title in Common and Undivided Lands. Wheresoever and Whatsoever in the Township of Springfield aforesaid or anywhere else.

my Meadow by the Town Street opposite to the Ferry land & my lot in the Plain Field next to the Great River... my homelot...

also I give to my Loving Wife all my moveable & Personal Estate Clothing Goods, Debts & Chattels to Dispose of as she shall so cause; and I do hereby constitute ordain and appoint and make my Loving Wife Hannah Glover Sole Executrix of this my Last Will and Testament

Hannah was married a fourth time at Springfield on 11 June 1755 to Noah Brooks, born about 1694, died 16 January 1782. Noah was first married at Springfield on 8 October 1741 to Kezia Bartlett who died on 20 October 1745. Noah was the son of Benjamin and Mary (Barnard) Brooks of Springfield (SF). The will of Hannah (Spencer) (Nicholson) (Burt) (Glover) Brooks is provided in its entirety below:

In the name of God Amen. I Hannah Brooks of Springfield in the County of Hampshire CommonWealth of Massachusetts, Wife of Noah Brooks of Springfield, aforesaid calling to mind the Mortality of Body and knowing it is appointed to all men once to Die do make and ordain by and with the consent of my Husband Noah Brooks this my Last Will and Testament as follows—

Principly and first of all I command my Soul to God my Creator in humble hopes of Eternal Happiness through the Merits of My Savior Jesus Christ My body I commit to the Earth with decent Christian Burial at the Directions of my Executor hereafter named. My Estate I dispose of as follows viz

To my son Ambrose Nicholson I give devise and bequeath the whole of my real Estate saving what I have hereafter given to my Husband Noah Brooks and my Grand child Jeduthan Sanderson all lying and being in Springfield aforesaid to him his heirs and assigns forever.

Item I give and devise to my Husband Noah Brooks the Northerly half of the Dwelling house in which we now dwell and the Liberty of Laying Wood on the Ground adjoining the Back Side of sd House together with the Southerly half part of the Homelot on which we now dwell during the Term of his natural Life and I also give him my Ten acre Lot during his natural life.

Item I give devise and bequeath to my GrandChild Jeduthan Sanderson the House and Homelot whereon and in which we now Dwell after the liquidation and determination of the aforesaid uses and bequests given my said Husband during his natural Life. I also give my said Grandchild Jeduthan Sanderson my Ten Acre Lot after the decease of my said Husband Noah Brooks; the aforesaid Home and Homelot with the Ten acre Lot I give to my said Grandchild to him his heirs and Assigns forever he giving the Sum of Thirty Six shillings to Each of my Grandchildren hereafter named vis to Amariah Sanderson and Hannah Lamiton the
wife of Matthias Lamiton to Sarah Whiting the wife of William Whiting and to Charlotte Sanderson and Cecil Sanderson Children of my daughter Sarah the wife of Medad Sanderson late deceased after the decease of my said Husband Noah Brooks.

I give devise and bequeath the aforesaid Sum of Thirty Six Shillings lawful Silver money to Each of my grandchildren before named and direct my Executors to pay the Same out of what I have heretofore in this my Will given to my Grandchild Jeduthan Sanderson at the decease of my said Husband Noah Brooks.

And I hereby nominate and appoint my Son Ambrose Nicholson and William Pyncheon Jun. Esq. Executors of this my last Will and Testament and direct them to divide my Wearing apparel equally between my Grand daughters Hannah, Sarah, Charlotte and Cecil which wearing apparel I hereby give and bequeath to them in Equal Shares: to be divided as aforesaid and I hereby revoke all former Wills by me heretofore maid and declare this and this only to be my last will and Testament. In witness whereof We Noah Brooks and Hannah Brooks the said Noah in Token of his free Consent to the foregoing devises and bequeaths have hereunto set our hands and seals this 4th day of January 1782.

Hannah's will was witnessed by Chas. Puncheon, Eben Stebbins, and Hezekiah Brooks.

Children (JNB):

i. SARAH, b. Hartford, CT 21 April 1730; bapt. 26 April 1730; d. before 4 Jan 1782; m. MEDAD SANDERSON.

3. ii. AMBROSE, b. Hartford, CT 15 April 1733; m. MARGARET HILLS.

ii. HENRY, b. Hartford, CT 24 April 1735; bapt. 27 April 1735; d. Bridport, Addison Co., VT 19 March 1807; m. MABEL [HALE], b. Glastonbury, Hartford Co., CT 19 July 1732, d. Bridport, VT 15 Nov 1805, probably the dau. of Thomas and Susanna (Smith) Hale; Tailor.
m. Elijah Clancy.] 7. Spencer, b. Lanesborough, MA 1777; d. Bridport, VT 8 Jan 1849; m. Sarah Eddy.


3. Ambrose Nicholson (Henry, [Henry], ...) was born at Hartford, Hartford County, Connecticut on 15 April 1733; he died sometime after 13 December 1782. He was married at Glastonbury, Hartford County, Connecticut on 13 June 1756 to Margaret4 Hills (Henry3, Joseph2, William1). Margaret died in 1828; she was probably the daughter of Henry3 and Hannah (___) Hills. (Donald Lines Jacobus, Hale, House and Related Families; hereinafter Jacobus)

From the following message, submitted for publication to Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly Intelligencer, it appears that Ambrose may have owned a store:

The subscriber still continues to take in RAGS for the use of the Paper Mill in Hartford for which he will pay Cash, or the following Articles, viz. Pins, Sewing and Knitting Keedles [sic], Writing Paper, Spelling Books. Primers, Pepper, Allspice. Coperas, Allum, Snuff, Indigo, and other articles not enumerated.

He desires those indebted to him for the CONNECTICUT COURANT, to make a full settlement by the middle of January next. The price of the Paper for the next year will be Eight Shillings in Country Produce, as it was sold in the year 1774. Those who live near and chuse [sic] to make payment to the Printers in Produce, shall receive them at Seven Shillings.

AMBROSE NICHOLSON.

Glastenbury, Dec. 22 1778.

Ambrose was also an agent for delivery services, as evidenced by the following ad from the Connecticut Courant and Hartford Weekly Intelligencer:

Those persons that want to send Letters or Things of light carriage to Col. S. B. Webb's regiment, may have an opportunity, by applying the subscriber, living near Glastenbury meeting house, by Thursday morning. AMBROSE NICHOLSON.

June 8, 1779.

A similar message of 24 October 1780, offered delivery services to West Point.


Also on 29 March 1782, Ambrose Nicholson of Glastonbury, etc. for 20 pounds sold to Thomas Williston of Springfield, etc. Gentleman 5 acres in the Plain field bounded westerly upon the Connecticut River northerly upon Capt. Thomas Stebbins, easterly upon Ebenezer Warriner, southerly upon Plain Brook... lately owned by my honoured Mother Hannah Brooks, late

On 13 December 1782, Ambrose Nicholson sold to Daniel Lumbard of Springfield Yeoman for seven pounds 21 acres bounded—etc. being land originally laid out to Peletiah Glover late of Springfield deceased and descended to me by the last will and testament of my Hon. Mother Hannah Brooks, deceased. Witnessed by Thomas Stebbins and Wm Pyncheon, Jr. acknowledged and recorded 13 December 1782 (Abstracts of Deeds, Springfield, Massachusetts, Book 20, page 282).

Ambrose probably learned the trade of joinery from members of his mother's family. The Spencers and Disboroughs were furniture makers and woodworkers.

Children, born at Glastonbury, Hartford County, Connecticut (Jacobus):

4. ii. FRANCIS, b. 13 April 1758; m. RACHEL LOVELAND.
   iii. NATHAN, b. 23 Oct 1759; d. 1814; m. 1790 MARY HIBBARD, b. Norwich, CT 1769, d. Dalton, MA, dau. of Nathan and Mehitable (Crosby) Hibbard; ancestors of Lowell S. Nicholson.
   iv. JOEL, b. 29 Sep 1761; d. Glastonbury, CT 18 July 1810.
   v. HANNAH, b. 14 Nov 1763; m. 2 April 1783 JOHN PHILLIP of East Hartford, CT.
   vi. AMBROSE, b. 11 July 1766; m. Wethersfield, CT 22 Sep 1788 POLLY CLARK, perhaps dau. of Thomas Clark.
   vii. MABEL, b. 6 May 1768; d. 7 Nov 1831; m. Eastbury, CT 12 Jan 1792 ELIJAH H. GOODRICH; resided at Hinsdale, MA.
   viii. JARED, b. 26 Jan 1770.
   ix. SARAH, b. 29 April 1772.
   x. EDMUND, b. 24 Sep 1774; d. 16 Oct 1774; twin.
   xi. EUNICE, b. 24 Sep 1774; twin.
   xii. LUCY, b. 6 Nov 1777; d. 14 June 1854; bur. Glastonbury, CT; m. 23 June 1799 JOAB LOVELAND, son of Solomon and Lucy (Morley) Loveland.

4. FRANCIS NICHOLSON (Ambrose, Henry, [Henry], ...), son of Ambrose and Margaret (Hills) Nicholson, was born at Glastonbury, Hartford County, Connecticut on 13 April 1758; he died at Salem, Wayne County, Pennsylvania on 9 December 1803. Francis was married at Glastonbury, Connecticut on 7 February 1781 to RACHEL LOVELAND (David, John, Thomas). Rachel was born in Connecticut on 6 August 1762 and died in [Salem, Wayne County,] Pennsylvania on 9 February 1843; she married second Elijah Weston, died 1820. Rachel was the daughter of David and Deborah (House) Loveland. (Jacobus; ROD)

On 9 August 1905, the fifteenth annual reunion of the Nicholson family was held at the home of Hobart C. Smith on the Turnpike near Hornell, Steuben County, New York. At the request of the Nicholson Picnic Association, Grace Nicholson, a great-granddaughter of Johnathan Loveland Nicholson, prepared a document, "Nicholson Family: The 15 children of Johnathan Nicholson, turnpike pioneers," and submitted it to the editor of the Morning Times. Numerous extracts are included below and cited as NF.
In the year of 1778 [Francis Nicholson] enlisted in the war of the Revolution and became [a] private secretary to General Washington (NF)

Francis Nicholson was ... a soldier of the Revolution. He enlisted in 1778 [and] was 1st. Sargeant and Secretary for Gen. Washington and served until the close of the war, receiving an honorable discharge with a broken constitution (NF).

On 21 August 1837, Rachel (Loveland) (Nicholson) Weston declared that:

she was the widow of Francis Nicholson who was a soldier and served as a Sergeant in the Connecticut line in the Revolutionary war, and believes that at one time Roger Eno was his Colonel, also she believes he served under Colonel Webb, and that Isaac Goodrich was at one time his Lieutenan.

On the same day, 21 August 1837, Francis' eldest son Edmund also declared that:

he was born while his Father the said Francis Nicholson deceased, belonged to the Revolutionary Army, and that he has ever since his recollection heard his parents related the fact that when an infant his Father being at home on a furlough, took his mother the said Rachel Nicholson to see the French Army then encamped at Hartford.

The records of Connecticut men in the Revolution on file in the Library of Congress show that Francis Nicholson enlisted on July 21, 1778 for the term of the War. His first service was with Capt. Walker, Col. Samuel b. Webb's Regiment. A short sumary [sic] of the record follows:

1777-1778 Went into Camp at Peekskill in the Spring of 1777 and served in Parson's Brigade under Putnam during movements of following summer and fall. In engagement of Dec. 1, the regiment met with accident, leaving Col. Webb and other officers prisoners in the enemies hands. Witerered with Parson's Brigade at West Point and assisted in construction of permanent works there. In summer of 1778 it was attached to Varnum's Brigade, and marched to Rhode Island, engaging in the battle there of August 21, 1778; commended for its conduct. Wintered in Rhode Island 1778-79 and remained until fall of 1779; marched into winter quarters, Morristown, N.J., 1779-80; assigned to Stark's Brigade, Lt. Co. Huntington commanding. Present at Battle of Springfield, N.J., June 23, 1780 and during the following summer served with main army on Hudson. Upon a Memorial of Col. Huntington, the Assembly of Connecticut, on Second Thursday of May 1780, adopted the regiment as one of the "Connecticut Line," and a Committee of Congress in Camp Preakness N.J., June 23, 1780, approved the measure. It was designated the Ninth Regiment and went into winter quarters 1780-1781 with the division at Camp Connecticut Village above the Rovinson House. There it was reorganized for formation of 1781-83.

1781-1783 Third Regiment, "Connecticut Line," Third Regiment in the second formation of the "Line" serving from January 1, 1781 to January 1, 1783

In Feb. 1800, Francis Nicholson with his family of eight children, ranging from 18 years of age to infancy, removed to Penn. and settled in Salem, Wayne Co. where the youngest son was born. Salem at the time was literally a wilderness called "The Big Swamp." Everybody had to work hard for a living, but time and energy brought the wilderness to become fruitfields. (ROD, 24)

Papers pertaining to Francis’ Revolutionary War service record were featured on the PBS television series, Ancestors, in 1997. Also on PBS, in the television series, The Woodwright’s Shop, the woodworking tools of Francis Nicholson of Glastonbury, Connecticut were featured; he was characterized as a master plane-maker. Unfortunately, the compiler has had little cooperation to date from PBS in learning more about the ultimate sources of this information.

Children (ROD):

i. EDMUND, b. Glastonbury, Hartford Co., CT 1 Feb 1782; d. 4 Sep 1860; m. (1) 1 Sep 1805 REBECCA CURTIS, d. 22 Feb 1844, dau. of Josiah Curtis (Alfred Mathews, History of Wayne, Pike, and Monroe Counties, Penn. [1886]); m. (2) Nov 1844 PRUDENCE PEASE, m. (1) Pease.

Children, surname Nicholson: 1. Dency Palmer, b. 13 Sep 1810; d. 16 Feb 1872; m. 26 Feb 1832 Asa Corson. 2. Fitch, b. 4 July 1812; d. Summer 1880; m. 11 Nov 1839 Lucia Ann Sanders. 3. Sylvanus, b. 25 April 1814; d. Dec 1828. 4. Sylvester Goodrich, b. 13 May 1816; d. OR 7 April 1861; bur. Miller Cemetery, near Silverton, Marion Co., OR; m. 23 Dec 1847 Esther Spores; arrived in OR on 10 Sep 1847 (Delores Nicholson Cooper [2 April 2000]). 5. Marilla Curtis, b. 8 June 1817; d. 15 April 1884; m. 19 Sep 1852 Aaron Van Gorder. 6. John Francis, b. 14 Aug 1825; m. 15 May 1849 Sarah Ann Streepy. 7. Dolly Roosa, b. 19 Feb 1830; m. (1) 15 June 1848 Hiram Bidwell, d. 20 Oct 1862; m. (2) Ephraim Swingle ca. 25 Dec 1868. 8. Asaph, b. 1 May 1834; d. 8 May 1884.

5i. ii. JOHNATHAN LOVELAND, 14 Oct 1783; m. (1) “early in 1805" ELIZABETH SWINGLE.

iii. MYNIS, b. 1 Sep 1785; d. 7 Oct 1854; m. 24 July 1803 SOLOMON PURDY, d. 10 June 1855.

iv. POLLY, b. 22 July 1787; d. 23 June 1832; m. 8 Sep 1805 PETER PURDY, d. 20 Oct 1835; twin.

v. daughter, b. 22 July 1787; stillborn twin.
vi. CLEORA, b. 13 Aug 1789; d. 19 Oct 1853; m. NATHANIEL PURDY, d. 8 Oct 1856.

vii. FRANDINA, b. 27 Aug 1791; d. 30 Oct 1831; m. 15 July 1810 HENRY HEERMANS, d. 27 Oct 1843.

viii. KEZIA, b. 9 Nov 1793; d. 13 June 1794.
ix. **Zenias**, b. 21 Nov 1795; d. 28 March 1852; m. (1) 2 Feb 1817 **Mary Goodrich**, d. 9 Dec 1817, dau. of George Goodrich; m. (2) 15 March 1819 **Nancy Goodrich**, d. 18 July 1887, dau. of George Goodrich.

   Child, by Mary Goodrich, surname **Nicholson**: 1. **Horatio W.**


x. **Kezia**, b. 17 Feb 1799; d. Canaan, PA 13 Sep 1802.

xi. **Ambrose**, b. Canaan, PA 19 Feb 1802; d. 8 Dec 1888; m. 29 Nov 1827 **Minerva Fish**, b. 13 June 1809, d. 21 Sep 1881; author of the *Record of the Descendants of Francis and Rachel Nicholson*.

   Children, surname **Nicholson** (ROD): 1. **Albert Scott**, b. 9 Feb 1829; d. 27 or 30 May 1893; m. 19 June Mary Elvira Warner, d. 15 April 1906. 2. **Francis Gilbert**, b. 24 Dec 1830; d. 1 Nov 1875; m. 4 May 1854 **Mary Gleason**. 3. **Helen Maria**, b. 30 April 1834; d. 12 June 1837. 4. **Catherine Lydia**, b. 22 Nov 1836; d. 24 Aug 1858. 5. **Hobart**, b. April 1839; k. MD 1862. 6. **Austin Murray**, b. 1841; m. 1876 **Julia Candace Bush**. 7. **Franklin**, b. 1845; d. 1847. 8. **Eleanor Emma**, b. 1848; m. 1873 **Charles Thompson**.

5. **Johnathan Loveland Nicholson** (*Francis, Ambrose, Henry, [Henry], ...*), son of Francis and Rachel (Loveland) Nicholson, was born at Glastonbury, Hartford County, Connecticut on 14 October 1783 and died in Hornell, Steuben County, New York on 1 January 1869. Johnathan was first married [on 4 July 1804 or "early in 1805"] to Elizabeth "Betsy" Swingle (*John*, *Johann Ulrich*^1^, *Mattheus*^A,B^, *Kasper*^C^); she was christened at the "Harrison Meeting House" in Montgomery "Germantown," Orange County, New York on 22 __ 1816 and died in Howard, Steuben County, New York on 11 August 1845. Betsy was of German descent; she was the daughter of John^3^ and Catherine (Mohr/Moore) Swingle.

   Johnathan married second **Mary Ann (Chapman) Winn**, widow of __Winn and probably the sister of Henry Chapman. The Winns may have had as many as five children including a daughter, Susan Delano (Winn) (Vickerman) Ellis, and a son, Charles H. Winn. (Nancy Colby Shockey, correspondence, 3 October 1998).

   In primary and secondary sources, Johnathan's named seems to be uniformly spelled as such, adding an h to the more typical spelling of Jonathan. Perhaps in recognition of this variation, Johnathan's son used the more typical spelling.

When [Johnathan] was 15 years of age his parents moved to the state of Penn. and settled at South Canaan in Wayne co. in a district which was termed the "The Great Swamp," about half way between the Delaware and Susquehanna rivers. Here when he was 20 years old, his father died leaving to him, and his mother the care of a large family. For several years he taught school, to help
support the family. This school was located in a settlement of very thriving Methodists and he heard for the first time the doctrines that were to make so radical a change in his after life.

After [Johnathan's] school closed being much attached to the place and the people, he settled there, in what was known as North Canaan and joined the society of Methodists, which shows the change in his views, his early training having been Calvinistic. He soon after [became] an itinerant preacher. There also he married the daughter of John Swingle and remained for seven years. At the end of that time, in the year 1811, he removed to Union Luzerne County, [Pennsylvania] about 20 miles below Wilkesbarre.

In 1823 [Johnathan] moved to the state of New York and settled first in the town of Catlin about six miles north of Newton, now Elmira [Chemung County], where he continued to preach, working for his family five days of the week and giving the remaining two to the community at large. At the end of this time, in the year of 1827, he removed into what was then the town of Howard [Steuben County], now known as Turnpike Hill. Hornellsville as then a mere hamlet and had no communication with the outside world except the Canisteo river and the turnpike road, which was open [sic; opened] by the state soon after.

In [Johnathan's] forest home on the turnpike, [he] reared a family of 15 children, 13 sons and 2 daughters. Of this family only two are living, David who resides with his daughter in Hornellsville and Perry, now at the good old age of four score who lives on Cunningham Creek. By the efforts of this large family the forests were cleared for the fine farms and pleasant homes which abound through this district at the present time.

[Johnathan] was careful to keep a record of his descendants, which at the time of his death number [sic; numbered] something over 250.

We have now to mention [Johnathan's] going at the ripe old age of four score and 5 years on New Year's morning 1869. He was at the time at the home of his daughter, Mrs. Abram Smith, on the Turnpike, and was sitting in his rocking chair. He went at the unfolding of the New Year to the country where we hope to meet him in the sweet bye and bye.

Notwithstanding the many virtues of this good old man, not even he was exempt from slanderous tongues. There were certain charges preferred against him and an investigation was held. Elder Jesse Bartholomew of blessed memory was chairman of the committee that investigated the charges. On the following Sabbath morning he arose before his congregation in the little old red school house and said: "Brethren, them stories against Father Nicholson is all false. When I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies, I'll bid farewell to every fear, and wipe my weeping eyes. Sing, Brethren, Sing." (NF)

It is probable that the first school regularly maintained in the township was that started by Jonathan Nickerson in a portion of Hans Ulrich Swingle's house in 1812... The Nickerson school was kept up for several months and had an attendance of about twenty pupils (Alfred Mathews, History of Wayne, Pike, and Monroe Counties, Penn. [1886]).
... on the turnpike in 1808. After him came Johnathan L. Nicholson. The
turnpike hill... it is familiarly known as 'Nicholson Hill' from the numerous families
of that name that have settled there, all descendants of Johnathan L. Nicholson
(Roberts).

Johnathon Nicholson, a local methodist preacher, primarily from Hartsford,
Connecticut, settled in Union, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, moved to Newtown
(now Elmira, Chemung County, New York) in 1825 and in 1829 located in the
eastern part of this town [Hornellsville], on the turnpike, on the Wesley Nicholson
farm, where he built a large two-story house on the site of the Luther Chapman
house. He bought out Thomas Beattie who had made a slight clearing, and build a
small log house with a sloping or shed roof. A small distillery had previously been
built there about the time the turnpike was opened in 1809, to supply the men
employed in building the road, with whiskey. The only clearing between the river
at Hornellsville and the Nicholson place in 1829, was at the Henry Ranger place,
where Hughey Clark, an Irishman, had cleared about 20 acres, and had built a log
house and barn. Mr. Nicholson was the father of fifteen children, thirteen of them
were sons. ("Town of Hornellsville," Gazetteer of Steuben County [New York],
Part 1)

Children, by Elizabeth Swingle (NF, ROD):

i. John, b. 1 Sep 1805 (ROD, 30); m. (1) 27 May 1827 Lorinda Greene, d. 5
Nov 1834; m. (2) 1836 Narcissa Stephens (Elijah\(^2\), Uriah\(^3\), Thomas\(^2\),
Henry\(^1\)), b. 1810, dau. of Elijah and Abigail (Stephens) Stephens, Abigail
(Stephens) Stephens was the dau. of Jedediah\(^2\) Stephens (Jedediah\(^3\),
Henry\(^2\)). Narcissa may have been a widow, she is named as Narcissa
Bennett in ROD (30). "The eldest child had 7 children. The only son was
a soldier in the 'Civil War' and was kept some time in Libby's prison."
Elizabeth, b. 8 June 1830; d. 15 Nov 1852; m. ca. 1851 James Barber.
Children, surname Nicholson, by Narcissa Stephens, b. Howard,
Steuben Co., NY (ROD, 32): 2. John Albert Jr., b. 25 April 1838;
possibly identical with the John Nicholson residing in Hornellsville 1900,
born March 1838 and age 63. If so, he m. Alice S. ___ , b. NY June 1853.
3. Clarissa, b. 3 Jan 1840; m. 14 Oct 1861 Charles Bennett Wilson.
Mary Viola, b. 16 March 1849. 7. Narcissa Lorinda, b. 11 Aug 1852.

ii. Catherine, b. 22 Dec 1806; d. Farmington, Davis Co., UT 11 Feb 1882; m.
Hornellsville, NY 7 March 1830 Abraham Rose, b. Utica, Oneida Co.,
NY 11 March 1806; d. Farmington, UT 4 Sep 1884, son of Abraham and
Rachel (Haws) Rose; both bur. Farmington City Cemetery, Farmington,
UT. "The eldest daughter Catherine went west, and finally settled in the
state of Utah. She married Abram Rose. To them were born several
children of whom Arastus and Ally are still living [9 Aug 1905]." (ROD).
The Rose family was baptized on 5 June 1836 by Orson Hyde, an Apostle of the newly-founded Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. On 18 Sep 1836, Abraham Rose of Howard, Steuben Co., NY was ordained as an Elder at Amity, Allegany Co., NY. On 6 Oct 1839, they left Steuben Co. for Carthage, Athens Co., OH. The arrived in Nauvoo, Hancock Co., IL in the fall of 1843 and soon settled in nearby Lima. Removed to Kanesville (now Council Bluffs), IA in Aug 1846. Arrived in Salt Lake City, UT 17 Sep 1853 and soon settled in Farmington, Davis Co., UT. (Loretta R.C. Rice, "Short Sketch of the Life of Abraham Rose, Pioneer of 1853"); hereinafter Rice). For more information on this well-documented branch of the family, please see Maureen Bryson's Freepage at Rootsweb.com or contact her by email at mbryson@byu.net.

Children, surname Rose, first five born in the Town of Howard, Steuben Co., NY (ROD, 32-33; Rice):

1. Adeline Rose, b. 2 Dec 1830; d. 24 Sep or 10 Nov 1845 "while the family was being driven from the Temple at Nauvoo [Hancock Co., IL]."
2. William Warren, b. 6 May 1832; d. Farmington, UT 29 Nov 1899; m. (1) 4 Dec 1853 Miranda Garner; div.; m. (2) 15 June 1867 Lucy Brown.
3. Elizabeth "Betsy," b. 17 July 1834/35; d. 18 Dec 1892; m. 13/18 May 1852 Nathaniel Underwood.
5. Ann Victoria, b. 4 Jan/June 1837/39; d. Farmington, UT 23 May 1878; m. 17 June or 6 Oct 1855 William Kelsey Rice.
7. Martha Rose, b. Carthage, OH 15 May 1843; d. 21 Dec 1863; m. 10 May 1860 Allen Burke.

iii. EDMUND "EDWARD," b. 23 Aug 1808 (ROD, 30); m. (1) DEBORAH BENNETT (ROD, 30), d. 4 March 1868 (ROD, 30); m. (2) SARAH HUGHES (ROD, 30). "The patriarch of the family, who for more than half a century [was] class leader of the little flock of faithful workers, who worshipped in the old red schoolhouse on the turnpike; had three children none of them living [9 Aug 1905]." Their adopted son was Egbert Nicholson, b. 1829; d. 1896; mistakenly attributed by some researchers as another biological son of Johnathan Loveland and Elizabeth "Betsey" (Swingle) Nicholson; Egbert m. Clarissa Loghry, b. 1839, d. 1925, dau. of Isaac and Christine (Snyder) Loghry; her grandparents were Joseph and Mary (Santee) Loghry and Abraham and Nancy (Carroll) Snyder.

iv. HENRY, b. 13 June 1810 (ROD, 30); d. 1 Dec 1875 (ROD, 30); m. 19 May 1838 MARY ANN STOUT (ROD 30); settled in Beaver Dam, WI.

Children, surname Nicholson: 1. Alice Jane, b. 1 April 1839; m. Jan 1859 Charles White. 2. Dency Alvira, b. 11 Aug 1840; m. 3 July 1859


vi. **Francis**; b. 6 July 1813 (*ROD*, 30); d. 17 Feb 1900 "age 86 yrs 7 ms 14 ds" m. 17 June 1838 *Esther Ann Ellis* (*ROD*, 30), d. 11 Jan 1898 "age 74 yrs 7 ms 13 ds"; "As we speak of Francis, we can not help noting a bit of fun. It was at one of the annual [Nicholson Family Reunion] picnics that he said in his genial way: 'Esther and I have lived together now for over 60 years, and we have never had a cross word, have never been sued and I have never had a doctor or been sick a day in my life.' Soon a whisper ran through the assembly, "I guess we'll ask Esther about that." Of their six
children three are living [9 Aug 1905]. The eldest son, Charles enlisted in the war for the Union and was shot at Bristoe Station."


vii. ZENUS, b. 23 Dec 1814 (ROD, 30); m. 5 March 1838 MARY FISHER (ROD, 30), d. 10 Nov 1853 (ROD, 30); m. (2) 1 June 1854 REBECCA BAKER (ROD, 30); settled in IA.


viii. JONATHAN FLETCHER, b. 12 June 1816 (ROD, 31); d. 10 Feb 1854 (ROD, 31); m. 22 May 1836 MARTHA STEPHENS (William R. 5, Joshua 4, Jedediah 3, Henry 2-1) (ROD, 31), b. Howard, Steuben Co., NY, d. Hornell, NY 30 Nov 1860 (ROD, 31). "... we find the names of 8 children and learn of the patience and zeal of the mother as she cared for the little ones, after the death of the father. All of these children are now with us [9 Aug 1905], with the exception of George, who enlisted in the Civil War, and has never been heard from." Jonathan was farmer; he lived at Howard, NY; Hornellsville, NY; and Beaver Dams, WI. Martha was a member of the Methodist Church.

Children, surname Nicholson, first b. Howard, Steuben Co., NY; remainder b. Hornell, Steuben Co., NY: 1. George David, b. 15 April 1838; d. young. 2. Elizabeth Lucinda, b. 25 June 1840; m. 15 Oct 1862 Joshua Fitch. 3. Samantha Elmira, b. 13 Jan 1844; m. Christopher Emery. 4. William Jonathan, b. 10 Sep 1842; m. 8 Feb 1869 Elizabeth Walbridge, b. 8 Dec 1846, dau. of James W. and Martha (Ball) Walbridge, grandau. of Philo and Hannah (Barnes) Walbridge; Hannah (Barnes) Walbridge m. (2) the compiler's direct ancestor, Daniel 3 Richey (Daniel 2, John 1).

ix. WESLEY, b. 24 Dec 1817; m. 15 March 1846 JANE LEONARD (ROD, 31). "... whose genial smile we miss so much left 2 children, both of whom reside on the turnpike."

Children, surname Nicholson (ROD, 36): 1. Leonard John, b. 2 June 1847; m. 30 March 1869 Electa Betts. 2. Frances Janette, b. 15 March 1848; m. 11 March 1867; James Beech. 4. Maria Cordelia, b. 28 Feb 1852. 5. Wellington Cartright, b. 6 May 1858; d. 1 Aug 1858.

Children, surname Nicholson, by Olive Cordelia Cross (ROD, 36): 1. George Washington, b. 5 Sep 1846. 2. Huldah Arminda, b. 10 March 1850; m. 11 March 1867; James Beech. 4. Maria Cordelia, b. 28 Feb 1852. 5. Wellington Cartright, b. 6 May 1858; d. 1 Aug 1858.


x. DAVID, b. 23 March 1819 (ROD, 31); m. 5 Oct 1845 OLIVE CORDELIA CROSS (ROD, 31), d. 4 June 1858 (ROD, 31); m. (2) 13 Nov 1858 MARY HENRIETTA BIRCH (ROD, 31); "is still with us. Of his 9 children, 2 have gone to their reward [9 Aug 1905]."

Children, surname Nicholson, by Olive Cordelia Cross (ROD, 36): 1. George Washington, b. 5 Sep 1846. 2. Huldah Arminda, b. 10 March 1850; m. 11 March 1867; James Beech. 4. Maria Cordelia, b. 28 Feb 1852. 5. Wellington Cartright, b. 6 May 1858; d. 1 Aug 1858.


xi. AMBROSE, b. 19 June 1821 (ROD, 31); d. 8 Feb 1888 "from softening of the brain" (ROD, 31); m. 27 March 1850 SOPHIA ELLIS (ROD, 31), d. 4 May 1858 (ROD, 31); "had two children. Both of whom are living."


xii. ELMIRA MYNIS, b. 17 April 1823 (ROD, 31); m. 13 Aug 1842 ABRAM LEONARD SMITH (ROD, 31). "Elmira, the youngest daughter married Abram L. Smith. To them were born 8 children. Ira, the eldest, enlisted in the war for the Union and served in Co. K 107th regiment of New York infantry. He died shortly after coming home. Five of the children are living [9 Aug 1905]."

Children, surname Smith (ROD, 37): 1. Ira, b. 28 June 1843; d. "from sickness contracted in the Army in Defence [sic] of his Country" 19 March 1863. 2. George D., b. 31 March 1845; d. 4 June 1845. 3. Lucinda, b. 8 May 1846.; m. 25 March 1868 Richard D. Towle. 4. Alonzo, b. 3 March 1848. 5. Melissa, b. 15 Dec 1850; m. 30 Aug 1868 Martin Leake. 6. Rosalia, b. 6 Dec 1842; m. 16 Feb 1858 William Towle. 7. Flora, b. 22 Sep 1856. 8. Hobart Clinton, b. 18 April 1857. 9. Thadeus Benton, b. 15 Feb 1861 (Mary __, correspondence [25 August 1999])

xiii. MORDECAI, b. 4 March 1825 (ROD, 31); d. 18 Feb 1855 (ROD, 31); "lived with his parents. He died in the prime of life."

xiv. PERRY, b. 7 June 1827 (ROD, 31); m. 14 Oct 1853 DINAH CODDINGTON (ROD, 31).

xv. CHARLES, b. 15 July 1830 (ROD, 31); m. 30 Oct 1851 SARAH MARIA LOGHRY (ROD, 31); "the youngest died in 1893. One of his 2 children is living [9 Aug 1905]."

Child, by Mary Ann (Chapman) Winn:

xvi. Dency Elizabeth, b. Hornell, Steuben Co., NY 25 July 1846 (ROD, 30); d. Brownboro, Jackson Co., OR 29 July 29 1915; bur. Brownboro, OR (Death Certificate); moved to Sully Co., SD then to Brownboro, OR with the family of her half-sister on her mother's side. (Nancy Colby Shockey, correspondence, 3 October 1998).

6. Perry Nicholson (Johnathan Loveland, Francis, Ambrose, Henry, [Henry], ...), son of Johnathan Loveland and Elizabeth "Betsey" (Swingle) Nicholson, was born 7 June 1827 (ROD, 31); he died in the Town of Hornellsville, Steuben County, New York on 10 July 1907 and was buried in the Turnpike Cemetery, Hornellsville, New York. Perry was married on 14 October 1853 to Dinah Coddington (Calvin, John, ...) (ROD, 31). Dinah was born in Ulysses, Tompkins County, New York or Howard, Steuben County, New York about 1835; she died, probably in Hornellsville, before 25 February 1907 when she was not named in Perry's will. Dinah was the daughter of Calvin and Sarah Ann (Porter) Coddington; she was named after her maternal grandmother, Dinah (Thomas) Porter.

Perry and Dinah lived in the narrow valley of Cunningham Creek, a tributary of the Canisteo River. As illustrated in the Atlas of Steuben County [1873], his residence was in Lot 16, District 3, in the southeastern corner of the Town of Hornellsville, near the border of Howard. Cunningham Creek road terminates on the Turnpike Road at its northern end. Per the 1875 New York State Census, Perry's home in Hornellsville was a log house.

Perry Nicholson, Canisteo, loss l. thumb $4.00/month since Dec 1876 (1883 List of Pensioners on the Roll).

In 1891, Perry was identified in the Directory of Steuben County, New York as a farmer residing in the Town of Hornellsville, along with fellow farmers Calvin P., Egbert, Francis, Jerome, Harmony [sic], Howard, Leonard J., and Wesley Nicholson.

Perry, the old soldier, is still young at heart and an admirable story teller of the right kind of stories. We remember his clever remarks at the last picnic in regard to his boyhood days on the Turnpike. Of his 10 children 5 are living (NF).

Perry was buried in a small cemetery on the Turnpike Road not far from where he lived. His tombstone reads:

Perry Nicholson
Co. K 107 Reg NY Vol
Died July 10, 1907
age 81 years.
In Perry's brief will of 25 February 1907 he left what little he had to his daughter, Carrie (Nicholson) Pickard. His real estate was valued at less than $400 and his personal estate at less than $50. From "his mark" on his will, it is evident that Perry was illiterate. (*Steuben County, New York Probate Records, Will 38:417 and File A-7908*)

Children:


**ii. Henry**, b. 18 Nov 1857 (*ROD*, 37); d. 8 Sep 1858 (*ROD*, 37).

**iv. Mary Jane**, b. Dec 1860 (*ROD*, 37); d. 8 March 1861 (*ROD*, 37).

**v. Cyrus Nathan**, b. 5 March 1862; d. Canisteo, NY 5 July 1893; m. Sylvia __, m. (2) ___ Perkins.


**vi. Ida May**, b. 23 Oct 1864; d. Thurston, Steuben Co., NY 1950; m. ___ Beebe; resided in Cameron, Steuben Co., NY in 1907.

**vii. Carrie Bell**, b. 15 July 1869; d. Hornell, NY 26 Jan 1937; m. ___ Pickard.

**viii. Mary Georgia**, b. 1871; m. (1) Hornell, NY 25 Sep 1890 ___ Myers; perhaps m. (2) Canisteo, NY 23 May 1912 ___ Knapp; resided in Canisteo, NY in 1907.

**ix. Martin H.**, b. 28 Dec 1873; d. Steuben Co., NY April 1947; m. (1) Sarah Owen Petteys, b. 28 Dec 1878, d. 12 April 1927, dau. of Edwin and Mary Augusta (___) Petteys; m. (2) his former sister-in-law Mary Ettie (Petteys) (Alger) Gesner, b. 18 Aug 1882, d. 7 Jan 1965, m. (1) William Alger, m. (2) Scott Gesner, dau. of Edwin and Mary Augusta (___) Petteys; resided in Otesville, Genesee Co., MI in 1908.

  Children, by Sarah Owen Petteys, surname Nicholson: 1. Eunice May, b. 13 Jan 1898, m. 28 Sep 1917 Loyde Johnson, b. 23 Oct 1898.  2. Lena Etta, b. 2 Oct 1900, m. 3 Nov 1917 Marshall Smith, b. 19 April 1897, d. 2 Aug 1971.  3. Marian Eugenia, b. 15 Feb 1905; d. 13 Oct 1920. (*History of the Petteys Family: Descendants of Peter and Abigail (___) Petteys*)


  Children, surname Petteys: 1. Hazel Maude, b. 31 Aug 1899; d. 12 Jan 1948; m. 28 Aug 1919 Leon Burnes, b. 1 Jan 1903, d. 10 Feb 1945.  2. Grace Irene, b. 2 Nov 1910; d. ..., m. Arthur Barron, b. 2 Nov 1898, d. 25 Oct
1971. (History of the Petteys Family: Descendants of Peter and Abigail (___) Petteys)

xi. NINA, not identified in the administration of father's estate.
Index

This is a complete every-name index for the entire document; each woman is indexed under her maiden name and her married name(s). A question mark, (?), indicates an unknown maiden name.