



Volume 24, Issue 5

SEPTEMBER 2020



THE AUGUSTA ARCHIVIST

AUGUSTA COUNTY GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY
P.O. BOX 436
FISHERSVILLE VA 22939

ACGS SEPTEMBER VIRTUAL MEETING

The scheduled September meeting on September 16 will be Brigadier General William Alexander, Retired Superintendent of Fishburne Military School who will speak on “The Founding of Waynesboro, Virginia”.

SIGN IN INSTRUCTIONS

1. From the ACGS email just click on the Zoom link from a smartphone or computer. The meeting will come up with all users sound muted. You will need to un-mute for any participant to hear you. For the 1:00 pm program on 9/16, participants should be muted.
2. If you download the Zoom app at [ZOOM.COM](https://zoom.us), (its free) and open it, that app may be easier for new users.
3. Contact a member of your family that is familiar with Zoom to walk you through it.
4. Youtube; there are many how-to videos like: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnFSBjFvK2o>

PURPOSE

- To help preserve genealogical records and public access to them
- To furnish aid and education in genealogical research
- To foster and encourage interest in genealogical research

ACGS monthly meetings are expected to be via ZOOM for the remainder of the calendar year.

Augusta County Genealogical Society Library
2nd Floor
Augusta County Public Library
1759 Jefferson Highway
Fishersville, VA 22939
540-885-1991
[Library Hours](#)

CLOSED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS USED IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

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The following glossary of medical terms was assembled as part of a project on medicine from 1760-1830 but it includes some terms from a wider period. I have drawn on several sources, including, with the permission of the author, *Medical Terms used in the late 18th Century* which appeared on a now obsolete web site written by Melanie McClusky. Additional information was gleaned from an article on the Olive Tree Genealogy Home Page by Lorine McGinnis Schulze.

Information from **Dr Johnson's Dictionary**, first published in 1755, is shown in red. This gives the meaning of the terms as generally understood in the middle of the 18th century. Robert Hooper's *Physician's Vade-Mecum*, published in 1812 has been used as a source of terms in the early 19th century; many of the terms mentioned are still in common use. *Encyclopaedia Britannica* has also been used for some modern descriptions including the names of infectious organisms.

Dyspepsia: acid indigestion or heart burn.

Eclampsia: a form of toxemia accompanying pregnancy.

Effluvia: exhalations. In the mid 19th century, they were called "vapours". Among the contagious effluvia were rubeolar (measles).

Endocarditis: disease of the heart valves that can result from rheumatic fever.

Enteric fever: see typhoid fever.

Enteritis: inflammation of the bowel.

Epilepsy: a disorder of the nervous system, with either mild and occasional loss of attention or sleepiness (petit mal) or by severe convulsions with loss of consciousness (grand mal). Commonly caused by oxygen starvation during a difficult birth. Synonyms: falling sickness, fits.

Epistaxis: bleeding from the nose

Erysipelas: a feverish disease characterised by intense deep red local inflammation of the skin caused by *Streptococcus* bacterium. Synonyms: Rose, Saint Anthony's Fire.

Falling sickness: epilepsy.

Fistula: a sinous ulcer within. Johnson also quotes from Sharp's Surgery on fistula lachrymalis - "a disorder of the canals leading from the eye to the nose which disrupts the natural progress of the tears. The last and worst degree of it is when the matter of the eye, by its long continuance, has not only corroded the neighbouring soft parts but also affected the subjacent bone".

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Augusta County Genealogical Society

MEMBERSHIP Dues are \$15.00 per year, per member, except that dues for additional individuals (eighteen or older) who reside at the same address shall be \$5.00 per year for each additional member. New members who join after June 30 need only pay one-half of the current year's dues. Sponsor membership is \$50.00 for 12 months. Membership entitles you to receive our publication, the *Augusta Archivist*, and access to the ACGS library at 1759 Jefferson Highway, Fishersville, Virginia as long as you maintain a membership for the year you wish to use the library. The Augusta County Genealogical Society disclaims responsibility for any

P.O. Box 436, Fishersville, VA 22939

erroneous statements or opinions stated in any article submitted by contributors of this newsletter. Any questions should be referred to the person who submitted the article. At this time, meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month, 1:00p.m., at the location indicated on page one. No meeting in December. Augusta County Genealogical Society is a non-profit corporation. President: Steve Garber, Vice President: Carole Hoffman, Corresponding Secretary: Sharon Sturdivant, Recording Secretary: Leslie Hall, Treasurer: Sandra Jordan, Newsletter: David Riel, and Directors: John Sherwood and Dolores Duncan.

GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS USED IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

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Continued from page 2

Furuncle: see boil.

French Pox: venereal disease, former name of syphilis. Johnson gives two meanings: *pustules & many eruptive distempers and venereal disease*. See also Syphilis.

G.P.I: general paralysis of the insane. The third and final stage of syphilis which may not occur until many years after the primary phase.

Gangrene: the decay of tissue, commonly the extremities, usually because of the failure of blood supply as in frost bite or as a complication of diabetes. Synonym: mortification.

Gastritis: inflammation of the stomach.

Gathering: an accumulation of pus.

Gleet: see catarrh.

Glossitis: inflammation of the tongue.

Goitre: swelling of the thyroid caused by shortage of iodine in the diet. Also known as Derbyshire neck.

Gout: an arthritic disease marked by recurrent acute attacks of pain, tenderness, redness, and swelling around the joints and tendons caused by deposits of monosodium urate crystals. Most gout cases are characterised by hyperuricaemia, i.e. high levels of uric acid in the body, that cause crystals to be deposited in the joint area. Uric acid is a normal breakdown product of purine metabolism. Abnormally elevated blood levels of uric acid, which are associated with gouty arthritis, arise through either excessive production of uric acid or decreased excretion of uric acid by the kidneys. The condition was not helped by high consumption of meat and port wine! *The arthritis, a periodical disease with great pain.*

Gravel: a disease characterised by small stones which are formed in the kidneys, passed along the ureters to the bladder, and expelled with the urine. See also stranguary. Synonym: kidney stone. *Sandy matter concreted in the kidneys.*

Great pox: see syphilis

Grippe: influenza, also La Grippe or grip.

Haematemesis: literally vomiting of blood.

Haematuria: passing blood in the urine.

Haemorrhoids: piles.

Haemoptysis: spitting blood.

Headmouldshot: *this is when the sutures of the skull, generally the coronal, ride: that is, have their edges shot over one another; which is frequent in infants and occasions convulsions and death.* Such injury would result from difficulties in childbirth. Ricketts caused by vitamin D deficiency in addition to causing bow legs also caused deformations of the pelvis. In a woman this could make child birth more difficult than usual. The obstetric forceps were introduced into more general use in the middle of the 18th century.

Hectic fever: recurring fever with sweating, chills, and flushing.

Hepatitis: inflammation of the liver.

Hives: an allergic skin disorder, often attended by severe itching. Also called cynanche trachealis.

Hip gout: osteomyelitis

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GLOSSARY OF MEDICAL TERMS USED IN THE 18TH AND 19TH CENTURIES

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Continued from page 3

Hospital fever: see typhus.

Hydrocele: dropsy of the testicles

Hydrocephalus: enlarged head from accumulation of cerebrospinal fluid, water on the brain.

Hydropericardium: collection of fluid around the heart resulting in constriction of the heart itself.

Hydrophobia: literally a fear of water which is a symptom of rabies.

Hydrothorax: congestion of the lungs, see also dropsy.

Hysteritis: inflammation of the womb.

Icterus: see jaundice.

Imposthume: a collection of purulent matter in a bag or cyst.

Inanition: decline from inadequate nourishment; starvation.

Infantile paralysis: poliomyelitis.

Infection: long before Pasteur discovered that infections were caused by micro-organisms there was an appreciation that disease could be passed from person to person called the contagion theory. There was a competing theory that held that diseases were spread by bad smells, hence the use of scented posies to guard against plague. Both theories were inadequate but had some elements of truth in that the presence of a bad smell indicates rotting matter from which an infection might be transmitted by contaminated water or by flies to food. Other infections are passed by direct physical contact such as venereal disease and some by droplets in the air from coughs and sneezes such as pulmonary tuberculosis. See also miasma.

Inflammation: the classic definition comes from the Roman physician Celsus who described four symptoms - tumor (swelling), calor (heat), rubor (redness), and dolor (pain).

Jail fever: see typhus.

Jaundice: a yellow pigment deposited in the skin, whites of the eyes, and mucous membranes, caused by an increase of bile pigments in the blood. Synonym: icterus. **A distemper from obstruction of the glands of the liver which prevents the gall from being duly separated from the blood.**

Kidney stone: see gravel.

Kings evil: scrofula, a tubercular infection of the throat lymph glands. The name originated in the time of Edward the Confessor, with the belief that the disease could be cured by the touch of the king of England. **A scrofulous distemper, in which the glands are ulcerated, commonly believed to be cured by the touch of a king.** Dr. Johnson suffered from it as a boy and was touched for it by Queen Anne. She was the last monarch to touch for the King's evil. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries the infected gland was lanced and drained. This often led to a noticeable scar on the neck as the wound might continue to seep for a time.

La Grippe: influenza.

Lead poisoning: This was common in the 18th and 19th centuries for two reasons; workers were exposed to lead in pottery glazes and paints or other industries extracting or using the metal. In addition some lead salts were used in medicine before the dangers were appreciated. (Sugar of lead is lead acetate). Lead and its compounds cause nerve and brain damage resulting in paralysis, and mental disorders. In addition, it causes anaemia and a blue line on the gums. Analysis of a sample of Beethoven's hair in 2000 showed that he had been exposed to lead, probably from medicines. The book *Purple Secret*, describes the illness of George III, which is now attributed on genetic and medical evidence to porphyria. However the book does not point out the widespread use of lead in medicines of the period or describe the symptoms which ensue, some of which are similar to those seen with lead poisoning.

Continued next month.

Staunton Spectator

Marriages and Obituaries

MARRIAGE AND DEATH NOTICES

STAUNTON SPECTATOR AND GENERAL ADVERTISER, JANUARY 27, 1842

On Sabbath the 2d instant, by the Reverend Wm. J. Rider, Mr. JAMES HAMILTON to Miss HANNAH, daughter of David Byrd, Esq. all of Back Creek, Bath County.

On Thursday, the 13th inst., by the same, THOMAS TOWNSEND, Esq. to the amiable and much esteemed Miss REBECCA, daughter of Edward S. Callihan, Esq. all of Back Creek Valley, Bath County, Va

On the 20th ult., by the Rev. John VanLear, BENJAMIN A. CURRY Esq. of Monroe County, to Miss REBECCA G., daughter of Mr. John Bell of Augusta County

On the same day, by the Rev. Mr. Burgess, Mr. JOHN IRVIN to Miss MALINDA MAYINGO, all of this county.

On the same day, by the Rev. Mr. Rimul, Mr. JOHN HALL, to Miss MARY, daughter of Mr. Sam'l. Swisher, all of this county.

In Washington Co., Md. by the Rev. J. B. Morgan, Mr. PETER Koutzman to Miss ELIZABETH, daughter of Christopher Lohr, all of Augusta County.

On Tuesday the 28th ult., by the Rev. Dr. Ely, Capt. JOSEPH W. THOMPSON, of this town, to Miss SARAH E. daughter of Col. Moses D. Bates, of this county

DIED, on Friday morning the 21st instant, at his residence in this county, Mr. JACOB GREINER, in the 34th year of his age – leaving a wife and two children to deplore the loss of a kind husband and father.

DIED, in Franklin, Pendleton County on the morning of the 15th ultimo, Mrs. MARY C DYER, consort of Mr. John J. Dyer, and daughter of Jos. H. Samuels, Esq. of Shenandoah County

STAUNTON SPECTATOR – APRIL 01, 1891

KERSH-KIRACOFÉ – Wednesday, March 25th, 1891, in the M. E. Church at Sangersville, by Rev. A. R. Thompson, of Bridgewater, Mr. William Claude Kersh, of Milnesville, and Miss Elizabeth C. Kiracofé, of Sangersville, Va.

HOLTSINGER – DURROW – On Sunday, the 22nd of March, 1891, near Broadway, Va., at the home of the officiating minister, Elder J. W. Zigler, Mr. J. W. Holsinger and Miss Lessie Durrow, all of Rockingham.

RAYME – KITE – At the Methodist parsonage in Luray, Va., by Rev. Mr. Brown, March 18th, Mr. W. T. Rayme and Miss Lillie Lee Kite, all of Page county, Va.

RYDER – WAGGONER – On Straight Creek, Highland County, March 25th by Rev. Joseph Beverage, Mr. Andrew Ryder and Miss Ida A. Waggoner

SIPE – HOULIHAN – On Jackson's River, Highland county, by Rev. Howard Wade, Mr. John A. Sipe and Miss Mary Kate Houilhan

JORDAN – In Lynchburg, Monday, March 23rd, Mrs. Hannah E. Jordan, wife of John T. Jordan, Esq. of Buena Vista, aged 53 years. She was on a visit to her sister, Mrs. Mary L. Jordan. She was a daughter of Col. Edwin Jordan of Alleghany county. Her burial was at Lexington.

SMITH – March 29th, 1891, in Staunton, of the grippe and yellow jaundice, Mr. James H. Smith, aged 61 years, 2 months, and 14 days.

TOOHEY – March 25th, 1891, in Staunton, of paralysis, Mrs. Sarah, widow of the late Patrick Toohey and sister of the late Cynthia and John Kuriz, aged 81 years, 3 months and 11 days.

DAWKINS – March 22nd, 1891, in Staunton, of dropsy, Bertha Dawkins, aged 6 years and 11 months.

Transcribed by JoAnn Pendley

Abbreviations Found in Genealogical Research Compiled by David Riel

CONTINUED FROM AUGUST NEWSLETTER

br. / bro. - brother
bro / br. - brother
bro-i-l - brother-in-law
B.S. - in court records, Bill of Sale
B.S.L.S. Bachelor of Science in Library Science
B.Sc. Bachelor of Science
B.S.C.E. Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering
B.S.N.E. Bachelor of Science in Nuclear Engineering
B.T. - Bishop's Transcripts
B.U.S. Bachelor of University Studies
Bu (occupation/relationship) Butler
bu. / bur - buried.
bur. / bu - buried
BYU Brigham Young University

C

c. / ca - cousin; chapter; circa; codicil
C18 - Eighteenth century (etc.)
ca / c - circa, about, about or around, from the Latin word *circa*. (as in ca. 1840.)
CA (military) Survivor of the Confederate Army
CAILS - Certified American Indian Lineage Specialist (BCG credential)
CALS - Certified American Lineage Specialist (BCG credential)
CANINDEX - Index of emigrants from British Isles to Canada and Newfoundland
Cap / capt. Captain (military rank); captured; captivity
CAR - National Society, Children of the American Revolution
catal. - catalogue
cath. - cathedral
Cause of Death - DthCau, DCs
CC - County Court (USA) County Clerk; county court, county commissioner; company commander
cc. - chapters
CCP - Court of Common Pleas
CD - Compact Disk - An optical disk used with some PC's to store lots of data.
CDA - Colonial Dames of America
CDIB - Certified Degree of Indian Blood
CE - (of a date) Common Era (same as AD, but more inclusive)
CFI - Computer File Index (precursor of IGI)

cem. - cemetery
cert. - certificate
cen. or cens. - census
cent. - century
cer. or cert. - certificate
cf. - confer
cd - contrary to the Discipline (Quaker)
CDA - Catholic Daughters of America
CG - Certified Genealogist (BCG credential)
CG(C) Certified Genealogist (Canada)
CGI - Certified Genealogical Instructor (BCG credential)
CGL - Certified Genealogical Lecturer (BCG credential)
CGRS - Certified Genealogical Record Searcher (BCG credential)
CIG Computer Interest Group
CH - Court House
Ch (race) Chineses
ch - child, children; church chief, chaplain
Cha (occupation/relationship) Chamber Maid
chm - condemned his/her misconduct (Quaker)
chan. - chancery
chldn. or chn. - children
chlw - Cotton Loom Hand Worker
ch/o - child of
chr - charter Christened.
chris. - christened
CIGO Council of Irish Genealogical Organizations
Cil Cousin-In-Law
cir. - circa
civ. - civil
CJ - County Judge
clk. - clerk
CI Child
CMU - Concrete Masonry Unit
CN (military) Survivor of the Confederate Navy
c/o - child of
CO - commanding officer; Colonial Office
co. - county; company chosen overseer (Quaker)
Coa (occupation/relationship) Coachman
cod. - codicil
col. - colored (Negro, mulatto, fpc)
Col. - Colonel (military rank)
C of A - Coat of Arms
col. - colony; colonel
coll. - college; collections

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Abbreviations Found in Genealogical Research Compiled by David Riel (continued)

Continued from Page 6

Com (relationship/relationship) Companion com. - commissioner; commander; commentary; committee; common; commoner; communicate, companion

com/comp - complained (Quaker)

comm - committee communion, communicant commissioners

con - condemned (Quaker) complained (Quaker)

comp. - company

conf. confirmed

confer. - conferred

conject. - conjecture

cont. - continued

Cook Cook

contr. - contract

corp. - corporal

cos. - Consul

couns. - counsellor

cous. - cousin

coven. - covenant

Cpl. = Corporal (military rank)

c.r. - church report

c.s. - copy signed

CRA - Church Records Archives

crem—cremated

crspd. - correspond; correspondence

CSA - Confederate States of America

csn. - cousin; cousins

ct - certificate court; citation; county

CVA - Confederate Veterans of America

CW church warden Civil War, War of the Rebellion, War between the States, 1861-1865.

CWSS - Civil War Soldiers and Sailors gists and Record Agents

D

d. - died death; daughter

D (dutch) dopen baptism

DA - District Attorney

da. - daughter; day

DAB - Dictionary of American Biography

DAC - National Society of the Daughters of the American Colonists

Dals—daughter-in-law's son

DAR - Daughters of the American Revolution

dau./ daugr - daughter

daugr / daugr - daughter

dau-i-l - daughter-in-law

daus. - daughters

DAV - Disabled American Veterans

DB - Domesday Book

DC - District of Columbia; Deputy Clerk; Deputy County Clerk

DBE - Daughters of the British Empire

DCG - Descendants of Colonial Governors

DCLI - Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry

D.D. Doctor of Divinity

d. & coh. - daughter and coheiress

d'd. - deceased dead

dea / deac. - deacon

deac / dea. - deacon

dec. / dec'd - deceased dead

dec'd / dec - deceased dead

decis. - decision

DED - Declared Dead (military)

degr. - degree

dep. - deputy; depot

dept. - department

desc. - descendant

devis. - devised

DFPA - Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America

dft = defendant (legal term for person accused of and on trial for a crime)

d. & h. - daughter and heiress

dil / d-i-l daughter in law

d-i-l / dil daughter in law

dio. - diocese

Dip FHS Diploma in Family Historical Studies

dis. - discharge disowned, disowned for (Quaker)

discip. - discipline

dist. - district

div. - division; divided; divorce/divorced; divinity

div. - * DL - daughter-in-law

Dla (occupation/relationship) Day Laborer

DLI - Durham Light Infantry

D.Min. Doctor of Ministry

DMWVI - Descendants of Mexican War Veterans

d/o - daughter of

do. - ditto, the same as the previous entry

DOB - Date of birth

doc or docum. - document

DOCS - Documents / Documentations

DOD - Date of death

DOK - Daughters Of the King

Continued next month

— SPONSOR MEMBERS —

Show your support of the Augusta County Genealogical Society with a sponsor membership of \$50 a year. Each quarter you will receive a copy of the Society's newsletter which will recognize you and/or your organization as a sponsor member.

Carol Boyce	Los Gatos, CA	Edith Lorah	Vienna, VA
Ed Critzer	Richmond, VA	Elizabeth McCue	Verona, VA
Ron and Toni Culves	Beardstown, IL	Charles Nordan	Greensboro, NC
Richard Cummings	Vienna, VA	Martha Reinhart	Las Vegas, NV
Sylvia Steele Echols	Blacksburg, VA	John & Harriett Sherwood	Staunton, VA
Leslie Hall	Waynesboro, VA	Jean Wilkins	Waynesboro, VA

Things for Genealogical Researchers to Consider

What precautions have you taken to preserve your records?

Were any of your family tavern owners or merchants? Have you traced the history of their business?

At present, who is the oldest living relative? Have you made contact with that person or other older relatives for their memories the family from the past?

Augusta County Genealogical Society
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