

Splinters From the Tree – November 2014

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Section 1 - Welcome

The following trees were added to the Bassett website database since the last newsletter:

501B. Samuel Bassett of Buckinghamshire, England (37 individuals)

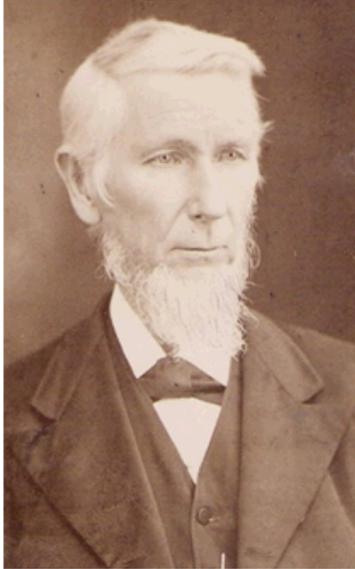
My next DNA talk will be held at the Palatine Public Library on Tuesday, December 2, 2014 at 7pm.

Section 2 - Featured Bassett: Ancel Henry Bassett

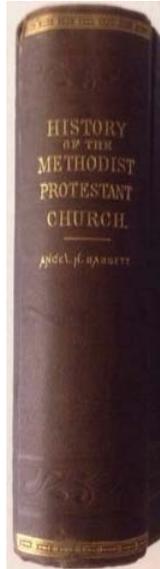
I recently came across a book for sale on ebay written by Ancel Henry Bassett.

Ancel Henry Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
William Bassett (b. 1624) and wife Mary Rainsford
William Bassett (b. 1656) and wife Rachel Williston
William Bassett (b. 1681) and wife Abigail Bourne
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1719) and wife Hannah Hall
Elisha Bassett (b. 1761) and wife Keturah West
Ancel Henry Bassett (b. 1809)



Ancel Henry Bassett from ancestry.com



Book by Ansel H. Bassett (1877)

The Rev. Ansel H. Bassett, D.D.
By John Scott, D.D.

The Rev. Ansel Henry Bassett, D.D., a brief sketch of whose life is here given, was born in Sandwich, Mass., July 1st, 1809. His parents were Elihu and Abigail Bassett, and both were of old New England families. The genealogy of the Bassetts extended back directly to the time of the Pilgrim Fathers. The family records state that a daughter of their first ancestor born in this country, was married to Peregrine White, who was born on the "Mayflower", in Boston harbor, before the landing, in 1620. His parents, who were both devoutly pious, were of the fruits of early Methodism in New England, being converted under the ministry of Jesse Lee, the pioneer of Methodism in that region. In 1810 Mr. Bassett's father and family removed to Ohio and settled near Cincinnati, where he continued to reside until his death. Here he was active in church work, and served for several years as class leader. It is records of him that in his ministrations he did not forget the children, but gave to them suitable words of counsel, as well as to others. These pious parents did not neglect the early religious training of their offspring. Mr. Bassett, in one of his latest addresses, gratefully refers to this fact, and says "My earliest recollections are of religious instruction and training, even from my very infancy."



Ancel Henry Bassett gravesite from ancestry.com

Section 3 - Featured Bassett: The Tehidy Bassets Estate of Cornwall

I have featured several members of this family before. Below you will see a drawing and postcard of the Bassett Tehidy Estate in Cornwall.



Tehidy Estate, Cornwall, courtesy of Cornwall Council

<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=19872>



Tehidy Postcard, courtesy of Cornwall Council

Section 4 - Featured Bassett: 10th annual Family Tree DNA conference

Michael descends from the #48B Francis Bassett of South Carolina family.

Michael V. Bassett recently attended the 10th annual Family Tree DNA's administrator conference held in Houston, Texas. I attended in years 2, 3 and 4, but have not had time to go back since then. Here is his recap of the conference.

10th annual Family Tree DNA's administrator's conference

I drove down from Dallas to the 10th annual Family Tree DNA's (FTDNA's) administrator's weekend conference October 10-12, 2014, in Houston, Texas.

A good summary of the speakers' presentations is covered by Emily Aulicino on her blog page: <http://genealem-geneticgenealogy.blogspot.com/2014/10/10th-annual-family-tree-dna-conference.html>.

One of the highlights of my trip was an onsite tour of FTDNA's laboratory. Millions of dollars have been invested in the latest technology to reduce human involvement in the processing of DNA (including

more robots that can work around the clock without stopping or making a mistake) making test results' turnaround time both faster and more accurate. I could go into much detail and show my photos but the lab tour was already well-documented in CeCe Moore's "Your Genetic Genealogist" blog last year: <http://www.yourgeneticgenealogist.com/2013/02/visiting-family-tree-dnas-state-of-art.html>.

As of 2014, FTDNA, had processed over 1 million test kits and has over 8,000 group projects. The laboratory manager who has a Ph.D. in Genetics, mentioned the harder the cheeks are scraped, the better the quality of the samples.

One of the goals of the [Bassett DNA surname project](http://www.bassettbranches.org/kits/lines.shtml) is to get the Y-DNA test (preferably Y-DNA37 or above) for direct male descendants of each of the untested Bassett lines Jeff has listed on: <http://www.bassettbranches.org/kits/lines.shtml>. I was Y-DNA tested in 2002 and matched the Francis Bassett of South Carolina (#48B) line so my entire line was consolidated under #48B since Francis is our earliest known ancestor. If your line has not been tested, please don't delay anymore – just get your Bassett males [Y-DNA tested!](#)

Section 5 - Featured Bassett: Frederick Leonard Bassett of Kansas

Frederick Leonard Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1628) and wife Dorcas Joyce
Samuel Bassett (b. 1670) and wife Elizabeth Jones
Samuel Bassett (b. 1700) and wife Alice Weaver
Samuel Bassett (b. 1736) and wife Tabitha Waite
John Bassett (b. 1770) and wife Clarissa Kellogg
Samuel Kellogg Bassett (b. 1804) and wife Jane Augusta Bradford
Owen Abbott Bassett (b. 1834) and wife Josephine Eliza Butland
Frederick Leonard Bassett (b. 1873)

The following two articles is about the same story, but shows how things can get distorted when reported by different newspapers.

The Lawrence Gazette, Thursday, October 20, 1892

Fred Bassett, son of Judge O. A. Bassett, of Lawrence, shot W. E. Higgins and John Craycroft, students at the university, the other day because they crossed his father's yard contrary to his orders. They will recover. Young Bassett, who is only 18 years old, was arrested.

Bay City Times, Wednesday, October 12, 1892

Two Students Shot

They Trespassed Upon a Farmer's Land After Being Warned

Lawrence, Kan., Oct. 12 – Fred Bassett, a farmer, shot and seriously wounded E. Higgins and Jack Cracoft, students of the Kansas university, because they walked across his land which he had warned all the students to keep off of. Both were members of the University football team and returning home from a practice game. The shooting was done with a double barreled shotgun. Higgins' wounds are

probably fatal, his left hand and arm being torn away and a number of shots lodged in his left breast. Cracoft is shot in the right leg but will recover. Bassett has been arrested and acknowledged that he did the shooting.

Section 6 - Featured Bassett: Major Truman Bassett of Chatham, New York

Truman Bassett descends from #1B John Bassett of Connecticut as follows:

John Bassett and wife Margery
Robert Bassett and wife Mary
Robert Bassett (b. 1640) and wife Elizabeth Riggs
Captain Samuel Bassett (b. 1692) and wife Deborah Bennett
Lieut. John Bassett (b. 1721) and wife Naomi Wooster
Truman Bassett (b. 1764) and wife Annie Pangbourne

Chatham Courier, Thursday, July 26, 1956
Few Problems Faced Chatham Farmer Who Tilled 1,600 Acres in 1790's
By Ed Streeter

Four miles northeast of the village of Chatham is a small community known as Rock City. How it got its name is not certain because the land is fertile and has been tilled for more than a century and a half.

One of the large landowners who settled this section was Major Truman Bassett, an officer in the New York State Militia before the Revolutionary War. He received a grant of 1,600 acres from the British crown and built his residence on the present site of the Highland Farm now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Edgar H. Behrens.

An industrious and capable farmer, the major soon constructed log cabins on the outskirts of his farm and here resided more than a dozen tenants who worked the soil.

To give the modern day reader an idea of the size of Major Bassett's farming interests, it should be noted that he owned, in addition to the Highland Farm, the properties now occupied by the Skinkle farm, the Quirine place, Donald Crouse's farm, Dr. George Cummings' place, the Frank Savastane and Elada Senith farms.

Also the Marshall and Lovejoy farms now owned by Columbia Box Board Mills, the Linthart Stearns, James Salzell, the Peter Bolce, the Ooms and George Staats farms.

PLOWED WITH OXEN

In 1790 the men who were employed by Major Bassett were of plain manners and frugal habits, well adapted to their occupation. They plowed the fields with oxen, planted their grain by hand, cut the crops with cradle or scythe and did the threshing by the strength of their arms. Fuel was supplied from the woods and lights were furnished by candles or kerosene lamps. Many of the woodlands of today were once fields where thousands of sheep were raised. These animals supplied wool that went into making of cloth for the entire family. At one time there were 138 looms in and around Chatham that turned out 73,000 yard of cloth each year.

Major Bassett had few of the problems facing the farmer of today. He kept only a few cows for his own use and what grain he raised was transported by ox carts to the mills along the Steeny Kill at Chatham Four Corners.

There were few visitors at the farm except for an occasional pack peddler selling his wares. In the 1870's, William Rogowski of Chatham, toured the back roads of the county and James Snyder of Valatie had 19 tin pedlar carts on the roads. Lewis Dennis, father of Mrs. Jessie Dennis of Chatham, drove one of these wagons.

In the 1790's there were no railroad in Chatham Township, and no postoffice until 1818 at which time Ebenezer Crockett was appointed the first postmaster. Mail was brought by post riders who carried a few newspapers and letters in their saddle bags.

DIDN'T DIE YOUNG

The Bassett family grew and prospered on the rolling hills of Rock City. Their children attended school in a one-room building which stood near the present Rock City school. The good air and healthy outdoor life of farming evidently gave the Bassetts a few added years. John Bassett, born August 1807, died October 1887 at the age of 80; his wife, Jane, was born in 1808 and died in February 1898, aged 88; Bennett, a son of Truman, died in 1875 and Anna, Truman's wife, who was born in 1769 breathed her last in 1858 at the advanced age of 89. There is no record in our local histories of the date of Major Truman Bassett's death.

Sarah Bassett was the last of the family to reside in Rock City. A great granddaughter of old Truman, she purchased a farm of 299 acres in 1876 for \$2,600. The original home is now destroyed but a second house on the site was built 45 years ago by Dr. Fay Maxon of Hartford, Conn., and is now occupied by Mr. Quirino.

The last descendants of the family who lived in Chatham were the late Mrs. Wilson Terry and Mrs. Guy M. Hoes. They were the daughters of Nathan Bassett. Their family which once held sway over miles of Chatham territory is gone and they now sleep in the Chatham Rural Cemetery. The good land at Rock City is still being tilled, however, and it still yields the same excellent crops as it did in the days when Major Truman Bassett gave up the sword for the plowshare.

[Section 7 - Featured Bassett: Bassett Park of Washtucna, Washington](#)

While driving through the small farming town of Washtucna, Washington, I came across Bassett Park. This park was founded by George Washington Bassett in 1876.

George Washington Bassett descends from William Bassett of Plymouth as follows:

William Bassett and wife Elizabeth
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1628) and wife Dorcas Joyce
Nathaniel Bassett and wife Joannah Boarden
Nathaniel Bassett (b. 1704) and wife Mehitable Huntington
Elnathan Bassett (b. 1746) and wife Anne Southworth
Elnathan Bassett (b. 1790) and wife Lydia Buck
Gilbert Bingham Oscar Bassett (b. 1817) and wife Mary Smith
George Washington Bassett (b. 1845) and wife Alice Carey Lancaster



Pictures of Bassett Park, Washtucna, Washington, taken November 1st, 2014

An Illustrated History of the Big Bend Country Embracing Lincoln, Douglas, Adams and Franklin Counties, State of Washington (1904)

Hon. George W. Bassett, a leading business man of Washtucna, than whom few men now living have been more closely identified with the early history of the Northwest, is a native of Clinton county, Iowa, born December 31, 1845. He is the son of G.B.O. and Mary (Smith) Bassett, the father a native of Vermont and the mother of Canada. After their marriage the parents settled in Iowa, remained there until 1854, then removed to Filmore county, Minnesota, where they lived until 1866. With the Captain J.L. Fish expedition, they then removed to Helena, Montana, and in 1872 came to Walla Walla, Washington. They returned to Minnesota in 1878, where the father died during the same year. In 1889 the mother returned to Walla Walla, and now, at the age of eighty-seven, she is living with her son of whom we write. Our subject is of English, Welsh and Irish blood, his father having been of English-Welsh and his mother of Irish extraction. He is a member of a family of ten children, four of whom now live. Two brothers, Judge H.S. Bassett and G.B.O. Bassett, live at Preston, Minnesota, and another S.S. Bassett, is an attorney of Spokane.

Mr. Bassett received a grammar school education in Iowa, which was supplemented by a course in the Cedar Valley seminary at Osage, Iowa. In 1866, in company with his parents, he came to Montana, where he prospected and mined until he came to Walla Walla in 1869. During that same years he went on a tour to Salem, Oregon, and Olympia, Washington, then returned to Walla Walla and taught a term of school. The spring following he engaged in the business of buying horses in the territory of Washington and selling them in Montana, making his last trip in that business in 1872, when his father and mother returned with him to Walla Walla. Returning to Montana he engaged in mining until 1874. On August 24 of that year, he was married at Virginia City, Montana, to Alice C. Lancaster. Then he came again to Walla Walla and engaged in the freighting business, traversing Washington, Oregon and Idaho, until 1877, when he took a position as clerk in a store. Two years later he came to Washtucna, took land and in July, 1893, platted the townsite of Washtucna. In 1879 he brought his family to the place where he has since lived.

Upon coming to the present site of the town, he engaged in the stock business and has followed it, in connection with his other enterprises, to date. As Washtucna was a convenient stopping place for travellers going south

to Walla Walla, Mr. Bassett opened an inn, about the time he made his home there, which inn became one of the most popular hostelries in eastern Washington. Mr. Bassett has acquired three thousand acres of land in the immediate vicinity of his town, and annually harvests and enormous quantity of grain and hay. His residence, which is in Washtucna, is the finest in the town.

Since the raising of wheat became an established industry of the country, our subject has been engaged more or less in speculating in that commodity. In 1901 he engaged in the hardware and farm implement business, but also continues to manage his farming operations.

Mr. Bassett's wife is the daughter of David and Mary (Pool) Lancaster, both of English birth. Early in life they came to the United States and settled in Michigan, where Mrs. Bassett was born. Besides Mrs. Bassett, they reared two other children, Gertrude A., and James W., both of Los Angeles, where the brother is an employee of the Wells Fargo Express Company.

The subject of our sketch has been active in politics ever since attaining his majority. He is a life-long Republican, and in 1885 he was elected to the office of county commissioner of Adams county, which office he held two consecutive terms. In 1882 he was appointed the first postmaster in Adams county, and retained that office until 1894. In 1903 he was elected a member of the State House of Representatives. He is a Mason and a member of the Presbyterian church.

Mr. and Mrs. Bassett have been parents of eight children, only four of whom are now living. They are L.L., married and living in Washtucna; Charles S., Esther and Georgia, who live with their parents.

Section 8 - New family lines combined or added since the last newsletter

No lines added or combined since the last newsletter.

Section 9 - DNA project update.

I have several older results that never made it into the newsletter or chart. I hope to have them included by next month.

Donations of any amount can be made to the Bassett DNA project by clicking on the link below. Any funds donated will be used to fund select Bassett DNA tests that will further our project as a whole and benefit all Bassetts worldwide.

<http://www.familyreedna.com/group-general-fund-contribution.aspx?g=Bassett>

This is just a reminder that the DNA portion of the Bassett Family Association can be found at:

<http://www.bassettbranches.org/dna/>

A current spreadsheet of results can be found at:

<http://www.bassettbranches.org/dna/BassettDNA.xls>

If you don't have Excel and can't open the spreadsheet above, you can now see the DNA test results at the following website.

<http://www.familyreedna.com/public/Bassett/>

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