

The typescript shown below was written by Thomas Maddux Wamsley (<http://www.bassett.net/gendata-o/p3109.htm>) on 4 Mar 1929. It has a number of errors, probably due to his age (64) when he wrote it. He would never have met his Wamsley grandfather (Samuel's father) as he died long before Thomas was born. As a result, it would be easy to understand how he mixed things up. Hopefully, this narrative will set some things straight, and provide the impetus for further research on other things. "My Info" refers to myself, Kathryn Bassett. My email is kathryn@bassett.net and I'm writing this in April 2014.

I thank 2004 correspondent Brian Campbell of Studio City California for providing the typescript. He also realized there were errors, but neither of us did any specific correction.

Typescript: Samuel Wamsley born 21 Aug 1820

My info: 20 Aug 1820 – I've been to Berea aka Maple Grove Cemetery and seen his tombstone. I thought I had a picture, but if I did take one, I can't find it. The tombstone isn't on FindaGrave, so until someone can take a picture, it is unknown which of us is correct. Although this is a very minor discrepancy, I wanted to point it out so that it can eventually be clarified by someone.

Typescript: Samuel Wamsley was married to Catherinie Groendyke at Cleves ...

My info: The marriage record only gives the county, not Cleves (though it probably **was** in Cleves), again, something minor.

Typescript: Has Samuel's parents as James Wamsley (15 Oct 1785 Wales – 18 Oct 1825 North Bend OH) and Eliza Bussell (d.15 Jan 1826), married 18 Sep 1809.

My info: Samuel's parents are William G Wamsley (1785 VA - 1837 Ripley Co IN) and Nancy Bussell (ca.1790 VA-1822 OH), and their marriage bond was 23 May 1810 Boone Co. KY.

Sources: Ford's History of Hamilton Co <https://archive.org/details/historyofhamilto01ford> pg 326 William Maensley (sic), names William's 6 children including "Samuel, married to Catharine Gronendike". By the way, son Moses Bussell Wamsley's bio is right after his father's on page 326, as well as a second bio on page 408

Of note: The original marriage bond at Boone Co KY courthouse has original signatures of William Wamsley and Moses S Bussell, Nancy's father.

Of note: Samuel and Nancy's son William B Wamsley's probate in Adm book 2 pg 129 #2845 29 Sep 1855 shows that his widow Mary Jane Wamsley & his brother Samuel Wamsley were apptd admrs of his estate.

Typescript: "Ezekiel Bussell, the grandfather of Eliza Bussell...".

My info: Nancy's father was Moses, but I do not have his father's name, so Ezekiel is a clue to follow. However, with a quick search, the only Ezekiel I found born in the mid 1700s (Moses was born circa 1770) was an Ezekiel Buswel born in Maine 29 Apr 1749/50.

Typescript: "Ezekiel ... was a brother of the mother of George Washington, the first President of the US". (And in the letter, it specifically says "Washington's mother, whose maiden name ws Bussell")

My info: The actual quote is from the History of Decatur County Indiana v.2 pgs 741-742

(<http://www.archive.org/details/historyofdecatur02hard>) which says “related on the paternal side to the mother of” (not brother of the mother of. There are tons of stories out there that claim relationships to famous people. Sometimes they are true and sometimes not. In this case, Washington’s mother was Mary Ball, not Bussell, so even if Ezekiel proves to be William G Wamsley’s father, he is not the brother of Mary Ball Washington. Whether there is actually some sort of relationship as stated in History of Decatur, we’ll leave to some future genealogist.

Typescript: Catherine Groendyke Wamsley was born in Decatur County, IN on Oct 7, 1822

My info: Again, one or the other of us has a typo, as I have the 17th, not the 7th. I have Fayette Co IN. The 1900 census says Ohio, but keep in mind that this is the "gore" area of IN that was OH, and other censuses say IN. At present, I don’t know where I got Fayette. Maybe a county name change.

Typescript: “Amos Groendyke , the father of Nicholas emigrated from Germany to PA in 1775” - also, in the letter, it further says he was a Hessian.

My info: there was no Amos as a father of Nicholas, and the Groendyke’s were Dutch, not German. In a nutshell the line goes Catharine < Nicholas < James < Nicholas < Johannis "John" < Samuel aka Petrus < Pieter the immigrant b.1645 in Holland, and married 1673 in New Amsterdam. I’m not looking in detail about the rest of the Groendyke information in the typescript, you can see what I have on the website.

In closing, I’m glad for the reference Thomas Wamsley made with regards to “Aunt Patsy Harrell who was a sister to father’s mother” (who would be Nancy Bussell). I have to do some further analysis on the relationship, but I do have Martha “Patsy” (Bussell) Harrell in my database, so you can check the website to see later conclusions.

GENEALOGY OF THOMAS MADON WAMSLEY.

The name of the father of Thomas M. Wamsley is Samuel Wamsley.

~~Samuel Wamsley was born at Cleves, Ohio August 21, 1803~~
on February 24, 1903 and was buried at Hooven, Ohio, one mile northwest of Cleves, Ohio.

Samuel Wamsley was married to Catherine Groendyke at Cleves, Ohio on January 31, 1844.

The father of Samuel Wamsley, named James Wamsley, was born October 15, 1785 in Wales, the British Isles. Died on Oct. 18 1825 and was buried at North Bend, Ohio.

James Wamsley, the father of Samuel Wamsley, was married to Eliza Russell at North Bend, Ohio on Sept. 18, 1809. Eliza Russell Wamsley died and was buried at North Bend, Ohio Jan. 15 1826.

Ezekiel Russell, the grandfather of Eliza Russell was a brother to the mother of George Washington, the first President of the U. S.

Catherine Groendyke Wamsley was born in Decatur County, Ind on Oct. 7, 1822 and died at Cleves, Ohio April 9, 1910 and was buried at Hooven, Ohio.

Nicholas Groendyke, the father of Catherine Groendyke Wamsley, was born in Eastern Penn. March 29, 1798 and died at Vicksburg, Miss in 1833.

Lydia Garrison Groendyke, the wife of Nicholas Groendyke ~~Wamsley~~ at North Bend, Ohio May 9, 1801 was married to Nicholas Groendyke March 11, 1819.

Amos Groendyke, the father of Nicholas Groendyke emigrated from Germany to Pennsylvania in the year 1775.

Samuel Wamsley and Catherine Wamsley had eight children
as follows:--

Eliza Jane Wamsley born 24, 1845 Died Sept 11, 1881.

David Monroe Wamsley born Dec. 8, 1847 Died Oct. 18 1870.

Mary Ellen Wamsley born June 14, 1849 Died Feb. 4 1850 .

Anna Maria Wamsley born Sept 8, 1850, Died March 20 1877

Morgan Wamsley born Feb. 25, 1852. Still living.

Joseph Guard Wamsley, born Feb. 20. 1857 Died May 9 1923

Kittie Bonham Wamsley born Feb. 23, 1860 Died March 10, 1928

Thomas Maddux Wamsley born July 13, 1864. Still living.

Dated Marcy 4, 1929.

March 4, 1929.

Dear Folks:--

Your last letter found us all as well as can be expected for reasons best known to people of our age.

Anne's inquisitorial letter is surely a stumper but then I have answered her questions to the best of my ability. As far as I have answered them they are correct.

Mother Ramsley's grandfather was one of that army of Hessians that the English government sent over here to fight Washington's army. They were hired out to the English by the Hesse-Darmstadt government at twelve and a half cents a day.

Look up your S. History and you will see where the whole army was captured by Washington at Valley Forge, Penn. Washington saw their worth and gave each one of them a farm in Eastern Penn. and had them to send for their families in Germany. They proved the best citizens in this new country. Those people are original Pennsylvania Dutch. That part of the family tree is easily traced to the Revolution War. But I imagine that phase of the part of her ancestors she does not care to present to that stiff necked organization.

As to the male side-- it is an established fact that father's Great Grand father on his mother's side was a full brother to the mother of George Washington's mother, whose maiden was Russell.

While I have no written authority on that matter I heard the facts of the case from Aunt Patsy Harrell who was a sister to father's mother. William Henry Harrison was the means of getting the Russells to migrate from Virginia to Ohio. The elder Russell, a brother of father's mother, kept a road house at North Bend, and Aunt Patsy used to relate how Gen. Harrison, who lived only a quarter of a mile away, used to spend a great deal of time at the tavern and he and her brother Moses Russell used to talk over old times back there in old Virginia where they were neighbors.

Tom wanted our old family Bible and as he is the youngest of the family I am going to send it to him by parcel post. Let him leave it to his youngest child and it will be a valuable heirloom.

Your family tree I did not touch as you can take it up where I left off. I send the matter to you and you can forward to Anne.

Your Wicked Brother