

Re: Goodpasture-Vollenweider connection - lets test it

Posted by: Kathleen Hubbell (ID *****0811)

Date: July 21, 2003 at 19:44:33

In Reply to: Goodpasture-Vollenweider connection - lets test it by Steve Laymon

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I am a descendant of John Runyon, b. c 1740, who is believed to have been married to Anne Goodpasture, b.c. 1739. Anne's father is said to have been Jacob Goodpasture. She possibly had two brothers: Solomon and Abraham. They lived in Brock's Gap, Rockingham Co., VA, an area heavily settled by people of German and Swiss Mennonite ancestry. While doing research this summer at the Mennonite Historical Society Library in Lancaster, PA, I found this reference in a book titled, "Emigrants, Refugees, and Prisoners, Vol. III, by Richard Warren Davis, 1997, under the heading "Vollenweider": Heinrich Vollweider, b. c 1650; he was called the son of the late Johannes Vollweider, Anabaptist at Hasselbach at his marriage at Bonfeld on 1 Nov 1706 to Anna Catharina Bengel, daughter of Johannes Bengel. Heinrich was a miller. He and his wife Catherina Bengel left Bonfeld as Anabaptists (Mennonites and Amish were Anabaptists) in 1717 for Pennsylvania.

This family group was among a number of Vollenweiders who like most Anabaptists came originally from Switzerland and who were exiled to Germany before relocating to the Pennsylvania colony.

I found all this rather tantalizing since Wollenweider can be translated from the German as full or bountiful meadow or pasture. Furthermore I have read that the German surname Zimmerman was Anglicized to Carpenter and in my own family tree the German Mennonite name Zety has been Anglicized to Citty. Therefore it is not too great a leap to think that perhaps Vollenweider/Vollweider could have been altered to Goodpasture.

If any of this information connects with the research of anyone on this forum, I would enjoy hearing from you.

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