

Sorting Saturday: Henry Horn and American Resources

[*The Winter of His Discontent: Casimir Pulaski's Resignation as Commander of Horse*](#)

[McMurray Family](#) (Click for Family Tree)

Sorting through notes and saved files about Henry Horn, we are reminded that Henry served in the American forces under Casimir Pulaski, a nobleman who had led Polish rebels in his own country to overthrow the king. Pulaski was exiled for his actions and lost all his titles, property, and money in Poland. He then came to America to fight in the Revolutionary War, as he believed in the cause of freedom for the people.

The *Journal of the American Revolution* has a few articles about Casimir Pulaski, so they are another great resource for learning more about the context of Henry Horn's service.

[*Casimir Pulaski's Difficulties in Recruiting his Legion*](#)

We are still trying to pinpoint exactly when and where Henry served, but we do know that he was with Pulaski at Little Egg Harbor, New Jersey on 5 October 1778.

[*The Affair At Egg Harbor: Massacre Of The Pulaski Legion*](#)

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. *Journal of the American Revolution*– allthingsliberty.com

Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would like an image in higher resolution.

We would love to read your thoughts and comments about this post (see form below), and thank you for your time! All comments are moderated, however, due to the high intelligence and persistence of spammers/hackers who really should be putting their smarts to use for the public good instead of spamming our little blog.

Original content copyright 2013-2017 by Heritage Ramblings Blog and pmm.

*Family history is meant to be shared, but the original content of this site may NOT be used for any **commercial purposes** unless explicit written permission is received from both the blog owner and author. Blogs or websites with ads and/or **any** income-generating components are included under "commercial purposes," as are the large genealogy database websites. Sites that republish original HeritageRamblings.net content as their own are in violation of copyright as well, and use of full content is not permitted.*

Descendants and researchers MAY download images and posts to share with their families, and use the information on their family trees or in family history books with a small number of reprints. Please make sure to credit and cite the information properly.

Please contact us if you have any questions about copyright or use of our blog material.

Tuesday's Tip: More Henry Horn and Hessian Resources

[8 Fast Facts About Hessians](#)

[McMurray Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

Tuesday's Tip: *When you find a resource that lists your ancestor, or has information to add context to his/her life, "mine" it for more information than just the first page that came up in a search engine.*

Finding new information about an ancestor, their time, or the

places they lived is always exciting! But don't stop with the first item that comes up on a website search or when checking the index. Look through the information, using a variety of search terms, to see what else might provide more information. Browse through a Table of Contents or go page by page through a document. Important-to-you items can get missed by an indexer, spelling can be off, and sometimes titles are misleading, or the article has more than suggested. This tip will help "put flesh on the bones" of an ancestor, and help you to understand more about the context of their life.

Using references, notes/footnotes, and bibliographies can point a researcher toward more pertinent information as well.

The *Journal of the American Revolution* is a good example. After finding the items that were listed in yesterday's post, another search on the website, this time for "Hessian," brought up more interesting articles that are useful as background for understanding the early years and military service of Henry Horn:

[*"The Sale of the Hessians" and the Franklin Legend*](#)

[*The Hessian Jägerkorps in New York and Pennsylvania, 1776-1777*](#)

[*Hessians: Mercenaries, Rebels, and the War for British North America*](#)

More to come about Henry Horn as we complete more research.

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. How are we related? One of the sons of Henry HORN and

Elizabeth (PRETZMAN) HORN was Frederick P. HORN (1796-1867). One of his daughters with Hepzibah (CLARK) HORN was Mary Ann HORN (1824-1891), who married Henderson McMURRAY (1819-1906). Their son Frederick Asbury McMURRAY (1850-1929) was the grandfather of Edward A. McMURRAY, SR. (1900-1992).

2. *Journal of the American Revolution*,
allthingsliberty.com.

Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would like an image in higher resolution.

We would love to read your thoughts and comments about this post (see form below), and thank you for your time! All comments are moderated, however, due to the high intelligence and persistence of spammers/hackers who really should be putting their smarts to use for the public good instead of spamming our little blog.

**Original content copyright 2013-2017 by
Heritage Ramblings Blog and pmm.**

*Family history is meant to be shared, but the original content of this site may NOT be used for any **commercial purposes** unless explicit written permission is received from both the blog owner and author. Blogs or websites with ads and/or **any** income-generating components are included under "commercial purposes," as are the large genealogy database websites. Sites that republish original HeritageRamblings.net content as their own are in violation of copyright as well, and use of full content is not permitted.*

Descendants and researchers MAY download images and posts to share with their families, and use the information on their family trees or in family history books with a small number of reprints. Please make sure to credit and cite the information properly.

Please contact us if you have any questions about copyright or use of our blog material.

Military Monday: Henry Horn

and Hessian Resources

[McMurray Family](#) (Click for Family Tree)

Henry Horn (1758-1845) was a McMurray ancestor who came to this country as a Hessian soldier (or “German Auxiliary”) for the British in the Revolutionary War. Henry and about 1,000 other Hessians were captured in the December 25th, 1776 surprise attack at Trenton, New Jersey, by George Washington and his forces, after their famous crossing of the Delaware River. Henry became a Prisoner of War and was taken to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. He later stated he enlisted into the American forces in Lancaster, and he served fourteen months in the War. (See Notes below for more posts about Henry.)

There are quite a lot of videos on YouTube about the Hessians, including the above. We are unsure how long Henry stayed in Lancaster as a POW (he is not well documented), so we don't know if he actually helped build the Carlyle Barracks shown in the video, but it is a possibility since he was a strong young man- maybe only 16 or 18 years old.

Another good resource is the *Journal of the American Revolution*, a free online magazine that provides articles for scholars and ‘enthusiasts.’ The participants, places, economics, politics, culture, and of course, battles, of the American Revolution, are featured in pieces written by various authors who have extensively researched their topics. A recent article profiles “*The Hessians: Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*,” a journal that has been a leader in the American research efforts to document the “German Auxiliaries” in the Revolutionary War.

[*The Hessians: Journal of the Johannes Schwalm Historical Association*](#)

The editors of *"The Hessians..."* are not as active as they once were, but the website is still a great resource. They do have a detailed listing of the contents of each journal issue. They told me that they are thinking about putting them online which would be great, but that it might be a while. I originally found this group through the RootsWeb Hessian board, so that too is a great website for looking for more information about a Hessian ancestor.

More to come about Henry Horn as we continue our research.

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. How are we related? One of the sons of Henry HORN and Elizabeth (PRETZMAN) HORN was Frederick P. HORN (1796-1867). One of his daughters with Hepzibah (CLARK) HORN was Mary Ann HORN (1824-1891), who married Henderson McMURRAY (1819-1906). Their son Frederick Asbury McMURRAY (1850-1929) was the grandfather of Edward A. McMURRAY, SR. (1900-1992).
2. "The Hessians: Johannes Schwalm Historical Association," Journal of the American Revolution—<https://allthingsliberty.com/2018/01/hessians-journal-johannes-schwalm-historical-association/>
3. Although we still need to finish the story of Henry Horn, you can read what we have written about his military career, starting here on the blog: "Henrich Horn: Military Career"— <http://heritageramblings.net/series/henrich-horn-military-career/>
4. The RootsWeb Hessian board is currently offline due to technical problems, but hopefully Ancestry will bring it back soon. You can find it as AMREV-HESSIANS Mailing List—<http://freepages.military.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~amrevhessians/c/cem-index.htm>

Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would like an image in higher resolution.

We would love to read your thoughts and comments about this post (see form below), and thank you for your time! All comments are moderated, however, due to the high intelligence and persistence of spammers/hackers who really should be putting their smarts to use for the public good instead of spamming our little blog.

Original content copyright 2013-2017 by Heritage Ramblings Blog and pmm.

*Family history is meant to be shared, but the original content of this site may NOT be used for any **commercial purposes** unless explicit written permission is received from both the blog owner and author. Blogs or websites with ads and/or **any** income-generating components are included under "commercial purposes," as are the large genealogy database websites. Sites that republish original HeritageRamblings.net content as their own are in violation of copyright as well, and use of full content is not permitted.*

Descendants and researchers MAY download images and posts to share with their families, and use the information on their family trees or in family history books with a small number of reprints. Please make sure to credit and cite the information properly.

Please contact us if you have any questions about copyright or use of our blog material.

Military Monday: Memorial Day and Edward A. McMurray, Jr.



Edward A. McMurray, Jr., in South Pacific or Australia, c1944.

[McMurray Family](#) *(Click for Family Tree)*

Memorial Day in the US is a day that we honor those who have served our country to preserve our freedoms. It was meant to remember our heroes that have fallen in war, and those who were lucky enough to come home, but are no longer with us.

Edward A. McMurray, Jr., is one of the latter. Despite the dangerous places he served, he was one of the lucky ones to come home, and he came home healthy.

We are all blessed to have known his quiet dignity, his honor, and his love of this country.

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. Family photo, hidden in a basement for many years.

Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would like an image in higher resolution.

We would love to read your thoughts and comments about this post (see form below), and thank you for your time! All comments are moderated, however, due to the high intelligence and persistence of spammers/hackers who really should be putting their smarts to use for the public good instead of spamming our little blog.

Original content copyright 2013-2017 by Heritage Ramblings Blog and pmm.

*Family history is meant to be shared, but the original content of this site may NOT be used for any **commercial purposes** unless explicit written permission is received from both the blog owner and author. Blogs or websites with ads and/or **any** income-generating components are included under "commercial purposes," as are the large genealogy database websites. Sites that republish original HeritageRamblings.net content as their own are in violation of copyright as well, and use of full content is not permitted.*

Descendants and researchers MAY download images and posts to share with their families, and use the information on their family trees or in family history books with a small number of reprints. Please make sure to credit and cite the information properly.

Please contact us if you have any questions about copyright or use of our blog material.


Tuesday's Tip: Multiple Sources Tell the Story of William Anderson Murrell

ACT OF Feb. 6, 1867.

W. G. Wilson Div. *2740*, Ex'r.
Wilson
 DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
 BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
 Washington, D. C., *July 8, 1910*

Respectfully returned to the
Adjutant General U.S.A.
 War Department for
 personal description
 of the soldier

Inv. No. 423,563.
William A. Murrell.
76. 83. Ill. Vol. Inf.




H. E. ...
 Commissioner.

WAR DEPARTMENT,
 THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,
 WASHINGTON, JUL 11 1910

Respectfully returned to the
 Commissioner of Pensions,
 with the information that in the case of
William Murrell
Co. 24, 83 Reg't Ill. Inf.

the records show personal description as follows:
 Age *21*, height *5* feet, *7* inches,
 complexion *dark*,
 eyes *blue* hair *brown*,
 place of birth *Botetourt, Va.*,
 occupation *farmer*.

Name *William A. Murrell* has not been
 found on rolls of
2nd Co.



H. Mathewson
 The Adjutant General.

Civil War pension papers of William Anderson Murrell, 11 July 1910.

[Roberts Family, Murrell Family](#) (Click for Family Tree)

Tuesday's Tip: Use multiple sources when telling the story of an ancestor. Each one may provide only a small bit of unique information, but together those tidbits can tell a compelling story. You can find more sources by researching the references cited on a website or in a book.

We learned more about William Anderson Murrell's military service by following this tip.



Guerilla warfare was a significant part of the Civil War, and

William A. Murrell and his regiment, the Illinois 83rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry, provided heavy guard to the fort and surrounding areas. "The Past and Present of Warren County..." published in 1877 tells more of the story of the 83rd:

"...the whole country, especially the banks of the Tennessee and Cumberland Rivers, were infested with guerrillas, [and the company] had daily skirmishes with the enemy, some of them quite severe as at Waverly (Tennessee) and at Garretsburg (Kentucky)."

Skirmishes were not all that soldiers on guard duty had to deal with. Battles occurred as well.

The 3rd day of February in 1863 likely dawned cold, and possibly there was snow on the ground. By the time the sun was high in the sky, Fort Donelson and its Union forces were attacked by the rebels of Nathan Bedford Forrest and Joseph Wheeler, two of the Confederacy's best commanders. The Confederates had 8,000 men, and William most likely was one of nine companies from the 83rd, plus 1 company from the Illinois 2nd, who were able to hold off the enemy for seven hours of fighting. By 8:30pm that night, the enemy withdrew; they had 800 men killed or wounded. Of the small garrison at the fort, of the 83rd, only 13 paid the ultimate price, and 51 were wounded. The fort was still under control of the Union that evening, despite the "Battle of Dover," due to the bravery of soldiers like William A. Murrell.

After the surprising Confederate loss, it was reported that Forrest told his rival Wheeler, "Tell [General Bragg] that I will be in my coffin before I will fight again under your command."

On 20 September 1863, the right wing of the regiment moved on to Clarksville, Tennessee, but we have not been able to

determine if William was a part of this group. He most likely did end up in Clarksville at some point, however, per regimental histories.

Despite their hatred for each other, the Confederate officers Forrest and Wheeler were involved together in other battles with Union forces. One of their missions was to disrupt the communications of General Sherman as he marched through the south. The Illinois 83rd out of Clarksville pursued the rebel forces, and were involved in many skirmishes and fights.

During 1864, the 83rd Illinois was guarding over 200 miles of Union communications (telegraph, railroad, waterways, roads, etc.), and much heavy patrol duty was required to keep those lines in Union hands. An Adjutant General's report on the Illinois 83rd told the story of one of the forays after the rebels:

“On the morning of the 20th of August, 1864, Captain William M. Turnbull, of Company B, with eleven of his company, left Fort Donelson in pursuit of a party of five guerrillas, who were making their way to the Tennessee River with a lot of horses, but failing to overtake them he was overpowered while returning to his command by a party of guerrillas secreted in the timber, and he and seven of his men were killed, while one had both his legs broken, but he was afterward cowardly murdered by guerrillas, who found him lying helpless in a barn where some humane citizen had taken him for safety. But three of the party escaped to tell the sad fate of their companions.”

(Wonder if there was any retribution by the guerrillas to the person who had helped the Union soldier to the barn? Sadly, it was highly likely...)

We know that William was probably not a part of this event,

since he was in Co. H, not Co. B. Some of the young men of Co. B were from Roseville, however, and William may have known them. Even if he did not, hearing this story as the three survivors returned must have been frightening to 23-year old William and his fellow soldiers.

The winter of 1864-5 found the regiment in Nashville, Tennessee, on provost duty. This was essentially a 'military police' job, requiring them to keep order and discipline within the Union troops of the city.

The war was coming to a close, and that meant that William Anderson Murrell and his regiment were about to be mustered out of the Union Army. Colonel Arthur A. Smith, the commanding general of the Illinois 83rd, received the following letter commending his troops:

HEADQUARTERS DISTRICT OF MIDDLE TENNESSEE

Nashville, Tenn., May 31, 1865

Colonel A. A. Smith, Commanding Fifth Sub. District Middle Tennessee.

Dear Colonel – By an order just received the troops of 1862 will be mustered out of services. Your Regiment will go out under that order. I am unwilling to part with you and your officers and men without expressing my highest commendation of the soldierly bearing and gentlemanly conduct of all during the time they have been under my command. At the time when I most needed brave men and steady soldiers to drive Wheeler and Forrest out of the district I was but too happy to avail myself of the services of as many of your Regiment as could be spared for that duty. And relying greatly upon them I was not disappointed in their department.

I have not been troubled with complaints against them for disorderly conduct and marauding, but their deportment in the army and community has been brave and soldierly, proving that the brave man and true soldier is always honest and just. I can truly say I do not know a regiment in the service whose brave and soldierly bearing more fully entitles it to the respect and gratitude of the country than the Eighty-third Infantry, and you and they will take with you, individually and collectively, my sincere thanks for your efficient services and my kindest wishes for your future welfare in all things.

*I am, Colonel, very truly, etc.
Lovel H. Rosseau.
Major General Commanding*

William and his brothers in arms were officially mustered out on 26 June 1865 at Nashville. They were moved to Chicago, Illinois, and received their discharge and final pay on 4 July 1865. What a true day of independence that was for all the soldiers discharged!



One fun and interesting tidbit that we did learn about William's unit, following today's tip about exploring a variety of sources:

Many of the young men enlisted in Co. C of the 83rd Illinois were from Roseville, Illinois. So William may have had some dealings with the men in this unit, whether because he knew them personally or because they went out on patrol together, and lived together in the small garrison. One of the soldiers in Co. C, from Pella, Iowa, was Virgil Walter Earp.

You might now be thinking of Wyatt Earp, the famous marshall who was involved in the gunfight at the O.K. Corral years later in Tombstone, Arizona. They were actually brothers, but Virgil was the more experienced with guns and had served longer as a lawman. Virgil was officially the City Marshal for Tombstone and a Deputy U.S. Marshal; he made his brother Wyatt an Assistant Deputy before the shootout in 1881, as well as their brother Morgan Earp and Doc Holliday. It may have been Virgil that fired the first shot in the shootout. His brother Wyatt, who spent most of his life as a gambler, got all the glory instead after a fictionalized biography called *Wyatt Earp: Frontier Marshal* by Stuart N. Lake was published in 1931.

It would be interesting to know William A. Murrell's reaction when he heard the O.K. Corral shootout story and the name of a member of the Illinois 83rd...

Notes, Sources, and References:

1. 83rd Illinois Infantry Regiment— https://civilwar.illinoisgenweb.org/reg_html/083_reg.html
2. 83rd Illinois Volunteer Infantry Regiment—https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/83rd_Illinois_Volunteer_Infantry_Regiment
3. Civil War Archive- 83rd regiment Infantry— <http://www.civilwararchive.com/Unregfst/unilin7.htm#83rd>
4. Fort Donelson Battlefield- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Donelson_National_Battlefield
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fort_Donelson
<https://www.nps.gov/fodo/index.htm>
5. Virgil Earp—https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virgil_Earp

Click to enlarge any image. Please contact us if you would

like an image in higher resolution.

We would love to read your thoughts and comments about this post (see form below), and thank you for your time! All comments are moderated, however, due to the high intelligence and persistence of spammers/hackers who really should be putting their smarts to use for the public good instead of spamming our little blog.

Original content copyright 2013-2017 by Heritage Ramblings Blog and pmm.

*Family history is meant to be shared, but the original content of this site may NOT be used for any **commercial purposes** unless explicit written permission is received from both the blog owner and author. Blogs or websites with ads and/or **any** income-generating components are included under "commercial purposes," as are the large genealogy database websites. Sites that republish original HeritageRamblings.net content as their own are in violation of copyright as well, and use of full content is not permitted.*

Descendants and researchers MAY download images and posts to share with their families, and use the information on their family trees or in family history books with a small number of reprints. Please make sure to credit and cite the information properly.

Please contact us if you have any questions about copyright or use of our blog material.