

FAMILY RECORDS

HOLLON FAMILY

Record in possession of: BERN F. HOLLON

P. O. Box 466
Jeanerette, La.

Record submitted for filming by: MR. JULIUS HOLLON

3232 Markwood Drive
Macon, Georgia

TY, UTAH

P. O. Box 466
Jeanerette, La. 70344
Sept. 4, 1963

Mr. Julius P. Hollon
Box 609
Fort Valley, Georgia

Dear Julius:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter addressed to me at Willard, N. C. You will note that I have migrated cross-country some since the publication you mentioned was printed.

I do not know if I can help you any in tracing your family tree. I am originally from eastern Kentucky where we have quite a few Hollon's. I think possibly our ancestors could be traced back to western N. C., but from there I do not know which way you would turn.

I have a distant cousin, Capt. James I. Hollon, Sr., living at Hazel Green, Ky. who is quite an authority on the Hollon family tree. I am sure if you could get in touch with him he could give you some information as a starting point. I am enclosing some information Capt. James sent me which is very interesting but rather confusing. I was never able to find the information he asked me to look up at Chapel Hill.

I would appreciate your returning this information along with any additional you may dig up.

Sincerely yours,

Basch F. Hollon

BFH:f

Shel Green, Kentucky,
Feb. 20th., '51.

Prof. Beech F. Hellen,
University of N. C.,
Chapel Hill, N. C.

My Dear Beech:-

Some months ago I wrote you a letter as long as a harlot's dress and sent it over to Glennie to read and ask him to put the proper street address on it and forward it to you. I almost fell over when Glennie wrote back to me and said that you were his brother and that you both were sons of Elvin Hellen and he in turn was the son of "Little Jack" Hellen. I remember "Little Jack" when he was Assessor of Wolfe county. He was a first cousin to my father, James Bushman Hellen, and he in turn was the son of "Old Jackson Hellen", brother to my grandfather John Hellen Jr., we call him, and Jackson and John Jr. were the sons of the Pioneer John Hellen, Sr. Now if we could find John Hellen Sr.'s father we would be on a "Wigging Snagpole".

Kelly Combs, of Irvine, and a cousin of ours told me that he had heard Old Press Hellen talk a lot about the Old Hellenes and that he set down a great deal that he said and that Press said Old John Sr.'s father and mother were named William and Rebecca. I can well believe this because Old John, Sr. named his first son William and his first daughter Rebecca, after his father and mother. There is now two hundred William and three hundred Rebeccas at large. But from whence Old William and Rebecca came is the great question and one on which I have racked my brain, wore out my fingers and wrecked my typewriter as you can judge from the copy of a letter I am enclosing, I suppose it help wreck you too.

My brother Clay who has been in the printing business in Chicago for fifty years was down, he and his wife, and spent ten days with me last Nov. We and went over to the old Hellen bailiwick and spent the day prognosticating. We kindly went over the situation and considered what old John, Sr. had accomplished and the manner of his burial and the construction of his monument and we decided that there was something behind old John somewhere better than his descendants had enjoyed. So we decided to try to trace him up. Clay is now retired and has plenty of time on his hands and a willing spirit with which to work at the project. But his eyesight is none too good having had both of them operated for cataracts. The winter has been very severe in Chicago and his family will not let him go to the Newberry Library down town by himself as his eyes do not focus very well as far down as the ground. But when he can have one of his family accompany him he does go down and he has raked up a lot of information on the Hellen family in the Library.

I was never more astonished in my life than I was when he found that the Hellen family was one of the oldest and most respectable families in America. But as much astonishment was caused by finding out that the Hellenes were a Mass. family as anything else. I had always supposed that they were a French Huguenot family and that they came over to Charleston, S. C. in 1696 after the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1686 and that multiplied and spread up into N. C. and on into Ky. But such was not the case. In 1620 the first two Hellenes came to Dorchester, Mass., rather layed out and founded the Colony of Dorchester. There were two brothers, the oldest was named Christopher and the younger John Hellen. His name is exactly as my grandfather and my great grandfather (Your great-great grandfather) wrote it. I am convinced that our Kelly branch of the family and the Revuee, Roman, branch of the family are the only ones that have kept the correct spelling of the name, most of the others having changed the name to Hellee. John Hellen 1st. we call him was a most remarkable man. He and his family soon dominated the whole colony of Mass. in a business way. Although he was a Puritan and had comforting hopes of the world to

Reverend Hellen, Page 2.

He did not neglect to provide for what he was then enjoying in. He soon figured out that these old Puritans could "frank" him more comfortably on a belly full of pie than they could when their bellies were flopping against their backbones. And of course having "charity toward the brethren" he set about supplying their needs. He went into the mercantile business. By 1634 had was a wealthy and highly regarded merchant and also had a ship line running the coasts of Mass. and on up to Maine. He would say anything the Colonists could make up to sell and that he in turn would supply or in Europe no doubt taking a small tick for himself. He transported this merchandise in his own ships. On the return trip he would bring back what the Colonists needed to buy, which was everything, and my guess is that he did not fail the "brethren" in taking a small tick on that also. He was like the patient Jews of Palestine were to all people that had to pass through that country to the East and back. They had them "going and coming", a pretty convenient arrangement I call it.

So he waxed very rich and was known as the first American "Merchant Prince" and the first American Millionaire. He and his family headed the list of the "Who's Who" of the Early Colonial American Families. These old Hellen (something like the new name) had children in litter. As soon as one of his sons or grandsons got old enough to go into business, Old John would set him up in business in some other Mass. settlement and the first thing anybody knew the newcomer would dominate the city. This went on all over Mass. for well nigh over 100 years. I never could have dreamed that would you? But just before and during the Revolution they began to migrate to other States, N.Y., Penna., N.H., Vermont, Md., Va. and N. C. and then on into Ky. Clay wrote me that he found a Francis Hellen on the tax list of Bourbon Co., Ky., in 1792. Wolfe Co. was then right in the middle of Bourbon Co. (I wish it was now). I wrote to the Clerk of Bourbon Co. and he wrote me that he could find no Hellen in the index to Deeds but that he found a Francis Holland that had procured a license to marry Miss Rhoda Rhodes in 1698. See how the name retailed? On further investigation I found that Francis Holland, of Md., had signed the "Hartford Declaration" in 1776 and that this Hartford Declaration was the "Declaration of Independence in Essex County, N. H." as a matter of fact it was the same man all the way through. I have no doubt that this man was closely related to William Hellen for whom we are searching. My guess is that the Hellen came through Pa. to Md., from Md. to Amelia Co., Va., and then on to them over the N. C. line into Nash County, N. C. where Daniel Hellen was born in the 1730's. Joseph Hellen signed two deeds in Amelia Co., Va., in 1730. The first was signed Joseph Hellen and the second was signed Joseph Holland. This Holland showed up in the 1730's records of Amelia County, Va. I gave you a list of the names of the Hellen family. One of them was a son named Joseph (1730-1780). John Hellen Sr., Nathaniel's son had a son named Joseph, born 1768. The name that signed the deed in 1776 could possibly have been the son of John Sr. Any way it showed that Joseph was rather a standard name among the Hellen family. So in America Hellen as familiar as corn bread and corn molasses, to say nothing of John and William.

Now before I forget it, I will tell you what I started to write you about before I got off on the above prerogative (whatever that is). We need and want your help in the search for my great-great grandfather and your great-great grandfather William Hellen. He must have been a "great" grandpa or a triple one. As you are there at the U. of N. C., at Chapel Hill, and there may be a lot of information right under your nose that would lead to this connecting link between John of Nelly and John of Rochester Height, the very Heights that a Mr. Washington about 160 years later fortified and forced the British to evacuate Boston. Rochester is now a Ward in the City of Boston. Inquire of the Librarian and he can tell you how to search.

Well my time and paper are about to exit at the same time as I will decide.

Capt. James Ignatius Hellen, Senior
(That'll be all for this time)

(Over)

Hazel Green, Ky.

Hazel Green, Kentucky,
Nov. 19th., '31.

Page 1

Mr. Clarence Griffing, Antiquarian,

Forest City, North Carolina.

My Dear Mr. Griffing:-

I certainly am enjoying your new book "Essays on North Carolina History". One little item in it is the cause of my writing you this letter. One word sometimes will bring on a shower of words.

I am writing about Major James Holland, of Bathurst County, N. C. and Henry County Tenn. on Page 223 you say, "The inscription on his pyramidal tomb". The word pyramidal is the word that particularly struck me as it reminded me of the pyramidal "Pyramids" under which John Hellen, Sr., and many other Hellen are buried in the old Hellen graveyard on Holly Creek, Wolfe Co., Ky. I am sending you some snapshots of these old monuments to see if they bear any resemblance to the one under which your Major Holland is buried in Henry County, Tenn. I have never in any cemetery, large or small, at any place over saw monuments of like construction. Mrs. William Wrenn Beck, probably the best known Genealogist in Ky. went over to Holly Creek with me to see these monuments and she said she had been in hundreds of old and new cemeteries and that she never saw at any place monuments of like construction. I sent snapshots just like I am sending you to Prof. Thomas D. Clark, Professor of History at the University of Ky. and he wrote me back that he had never seen monuments of like construction although he had seen a number of different kinds of "Grave Houses" but nothing like these and that as soon as he had time and the weather was favorable he was to get me to take him over to see them.

Now if these "Pyramids" as I call them bear any considerable resemblance to the monument to Major James Holland, it will be no small help in tracing the genealogy of John Hellen, of Holly, back to John Hellen (born 1614), of Dorchester, England and Dorchester, Mass., which last Dorchester he no doubt founded. This John Hellen, of Dorchester (Now a part in Boston) was a man of no small calibre. He was reckoned America's first "Merchant Prince" and millionaire. He had his docks, warehouses and ocean going ships, one of which was "The Endeavor". He was reckoned at the top of the list of "Who's Who" of early Colonial families. However his descendants did not sail forth from Mass. for over 100 years. They infested or inhabited Boston, Charleston, Norfolk, Newton, Watertown, Barnstable, "Cambridge Village" and many other cities of Mass. I suppose that Harvard University now covers land that was formerly a Hellen "Turnip Patch". All the Hellenes seemed to be of a commercial and mercantile turn of mind. I suppose that after while Mass. got overrun with them when they began to invade other states. Just before the "Revolutionary War" they began to go to other states and genealogically that is where my troubles began. Then you would find the son's name Holland and the father's name Hellen. Some of them probably were inclined like me and wanted to know from whence they came and got to tracing their genealogy and found back in England that the name was originally Holland and they went back to spelling that way but without counting the original American way of spelling the name was Hellen.

My brother, Clay Hellen, of Chicago, is perusing in the Faneuil Library at intervals had sent me the name of a Lieut. James Holland, Revolutionary Soldier, with the following information:-

Mr. Clarence Griffin, Page 2. 2

Lieut. James Holland, (1784--1810) Lieut. in Capt. Joseph Harkin's Company, Col. Francis Locke Reg. Served as Sheriff Tryon Co., Tenn., 1777-1778. Born in Penna. Died in Henry County, Tenn. (D. A. R. Book 78, Page 208).

Mary

This agrees with your account except that he says that he was born in Penna. and the date of his death. There can be no doubt that it is the same man. I had thought perhaps that he might be my great-great grandfather as my great grandfather had a brother, George, and this George had a son that was afterward known as "Uncle Jimmy Hellen". But from you book that cannot be. But it could be that my great-great grandfather, William Hellen and this Major James Holland could have been brothers and both of them sons of a the William Holland that you say (Page 69) that emigrated from England. Rutherford County is considerable distance from the sea coast for an emigrant to settle down very soon after arrival in America. It may be that instead of his having emigrated from England that emigrated from Penna. Do you have any information about the brothers and sisters of Major Holland? It might be that the William Holland who was a Pvt. and Ensign in the Revolutionary War from Rutherford County and who had deeds conveyed him a large tract of land in 1780 and another large tract in 1801 was a brother of Major Holland and the father of John Hellen, Sr., my great grandfather. If we could find that this last named William Holland had a son named John, one named George and his wife named Rebecca we would have the run we are looking for.

*RUTH-
-FFORD*

There is no doubt in my mind that there is a connection between the Hellen family and North Carolina. I have a cousin living here in Hazel Green that was raised in the home of my grandfather, John Hellen, Jr. and she says she remembers very distinctly hearing our grandfather tell of his having rode on horseback with his father to visit a sister of his father in N. C. and that the strongest sight he saw on the trip was very black negroes with very red hair. But where in N. C. is the question? John Hellen, Jr.'s wife was a Gibbs and her father and grandfather were both named John, the older John being a Revolutionary Soldier. Both these Johns came from Rutherford County. John Hellen, Jr., married a woman by the name of Charity Brewer.

If it turns out that this William Holland, Soldier of the Revolution, and who was pensioned at the age of 80, and of Rutherford County, is not the father of John Hellen, Sr., my great grandfather, it will be proven that John Hellen, Sr., did not originate in Rutherford County.

However there were other Hollands in N. C., the names of some of whom I will set down.

Daniel Hellen,	Lived in Nash County, N.C. (D.A.R. Census 1790) "Free White". Had two sons under 16 yrs of age. Two sons over 16 yrs of age. 3 families. Halifax District, Nash County, N.C.
William Holland,	Pvt. Bricker's Co. 7th. Reg. Enlisted Feb. 13, 1777 for 5 yrs.
James Holland,	Pvt. James 8th. Reg. Enlisted Dec. '77, 3 yrs. Ensl Jan '78.
Daniel Hellen,	Militia--2284--Colchester District.
William Holland,	Pvt. & Ensign. Enlisted Feb. 24, 1778, Lt. Putnam's Co., Col. Gideon Lamm's Master Roll. Pensioned at age 80. Rutherford County, N.C. (This is the one I think might be my great-great grandfather and brother to Major James Holland).

I had a letter from a Miss Nellie Holland, Charles, N.C. and she said she still

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.6 cent, military certificate .08

Town, MD.

lived in the home of her ancestor Samuel Holland who came from Georgetown, Md. in 1800. He must have been in N. C. before and during the Revolution and made a home at Sharps in 1803. However it is evident that he is the same man and you can see the rapid changing of the name.

This letter is getting long and wearisome to you and to me also but if you have any information at hand in the children of the William Holland, the one I think might be the brother of Major Holland, I would appreciate your sending it to me. There were two ladies from N. C. who joined the D. A. B. on the record of this William Holland. One of them was a Miss Kate Holland, Seiling Springs, N. C. and the other one was Mrs. Aileen J. Gamble, Box 407, Shelby, N. C. There was another member joining on the record of Pvt. Hanson Holland, 214 N. W. 10th, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. I wrote to Miss Kate Holland but as yet I have received no reply.

I am anxious to hear if there is any comparison between the grave stones, a picture of which I am sending you, and the monument of Major Holland in Henry Co., Tenn.

Mary
S.

Thanking you in advance for any information you might be pleased to give, I remain,

Yours very respectfully,

Capt. James I. Holland, Sr.

JOHN HOLLON 1st. b 1614 Of Dorchester, Eng. & Dorchester, Mass. (Died or Divorced 1652.
 Wife: Judith "Big Shot". First American "Merchant Prince" and Millionaire.
 Children: Left Will dated 1651. Gen. Reg. IV, Page 287.
 John 2nd. No Children.
 Thomas No Children.
 Nathaniel. Born 1638 Had 7 children and two Wives.
 Obadience Married first to Phillip Curtis, Second Benj. Gamlin.
 Relief Married John Douse of Charlestown.
 Two Other Daug Not mentioned by name.
 (Mother of above married Geo. Kimright of Charlestown or Newton)

NATHANIEL HOLLON Born 1638, of Watertown. Was living 1709. Son of John 1st. of Dorches-
 Wives: Mary, Sarah. May have been born in England.
 Children:
 Joseph Born 1659.
 Sarah Born 1662 Daughter Sarah married John Phillips 1680, John Bemis 1717.
 Ruth Born 1666 " Ruth " Joseph Pierce 1689.
 Nathaniel Born 1668
 John 3rd. Born 1674
 Elizabeth Born 1678

JOHN HOLLON 3rd. Born 1674, of Newton. Son of Nathaniel, Grandson of John 1st. of
 Wife: Elisabeth Park Dorchester. Married Elisabeth Park July 28, 1679.
 Children:
 John 4th. Born 1699 Died
 Joseph Born 1702
 John 5th. Born 1704
 Elizabeth) Born 1709
 Abigail) Died
 Jonas Born 1711
 Ephraim Born 1714
 Sarah Born 1716
 Ruth No date recorded
 Samuel Born 1721 At Marlboro, Mass.
 Abigail No date recorded

It seems to me that if John Hollon 1st. of Dorchester England and Dorchester Mass., is the beginning of our Hollon line in America, that the above outline has to be correct through Nathaniel because he was the only son of John that had sons. Then the bewilderment starts. Nathaniel had three sons that could have continued the Line. Now will you find out which one? Joseph, Nathaniel 2nd. or John 3rd? If John 3rd. continues the Line then he has five sons through either one of which the line could be continued. Which one? Joseph, John 5th., Jonas, Ephraim, or Samuel? It looks to me that would be an endless job to look them all up.

These sons of John 3rd. you have enumerated are the fourth generation and should produce the fifth generation in which Old William should be produced. It seems to me that we will have to find William first and then who was his father. I think that Miss Nellie Holland gave us the right clue when she told us that her ancestor Basal Holland had a brother named Nathaniel and another named William and that they came from Georgetown Md. I got a line up on Basal from Iva, who found him as Rev. Soldier but his name was Basal Hollon on his record. So if I were you I would porase the Md. Records very closely. Old William must have been in Amelia Co. with Joseph, George and Daniel.

Miscellaneous Notes on Hellen Family.

Sarah Hellen Lived in Amelia County, Va. in 1782.

Jeremiah Hellen lived in Boston, Mass. in 1646. Was a preacher. Went back home to Northamptonshire, England, to his Church and a good living. No one knew who his father was.

Thomas Hellen, Son of John Hellen 1st. Named after Thomas Yarmouth who had him baptized at Barnstable, Mass., May 9th., 1641. John 1st.'s wife was probably Judith Yarmouth, sister to Charles Yarmouth.

Josiah Hellen, Roxbury, Mass. "Is not mentioned in town records as B. M. or D)."

Sammel Hellen, Of Framingham, Mass. Married at Marlboro in 1695 but returned to Framingham where his children, Sammel, Mary and Martha (Twins) and Hannah were born. He married Mary Collier and settled on Salem Plains, in Framingham in 1694. Was born in Hantussett in 1661.

Jeremiah Hellen, Listed in Penna. Census, 1790, was one Jeremiah Holland (Or Hellen) of Luzerne Co. Indexed as Holland or Hellen.

Christopher Hellen, Boston, Mass. (1613-1704). Wife Anne. Children: John 1640, Bridget 1650, Elizabeth 1655, Hannah 1658, Debra 1661, Mary 1663. (Probably brother to John 1st. of Dorchester).

Francis Hellen Was on the Tax List of Bourbon Co., Ky. in 1791. Later Note:—"Francis Holland, of Maryland, in 1775 signed the "Hartford Declaration" which resulted in The "Declaration of Independence". Hist. of Md. Vol. 1 Pg. 561.

Major Holland, Son of William and Mary Harrison Holland emigrated to N.C. 1728.

Lieut. James Holland, (1754-1810) Lieut. in Capt. Joseph Hardin's Company, Col. Francis Locke Reg. Served as Sheriff Tryon Co., Tenn., 1777-78. Born in Penna. Died Maury Co., Tenn. (D A R Book 75 Page 208)

Daniel Hellen, in Nash Co. N.C. (U.S. Census 1790) "Free White". Had two sons under 16 yrs of age. Two sons over 16 yrs of age. & 3 Free Females. Halifax District, Nash County, North Carolina.

Joseph Hellen, Deed from Joseph Hellen conveying 98 acres to Charles Eby, Book 11, Page 343, Year 1772. "However I notice in another Deed this name is spelled "Holland" From S.L. Farrar, Jr., Clerk Circuit Court Amelia Co. Va. Farrar's mother was a Holland.

Lieut. Ivory Holland (1740-1820) (Clay) Served as Lieut. & Quartermaster in 4th Mass. Reg. under Col. Rufus Putnam. He was born in Mass. Marlboro. Died in Richfield, N.Y. (He was grandson of John 3rd. Mother's maiden name Ivory)

Thomas Holland (Clay) (1758-1799) Served as a Pvt. in Capt. White's Co. Col. Davies Reg., Virginia Troops. He was born and died in Va.

John Holland (1724-1804) (Clay) Served as Artificer in Capt. Wheeler's Co. Mass. Troops. He was born and died in Boston. Married Eliza Falias 1761.

John Holland, Jr. (1742-1824) (Clay). Was Carpenter's mate on the ships Wanda and Deane under Capt. Suffington & Capt. Hinson. He was born & died in Boston. In 1798 in 1797 he married Sarah May.

Thomas Holland (1762-1816) (Clay). Served as Pvt. in N.C. Militia. He was born in Ireland. Died in Laurens N.C.

Capt. Richard Holland, (1755-1818) Commanded a company of Va. Militia at the Battle of Guilford Court House. He was born and died in Prince Edward Co., Va. Married Martha Jones Walker in 1782. (Clay).

William Holland, (1750-1838) (Clay) Was a Pvt. in Maryland Troops in 1782-83. From Somerset Co. Md. where he was born and died.

Ephriam Holland (1714-1786) (Clay) Served as Pvt. in Capt. John Maynard's Co., Col. Job Cushing Reg. Died in Boyleston, Mass. "This man is a Hollon, son of John 3rd. He had a son Ephriam 2nd, born 1756 but this boy had no son to be father of John of Holly.

Luther Holland (1750-1821) Was Pvt. 1775 under Capt. John Wheeler and Col. Ephriam Doolittle and Lieut. 1776 under Capt. Wing Spooner and Col. Nathan Sparhawk. He was born in Shrewsbury, Mass. and died in Petersham. "The man is a Hollon, son of Jonas Hollon (1711 and grandson of John Hollon 3rd. Had no sons."

Mrs. Alberta Brown Register, born in Washington, D.C. Wife of Eldridge Vliet Register. Descendant of Nathan Holland & Sarah Waters. "Nathan took Oath of Fidelity and Allegiance" in Montgomery Co., Md. 1773. He died 1801 at Rockville, Md. (See Bazal Hollon below). (Clay).

Lieut. Park Holland (1752-1844) (Clay) Rec'd pension for services as Pvt., Ensign, Lieut., and Paymaster in Mass. Troops under Col. Putnam and Col. Holmes. Was born in Shrewsbury, Mass. Died in Bangor, Me. "This man is a Hollon, son of Jones (1711) and grandson of John Hollon 3rd. His grandmother was Elizabeth Park.

John Holland (1749-1826) (Clay) Served as Ensign in Capt. Isaac Lewis Co. of Foot, Delaware Militia. He was born in Newcastle, Dela. Died in Clifton, N.Y. Married Elizabeth Stevens.

Lieut. George Holland Of Virginia. Was Lieut. in the 14th Va. Reg. at "White Plains. Was with Washington at Valley Forge. (Clay).

"Soldiers of American Revolution from State Records of North Carolina" (Iva)

William Holland Pvt. Bricker's Co.---7th Reg. Enlisted Feb. 19, 1777 for 3 years.

Reason Holland Pvt. 5th Reg. Enlisted Dec. '77, 3 years. Cmt'd Jan. '78. (See extract from letter from National Society D A R.)

Bazal Hollon Militia---2224---Salisbury District. (See extract letter N.A.A. & Letter from Nellie Holland).

William Holland Pvt. and Ensign. Enlisted Feb. 26, 1778, Lieut. Tatum's Co., Col. Gideon Lamb's master roll. Pensioned at Age 80. Rutherford Co., N.C. (See Mr. Orlando M. York's letter where he had deeds recorded for large tracts of land in 1796 & 1801)