

**November 24, 2010**

**TO THE WEST!  
A GENEALOGICAL HISTORY OF THE  
BARKHURST, GARRETSON, REYNARD, BURRISS, COMLY, VALE AND  
VERMILLION FAMILIES**

**GENEALOGICAL REPORT GENERATED BY  
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**ANY INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT MAY BE FREELY  
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Died Smithfield Township, OH  
Buried Holmes Church Cemetery

Died April 13, 1869

Eliza J. "Jennie" Oxley Wilson Barkhurst (Second Wife) Born between 1846 and 1850  
Born Colerain, Belmont County, OH  
Married November 19, 1872, Belmont, OH  
Died Smithfield Township, OH

Died 1923

The 1880 U.S. Census shows John R. living in Smithfield Township with spouse, Eliz J., along with children, Luella, Alice, Charles C. and Walter.

The 1900 U.S. Census shows John R. and Eliz J. living in Smithfield Village. The 1910 U.S. Census shows John R. and Eliz J. living in Dillonvale.

"Ohio Deaths, 1908-1932" shows John R. died August 18, 1918 in Belmont County.

John R. and Sarah had four children. John R. and Jennie had eight children, including our ancestor, Charles Clancy Barkhurst born 1878.

William Bates Garretson  
Born Smithfield Twnshp, OH  
Resided entire lifetime, Smithfield Twnshp  
Died Smithfield, OH  
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Born August 27, 1847

Died November 24, 1929

Cara (Carrie) Launa Haynes Garretson  
Married March 25, 1879  
Died Smithfield, OH  
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Born September 13, 1857

Died November 27, 1936

William Bates Garretson was a substantial farmer in Smithfield Township. He had two farms, one of 114 acres and a second containing 116 acres situated across the road from each other on what was known as the Dillonvale turnpike road, now State Route 152. He turned the farms over to his sons in 1902, and became a real estate developer in what was called the "new addition" in Dillonvale. William and Carrie had three children, including our ancestor, Lillian Garretson Barkhurst.

William Oscar Reynard  
Born York, aka Little York, Jefferson Cnty, OH  
Died Smithfield, OH  
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Born October 28, 1862

Died April 11, 1940

Ella Wilhemina Bernhard Reynard  
Married January 20, 1888  
Died Smithfield, OH  
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Born November 30, 1868

Died April 16, 1945

William and Ella had four children, including our ancestor, Oscar Howard.

Benjamin Comley Burriss	Born	October 1, 1864
Born Jefferson County		
Died Jefferson County	Died	May 29, 1946
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH		

Minnie Evelena Vermillion Burriss		
Born Jefferson County	Born	October 14, 1868
Married September 14, 1892		
Died Jefferson County	Died	June 18, 1942
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH		

Benjamin and Minnie had nine children, including our ancestor, Marian Burriss Reynard.

### Great Great Great Grandparents

Joshua Barkhurst	Born	July 13, 1811
Born Smithfield Township, OH		
Resided Smithfield Township, OH		
Died Smithfield Twnshp, OH	Died	March 25, 1891
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH		

Mary Reynard Barkhurst	Born	1808
Born in England		
Married June 23, 1831		
Buried: see narrative below	Died	June 1872

Hannah Reynard Barkhurst (Second Wife)	Born	1825
Born in England		
Married October 15, 1873		
Died Smithfield, OH	Died	June 19, 1888
Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH		

The 1850 Federal Census for Jefferson County shows Joshua, age 39, born Ohio and Mary age 44, born England.

The 1860 U.S. Census shows Joshua, born about 1812, Ohio and Mary born about 1808, England, living in Smithfield Township with children, John R., Hannah, William, Marmaduke, Isaac, Joseph, and James.

On the 1860 Federal Census form, right under the information for Joshua Barkhurst and his household is the census information for his father, William Barkhurst. The

handwritten information shows William Barkhurst age 75, retired farmer, born in Maryland. Living in his household were John, age 39, born in Ohio; Louisa, age 46, born in Pennsylvania; Reese King, age 15, born in Ohio, and Isabella McCue, age 8, born in Ohio. There is no research that indicates the identities of these people.

The 1880 U.S. Census shows Joshua age 68 and Hannah age 55 living in Smithfield Township. Joshua's occupation is shown as "farmer".

Joshua Barkhurst was first married to Mary Reynard. When she died, Joshua married her sister, Hannah. Joshua and Mary had eight children, including our ancestor, John R.

The Holmes Church graveyard has a stone for "Mary Barkhurst, wife of Joshua, died June 13, 1872, age 64 years, 5 months, 2 days". The stone is near the stones for William and Mary Barkhurst, Joshua's parents.

Joseph Garretson	Born	February 14, 1824
Born in Pennsylvania		
Buried Wheeler Cemetery, Smithfield Twnshp.	Died	August 7, 1918

Mary Jane Greer Garretson	Born	1826
Married October 14, 1846		
	Died	Unknown

Joseph Garretson moved to Jefferson County, Ohio in 1830. The federal census of 1860 shows him living in Smithfield. The 1860 census also shows that John Garretson (aged 79) and Mary Garretson (aged 79) were living in the household. Research indicates that John and Mary were Joseph's parents.

The federal census of 1870 shows that Mary Jane was alive; her name does not appear in the federal census of 1880.

The 1880 census extract enables viewers to see a listing of neighbors. Joseph and Mary's neighbors in 1880 included Isaac and Hannah Barkhurst, with daughter, Martha, and son, John L.; William H. and Nancy Barkhurst, with daughters, Jane and Ada, and son, Ross (William Bates Garretson purchased one of his farms from Ross Barkhurst in 1901); Jacob and Jane Barkhurst, with daughters, Flora and Alice; Henry and Ann Blazer; David and Mary Deyarman, with daughters Minnie, Elizabeth and Mary, and sons, Russell and Freddy; and John and Anna Wheeler.

Joseph and Mary had four children, including our ancestor, William Bates Garretson.

George Haynes	Born	May 21, 1829
Born Waddesdon Parish, Buckinghamshire,		



Several family trees show that William was first married to Jane Williams on June 7, 1849 in Harrison County, and that they had one unnamed child.

William and Nancy had five children, including our ancestor, Ella Bernhard Reynard.

Zadok Burriss	Born	March 4, 1831
Born Warren Ridge, Smithfield Twnshp, OH		
	Died	August 16, 1902
Died Smithfield, OH		

Jenny Reed Burriss	Born	October 11, 1841
Born Virginia		
	Died	October 27, 1895

Zadok and Jenny had six children, including our ancestor, Benjamin Comly Burriss.

Thomas Burns Vermillion	Born	May 19, 1846
Died Smithfield, OH	Died	April 2, 1917
Buried, Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH		

Achsah Dodds Vermillion	Born	December 1, 1846
Born Wayne Township, Jefferson Cnty, OH		
Married September 26, 1867		
Buried, Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH	Died	June 13, 1908

Flora King Vermillion	Born	January 27, 1861
Married January 13, 1913		
Buried, Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH	Died	February 1, 1941

Thomas Burns Vermillion and Achsah had seven children (two died in infancy) including our ancestor, Minnie Vermillion Burriss.

Achsah died in 1908. Thomas Burns married a second time on January 13, 1913, in Cadiz, Ohio to Flora King. There were no children from this marriage. Flora was the widow of William Watkins who died in 1908.

### Great Great Great Great Grandparents

William Barkhurst	Born	April 17, 1785
Born in Maryland		
Moved to Smithfield Township prior to 1805	Died	April 18, 1861
Died Smithfield Township, OH		
Buried, Holmes Church Graveyard		

Nancy Haynes Barkhurst Born in Kentucky Married August 19, 1805, Smithfield Twnshp, OH Buried, Holmes Church Graveyard	Born September 15, 1784   Died August 22, 1842
Isabella Haynes Barkhurst (Second Wife) Married November 26, 1845	Born 1800  Died 1857

William Barkhurst was a soldier in the War of 1812. The book 1890 History of the Upper Ohio Valley states that " William Barkhurst served for nearly three years in the War of 1812 under General Harrison". On Page 21 of a small book in the Steubenville Public Library, entitled Smithfield Township Cemeteries, original readings done in 1965 by Dohrman Sinclair, in the Holmes Cemetery chapter, it says "William Barkhurst, born 4/17/1785 died 4/18/1861, Row 12, Grave 8, upright marker, War 1812". "Soldiers Records located in Records Office, Jefferson County Court House".

William first married Nancy Haynes Barkhurst in 1805. They had eight children including our ancestor, Joshua. Nancy died in 1842. William married Isabella, Nancy's sister, in 1845. There were no children from this marriage.

Isabella married John Haymaker on July 11, 1822 in Jefferson County. They had three children. John died in 1843, and subsequently she married William Barkhurst.

The 1860 Federal Census for Smithfield Township Ohio shows William Barkhurst, aged 75, retired farmer, born in Maryland.

As early as 1807, the Ohio Census shows a Charles, Joshua, William and James Barkhurst living in Smithfield Township. The 1807 Census also shows Casparius and John Garretson living in Smithfield Township. However, the Census does not contain enough personal information to determine if any are direct ancestors.

John Garretson Born, Warrington Twnshp, York, PA	Born Between 1779&1781  Died
Mary Leeper Garretson Born, Virginia	Born 1782  Died Unknown

Although there are very good records for John's ancestors, very little is known about John and his wife, Mary Leeper. We do know that they had at least one child, our ancestor, Joseph, born in 1824 in Smithfield, Ohio. The 1850 census of Smithfield, Ohio shows that the household of Joseph Garretson included John, born about 1781 in

Pennsylvania and Mary, born about 1782 in Virginia.

Marmaduke Reynard	Born	March 9, 1782
Born, Yorkshire, England		
Died Jefferson County, Ohio	Died	December 22, 1865
Buried Rehobeth Cemetery, Smithfield Twnshp.		

Mary Shaw Reynard	Born	April, 1783
Born England		
Died Jefferson County, Ohio	Died	October 3, 1851
Buried Rehobeth Cemetery, Smithfield Twnshp.		

In the biography section of the book, 1890 History of the Upper Ohio Valley, the biography of Joshua Barkhurst states that " Mary Reynard, his wife was a daughter of Marmaduke and Mary Reynard, natives of England, in which country she was born in the year 1810."

A number of internet-based ancestry trees show a Marmaduke Reynard, born about 1782 in Yorkshire, England. Three sites show Marmaduke was christened on March 10, 1782 in Hubberholme, Yorkshire, England. Three sites show a Marmaduke Reynard died in Jefferson County, Ohio, with no death dates given. One website shows a burial "near Adena, in Smithfield Township". The only two cemeteries that fit that description would be either Rehobeth or Holmes. There are three Marmaduke Reynard gravestones in Rehobeth; one with a death date of May 21, 1883; one with a death date of May 1, 1865, age 83 years 9 months, 13 days, and one with a death date of 1885. The May 1, 1865 date makes the most sense, especially since right beside that marker is one for "Mary, wife of Marmaduke, died October 3, 1851, age 68 years, 6 months".

Four ancestral trees show Marmaduke Reynard married to a Mary Shaw Reynard, who was born in England, no dates given. Two sites show a marriage date of July 14, 1806 and two a marriage date of 1795.

Mary Reynard Barkhurst, first wife of our ancestor Joshua Barkhurst, was born in either 1810 or 1811, which would be consistent with the information described above. However, none of the information about Marmaduke or Mary can be corroborated.

The 1810 U.S. Census shows that no Reynards lived in Ohio.

The 1820 and 1830 U.S. Census shows a Marmaduke Reynard living in Smithfield, Jefferson County, Ohio. Both of these U.S. Census do not contain any information other than name and location.

The 1850 U.S. Census shows Marmaduke Reynard, age 68, born in England, living in Smithfield with spouse, Mary, age 66, with children, James, Thomas, Joseph and Hannah.

The Dale Arbaugh family tree shows that Marmaduke immigrated from England to



Died Smithfield, OH

Died June 26, 1874

In Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, Ohio, there are a number of mostly unreadable gravestones. One says, under the unreadable surname, "Zadok Died 1851"; an adjacent stone, under the unreadable surname, says "Rebecca", the rest unreadable. It can be inferred that these stones are for Zadok Burriss and Rebecca Comley Burriss.

The 1850 U.S. Census shows Zedikiah and Rebecca living in Wells Township, Jefferson County, Ohio.

Zedikiah and Rebecca had five children, including our ancestor, Zadok.

Charles Vermillion

Born September 9, 1803

Born Handle Cnty, Baltimore, MD

Died Smithfield, OH

Died September 7, 1884

Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Elizabeth Alloway Vermillion

Born March 26, 1807

Married August 8, 1824, Smithfield, OH

Born Pennsylvania

Died Smithfield, OH

Died September 19, 1884

Buried Northern Cemetery, Smithfield, OH

Charles Vermillion was born Charles O'Brien. His parents came from Ireland to Maryland where he was born in 1803. His father died when he was two years old. A short time later, his mother married a Mr. Vermillion who adopted Charles. The family moved to Smithfield Township, Ohio in 1815. Charles and Elizabeth had eleven children, including our ancestor, Thomas Burns Vermillion.

### Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

Lewis Queen Barkhurst

Born 1760

Born Chester Hundred, Anne Arundel Cnty, MD

Died Short Creek, Harrison Cnty, OH

Will probated June 24, 1823, Harrison Cnty, OH

Died March 13, 1823

Arminta Lessly Barkhurst

Born ?

Died Harrison County, OH

Died January 5, 1882

The Maryland Census, 1772-1890, shows that Lewis Queen Barkhurst, Chester Hundred, Anne Arundel County, took a Fidelity Oath in 1778.

The 1820 U.S. Census shows Lewis Queen Barkhurst living in Shortcreek, Harrison

County, Ohio.

In an 1890 biography of S. Osborne Barkhurst, M.D., his great great grandfather, Lewis, is described as having served in the American Revolution with General Washington at Valley Forge. There is no documentation to support this claim.

Lewis and Arminta had seven children, including our ancestor, William.

After Lewis died in 1823, Arminta married David Paulin on February 3, 1825.

Aaron Garretson	Born	January 16, 1759
Born, Warrington, York, PA		
Died, Saint Clair, Bedford, PA	Died	August 24, 1830

Mary Hammond Garretson	Born	June 18, 1755
Married 1779, Warrington MM, York, PA	Died @	1832

Aaron Garretson was born and raised in Warrington Township, Pennsylvania. He married Mary Hammond in 1779, and they continued to live in Warrington Township for the next twenty years. Aaron's father, William, died in 1792. After his death, most of the Garretson family moved further west. Aaron and Mary and their eight children were received in the Menallen Township Preparatory Meeting in February 1799. However, they had moved over eighty miles further west, all the way to St. Clair Township in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and settled in what is now known as Quaker Valley. There was no Quaker Monthly Meeting in Bedford yet, so the Bedford Quakers had to travel over eighty miles of mountainous terrain all the way back to Menallen once a month for the Meeting. Consequently, the Bedford Quakers requested their own Meeting House and in 1803 the Dunnings Creek Monthly Meeting in Bedford was established.

Aaron and Mary had nine children, including our ancestor John born in approximately 1781.

Thomas Haynes	Born	Unknown
Born unknown.		
Died in Smithfield, OH	Died	July 20, 1845

Thomas was the father of our ancestor, Nancy Haynes Barkhurst.

William Vale	Born	November 22, 1754
Born Warrington, York Cnty, PA		
Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA	Died	April 5, 1838

Ann Wetherald Vale	
Born Warrington, York Cnty, PA	Born 1755
Married January 15, 1778	
Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA	Died April 8, 1816
Mary McMillan Vale (Second Wife)	Born February 6, 1771
Born Warrington, York Cnty, PA	
Married January 29, 1818, Warrington, PA	
Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA	Died August 8, 1827

William and Ann had thirteen children, including our ancestor, Elisha. William and Mary had no children. William and Mary's marriage is recorded in the Warrington Monthly Meeting archives, Marriages #259.

John Comly (Comley)	Born 1753
Born Warminster, Bucks Cnty, PA	
Died Smithfield, OH	Died April 28, 1828
Buried Friends Cemetery, Smithfield	
Hannah Vaughn Comly	Born 1756
Born Baltimore, MD	
Married 1772, Gunpowder, MD	
Died Washington County, PA	Died 1810
Priscilla Carr Comly (Second Wife)	Born Unknown
	Died Unknown

John married Hannah Vaughn in 1772. In 1778, they moved to Washington County, PA. John and Hannah had 14 children, including our ancestor, Rebecca Comley Burris. In 1810, Hannah died in Washington County, PA. In 1811 or 1812, John moved to Smithfield, Ohio with his younger children, and in 1813 married Priscilla Carr.

A number of family trees show that Hannah Vaughn's ancestors came from England, and settled in Maryland as early as the 1670's.

The 1800 U.S. Census shows John Comley living in Washington County, Hanover Township, PA. The 1800 Census did not list any females.

John Comly served in the American Revolution. Records certify that he was enrolled sometime during the period 1780-1783 as a Private, Sixth Class, of Captain Andrew Van Buskirk's Third Company, First Battalion, Philadelphia County Militia.

A grave marker was placed in the Friends cemetery in Smithfield by the Sons of the American Revolution in 2009, to commemorate John Comly's service.

## The Other John Comly

There was a much more famous John Comly, born about the same time as our ancestor. The other John Comly was born in 1773 in Byberry, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, the son of Isaac and Asenath Comly. This John Comly went on to be a leader of the Quakers, and the author of a number of articles and books on religion.

Charles Burriss	Born @ 1768
Born Prince George Parish, Montgomery, MD	
Died Wells Twnshp, Jefferson Cnty, OH	Died ?
Ruth Swearingen Burriss	Born @ 1767
Born Prince George Parish	
Married 1792	
Died Prince George Parish	Died 1813

Charles and Ruth had three children, including our ancestor, Zedekiah.

A number of genealogies show that Ruth Swearingen was married to either a Charles Burgess Burriss, or simply to Charles Burriss.

Early U.S. and Maryland census data show a number of Burriss families living in Maryland as far back as the 1770's. However, there are no traces of a Burriss name prior to Charles Burriss. On the other hand, Ruth Swearingen Burriss was part of a very prominent Maryland family, which is discussed more extensively in prior generation's Swearingen narratives.

William Alloway (Allway)	Born @ 1765
Born Schulykill Cnty, PA	
Died Jefferson County, OH	Died @ 1835
Sarah Collins Alloway	Born @ 1768
	Died ?

It appears that in the 18th and 19th centuries, the Alloway name was spelled a variety of different ways, which makes research very difficult. For example, the 1820 U.S. Census for Smithfield, Ohio shows William **Alaway**. However, the same handwritten page of this census also misspells **Burris** (should be Burriss), **Barcus** (should be Barkhurst) and **Garison** (should be Garretson). This is a very good example of a census taker either taking it upon himself to spell a name phonetically, or the person being interviewed not knowing how to spell his name!

William Alloway served as a Private, Fifth Class, Captain Arnold Francis's Third Company, First Battalion, Montgomery County Militia, according to the evidence of a

Company Return dated 1786.

Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

John Barkhurst

Born, Queen Anne, MD

Born @1715

Will proved October 19, 1768

Queen Anne's Cnty, MD

Died 1768

Elizabeth (?) Barkhurst

Records indicate that John and Elizabeth had one child, Lewis, our ancestor.

William Garretson

Born 1716

Born, Mill Creek, Hundred, New Castle, DE

Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA

Died December 5, 1792

Buried Warrington Graveyard

Miriam Frazier Garretson

Born 1722

Born, Kennett, Chester, PA

Married September 9, 1742

Kennett Monthly Meeting, York Cnty, PA

Buried Warrington Graveyard

Died April 18, 1782\*

William Garretson was a weaver by trade. In 1742, he moved a short distance across the Pennsylvania border where he married Miriam (Mary) Frazier, daughter of Alexander Frazier from Scotland, at the Kennett Monthly Meeting in York County, Pennsylvania. Shortly thereafter, they moved over sixty miles further west into what is now northern York County where he was appointed Overseer at the Newberry Township Preparative Monthly Meeting in 1746. In 1747, William was part of a group that obtained land to the southwest of Newberry in Warrington Township for the new Warrington Monthly Meeting house. The Warrington Preparative Meeting was organized on September 2, 1747, with 13 members including William Garretson and Joseph Garretson.

William and Miriam had ten children including our ancestor, Aaron Garretson, born in 1759.

\* extract from the diary of Benjamin Walker, who had charge of the grave digging at Warrington Grave yard: "4 mo 18 1782 Digging a grave for William Garretson's wife".

Robert Vale (deVale)

Born December 13, 1716

Born London, England

Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA  
Will was proved on August 20, 1799  
Buried in the Warrington Cemetery

Died August 17, 1799

Sarah Buller (Butler?) Vale  
Born Dublin, Ireland  
Married January 14, 1750  
Died Warrington, York Cnty, PA  
Buried in the Warrington Cemetery

Born @ 1716

Died @ 1808

Robert Vale was born in London in 1716. He was disowned by his father, Baron De Vale of Normandy when he became a member of the Society of Friends. There are several interesting, and sometimes conflicting stories about Robert Vale and how he came to Warrington, Pennsylvania. A book written by Lydia Ann Vale Leffler published in 1913 says that Robert Vale was decommissioned from the British Navy as a captain and became a school teacher in Sadsbury, England, where he taught Quakers. Her book also says that Robert was admitted to membership in the Society of Friends at the Monthly Meeting at Sadsbury, England on July 17, 1744. Sometime later, he was asked to captain a ship to bring Quakers over to America by disciples of William Penn. According to the Lydia Ann Vale Leffler book, he made several voyages for which he received payment of about 1100 acres of land in Pennsylvania.

On his final voyage, he met a young Irish woman who had been robbed of her passage money. As the story goes, he was so impressed by her that he paid for her passage. Her name was Sarah Buller (some genealogical reports show her name as Butler). Later they married at the Warrington Friends Meeting house.

Several researchers have attempted to establish a linkage between Robert and "Baron De Vale of Normandy". There was in fact a Maxmillien de Lieves, the Count of Saint-Venant, who was informally known as Baron De Vale of Normandy, who received his court commission in 1655. Researchers have also established that Robert's father might have been James, also known as Baron De Vale, who was born in 1649 in either England or Normandy, and died in 1715. So far in my own research, this all is just interesting conjecture.

His son, William Vale, was born near Warrington, York County, Pennsylvania on November 22, 1754.

A tombstone inscription copied by Albert Cook Myers in 1895 reads "Robert Vale d.8 mo17.1799, age 83 yr."

James Comly

Born June 14, 1715  
Died 1768

Mary Paul Comly

Born March 28, 1718

Married July 27, 1737

Died ?

James and Mary settled in Warminster, but in 1758 moved to Gunpowder, Maryland. After James died in 1768, Mary moved back to Byberry, Bucks County, where she frequently preached, since she was an approved minister in the Society of Friends.

James and Mary had seven children including our ancestor, John Comly.

Thomas B. Swearingen	Born	September 23, 1728
Born Montgomery Cty, Maryland		
Died Montgomery Cty, Maryland	Died	October 15, 1794
Ruth Beall Swearingen	Born	1730
Born Montgomery Cty, Maryland		
Married 1750		
	Died	1770

Thomas Swearingen served in the American Revolution as a Private under Major George Beall, 1777 (Maryland Historical Society Library Folder #77, Page 143).

Thomas Swearingen was a large land owner in Montgomery County, Maryland. Various deed records show that on June 1, 1775, he purchased 103 acres; in 1778 he purchased 79 acres; in 1779, 569 acres; in 1780, 230 acres; in 1789, 907 acres, and in 1793, 73 acres.

His will was dated July 31, 1794 and proved October 17, 1794. In his will, he left some money "to my daughter, Ruth Burriss, wife of Charles Burriss, 5 shillings".

Thomas and Ruth had seven children, including our ancestor, Ruth Swearingen Burriss.

#### Great Great Great Great Great Great Grandparents

James Barkhurst	Born @	1675
Born in Talbot County, MD		
Died Queen Anne's Cnty, MD	Died @	1731
Elizabeth Seth Barkhurst	Born	Unknown
	Died	Unknown
Casparius Garretson	Born	1676
Born Mill Creek, New Castle, DE		
Died Chester, PA	Died	December 3, 1726

Ann Cox Garretson	Born 1690/1694
Born New Castle, DE	
Married 1713	
Died Hockessin, Mill Creek, DE	Died before 1762

Casparius Garretson lived in the Hockessin /Mill Creek area of New Castle County, Delaware. He owned 200 acres which were close to, if not over the boundary with, Chester County, Pennsylvania. He was appointed overseer of New Castle (Delaware) Friends' Meeting May 2, 1726. According to Donald Hickman, Casparius and Ann had seven children, including our ancestor William Garretson, born 1716.

U.S. marriage records 1560-1900 show Casparius Garretson, born 1676, married Ann Garretson, 1713.

His sons, William and John, moved to York County, Pennsylvania from whom sprang most of the Garretsons of the west.

Henry Comly	Born October 25, 1674
Born in Bristol, Somersetshire, England	
Died Warminster, Bucks County, PA	Died March 16, 1727
Buried Middletown Meeting	

Agnes Heaton Comly	Born February 9, 1677
Married October 17, 1695	
Died Warminster, Bucks County, PA	Died December 30, 1743

Henry Comly was very active both in civil and religious matters, and his name frequently appears on the records of the Middletown Meeting. In his will dated March 13, 1727, he gave his farm of 292 acres in Warminster to his sons, Robert and James (our ancestor). The Moreland farms were divided among his other sons. Among his personal property are found the following items: a negro girl, 20; a negro boy, 30.

John Paul	Born April 1, 1689
	Died February 13, 1721

Mary Livezey Paul	Born February 9, 1687/88
Born Dublin Township, Philadelphia, PA	
Married May 1709	
Died Abington Township, Philadelphia, PA	Died 1730

John and Mary were the parents of Mary Paul Comly, wife of James, mother of John.

John Swearingen Born St. Mary's Parish, Prince George Cty, MD Died Rockville, Montgomery Cty., MD	Born 1696 Died October 2, 1767
Mary Ray Swearingen Married February 9, 1714, St. Barnabas Church, Prince George Cty, MD	Born 1698 Died 1736

John and Mary were the parents of our ancestor, Thomas Swearingen.

Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great Grandparents

James Barkhurst Died in Talbot County, MD	Born @ 1645 Died 1681
Ann (?) Barkhurst	Born Unknown Died Unknown
John Garretson (Van der Hoff) Born in Corlears Hook, Amsterdam, Holland Died in Mill Creek, New Castle, Delaware Will probated March 5, 1695	Born about 1638 Died before March 5, 1695
Anna Glinn Born in New Castle, DE Married about 1657	Born about 1640
Ann Prior Born in New Castle, DE Married about 1676	Born about 1659 Died about 1685

See narrative for explanation

The following was excerpted from The Garretsons, an on-line book published by Donald Robert Hickman.

On December 21, 1656, brothers John, Hendrick and Paul Garretson left Amsterdam, Holland headed for America, to the Delaware Colony. John and Hendrick were sailors aboard the Prins Maurits, which became separated at sea from the rest of the small convoy. A severe winter storm blew the ship off course. It was swept past the entrance to the Delaware River all the way up to Fire Island off Long Island, New York, where the ship ran aground. The crew, including John Garretson, were helped ashore

by Indians who then sent a messenger to Peter Stuyvesant for assistance. They were able to hire another ship and safely arrived at New Castle (Delaware) on April 21, 1657.

In 1657, Peter Stuyvesant transferred a lot in New Castle to John, and he built a house on what is now Third Street in New Castle. A Delaware preservation society purchased it in 1937, the oldest dwelling in Delaware known as "Old Dutch House". John received a warrant for an additional 400 acres of land on November 16, 1683.

John and his wife, Ann, had six children that we know of, including our ancestor, Casparius, born in 1685.

Family trees differ on whether John had one wife or two. Based on various dates, the weight of evidence is that he did have two wives.

Several family trees show that John Garretson had a son, John. However, when a John Jr. is inserted into the tree, the dates of his probable birth and death do not make very much sense.

Henry Comly (Combly)	Born	January 25, 1615
Born in Bedminster, near Bristol, England		
Died in Addington, Bucks County, PA	Died	May 13, 1684
Buried in Middletown Meeting Burying Ground, Bucks County, PA		

Judith (?) Comly	Born	Unknown
Died in Bedminster, England	Died	July 22, 1670
Buried in Bristol Meeting, England		

Joan Tyler (Tilor) (Tylor) Comly (Second Wife)	Born	Unknown
Born in Wilton, near Bristol, England		
Married October 25, 1673, Bristol		
Died in Middletown	Died	October 20, 1689

Henry Comly was a weaver by trade. Henry's first wife was Judith. Henry and Judith had three children: Mary, born August 23, 1656; John, born October 14, 1661; and Sarah born June 24, 1665 (names and dates corroborated by England Baptisms, 1654-1680). The document, England Marriages 1659-1691, shows that Mary Comly married John Crew on September 25, 1683. The supposition is that the three children from his first marriage remained in England.

Henry Comly and his second wife, Joan Tyler, stood up for what they believed. Joan was imprisoned in 1660 for refusing to take an oath. Henry was jailed in 1664 for attending Quaker worship.

After his first wife died, Henry married Joan Tyler, and had at least one child, Henry (our ancestor). Henry, Joan, with their son Henry, came to Pennsylvania with William Penn in 1683. Several records show that Henry and his family arrived in Philadelphia in November 1683, on the ship, The Samuel and Mary. They settled in Warminster, Bucks County, on a tract of 500 acres. Henry died in 1684, less than a year after arriving in the colony.

Joan remarried in April 26, 1685 to Joseph English. Joseph then proceeded to die on October 10, 1686. Joan died about three years later in 1689.

Thus, within seven years after the arrival of this family in Pennsylvania, the father, mother and stepfather of young Henry, our ancestor, died. Records show that the Quaker community stepped in to care for the teenager.

Joseph Paul Born in Ilminster, Somersetshire, England	Born @ 1660 Died ?
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Margaret Roberts Paul Married May 2, 1680	Born ? Died ?
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Joseph and Margaret were the parents of John Paul, the father of Mary Paul Comly, the mother of John Comly.

Jonathan Livezy Born in Norton, Cheshire, England Died in Dublin Township, Philadelphia, PA	Born June 18, 1666 Died November 23, 1698
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Rachel Taylor Livezy Born in Little Leigh, Cheshire, England Died in Dublin Township, Philadelphia, PA ?	Born January 15, 1664 Died ?
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Jonathan and Rachel were the parents of Mary Livezy Paul, the mother of Mary Paul Comly, the mother of John Comly.

Thomas Swearingen Born St. Mary's Parish, Montgomery Cty, MD Died in Prince George's, MD	Born 1665 Died July 29, 1709
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Jane Hyde Swearingen	Born 1669 Died 1716
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Thomas and Jane had sixteen children including our ancestor, John.

Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great Grandparents

Garrit Jansen van Vorst Born in Holland Died in Amsterdam, Holland	Born about 1618 Died 1642
Gertrude Jacobs Born in Holland Died in New Amsterdam, New York	Born 1618 Died Unknown
Henry Comly (Combly) Born Bedminster, near Bristol, Somersetshire, England	Born 1589
Garrett van Swearingen (Swieringh) Born Beemsterdam, Holland Died St. Mary's Cty., MD	Born February 4, 1636 Died February 4, 1698
Barbarah de Barrette van Swearingen Born in Valenciennes, France Died in St. Mary's Cty., MD	Born 1636 Died 1670
Mary Smith van Swearingen (Second Wife) Married October 6, 1676, St. Mary's Cty., MD	Born Unknown Died Unknown

Garrett van Swearingen was born in 1636 in Reensterdwan (Beemsterdam), Holland and came from a wealthy family who appear to have been investors in the Dutch West India Company. When he was about 20 years old, the Dutch West India Company sold its interests to the City of Amsterdam and the Dutch government appointed Garrett "supercargo" (officer in charge) of the ship, "Prince Maurits". His ship sailed on December 21, 1656 for New Amstel, Delaware. The ship was stranded off Fire Island on March 8, 1657. Garrett finally reached Delaware on April 25, 1657. There he "took possession of the Fort called Newcastle." (Proceedings of the Council of Maryland, 1684-89).

Garrett married Barbarah de Barrette in about 1658, and the couple returned to Holland in 1660. While in Holland, he served as a "Counsel and Commisary General for the City of Amsterdam", the purpose of which was to convince the Dutch government not to give up on their Delaware Colony. He was appointed Council to New Amstel, and the couple returned to New Amstel on November 24, 1661.

In 1664, the Colony was captured by the British. Although Garrett was allowed to continue in his various offices, Delaware became the Dominion of the Duke of York.

Garrett did not fare well under British rule, and he was obliged to relocate to St. Mary's County, Maryland. In spite of his marriage to the Huguenot, Barbarah de Barrette, he remained a staunch Roman Catholic, and was not welcome in some parts of British America.

On April 13, 1669, Garrett, his wife and two oldest children filed a petition for naturalization as British citizens. Thomas, our ancestor, was born after the British takeover and was therefore a citizen at birth.

Garrett appears to have thrived in his new home in Maryland. About 1666 he bought a 200 acre plantation in Talbot County, and the next year he acquired 100 acres in St. Mary's County. Lord Baltimore appointed him Alderman in 1668. His home, known as the "Council House", was where many early laws of Maryland were formulated and passed. He served as Sheriff from 1668 to 1688.

### AN UNBELIEVABLE COINCIDENCE

As unbelievable as it sounds, our ancestor, Garrett van Swearingen, and our ancestor, John Garretson, sailed on the same ship (the Prins Maurits) on the same voyage, and reached New Castle, Delaware on the same date! Our ancestor, Garrett, was the officer in charge and our ancestor, John, was a seaman. There is no indication in any record that these two men ever knew each other.

#### Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great, Great Grandparents

David Janse Swieringh	Born 1610
Born Beemsterdam, Holland	
Died Beemsterdam, Holland	Died 1698
Hester Jacobs Swieringh	Born 1598
	Died 1660

David and Hester had four children, including our ancestor, Garrett.

## ADDENDA

### SOURCES

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5. 1890 History of the Upper Ohio Valley, by Brant & Fuller, Volumes I&II, Family Histories Sections
6. 20th Century History of Steubenville & Jefferson County, Ohio, by Joseph B. Doyle, 1910, Biographies Chapters
7. United States Federal Census, 1840, 1850, 1860 & 1870
8. Ohio Census Miracode Index, 1790-1890, 1900, 1910 & 1920
9. Ohio Deaths, 1908-1932, 1938-1944
10. Genealogy of the Vale and Garretson Descendents, by Lydia Ann Vale Leffler, 1913
11. Genealogy of the Vale, Walker....Families by George Walker Vale, 1973, Library of Congress Number 73-83696
12. U.S. and International Marriage Records, 1560-1900
13. Pioneer Days; Early History of Jefferson County, Ohio, by Mary Donaldson Sinclair, Published by Shenandoah Publishing House, 1962
14. A History of the Townships of Byberry and Moreland in Philadelphia, PA, by Joseph C. Martindale M.D., 1867. Genealogies, the Comly Family, beginning on Page 250

15. Smithfield Township Cemetery Jefferson County, Ohio. A compilation of readings done in 1965 of the Pioneer Cemeteries of Smithfield Township. Public library of Steubenville and Jefferson County.
16. England Marriages 1659-1691.
17. England Baptisms 1654-1680.
18. The Comly Family in America, by George Norwood Comly, Philadelphia, Lippencott Publishers, 1939.

### QUAKER DATING

Prior to 1752, Quakers generally followed the Julien Calendar, also known as the Old Style Calendar.

Under this calendar, the first day of the year was March 25 (Ascension Day). March was considered the first month, April the second month, and so on. Thus, someone born on the tenth month, 13th day, was born on December 13!

Quakers almost exclusively used numbers for months. Any date in March was considered the first month; Sunday was the first day of the week. Thus, someone born the tenth month, 13th day, 1690, was born on December 13, 1690.

In 1752, England and its American colonies adopted the Gregorian Calendar, which had been used throughout most of (Catholic) Europe since 1582.

In order to make the calendar adjustment, eleven days were dropped from the month of September, 1752. September 2, 1752 was followed by September 14, 1752. Further, January would henceforth be the first month of a year, February the second month, etc.

Why talk about this? Simply because most genealogical research relies to some extent on the research of others. Sometimes it is difficult to ascertain if a certain date prior to 1752 has been adjusted to the Gregorian Calendar, or is it in the Julien calendar format. For example, is John Doe, born 10 month, 23 day, 1680, born December 23, 1680 (Julien Calendar) or October 23, 1680 (Gregorian Calendar). Chances are good that if you come across an original (or original copy) of a will, marriage certificate, death certificate, etc. dated prior to 1752, it is following the Julien Calendar.