

CARMACK COUSINS NEWSLETTER

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Editor:

Mrs. Agnes Jones
221 Frawley Rd
Chattanooga, TN 37412



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WINTER

DECEMBER FOR 1898 \$40,000,000



BOB & CARMACK



Margaruite Carmack



DISCOVERER
GEO. W. CARMACK



DECEMBER

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

Merry Christmas

Best Wishes
"Bill & Agnes Jones"

DAVID CARMACK, born ca. 1751 (living in Salem County, New Jersey 1775), died 1813 Crawford County, Venango Township, Pennsylvania (Will prob. 13 October 1813).
Married- Hannah Lecroy on 18th. January 1775, Salem Co., N. J., Hannah born ca. 1747, Will prob. 19 August 1825, Venango Township, Crawford Co., Pa.

CHILDREN:

1. William Carmack, born 16 December 1788, New Jersey, died 28 September 1865, McHenry County, ILL. Served in War 1812.
Married- Mary Ann Blaystone 30th. December 1811. Mary born 8 April 1788 ?, died 15 April 1883, McHenry County, Illinois.

2. Elizabeth Carmack, born 1782 New Jersey, died 8 March 1825, on 11 November 1802 married John Donihew.

3. Hannah Carmack, born ca. 1780, New Jersey, married- James Ford.

4. Lucy Carmack, born ca. 1776, New Jersey, married-Isaac Braden.

5. Nancy Carmack, born ca. 1790, ? Crawford Co., Pa.

1. William Carmack & Mary Ann Blaystone Children:
A. Abram born ca. 1815 Pa., died ca. 1892, married- Ruth Massey.
B. David
C. Christopher, born ca. 1820 Pa, married- 1. Louisa A., 2. Mary Ann Stiles on 26th. Jan. 1856, daughter of Samuel & Hannah Stiles.
D. Sylvanus
E. William, born May 1825, Married Mary.
F. August Perry, born 1831 Pa.. died 24 August 1871. Paicines. CA.

Married:
1. Hannah L. Stiles, on 2nd July 1854, McHenry Co., Ill., born 8th. October 1838 Vt., died 21 April 1863, California, daughter of Samuel and Hannah Stiles who were living in Chemung. McHenry Co.. Ill. in 1850.

2. ?
Children:
1. Hannah Rosella Carmack, born 31 July 1855, McHenry Co., Ill, died 29 Mar. 1938, married- 1. James Watson 1869,
2. Frank Curtis 1905. no children.
2. George Washington Carmack **
3. Charles Carmack, born ca. 1864.
4. Dora Carmack, born ca. 1865.

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARMACK, (1.F.2.***) son of an August Perry Carmack and his first wife Hannah Stiles, his father August Perry an earlier gold rush explorer had crossed the western plains in a covered wagon in 1849, George Washington's was born 24th. September 1860 in Contra Costa County, California, died 5th. June 1922 in Vancouver, B. C. he first married Kate Manson ca. 1887, Kate was born ca. 1867 a member of the Tachish tribe and the daughter of a chief. In their cabin he had an organ and a library which included such journals as the Scientific American and Review of Reviews. Co-discover of gold on Bohanza Creek in the Yukon, Canada in 1896. In 1909 he presented a gold telegraph key studded with gold nuggets from the his first strike to President William Howard Taft to be pressed to signify the opening of the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exposition in Seattle, Washington. In spring of 1988 Sue Thompson tried to locate this key but was unsuccessful.

On 1st. November 1893 Grapie Grace Carmack was born to George and Kate, she married Jacob Saftig and they were parents to the following children, first- Ernest Charles who is married to Myrna, they have two children Thomas and Mary also two grandchildren Stephen and kayleigh Saftig, we are lucky to have Ernest as member of our Carmack Cousins, he lives in California where several have had wonderful conversations with him on the telephone, second child Marguerite and third James George Saftig. In 1900 George and Kate were divorced and he married Marguerite second.

To learn more about George Washington Carmack, the following will be from the "Yukon History", by George W. Carmack, published by Marguerite Carmack, 1933.

Resolution offered by Seattle Lodge No. 2, Yukon order of Pioneers, Geo. Carmack may never receive recognition from the California government for the days and years of nerve-racking hardship he endured in order that the trail might be made smooth and easy for civilization to follow. But Carmack is not a quitter. He is the type of pioneer who moves ever onward and allows no obstacle to bar his way. George Washington Carmack was endorsed as a Brother and recommended as a loyal American citizen and very much of a man, dated 2nd. May 1922.

Following by-George W. Carmack, On very early morning in the latter part of May, 1896, I was sitting on the bank of the river of Fort Selkirk. The sky was above the Easter rim of the Palisades was glowing with a soft light, presaging the birth of a new day. As I watched the flaming banner thrust fort their streamers of scintillating fire above the mountains, I felt my blood begin to tingle with new life and strength. I had a premonition that something unusual was going to take place in my life.

Right then and there I made up my mind to take action on that hunch at once, so taking a silver dollar out of my pocket (that was the only cheechaco money I had), I flipped it high into the air. It was heads up the river and tails down the river, to test whatever fate had immediately loaded up my boat, got into the stream with the paddle, and was off, down the river. It came down tails. When I arrived at Fortymile, I was still undecided what course to pursue.

On the first day of July, I loaded my boat and started up the river for the Klondike. A man by the name of Cooper, who was going the same assessment work on a quartz claim opposite the mouth of the Klondike, accompanied me on the trip up the river.

As soon as I arrived at the Klondike, I built a good fish trap and put it into the river, after which I build frames to dry the fish on. By the time I had everything ready the fish began to run.

One day in the latter part of July, as I was in the act of taking a large salmon out of the trap, I saw three Indians coming toward my camp. As they came closer the one in the lead raised his hand and shouted, "Kla-how-ya George." I answered the salutation, and the same time I recognized two of them. They were the Indian friends whom I had not seen for several years.

After shaking hands, I asked them what brought them so far down the river. They said they had nothing but bad luck since I left the upper river, and their medicine told them to hunt me up and they would have good luck.

The tallest of the three Indians was known as Skookum Jim, on the upper river. He was a Tagish Indian, a brother of the Tagish Chief. He had the purestrain of the full-blooded Indian, high cheek bones, hawk-like nose, and large, piercing black eyes, well nearly six feet in height, as straight as a gun barrel, powerfully build, with strong sloping shoulders, tapering from the shoulder downward to the waist. He was known as the best hunter and trapper on the river. Tagish Charley was also a fine specimen of the Northern Indian, lean and lithe as a panther, keen in his perception, and as alert as a weasel.

These two men came into my life in a way I can never forget. Ten years before when I came packing over the California Pass, I got acquainted with Skookum Jim.

As I knew my fishing venture was a failure and I was getting pretty close to bed-rock; something had to be done at once, so I called a council, and we talked the situation over. We finally decided that Jim and I should take a small pack apiece and go up the river a few miles until we could find some high elevation from which we could get a good view of the surrounding country.

As a rule, when in a country where there were no trails, I let the Indians take the lead, but I had presentiment that I was going to strike diggings that day and I was eager to be in the lead, so I said, "You come, I go first." So I struck off to the right, where I thought the creek cut across the bottom through the timber, bearing off to the right, where I thought the creek should be. After traveling a mile or so, we came out on the bank of the creek a beautiful stream of water about two or three sluice heads. The bed of the stream fairly glistened with white quartz wash, intermixed with schist; it certainly looked good, much better than Miller, Glacier, or any other creek I had ever seen in the Yukon Valley. I threw off my pack, took the shovel and pan and went over to the left bank. I filled the pan with gravel and hunted up a still pool of water. I got down on my haunches and began tilting and twirling the pan in the water and occasionally stirring up the gravel with my hands. When I got it panned down to about a handful I stopped and looked at it, wondering whether a prospect would show up. Hamlet's soliloquy came into my mind, and I quoted aloud. "To be or not to be, that is the question." Both of the Indians were looking over my shoulder. Charley, with an inquiring expression on his face said, "Wa fo you talked dat cults wa wa? I no seeum gold." "That's all right, Charley, I makum Boston man's medicine." With that I began to pan again until there was only a couple of tablespoonsful of black sand left in the bottom of the pan. I raised gold-pan up to the Indians and said, "Spit in it boys, for good luck." They complied, and I put the pan in the water and began gently to whirl and tilt one way until a streak of bright yellow gold showed up.

Oh! but that sight brought on a "Grand and glorious feeling." If there was that much gold on the surface in this flat part of the creek, what must it be further up!

Once more we shouldered our packs and "hiked" for the upper valley. I do not know how my Indian companions felt, but as for myself. I knew my packs felt lighter, the sun shone brighter, the birds sang louder and sweeter, and the very moss under my feet seemed to be a magic carpet, transporting me up a valley of golden dreams.

Why the Canadian Government warded a pension to Bob Henderson for making the first gold discovery in the Klondike district is a mystery to me, unless it was because he was a Canadian, and my name was "GEORGE WASHINGTON CARMACK." Now, I have never claimed to be the original discover of gold in the Klondike. But on August 17, 1896, one of the most startling and far reaching events in the history of gold discoveries took place when I uncovered the frozen bosom of the klondike and set forth from Bonanza Creek the astounding cry: "One hundred dollars to the pan!" To be continued in March Issue of Carmack Cousins along with more on the family lines of David Carmack, which includes Cousins Richard Triver and Charles Pickman.

Thanks to all for all material I have received on George Washington Carmack, especially Earlene Carmack for all of her letters to different libraries etc. to obtain material for this newsletter

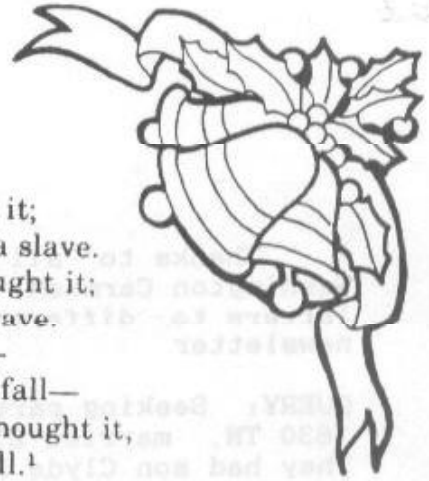
QUERY: Seeking parents/family of Robert Elderidge Carmack, born 1830 TN, married Elizabeth Malone, born 1830 near Montezuma, In. They had son Clyde Robert Carmack born 1st. Nov. 1873 in Douglas, Murdock Co., IL. He died 7th. Jan. 1953 in Los Angeles, CA. There were other children, Dorothy W. Smith, 2622 Bowdoin ST, LaVerne, CA. 91750.

DEATH: Our deepest sympathy goes to our Cousin Exie Belk on the death of her husband Palo K. Belk, he died November 3, 1988, born October 9, 1909. Burial White Chapel Cemetery, Warren, Michigan. Let's remember Exie this holiday season, many of us was so thrilled when Exie was able to find the picture of Ann Black Carmack wife of Jessie Carmack of Overton Co., TN.

SICK: Josephine Carmack, as all of us owe her so much for all of her wonderful books of notes. Let's all remember her. My mother continues to be just about the same in Sparta Tennessee Health Care Center. Isaac Burks, husband of Aunt Stella Carmack Burks, on critical list at St. Thomas Hospital, Nashville, Tn.

TOMBSTONE INSCRIPTIONS, Pulaski Co., Missouri

Carmack, Lewis, born 16, Mar. 1806, died 20 Dec. 1872
Rebecca, born 19 July 1808, died 1 Jan. 1858
(Lewis & Rebecca Cagle Carmack living in Van Buren Co.,
in 1850)
Henry, born 17 May 1847, died 22 Nov. 1872
Anna Florence, born 2 Feb. 1897, died 23 Feb. 1971
William J., born 5 May 1861, died 17 Aug. 1940
Lue Ann, born 14 Dec. 1872, died 8 Jan. 1907
Clifford J. born 4 July 1900, died 10 April 1949
Amanda, born 20 Jan. 1855, died 16 March 1932
William, born 5 March 1848, died 11 Sept. 1913
Martha, born 26 Nov. 1841, died 15 Jun. 1904. wife J. A.
J. A., born 22 Mar. 1840, died 17 Jun. 1907
Lavonia Allee, 1875-1959
Louis A., 1874-1943
Everett C., born 11 July 1896, died 12 Jan. 1979
Clara C., born 28 Nov. 1899, no date
Daniel, 1867- no date
Victoria Elizabeth, born 5 Mar. 1864, died 5 Mar. 1910
Dolph, born 24 May 1886, died 20 June 1957
Cecil, born 20 June 1879, died 12 August 1956
Mary L., 26 August 1880, died 6 Oct. 1965
Mary Payne, born 10 May 1835, died 17 Oct. 1910
Charles C., born 25 Jan. 1835, died 23 Sept. 1898
Zelvia Ann, born 24 August 1892, died 20 Mar. 1895



I wanted the gold, and I sought it;
 I scabbled and mucked like a slave.
 Was it famine or scurvy — I fought it;
 I hurled my youth into the grave.
 I wanted the gold, and I got it—
 Came out with a fortune last fall—
 Yet somehow life's not what I thought it,
 And somehow the gold isn't all.¹

¹"The Spell of the Yukon," by Robert Service

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In this Issue:

David Carmack, thru-
 George Washington Carmack,
 Gold discovery 1898

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