



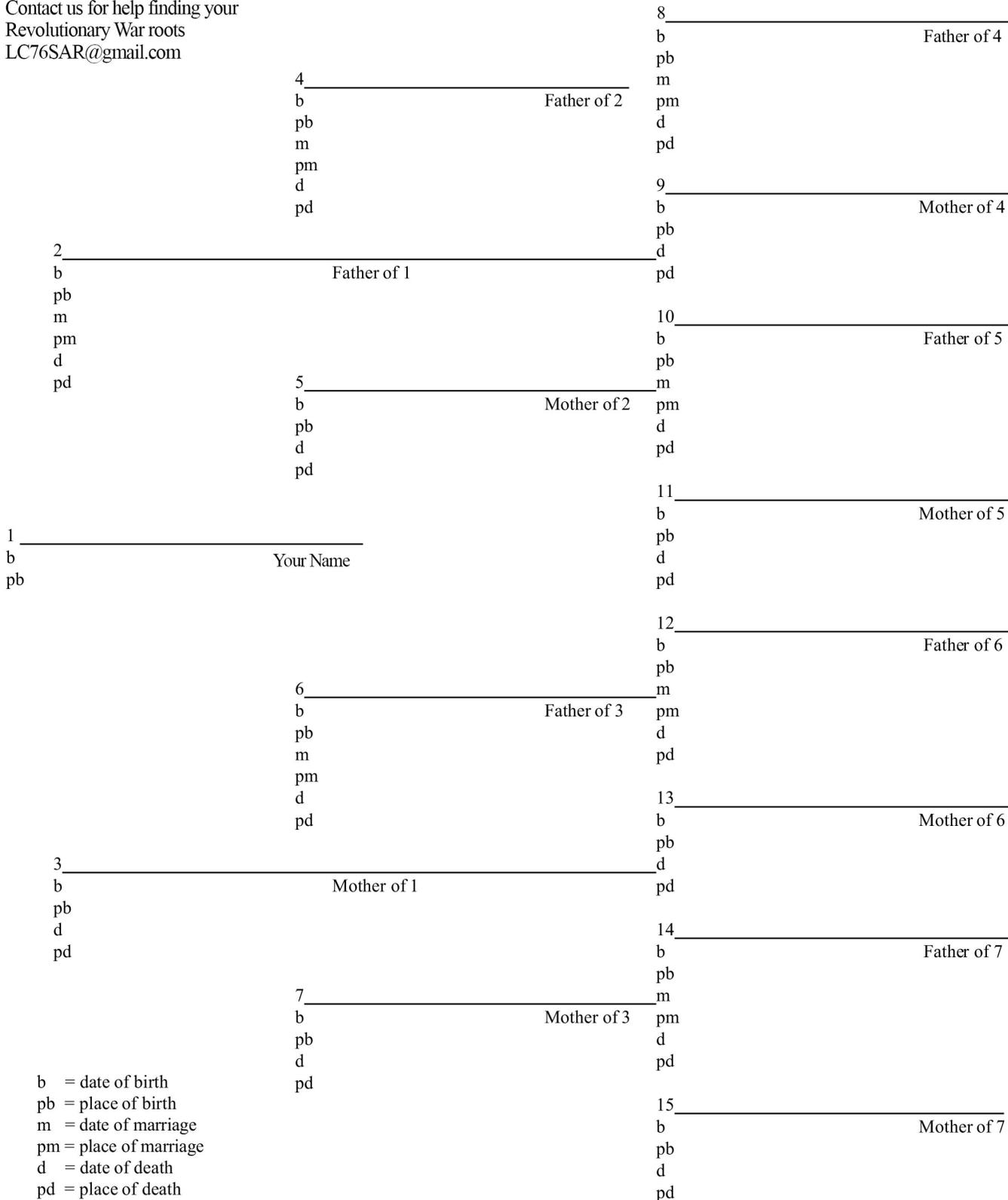
They chose me.  
My ancestors  
chose me to  
tell their stories,  
unravel their truths,  
and learn from their hardships.  
They chose me  
to inspire and encourage  
others with their stories.  
They chose me  
to keep their possessions,  
handle them with respect,  
and share them with family.  
My ancestors chose me.

-M.Dickerson

# The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

## Four Generation Ancestor Chart

This chart supplied by the  
 Lewis & Clark Chapter, Oregon Society  
 Sons of the American Revolution  
 Contact us for help finding your  
 Revolutionary War roots  
 LC76SAR@gmail.com



b = date of birth  
 pb = place of birth  
 m = date of marriage  
 pm = place of marriage  
 d = date of death  
 pd = place of death  
 date format: 05 Sep. 1985

# Family Group Record

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship to Preparer \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Ancestral Chart # \_\_\_\_\_ Family Unit # \_\_\_\_\_

Husband		Occupation(s)				Religion
Date—Day, Month, Year		City	County	State or Country		
Born						
Christened						Name of Church
Married						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Cem/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father	Other Wives					
Mother						

Wife maiden name		Occupation(s)				Religion
Date—Day, Month, Year		City	County	State or Country		
Born						
Christened						Name of Church
Died						Cause of Death
Buried		Cem/Place				Date Will Written/Proved
Father	Other Husbands					
Mother						

•	Sex MF	Children Given Names	Birth			Birthplace			Date of first marriage/Place		Date of Death/Cause			Computer I.D. #
			Day	Month	Year	City	County	St./Ctry.	Name of Spouse	City	County	State/Country		
		1												
		2												
		3												
		4												
		5												
		6												
		7												
		8												
		9												
		10												
		11												
		12												

# A Family History Interview

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Place: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

- Tell me about when and where you were born.
- What do you remember about the first house you lived in and how long did you live there?
- Tell me a story about your favorite memory.
- Did you have a favorite toy? What was it and tell me about it.
- Tell me about your family and what it was like growing up?
- Do you have a story you would like to tell from your childhood?
- What did you like best about school?
- What kind of games did you play?
- Tell me about a day in your life when you were my age.
- What was your favorite holiday? Why?
- What was the first paying job you had?
- What is the most important thing that has happened to you?
- What part of your childhood do you think most about now?
- Tell me about your siblings, parents and grandparents.

Other:

- Religions of your family
- Geography/Maps of where your family has lived
- Migration Routes
- History of the places your family has lived
- Clothing/Food through the centuries
- Occupations
- Military
- Photographs

Search:

- Libraries
- Local Genealogy/Historical Societies
- Ancestry.com
- Familysearch.org
- Americanancestors.org

# Find These Items ...



6884 Page No. 12

SCHEDULE 1.—Free Inhabitants in *Northampton County*, in the County of *Franklin*, State of *New York*, enumerated by me, on the *22<sup>nd</sup>* day of *June*, 1890. *John A. ...*  
Post Office *Williamstown*

No.	Name	Sex	Age	Color	Description	Went to Service		Place of Birth, Naming the State, Territory, or Country	Whether Inhabitant of this State, Territory, or Country
						Year	Place		
1	Robert C. Novell	M	60	W				New York	
2	Elizabeth	F	57	W				New York	
3	Mary Ann	F	47	W				New York	
4	Charles	M	37	W				New York	
5	William	M	27	W				New York	
6	John	M	17	W				New York	
7	William	M	12	W				New York	
8	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
9	William	M	12	W				New York	
10	John	M	12	W				New York	
11	William	M	12	W				New York	
12	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
13	William	M	12	W				New York	
14	John	M	12	W				New York	
15	William	M	12	W				New York	
16	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
17	William	M	12	W				New York	
18	John	M	12	W				New York	
19	William	M	12	W				New York	
20	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
21	William	M	12	W				New York	
22	John	M	12	W				New York	
23	William	M	12	W				New York	
24	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
25	William	M	12	W				New York	
26	John	M	12	W				New York	
27	William	M	12	W				New York	
28	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
29	William	M	12	W				New York	
30	John	M	12	W				New York	
31	William	M	12	W				New York	
32	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
33	William	M	12	W				New York	
34	John	M	12	W				New York	
35	William	M	12	W				New York	
36	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
37	William	M	12	W				New York	
38	John	M	12	W				New York	
39	William	M	12	W				New York	
40	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
41	William	M	12	W				New York	
42	John	M	12	W				New York	
43	William	M	12	W				New York	
44	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
45	William	M	12	W				New York	
46	John	M	12	W				New York	
47	William	M	12	W				New York	
48	Elizabeth	F	12	W				New York	
49	William	M	12	W				New York	
50	John	M	12	W				New York	



In the Name of God Amen I Edward Stephenson of Amsterdam County & Parish, being thro' the abundant Mercy and Goodness of God the weak in Body yet of a sound & perfect understanding & memory do hereby constitute this my last will & Testament, because it to be received by all as such, I expressly I most fully bequeath my soul to God my Maker, Receiving his most gracious acceptance of it, though the all sufficient Merit & Mediation of my most Compassionate Redeemer Jesus Christ, who gave himself to be an atonement for my sins, and is able to save to the uttermost

FAMILY RECORD

Attests Elizabeth age 60  
Mary Smith  
April the 6 1867

Lucy Smith  
Evelyn Childers  
Adm to Smith  
Nov 15 1867

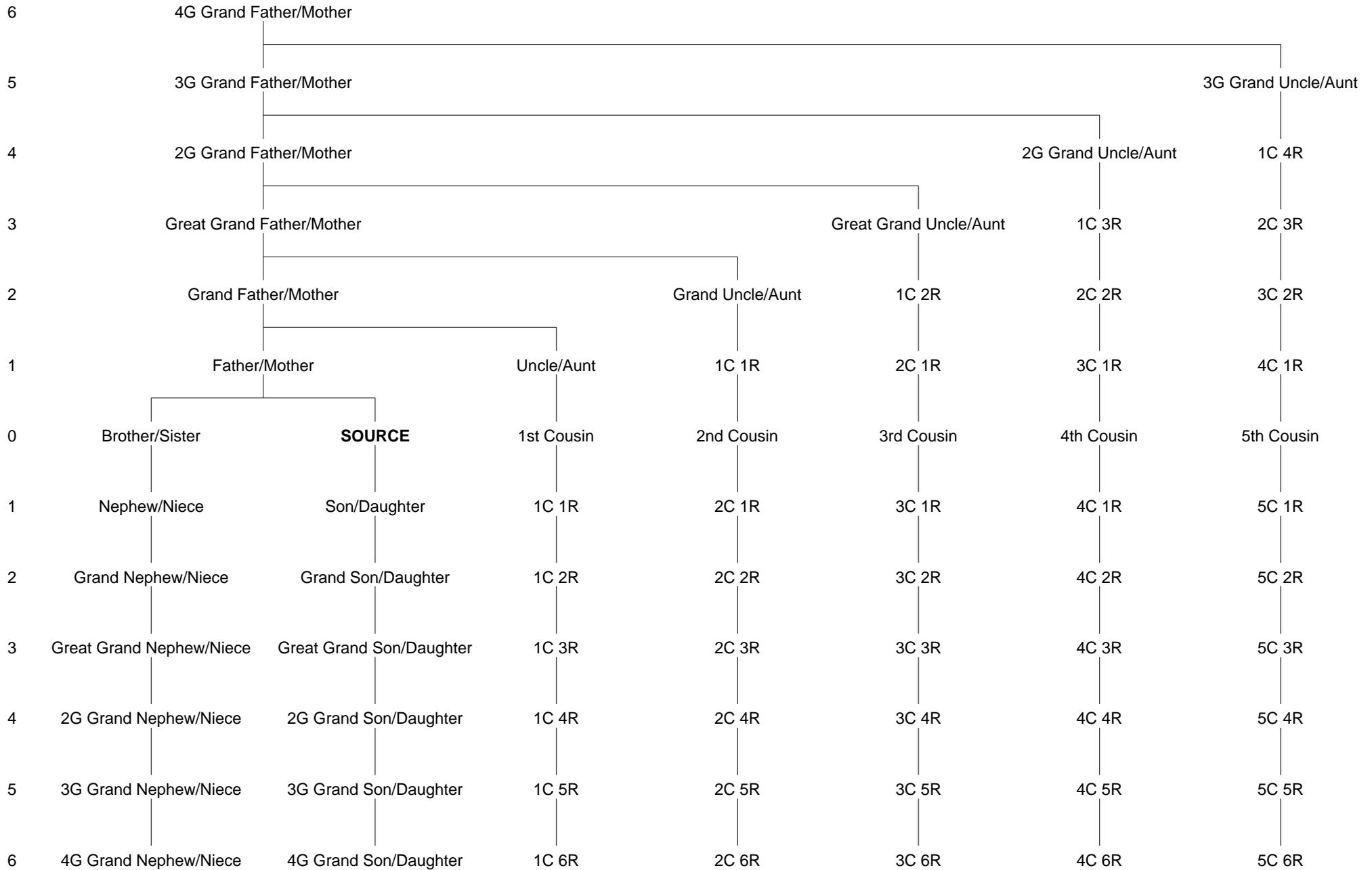
JUDGE W. SOUTH TAKEN BY DEATH IN CHARLESTON

Judge William Henry South, of the County of Charleston, died on the 15th day of June, 1867, at the residence of his wife, in the City of Charleston, at the age of 60 years.

# CensusTools Genealogy Research Log

Name:		Place of Birth		Place of Death		Date of Marriage													
Date of Birth		Date of Death		Spouse		Place of Marriage													
<b>Birth</b>				<b>Military</b>				<b>Census</b>				<b>Online Sources</b>							
	Y	N	N/A	Notes		Y	N	N/A	Notes		Y	N	N/A	Notes		Y	N	N/A	Notes
Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Colonial Wars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		US 1790	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">1901 UK Cen</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Baptism	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Revolution	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1800	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">ACBL</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Christening	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		War of 1812	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1810	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">AGBI</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Confirmation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Indian Wars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1820	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Ancestry</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Announcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mexican War	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1830	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Bible Rec.</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Adoption	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Civil War	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1840	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">BLM</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Hospital	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Spanish War	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1850	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">BMD Project</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Marriage</b>					Phillipines	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1860	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Censuslinks</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		World War I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1870	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Civil War</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
License	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		World War II	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1880	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Civil War</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Announcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Korean	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1880 Soundex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">DAR</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Divorce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Vietnam	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1890	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Directories</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Annulment	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Gulf War I	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1900	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Ellis Island</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Death</b>					GWOT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1900 Soundex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Familysearch</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Certificate	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Medals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1910	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Findagrave</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Funeral Home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Citations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1910 Soundex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Genealogy.com</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Discharge	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1920	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Geneanet</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Announcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Pension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1920 Soundex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">GenForum</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Stone Rubbing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Muster Rolls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		1930	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Interment</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Obituary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Bounty Warrant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							<a href="#">Kindred</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>School</b>					Unit Histories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Mortality	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Land Records</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Registrations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Draft Records	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Slave Scheds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Libraries</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Elementary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Disability	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Indian Rolls	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">LOC</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Secondary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Immigration</b>				Pensioners	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">MyFamily</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
College	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Ship manifest	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Surviving Sp.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">NARA</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Yearbooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Passport	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							<a href="#">NEHGS</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Transcripts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Visa	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Newspapers</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Employment</b>					Alien Regist.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">PERSI</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Citizenship</b>				State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Personal Pages</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Pension	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Naturalization	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>							<a href="#">Rootsweb</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Licenses	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Citizen. Papers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Canada	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Sources2Go</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Prof. Orgs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Oaths	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		England	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">SSDI</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Bus. Directory	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Miscellaneous</b>				Ireland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">StateGenSites</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Estate</b>					SSDI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Scotland	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Surname Sites</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Deeds	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		SSN App	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">UK Census</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Grantor Index	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Social Orgs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<b>Family</b>				<a href="#">USGENWEB</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		
Grantee Index	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Phone Dirs.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Bibles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Vital Search</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Mortgages	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Biographies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Letters	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">WorldConnect</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Will	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Genealogies	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Journals	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">WW I Draft</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
					Cnty Histories	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		Diaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<a href="#">Can 1901 Cen</a>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
										Scrapbooks	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
										Photos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
										Interviews	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						

# Relationship Diagram



# Understanding Julian Calendars and Gregorian Calendars in Genealogy

Anyone who can trace their ancestors back to the 1700s needs to understand the Julian calendar. It is the predecessor to the modern calendar we use today. Dates recorded in the old Julian calendar are different than dates used today. Even the year end was different (25 March instead of 31 December). In this article, we explain what you need to know.

Calendars play an important role in genealogy. Genealogists researching family histories before 1752 must understand the current Gregorian calendar and its predecessor, the Julian calendar in order to correctly interpret old dates. To understand why, a bit of history is required.

## Julian Calendar

The Julian calendar was implemented by the Romans in 46 B.C. under the guidance of Julius Caesar. Julius Caesar wanted a more accurate calendar for sowing and harvesting crops. At the time, the Roman Empire was primarily agricultural. Although the exact origins are not known, the Julian calendar was almost certainly derived in part from ancient Babylonian calendars, with additions from several other cultures. For example, the division of hours into 60 minutes and minutes into 60 seconds comes from the Mesopotamians, the division of the day into 24 hours comes from ancient Egyptian calendars and the division of the week into 7 days comes from the Jewish calendar.

Under the Julian calendar, which was based on the solar cycle, the year was divided into 12 months of 365 days. An extra day was added every fourth year. This resulted in a year having on average  $365 \frac{1}{4}$  days.

The Julian calendar was used in all the countries governed by the Romans. This included England and much of Europe. It continued to be used (and maintained) by the Roman Catholic Church, which inherited many Roman institutions after the downfall of the Roman Empire. As a result, the Julian calendar was in widespread use across much of Europe for many centuries.

## Gregorian Calendar

The Julian calendar assumes the year is exactly 365.25 days long. Unfortunately, the actual solar year is slightly shorter (it is 365.242199 days to be exact). Although the difference appears minor, it can add up over the centuries. In fact, every 129 years, the Julian calendar slipped one additional day out of synchronization with the actual solar year.

This caused a problem within the Roman Catholic Church, who came to realize in the 1500's that their reliance on the Julian calendar was causing them to incorrectly calculate the date of the spring equinox (the spring equinox is the one day in spring when there is exactly 12 hours of sunlight and 12 hours of darkness). Easter, one of the most sacred days in the Christian religion, is calculated from the spring equinox (Easter is the first Sunday following the full moon after the spring equinox).

To make matters worse, many other Christian observances (such as Lent, for example) are determined from the date of Easter. Therefore, if Easter was calculated incorrectly, then many other religious observances would be celebrated on the wrong day. This caused considerable controversy within the Catholic Church and resulted in several commissions to try to find a solution. It cumulated with Pope Gregory XIII, who in 1582 issued a papal bull that resulted in several calendar revisions, the most important being:

- It established what is now known as the Gregorian calendar (named after Pope Gregory XIII).

- The new Gregorian calendar had an extra day in those years that were divisible by 4 (just like the old Julian calendar), but unlike the Julian calendar, it did not add an additional day in years that were divisible by 100, unless the year was also divisible by 400. Thus, under the Gregorian calendar, the years 1700, 1800 and 1900 were not leap years, but the years 1600 and 2000 were leap years.
- To make up for the errors in the old Julian calendar, ten days were omitted from the new Gregorian calendar. Thus, Thursday, 4 October 1582 in the old Julian calendar was immediately followed by Friday, 15 October 1582 in the new Gregorian calendar.

The Catholic countries of Italy, Spain and Portugal immediately adopted Pope Gregory XIII's decree, with France and Luxembourg soon following. However, by the 1500's the Roman Catholic Church's influence on Europe had waned and some countries were either slow to adopt (such as Hungary in 1587), or were distrustful of the Roman Catholic Church and resisted adopting the new (and improved) calendar. The notable standout was England and the English colonies (including America), which continued to use the Julian calendar long after most of Europe had switched to the Gregorian calendar. In fact, England and the colonies did not adopt the Gregorian calendar until 1752, almost 170 years after Pope Gregory XIII's decree. However, by that time the Julian calendar had slipped 11 days relative to the Gregorian calendar.

When England and the colonies finally adopted the Gregorian calendar, it was necessary for them to omit 11 days to 'catch up'. As a result, for England and the colonies, Wednesday, 2 September 1752 in the old Julian calendar was immediately followed by Thursday, 14 September 1752 in the newly adopted Gregorian calendar. The days in between these two dates officially do not exist.

### **What this Means for Genealogy**

Using England and the colonies as an example, genealogists need to be aware of two things when interpreting old records after 1752. First, in many countries (including England) the general population continued to use the old Julian calendar long after the country officially adopted the new Gregorian calendar. This is particularly true of dates recorded in personal family records and documents, as opposed to official records, which *usually* used the Gregorian calendar.

Sometimes it is evident which calendar was used by how the date was written down in an old record. For example, dates recorded by the Julian calendar sometimes had a notation "O.S." for Old Style, while dates recorded by the Gregorian calendar were marked as "N.S." for New Style.

A second major change is that different countries used different days to mark the beginning of the New Year. Depending on the country (and the region within some countries!), the first day of the New Year could be 25 December (essentially the winter solstice), 1 January, 1 March, 24 or 25 March (essentially the spring equinox). Britain and the colonies prior to 1753 typically used either March 24th or March 25th as the beginning of the New Year. This roughly corresponded to the spring equinox. Thus, the beginning of the calendar year was essentially moved from close to the spring equinox to close to the winter solstice.

### **Example: Converting a Julian Date to a Gregorian Date**

A person is born in England on 1 March 1751. Since this date is before September 1752, we can be reasonably certain the date has been recorded using the Julian calendar system. To convert this Julian date to the equivalent Gregorian date, it is necessary to do the following:

- Step 1: Add 11 days. Thus, 1 March becomes 12 March.
- Step 2: (this step is only necessary if the Julian date is between 1 January and 25 March). Add one year. Thus, 1751 becomes 1752.

Thus, the equivalent Gregorian date is 12 March 1752.

The importance of proper date notation can perhaps best be highlighted by using George Washington's birthday as an example: George Washington was the first President of the United States and a pivotal figure in early American history. He was born on 11 February 1731 in Westmoreland county, Virginia.

At the time, America was an English colony, so it used the Julian calendar. In the Julian calendar, George Washington's birthday was 11 February 1731. However, in the Gregorian calendar, George Washington's birthday is 22 February 1732.

This is the reason why (to this day) the United States celebrates George Washington's birthday every year with an official holiday on February 22nd (the correct Gregorian date) and not on February 11th (the old Julian date).

## Country List of Switch Dates from the Julian to the Gregorian Calendar

Country	Start of Year Moved to 1 January	Official Switch to Modern Gregorian Calendar
England, Wales, Ireland	1752	1752
Scotland	1600	1752
United States	1752	1752
Canada, Australia, New Zealand	1752	1752
Holy Roman Empire (Northern Italy)	1544	1582
Holy Roman Empire (most of Eastern Europe)	1544	1582
Spain, Portugal & colonies	1556	1582
Prussia, Denmark, Norway	1559	1700
Sweden	1559	1753
France & colonies	1564	1582
Netherlands	varies by region	varies by region
Russia	1700	1918

Source:

[http://genealogyintime.com/GenealogyResources/Articles/understanding\\_julian\\_calendars\\_and\\_gregorian\\_calendars\\_in\\_genealogy\\_page1.html](http://genealogyintime.com/GenealogyResources/Articles/understanding_julian_calendars_and_gregorian_calendars_in_genealogy_page1.html)

# Tips for Reading Old Handwriting

[https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Tips-for-Reading-Old-Handwriting?language=en\\_US](https://support.ancestry.com/s/article/Tips-for-Reading-Old-Handwriting?language=en_US)

Family history is all about finding and reading documents, whether you look at scanned images at our site or hunt for the originals in record offices. As you work your way back from recent certificates to older wills and parish registers, the writing on these documents can be tricky, as the words and their meanings—and even the shapes of the letters themselves—have changed over time. Understanding these ancient scrawls can often be the key to comprehending your ancestors' lives.

## Common problems

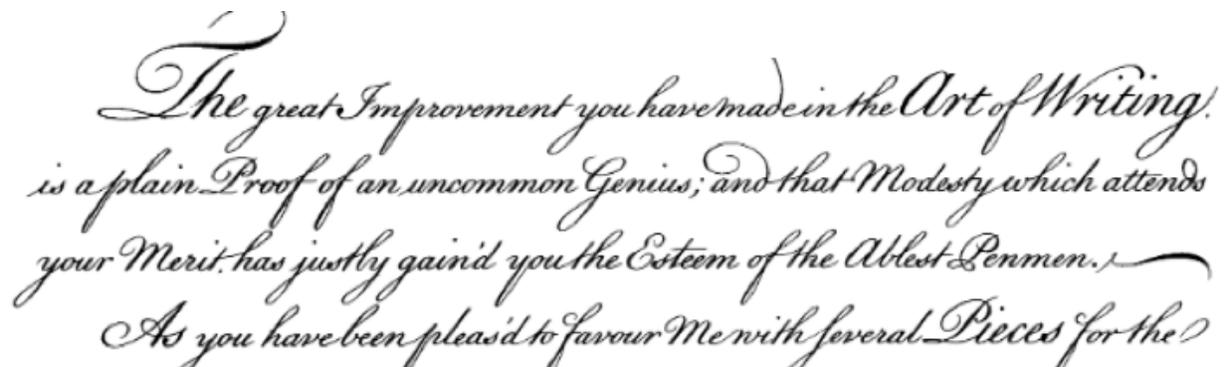
Generally, older records are harder to read. Documents from the 19th and 20th centuries mainly use the words and writing styles we're used to today, so they don't present too many problems. Where you do run into difficulties, it's often because of bad handwriting or poor equipment—blobs of ink obscuring letters and writing that's so faded it's almost illegible, for example.

As you move into the 17th and 18th centuries, you'll find far more variation. Spelling can be particularly difficult, as spellings weren't standardized until compulsory education began around 1870. Surnames and place names in particular can have a wide variety of spellings, even on the same page.

Documents from around this time will also start to introduce you to different styles of handwriting. Although these are all in English, they can look quite different from modern script.

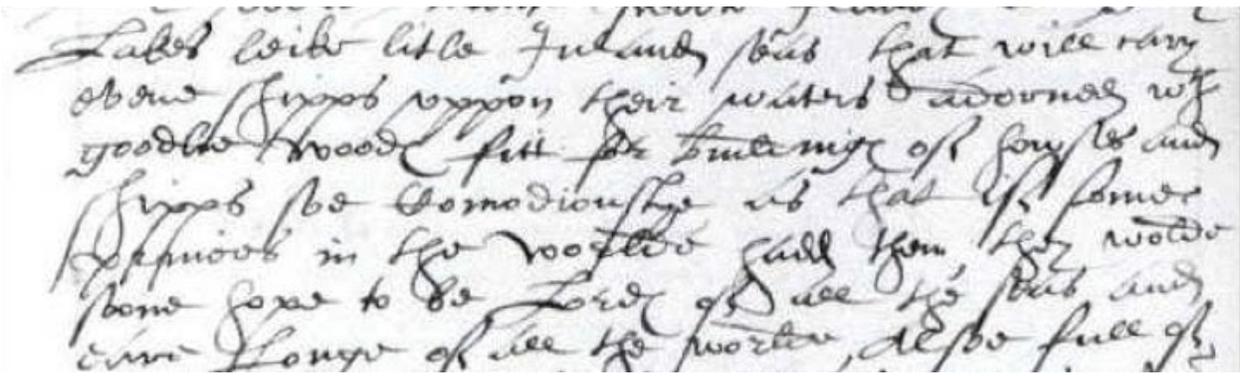
## Different styles

The first style you'll come across will probably be Round Hand. This free-flowing, expressive way of writing is especially common in personal papers and letters from the 18th century. It's not too far away from how we write today, although early examples may use different shapes for capital letters, almost interchangeable i's and j's, and a long s.

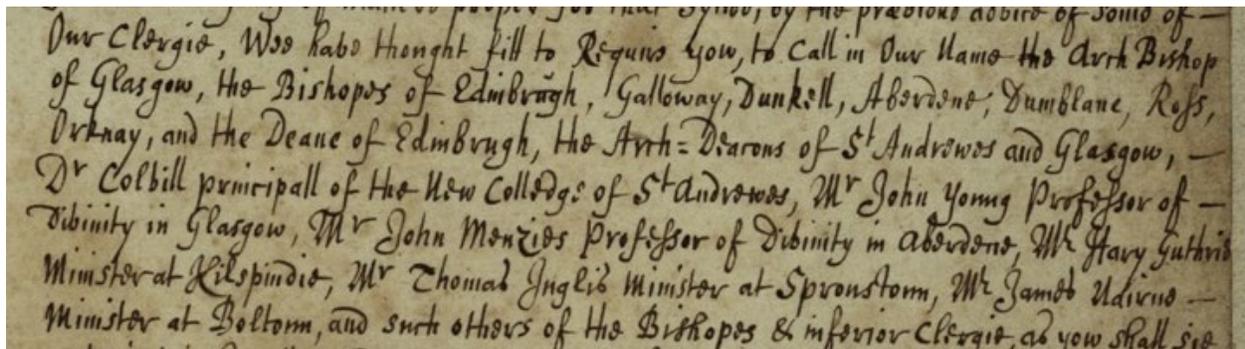


*The great Improvement you have made in the Art of Writing.  
is a plain Proof of an uncommon Genius; and that Modesty which attends  
your Merit has justly gain'd you the Esteem of the Ablest Penmen.  
As you have been pleas'd to favour Me with several Pieces for the*

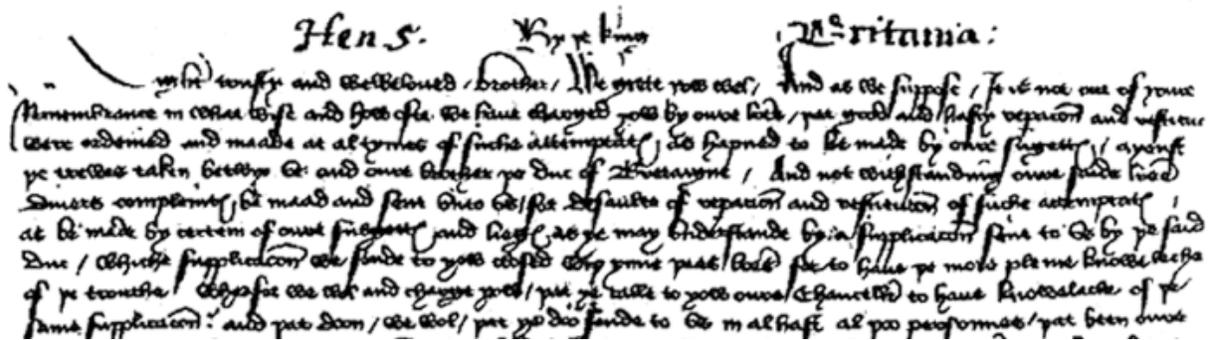
These variations are a hangover from the precursor to round hand, secretary hand. This style emerged in the 16th century and dominated in England for almost 200 years, so you'll often come across it on parish registers. Secretary hand can look like nothing but scribbles at first, but take the time to look at individual letters in turn and you'll often find you can decipher it.



A 17th-century alternative was italic hand. This style developed in Italy though the Renaissance. It's far easier to read than secretary hand, but unfortunately, it's less common.



Before this time, most of the population couldn't write at all, so there was little need for a universal style. Several royal and government departments developed their own scripts. The most successful of these was Chancery hand, used at the Royal Chancery in Westminster. You may come across it in legal documents, especially wills. It's usually very neat, but the formal letter shapes can be confusing.



There were no standard spelling rules before 1755 in England or before 1828 in the United States.

- In the past, a long form of the letter s looked like our contemporary letter f.
- Words currently spelled with the letter i were often formerly spelled with the letter y; for example, "mine" was spelled "myne."
- The letters u and v were frequently interchanged; the word "ever," for example, was often spelled "euer."
- The letter j was often replaced with i, so the name "James" may appear as "Iames."
- The word **cousin** often meant **niece** or **nephew**.
- The title **Mrs.** could show high social status, not necessarily marital status.

- **Good brother** or **good sister** in a document means **brother- or sister-in-law**.
- The term **in-law** was also used to describe step-parents.
- The word **infant** was used to describe both a baby and a person under legal age.

In the example below, German was written in four different alphabet styles depending on the document date, area of Germany, and who wrote it. I.e. parish priest or minister (could also be written in Latin instead of German), the common man, or a government official.

### Germanic Alphabet Chart

1. Modern		2. Fraktur		3. Sütterlin		4. Kurrent		5. Old Handwriting Styles	
A	a	A	a	A	a	A	a	A	a
B	b	B	b	B	b	B	b	B	b
C	c	C	c	C	c	C	c	C	c
D	d	D	d	D	d	D	d	D	d
E	e	E	e	E	e	E	e	E	e
F	f	F	f	F	f	F	f	F	f
G	g	G	g	G	g	G	g	G	g
H	h	H	h	H	h	H	h	H	h
I	i	I	i	I	i	I	i	I	i
J	j	J	j	J	j	J	j	J	j
K	k	K	k	K	k	K	k	K	k
L	l	L	l	L	l	L	l	L	l
M	m	M	m	M	m	M	m	M	m
N	n	N	n	N	n	N	n	N	n
O	o	O	o	O	o	O	o	O	o
P	p	P	p	P	p	P	p	P	p
Q	q	Q	q	Q	q	Q	q	Q	q
R	r	R	r	R	r	R	r	R	r
S	s	S	s	S	s	S	s	S	s
T	t	T	t	T	t	T	t	T	t
U	u	U	u	U	u	U	u	U	u
V	v	V	v	V	v	V	v	V	v
W	w	W	w	W	w	W	w	W	w
X	x	X	x	X	x	X	x	X	x
Y	y	Y	y	Y	y	Y	y	Y	y
Z	z	Z	z	Z	z	Z	z	Z	z
Ä	ä	Ä	ä	Ä	ä	Ä	ä	Ä	ä
Ö	ö	Ö	ö	Ö	ö	Ö	ö	Ö	ö
Ü	ü	Ü	ü	Ü	ü	Ü	ü	Ü	ü

Germany has a range of different dialects. These can be grouped into two main groups, Low German spoken in the northern lowlands of Germany, and High German spoken in the more mountainous south.

High German has become the most "standard" dialect of German.