

MARINE CORPS MUSEUM

RAL:lml  
18 May 67

Miss Pansy Pence Dinkle  
~~Frankfort, Kentucky~~  
Frankfort, Kentucky

Dear Miss Dinkle:

I have started this letter several times, and have never been able to finish it for one reason or another. I see by my record of correspondence that I have not written you since 2 March 1967 . . . really unforgiveable!

There is so much to report to you that I barely know where to begin. Furthermore, much of the research I have done has perhaps been of an associated nature to Gale, rather than of more direct consequence. All will, however, be needed in the long run.

I have been occupied much of the time in going through a manuscript history by a former historian of the Corps, threading out citations of correspondence to and from Gale, in an effort to more fully complete a chronological account of his Marine Corps career. In addition, I have been doing the same thing with published works of the U. S. Navy on the Barbary War and the Quasi- or Naval War with France. There are many interesting tidbits therein that will one day furnish the basis for further research, and which may provide leads for this one.

Colonel Schwulst, my boss, has - when he has had the time - been making typescripts of all our microfilm copies of the Courts of Inquiry and the Court Martial of Gale, so that it will be easier to check out the various points of interest therein.

Of course, this is not the biggest news of all. Since January, you are aware that I have written the Philadelphia City Archives, the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, the District Court Naturalization Office there, and the American Philosophical Society. All but the latter responded favorably.

So, Colonel Schwulst agreed that the Philadelphia trip should not wait until after the first of July. I spent from the 16th through 22d of April there, in the worst weather, trying to get in all the work I could. Of course, none of these agencies was so obliging to my cause as to stay open after 5 p. m., or to open on the weekend, as were my colleagues in the Kentucky Historical Society. Nor have any of them volunteered to work on their own time and at no expense to the Marine Corps. . .

At any rate, on Monday, 17 April, I walked across the street from my hotel to the Court House, where Mrs. Prender of the Naturalization Clerk's Office was awaiting me with a handful of naturalization papers of one Anthony Gale. Typewritten copies enclosed for your information include his Declaration of Intention, dated 15 June 1798. /Which, by the way, was only three months before he was admitted to the Marine Corps as a Second Lieutenant, on 2 September 1798./

Second is his Petition to become a citizen of the United States, dated 27 November 1801, together with a Statement by one Thomas R. Delany, attesting to his residence requirement and character, of the same date. Of these, I have in my possession xerox copies for the record.

After milking this source, I made myself known to the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, which was open on Monday, 17 April, from 1 to 9 p. m., but on other days only from 8 to 5. I worked there the remainder of the day, primarily checking out the celebrated George Gale Genealogy. Of this, I have come to the conclusion that this Gale family, originally of England and then of New England (in the 1600's), was an entirely different branch of the Gales. It is perhaps plausible that they were related in the earlier days of England, but I think it needless to pursue the premise at the present time, and for the project at hand.

I spent much of several days in the office of Miss Joyce Cooper, Assistant to the Vice President of Pennsylvania Hospital, first working with record books and loose papers in her office and in the Library, and later was accorded the privilege of working right in the garret where many records not previously cataloged were stored.

From the former, I found Admission and Discharge records of Anthony Gale, as well as an Admission and Discharge of Catharine Gale for "Enlarged Tonsils" in 1823. The latter cuts again the time factor by which we had thought they came to Kentucky sometime between his discharge from the hospital in 1821, and 1826, bringing it down to between 1823 and 1826. There was also found a "Memorial" from Catharine Gale to the Managers of the Hospital, dated 23 Feb 1821, asking that Anthony be transferred from a "pay" to "poor" patient status. It was later found, however, that Anthony's "security" /person who guarantees the payment of hospitalization/ had paid \$60.00 to the Hospital on 15 February 1821, of which \$52 was for board and \$8 was for articles destroyed.

Even the possession of these records left some things unanswered, so I spent most of the remainder of the time working in the City Archives and the Historical Society attempting to find names of Delany/Delaney, Gale, and Pope in the City Directories. There are some unconfirmed letters of my predecessors that Sharp Delany, the Collector of the Port of Philadelphia was perhaps a relative of the Gales and was instrumental in bringing him and/or other Gales over to this country. We do know, of course, that one Thomas A. Delany was witness to his residence for naturalization purposes, but I could not find him in any of the Directories, beginning with the earliest in 1785. Some of the Gale names, especially Pernell and Malachi, found both in the Directory and in Pennsylvania Hospital records conform to names in other research of which I will tell you later. I had little luck with the Popes, for I had not much to go on, and could only take them down, hoping something will jell at a later time.

I had very little time to work in the Manuscripts Collection of the Historical Society, as the entries I had from the National Union Catalog of Manuscripts were quite voluminous, and so were some of the individual collections themselves. I did, however, take down a lot of information on early churches of the Gale era in Philadelphia, circa. 1783 to 1798 and circa. 1812 to 1817, as well as citations on contacts of modern churches and church archival organizations. To them I'll be trying to write some-time in the future.

As soon as I got back, I began work on a summary of the naturalization and a computation of dates of the very early era in the United States, for the purpose of sending it with a friend of mine, Colonel Don Wyckoff, USMC, who was going to Ireland for a short vacation. He had volunteered to do some minor research in Dublin on the subject, and for the little time he had, he did a tremendous job!!!

I was quite careless in my computation, though, and made a mistake of 20 years in computing Gale's probable age when arriving in this country and when receiving his commission. Nevertheless, Don was able to find some interesting material there (in Dublin), copies of which will be arriving any day now for back-up. Rather than explain it all, I am just sending you a typed copy of what he found out.

You will note by his account, however, that there appears to be a relation by marriage of the Gales and Delany/Delaney's. He was basing some of his research on my computed date of Anthony's birth as 1781, wherein an Anthony Gale and Ann Delany were married in Ireland in 1781, and of this union there were born Anthony, Parnell /see earlier mention of this name/, William, John, Jane, Frances, and Mall /perhaps short for Malachi/. This is maddening, inasmuch as all seems to fit well together, except for my bad figuring!!!

It does leave open, however, the possibility that there may be a succession from Colonel Oliver Gale, coming with Henry VIII from England to Ireland, to Lieutenant Anthony Gale, circa. 1666, and the Anthony, son of ~~Lt. Anthony~~ and Grace of Gracepark.

*S. Amcott*

Provided the document on "six generations of Gales since 1666" shows desirable information, perhaps then I can write my contact in the British War Office pertaining to Gales on the Rolls of British Regiments in Ireland. I shall also strive to find a contact there who may be able to further the search. This might also lead to the possibility, if the lineage conforms, of discovering a portrait, woodcut, or other facsimile of an ancestor . . . hopefully.

Some other notes and documents I had photographed in the Pennsylvania Hospital, include "an abstract of the case of an insane patient in the Pennsylvania Hospital" for 1810-1811; a letter from Dr. Benjamin Rush /Surgeon-General of the Continental Army/ and a Physician in Philadelphia, to the Managers of the Hospital, dated 24 September 1810, on the treatment of insane patients; two abstracts of insane patients, etc. My reason for these was the fact that there was no Case File on Gale while there. I thought perhaps this information would some day bolster any writing that might be done on the biography, as well as - in case we should attempt to have a post-mortem done - back up our contention that Gale was temporarily insane during the time of his troubles. Then later, if we find there were any records of his illness in Kentucky, they may dove-tail. Perhaps I'm nuts too !!!

Since writing the last I have been doing some wild thinking. I am looking toward the possibility of one day obtaining Orders for the purpose of getting passage "Space Available" on an aircraft going to Scotland, and then making my way over to Ireland. There are no military aircraft going into Ireland now. Perhaps I would have to pay my own expenses, and I don't know how this can, at present, come about, but I'm going to look for an angle. Perhaps then I could go into the records in Dublin more fully. I would especially hope for the chance to get down to Counties Leix and Carlow for a look at the Parish records. To this end, I shall continue to try to find his religious persuasion, which might be of assistance.

I have been trying desperately to think of anything else I should tell you, but cannot. I have had several other jobs to do, and am trying to get them finished up. I certainly wish I could spend full time on this project, but that is impossible.

So with this note, I'll bid you goodbye for this time. I also wish that I could provide you with some guidance there, but other than a tie-in with the Popes, I can think of nothing.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Long  
Curator (Special Projects)  
Marine Corps Museum