



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS SCHOOLS
QUANTICO, VIRGINIA 22134

IN REPLY REFER TO

MARINE CORPS MUSEUM

RAL:lml
6 Jan 67

Mrs. Dorothy Ford Wulfeck
51 Park Avenue
Naugatuck, Connecticut

Dear Mrs. Wulfeck:

At the urging of Miss Pansy Pence Dinkle, Assistant Librarian of the Kentucky Historical Society, Frankfort, Kentucky, I should like to request your assistance through your "Genealogy" column in the Williamsburg Gazette, Williamsburg, Virginia, or other sources at your command.

For nearly two years one of my several duties has been a search for information concerning one Anthony Gale. A prolonged search was made in August and September 1966, of records in the Kentucky Historical Society, and in the counties of Franklin, Garrard, and Lincoln, Kentucky. Documents were microfilmed and photographed, and much supplementary material was noted. Whole areas were scoured for the most minute trace of a grave marker. The object of the search was material pertaining to Anthony Gale, his wife Catharine, his son Washington Anthony, his daughter Emily K., and their progeny.

The search is official, sanctioned by the United States Marine Corps, of which I am an employee.

Anthony Gale was, for the period 3 March 1819 to 16 October 1820, the Lieutenant Colonel Commandant of the Marine Corps. For reasons of no consequence to this article, he was court-martialed and cashiered from the Corps. It has been partially established that he was in a state of mental derangement at this time and for some months thereafter. This illness re-occurred several times during his later life in Kentucky.

Incomplete research details available of the career of this Marine officer reach into the late 1700's and early 1800's, an era in which his records appear to have been ill kept. Some events appear to be erroneous in the light of more modern research; other events appear to have no reliable source.

For instance, materials from the files of my Marine Corps historical predecessors name him an Irishman, who was brought to this country at any unknown date by a relative, Sharp Delaney. No records can be found thus far to ascertain this. We do know that Sharp Delaney was a Brigadier General of the Continental Line under Washington. President Washington also appointed him the first Collector of the Port of Philadelphia, as he is listed in the Heads of Family Census, Pennsylvania, 1790. State Department records have not yet revealed a detailed listing of immigrants to the colonies of the United States which list an Anthony Gale, or his family, during the period desired.

One letter from our files, dated 7 June 1934, states that "Anthony's brother Peter served in the Revolutionary War, and George, I believe settled Galesville in Wisconsin . . ." The George Gale genealogy is known to me, but I have not been able to consult it as yet. I also do not know whether my predecessor followed through on the 1934 informant.

Research of my own establishes that Anthony Gale was not a native-born American, for in a letter of his, dated 8 August 1820, he states in part:

" . . . the Common errors of that Service to which I would cheerfully devote the remainder /of my life/ if in doing so I could, in any wise promote the interest and honor, the welfare and happiness, of my adopted Country. "

Anthony Gale was appointed a Second Lieutenant of Marines, from Pennsylvania, on 2 September 1798, during the presidency of John Adams. His appointment was made during a time Congress was not in session, under which circumstances of the time a Senate confirmation was not necessary. During the remainder of that year and for a portion of 1799, he was on recruiting duty in and around Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

On 2 March 1799, he was appointed a First Lieutenant of Marines. During the same year, he commanded the Marines on the ship GANGES, during the Naval War with France. While so serving, he fought a duel with a naval officer who had insulted him. The death of that officer, if for no other purpose, served to promote better treatment of Marines and Marine officers by personnel of the Navy.

^GWale was promoted to Captain, United States Marine Corps, on 24 April 1804, and commanded the Marine Guard of the Flagship of the Mediterranean Squadron, the U. S. Frigate CONSTITUTION, during the bombardment of Tripoli, in the Barbary Wars.

From 1807 to 1817, he commanded the Marines of the Philadelphia Navy Yard, then located in Southwark. It appears, from spotty correspondence, that he was perhaps well acquainted with the eastern Pennsylvania scene. I also am inclined to believe that he married while on this Station, although marriage records so far searched of this particular area and era, reveal no marriage of Gale.

We believe he married a Catharine Pope, in the light of a document found in Kentucky. On 3 September 1834, Margaret Swope, of Lincoln County, "hath this day given as a gift, for the sole use and benefit of Catharine Gale my beloved sister of Garrad /sic/ County . . . a certain tract of parcel of land . . ." Earlier, the "Record of Marriages in Lincoln County, Kentucky, for the Period of Years 1780 to 1851, Inclusive," compiled by Annie Walker Burns, shows the marriage on 3 August 1790 of Jacob Swope to Margaret Pope.

One would like to believe this Margaret Pope and Margaret Swope are one and the same, and that Catharine Gale was indeed her sister. Yet, doubt exists. Anthony Gale's Marine Corps duties are not known to have taken him into the vicinity of Kentucky until 1817. How could he have married Catharine Pope in this locale? Was Catharine on a visit to Pennsylvania, where she met a dashing Marine Corps Lieutenant, and married him instead of returning to Kentucky?

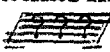
She could have been related to any number of Popes in Pennsylvania, some of them residents of Bucks, Cumberland, York, Washington, and Philadelphia Counties. One, Peter Pope, lived on Ninth Street, between Walnut and Spruce Streets, in Southern Philadelphia, close to the Navy Yard, and had three free white females in his household in 1790. There were also Popes in Maryland and Virginia. From whence did she come?

To also support a marriage of Anthony Gale prior to 1810, the Census of 1850 shows Washington A. Gale, the son of Anthony, to be 40 years of age, and his place of birth as Pennsylvania. This computed date conforms to his father's service in Philadelphia at that time. On the other hand, the same Census shows Anthony's daughter, Emily K. Campbell, of Stanford, Kentucky, as also 40 years of age, and her birthplace as Kentucky. This is believed to be an error, as the Census of 1860, reveals her as 49 years of age and having been born in Pennsylvania. The latter information is here shown to indicate that Anthony and Catharine were reputedly married before 1810, place unknown.

As a Brevet Major of Marines, Gale was commanding the Marines on the New Orleans Station in July 1817, and continued in this capacity until he was appointed Commandant of the Marine Corps in Washington, D. C., with rank dated from 3 March 1819.

At this writing, his father, mother, brothers or sisters are not known to the Marine Corps. On 6 January 1820, however, he requested of Secretary of War John C. Calhoun that a nephew - Sharp Gale - be discharged from the Corps of Artillery at Fort Mifflin, Pa., stating that Sharp was a minor. The given name "Sharp" might well indicate a family affiliation with Sharp Delaney of the Revolutionary period.

On 22 August 1820 - during the period in which his troubles appear to have brought him into dire conflict with the Navy Department - he requested 3 to 4 weeks' leave of absence "to care for important business in the interior of the State of Pennsylvania." The request was not granted, of course, for he was placed under arrest in Quarters on 26 August 1820. Nevertheless, the nature of the request indicates a definite affiliation with the State of Pennsylvania, and perhaps family connections there.

Following his Court Martial, Gale was cashiered from the Marine Corps on 16 October 1820. The trail grows somewhat dim here, but it is known that he was admitted to Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia on 15 November 1820, where he apparently remained for about 5 months. A letter from his wife, Catharine, dated 28 December 1820, was written from No. 74 Catharine  Street, Philadelphia, to Secretary of the Navy Smith Thompson in Washington. She describes Anthony's illness as "I am informed it is a family disease, his Father died insane and their is two of his relations at present deranged . . ." Again, this appears to indicate Catharine's awareness of family matters, they being perhaps in the vicinity of Philadelphia or that general geographical area.

Following his release from the hospital, Gale wrote several letters from both Washington and Philadelphia asking for compensation for his services in the Marine Corps. Some were to the Secretary of the Navy, and others to the President of the United States, asking also for an appointment in one of the Civil Departments. His efforts were apparently in vain.

The exact date of his removal to Kentucky is unknown. In 1826, however, the Tax Record of Lincoln County, Kentucky, shows him the owner of 158 acres of unimproved land on the Dick's or Dix River in that county. In 1830, he gave permission for his daughter Emily, to marry William S. Campbell of Stanford. Also, in 1830, he wrote the first of a veritable

barrage of letters to Washington seeking, at times, a partial pension; obtaining this, asking a full pension for life, and at other times, asking compensation for his part-time duty as Quartermaster of Marines while the Commanding Officer at Philadelphia and New Orleans.

He was only partially successful in this endeavor, obtaining at the last reckoning, \$25.00 per month. He was never to receive compensation as an acting Quartermaster, for it was one of the "added duties" of any commanding officer of the Marine Corps or Army to issue clothing and supplies to his men.

His letters from Kentucky to Washington ceased in 1841 or 1842, and he is reliably believed to have died in Stanford in one of these years. Catharine, and Washington A., his son, carried on the battle for a pension and Quartermaster compensation, with the last letter written in 1852. They were not successful. Catharine is thought to have died in Stanford approximately 4 years after the death of her husband.

It is unfortunate in the case of this particular search that the Statistics of Kentucky were not kept until 1852, and then they were continued only to 1861. No trace can be found in the records of Lincoln County, Kentucky, of the deaths of either Anthony or Catharine. Nor have the graves of either yet been found, despite a thorough search of some twenty church, farm, family, and municipal cemeteries in the vicinity of Stanford. Many remain to be searched.

After declaring bankruptcy in Lincoln County in 1842, Washington A. Gale along with his wife, Milly A., nee Morehead, moved to Frankfort, where he pursued the trade of a carpenter until the Civil War. He was not, according to Tax Records, the owner of any property of great value. In 1861 and 1862, he served in the 6th Kentucky Cavalry, Union Army, and was discharged for disability. In the Census of 1870, he has disappeared from the scene, with the surviving Milly, and daughters Mary and Sarah living in Louisville, Jefferson County.

One son, James Welch Gale, also served in the 6th Kentucky Cavalry, from 1861 through 1864, was wounded and a prisoner of war, and was discharged in Louisville in December 1864. On 9 November 1865, he married Sarah Montgomery in Frankfort.

Two other sons of Washington Anthony Gale - George and Thomas - last appear in the Census of 1860, then living in Frankfort. Another, William, last appeared in the Census of 1850, when he was 11 years of age.

It should here be noted that the Census, Tax, and other records in the Kentucky Historical Society and in the counties of Franklin, Garrard, and Lincoln Counties, in several instances use the surname Gale interchangeably with that of Gayle. Others connected with this search have occasionally believed that the name was changed, under the impression that the career of Anthony Gale was an embarrassment to the family name. A lack of persistence on the part of the enumerators, however, leads me to believe that no member of this particular Gale family legally changed his last name, at least not until after 1860. This is supported in part by known documents of 1890, in which James Welch Gale has retained the original spelling.

It is also apparent that James Welch Gale was not even aware that his grandfather, Anthony Gale, was at one time the Commandant of the Marine Corps, or that he had been court-martialed and cashiered from that Service! His affidavit for a Civil War pension states in part:

" . . . my Fathers name was Washington Anthony Gale and served in the same Co and regiment that i did . . . My Grand Father . . . Anthony Gale . . . Served in the in the U. S. Navy as quartermaster for a great many years."

It is perhaps not unusual that he thought his grandfather had been a Quartermaster in the Navy, inasmuch as he was reared during the same period in which Anthony repeatedly petitioned the Secretary of the Navy since 1835 for compensation for having acted as a Quartermaster to Marines.

Gales and Gayles have been treated at some length in Ermina Jett Darnell's Footprints of Elkhorn Church, published in 1946 by the Standard Printing Company of Louisville and available in the Kentucky Historical Society. They appear to be, I believe, the ancestors of the present-day Gayles of Franklin County. It is difficult to discover, however, that these families are related in any way to Anthony, Washington Anthony, or the issue of the same. I would be most happy, nevertheless, to be proven erroneous and to be given access to affirmative documentation!

Emily K. Campbell, nee Gale, was married to William S. Campbell in Lincoln County, Kentucky, in 1830. Fairly complete records of the family were found in the Estate Papers of Aurelius, a son who died in 1859. His father requested - and was granted - permission to be buried on the Lincoln County Courthouse Square in Stanford, but no records can

be found there to substantiate that the request was carried out. Aurelius's mother, Emily K., apparently died prior to June 1861, as indicated by a sale bill of her household goods. On 11 April 1870, the final estate of Aurelius was settled, Executor and Guardian John H. Shanks listing brothers William, 30, and John B., 28, and a sister, Emily, age unknown.

Records found to date, then, trace portions of Emily's family to 1870, and one son of Washington Anthony to 1890. The Census of 1890 was destroyed by fire, and that of 1900 is not open to historical research without the request of a direct descendant. Future search will be made of Spanish-American War records, and subsequently those of World War I, seeking issue of James Welch Gale. Traces of Washington Anthony's other sons, (George and Thomas, may prove more difficult to discover.

We desire, if possible, to find some trace of the parents of Anthony Gale. We would also like to know the identities of his brothers and sisters, their spouses, and families, prior to - and after - 1798 .

To date, not a single genealogy or genealogical source I have consulted lists an Irishman with the surname of "Gale." Mr. John Insley Coddington, of Washington, D. C., writing in The American Genealogist of January 1952, page 82, states that "the name of Gale is quite common in a number of English counties." In deference to the scholarly research of Mr. Coddington, I would like to believe that Anthony Gale was indeed an Englishman, even if he did possibly come to this country via Ireland.

Herein lies my request for assistance from your readers for information and results of research of the family of Anthony Gale.

Where has all this research led us, and what is the intention of the Marine Corps? Our purpose is three-fold: (1) the location of the grave of Anthony Gale and, perhaps, those of his wife and children; (2) likenesses or descriptions of his father, uncles, brothers, son, and grandsons, and (3) perhaps the most unlikely of all, a likeness of Anthony Gale himself.

The Home of the Commandants, at Marine Barracks, Washington, D. C., is the oldest continually occupied public building in the District of Columbia. It dates from the first decade of the nineteenth century, when the United States Marine Corps accompanied the Federal Government in its move from Philadelphia to the new Capital City.

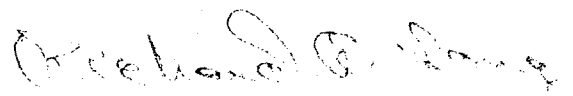
Home of the Commandants, a new and revised book published by the Leatherneck Association on 20 December 1966, was researched by the staff of the Marine Corps Museum. The book treats thoroughly of the origin and evolution of the Home and of the Marine Barracks of which it is a part.

Missing from this colorful book - and from the Home itself - is one portrait of a Commandant of the Corps. Twenty-one other Commandants are "still in residence," their oil and pastel portraits adorning its thick walls. Another, that of General Wallace M. Greene, will occupy a prominent place at the end of his tenure as Commandant of the Marine Corps. The official biography of Anthony Gale is short and terse, lacking much in the details of the life of this unfortunate man.

Lacking discovery one day of an actual likeness of Anthony Gale, it will be desirable to create a composite portrait, from descriptions or actual likenesses of those of his immediate family, and from the likenesses of his direct male descendants.

In the absence of those acquisitions, all documentary material discovered in the future will be highly valued in the collections of the Marine Corps Museum.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Long
Curator (Documents & Fine Arts)
Marine Corps Museum