

CENSUS FOR CINCINNATI, OHIO, 1817
and
HAMILTON COUNTY, OHIO, VOTERS' LISTS
1798 and 1799

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1960



INTRODUCTION

Hidden away for many years in the manuscript collection of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio reposed a hand-fashioned book, carefully written with goose-quill pen and containing valuable genealogical information.

The catalog labeled it "Tax List for 1818" which made it seem of little interest to genealogists searching for records of early Cincinnatians. Census records for Hamilton County earlier than 1820 are among those destroyed when the British burned Washington, D.C. during the War of 1812.

A careful study of the manuscript disclosed that the date is 1817 and that the tax list was really an adjunct to a complete census of Cincinnati residents and business men in 1817.

Valuable information came to light! The problem of abstracting the vital statistics and preparing them for publication seemed a task well worth while as a contribution to the knowledge of the inhabitants of Cincinnati which was the cross roads of the west in the post-Revolutionary War era.

The tax list is not uninteresting for it inventories houses, lots, other property, horses, dogs and estates. It discloses the wealth of the city in those days as well as some of its problems. A number of men owned business and real estate in Cincinnati as an investment while they themselves resided out in the country or across the Ohio River in Covington or Newport, Kentucky.

The census enumeration is vitally interesting because it, like census reports before that of 1850, gives the head of the household by name, and notes members of his household as male and female in three age brackets: 21 years and up; between 12 and 21 years, and under 12 years of age. The one female usually of 21 and up we assume to have been the wife and mother. There were many children under the age of twelve years. Whenever a man had more than the usual number of a normal family enumerated in his household he was either a merchant or an innkeeper. Some trades, however, such as tobacconist, blacksmith, carpenter, brickmaker, needed more men, especially in the teen-age group. When a woman headed a large household we can safely assume that she ran a boarding house, although a tailoress and a seamstress also needed extra help.



For instance, Henry Bechtel (from Pennsylvania) was a merchant. He had several men and four colored persons listed in his household and presumably they worked in his large store. Thomas Burley had five males of 21 years and up, two females of 21 and up, and two colored persons among those enumerated. In the Cincinnati Directory for 1819 we find Mrs. Frances Burley listed as the operator of a boarding house. James Edmondson had 25 men of 21 years and up, 2 in the 12 to 21 bracket, 4 women 21 and up, and 7 children, with 9 colored persons counted in his household together with a horse and 2 dogs. The 1819 directory listed him as an inkeeper. Jesse Hunt, a wealthy merchant and president of Cincinnati City Council, was taxed for 6 houses, other property and business ventures for which there were 8 men and 5 women with 2 colored persons and several children listed under his name. However, from this we cannot deduce the exact members of his personal family. Samuel Davies, who later became mayor of Cincinnati, needed 5 colored persons, 6 extra men and several extra women to look after his four houses, several lots, two dogs and various business enterprises. Often when a citizen owned two or more houses the families were enumerated as one household.

We would like to be able to distinguish between children and apprentices or bound children of whom there were many in western households. These were usually children orphaned by the vicissitudes of the frontier or Indian raids. But no such identification was thought necessary in those days.

Where the scribe, with his goose-quill pen and bottle of iron-gall ink, wrote some unfamiliar names phonetically we have inserted the known name in brackets, such as Crofford - [Crawford]; Derrem - [Durham]; Heffley - [Haifleigh]; Noblaw - [Knoblough], or Sights - [Seitz].

This census has been checked against the 1819 Directory of Cincinnati, first of its kind, to note correctness of name, occupation and to learn if the family was still in residence.

Often a name is given without a census record, but with blank spaces. This "no enumeration" usually means that the citizen was taxed but lived outside the city limits.

Enumeration of colored persons is noted as such in this census either in the household or in the business where they were servants,



or if they had their own homes when only the name of the head of the household is given with the number of colored persons living there. At times they are listed as taxables. In this abstract we have placed such names at the end of each alphabetical section.

Business firms on the tax list have been placed at the end of the census records with other entries such as "Heirs of Chamberland with Riddle," or "Estate of C. Hartsel with D. Embree," because they may offer clues.

The two lists of voters in elections for five delegates to the Northwest Territory General Assembly in December 1798 and for two more delegates in September 1799, based on population, are valuable in presenting the names of men who lived in Hamilton County, Ohio, at that time. It is not a complete list. Approximately one hundred more men voted in the September 1799 election than in the December 1798 election. This was due probably to an increase in the number of men living in the county and to better travel conditions through the wilderness in an earlier month.

At this time I wish to pay tribute to Mr. Lucien Wulsin, president of the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio, whose high ideals, love of history, keen perception and encouragement have guided the organization to greater standards of achievement and growth in membership.

I also wish to acknowledge the aid and interest of Mr. Herbert F. Koch, Director, Mrs. Alice Palo Hook, Librarian, and the Committee of Publications: Mr. Frederick Giesel, Mrs. Alice Hook, Mr. Herbert F. Koch, Mr. Ernest Miller, Mr. Charles Sawyer and Mr. Lewis C. Thomson, whose approval and support have made this publication possible.

In publishing this census record for Cincinnati in 1817 with the additional lists of nearly 1,000 names of voters in the 1798 and 1799 elections in Hamilton County, Ohio, the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio is making an important contribution to the knowledge of citizens living in this area before 1820.

Marie Dickoré

Cincinnati, Ohio,
November, 1960.

VII



ELECTION OF FIVE MEMBERS TO
THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1798

To choose five representatives to the General Assembly of the Northwest Territory the names of eleven prominent Hamilton County men were presented as candidates to the voters. They were William McMillan, William Goforth, James Findlay, Jacob Burnet, Robert Benham, Thomas Gibson, Jacob White, John Ludlow, John Smith, Daniel Reeder and James John. Additional names were at times given by the voters and these were Francis Dunlevy, Daniel Beatty, Jacob Reeder, John Watson, David Enox, Daniel Martin, Nathaniel Kelly and Rice Bullock.

The successful candidates polled many votes: McMillan 417; Goforth 357; Benham 303; Smith 228, and John Ludlow 190. Running close in the race were Findlay 165; Burnet 149; Gibson 111. The others won from one to 78 scattering votes.

Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio.

SEAL Ar. St. Clair

By His Excellency Arthur St. Clair, Governor
of the Territory of the United States North west of the
Ohio to the Sheriff of the county of Hamilton —
Greeting:

Whereas by the Ordinance of congress for the Government of the Territory of the United States North west of the Ohio it is ordained that so soon as there shall be five thousand free male inhabitants of full age in the District, upon proof being given thereof to the Governor, they shall receive authority with time and place, to elect Representatives from their several Counties or Townships, to represent them in general Assembly, and whereas, Sufficient proof having been given to the Governor that there are a much greater Number of free male inhabitants of full age in the Districts than the five thousand required by the Said Ordinance, authority has been given, by an Ordinance under the Seal of the Territory bearing evidence herewith, to the Inhabitants of the District to Assembly together at certain places in the several Counties on the third Monday of December



next of which you shall previously give due and public Notice, when and where all persons qualified as by the Said Ordinance of congress is required, are to be admitted freely and openly to nominate and appoint such persons qualified in like manner, as they and each of them shall think proper: you shall call to your assistance two or more of the Magistrates of the County & shall preside in the said Election and preserve Order and Decorum and use your authority to prevent and repress every tumult and confusion, and anything which may have a tendency to prevent the election from being freely and fairly conducted. And, if the qualifications of the electors and elected you, together with the Magistrates you shall call to your assistance, are constituted the Judges, — saving however to all and every person who may think himself aggrieved by your Judgement therein an appeal to the House of Representatives when the same shall be formed. And you are farther required to cause to be taken in writing in your presence an exact list of the names of the persons who shall vote at the said Election, and of the persons voted for by each of them; and you shall keep the Election open a reasonable time to give opportunity to all the qualified Electors to declare their votes, and give public notice, at least one hour before the same shall take place, that, at such an hour, naming it distinctly, the Election will be closed, and no votes received afterwards. So soon as the Election shall be closed you shall cause the number of votes for every Person proposed as a Representative to be accurately cast up in presence of yourself and assistants and in their presence also you shall sign and seal the paper or papers containing the same, and shall forthwith openly publish and declare the Persons appearing to have the greatest number of votes as duly elected to represent your County in the general assembly. The original lists of the Electors, signed and sealed as before directed, are to be deposited by you in the office of the Prothonatary of the Court of common pleas, and a copy thereof sealed and certified by you, transmitted to the office of the Secretary of the Territory together with this writ and how you have executed the same, you are further required to give to the Persons and each of them appearing to have the greatest number of votes certificate in the form following viz. —

Sheriff of the County of _____ to all Persons
whom it may concern, Be it known that _____ of
the said County at an Election of Representatives held
at Cincinnati for the said County of Hamilton on the
third Monday of December last — _____ by Vertue of



a writ to me directed by the Governor (here insert the Person's name) was, by a Majority of votes, duly elected a Representative to represent the said County in the General Assembly for two years — Given under my hand & seal at Cincinnati the day of .

In the premise or any of them fail not,

Given under my hand & seal of the Territory the 29th day of October in the year of our Lord 1798 and of the independence of the United States the Twenty third.

Agreeable to the command of the within writ of Election I have taken to my assistance Aaron Cadwell, Stephen Wood & John Greer, Esquires, three of the Justices assigned to keep the peace within and for said County of Hamilton, and on the third Monday of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & ninety eight at Cincinnati in the County aforesaid, opened the Election proceeded to take the votes of the Electors within said County pursuant to this writ, whereupon William McMillan William Goforth Robert Benham John Smith and John Ludlow, esquires, five of the Candidates at said Election were duly elected and Chosen Representatives to the General Assembly, for Hamilton County, and have done in all things within as it is Commanded me to do which will more fully appear by the schedule hereunto annexed.

James Smith Shff.

LIST OF VOTERS 1798

Dominicus Abbott	John Armstrong
Elisha Abbott	Sam'l Armstrong
Jas. Adams	Dan'l Artel
Sam'l Alexander	Wm. Auntes
Rich'd Allison	Wm. Austin
Thomas Alston	Thos. Auter
Isaac Anderson	Ch's Avery
John Anderson	John Awl
Jas. Andrews	Ayer - see Are
Benejah Are	
[Ayer]	
Rich'd Ares	Rob't Badgly
[Ayres]	Doct'r Bane



Thomas Barns	Aaron Cadwell Esqr.
Clark Bates	Dan'l Cammeron
Dan'l Bates	Peter Camper
Isaac Bates	[Kemper]
Usual Bates	Sam'l Camper
John Beckel	[Kemper]
[Bickel]	Arc'd Campster
Francis Beedle	[Archibald]
Joseph Begle	Jonah Carr
[Bickel]	Ab. Cary
Abel Bell	Jno. Charles
Jacob Bell	Daniel Chorey
John Bell	Ab'r Clark
Peter Bell	Jas. Clark
Jas. Bills	Jas. Clarke
Rich'd Benham	Jno. Clarke
Robert Benham	Jos. Coe
James Bennet	Leonard Coleman
Jno. Biesley	Jacob R. Compton
[Beasley]	Dan'l Conner
James Bigle	Jas. Conner
[Bickel]	Dan'l C. Cooper
Wm. Bigle	John Corbley
[Bickel]	Edward Core
Jno. Billington	[Cory?]
David Black	Jeremiah Cory
Abr. Blue	Francis Cossert
Melyn Boker	Cas. Covalt
Bolser - see Paulser	Jno. Covert
Albert Bonta	Jas. Cox
Daniel Bonta	Hugh Craig
Caleb Boyston	Elihu Crane
Moses Bradway	Jas. Crane
David Brecount	Josiah Crosly
Sam'l Brewster	Reub. Crosly
Hezekiah Broadberry	Ross Crosly
Ep'm Brown	Geo. Cullum
Wm. Brown	W. T. Cullum
Fardemand Buckaw	David Cummins
[Ferdinand Brocaw]	Jas. Cummins
Mich'l Buckaw	John Cummins
[Brocaw]	Jos. Cunningham
Levi Buckingham	Rich'd Cunningham
Edmond Buksten	Icabod Current
[Edmund Buxton]	Seth Cutter
Rice Bullock	
G. W. Burnet	John Dailey
Wm. Burt	Chas. Davis
Isaac Bush	Elij. Davis
	James Davis



Jno. Davis
 Jon'a Davis
 Stephen Davis
 Mich'l Debolt
 Jonah Decker
 David Denman
 Sam'l Dick
 Jos. Dill
 Wm. Dods
 John Dodson
 Dan'l Dorham
 [Durham]
 Thos. Doyle
 P. Dukes
 Jas. Dun
 Henry Dunham
 Jno. Dunham
 Pauin Dum

And'w Edwards
 Sam'l Eldridge
 Jno. Elliot
 Francis Ennis
 David Enox

Jos. Fagan
 [Fagin]
 Jas. Ferguson
 Isaac Ferris
 Isaac Ferris Jr.
 Paul Fernsler
 Seth Field.
 Eb'r W. Finney
 [Ebenezer Ward Finney]
 Jas. Fisher
 James Fitch Patrick
 [Fitzpatrick]
 G. Fithian
 R. Flack
 Benj. Flinn
 Heze. Flint
 Luke Foster
 Zebulon Foster
 David Fox
 Jon'a Fox
 Thos. Frame
 Jacob Frazy
 [Frazee]

Jas. Frazy
 [Frazee]
 Jos. Frazy
 [Frazee]
 Sam'l Freeman
 Nathan Frix

J. S. Gano
 Garrard - see Jarad
 Jno. Gaston
 Uriah Gates
 Thomas Gaudy Esqr.
 Isaac Gerrard
 Jesse Gerrard
 Jno. Gerrard
 Chas. Gibson
 Geo. Gillespie
 Geo. Gillespie Jr.
 Jas. Gillespie
 Wm. Goforth
 John Goldtrap
 John Gordon
 Wm. Graham
 Arch'd Gray
 John Greer Esqr.
 Smith Gregg
 Grimes - see Grymes
 Jas. Grumon
 David Grumond
 P. Grymes
 Alex'r Gustin

Aaron Hagaman Jr.
 Aaron Hageman
 John T. Hall
 Icabod Halsted
 Alex'r Hamel
 Alex'r Hamilton
 Rich'd Hankins
 Wm. Hankins
 Jacob Harden
 Jno. Hardin
 Wm. H. Harrison
 Sam'l Highway
 Andrew Hill
 Ace Hinkle
 [Asa]
 Walter Hole
 Jac. Hollaway



ELECTION OF TWO MORE MEMBERS TO
THE NORTHWEST TERRITORY
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, 1799

Eleven leading citizens of Hamilton County were candidates in this election of two more representatives to the General Assembly of the Northwest Territory in the year 1799. Listed were Aaron Cadwell, Francis Dunlevy, Jacob White, Thomas Gibson, Thomas Brown, Isaac Martin, Ichabod B. Miller, J. Watson, Thomas Goudy, Daniel Reeder and William Brown.

The successful candidates were Aaron Cadwell who received 347 votes and Isaac Martin who received 265 votes.

There were scattering votes for John Reiley, David Enox, Israel Ludlow, Rice Bullock, and John Stites Gano.

Territory of the United States North West of the Ohio:

SEAL Ar. St. Clair

Arthur St. Clair Governor of the Territory
of the United States to the Sheriff of the County
of Hamilton Greeting:

Whereas by a certain Writ of election to you directed bearing date the day of in the year of our Lord 1798. You were empowered and commanded to hold an Election at the Town of Cincinnati in the said County, at which the Inhabitants of the said County qualified according to the Ordinance of Congress for the Government of the territory should choose five representatives to represent them in the General Assembly; And whereas by an enumeration of the people of the said County which has come to my hands since the date of the said Writ, it appears that they were entitled to two more Representatives. These are to require you, and you are hereby required and commanded to cause an Election to be held at the said Town of Cincinnati for two more Representatives on the twelfth day of September next ensuing to represent the said County in the General Assembly of the Territory for two years commencing from the twenty second day of January last past. You will call to your assistance two or more of the Magistrates of the said County



to aid you in conducting the said election, and will proceed in every respect in the same manner as is directed by the aforesaid Writ to which this is a Supplement, giving due notice of the time when the said Election is to be held that all qualified persons may have an opportunity to attend on the said twelfth day of September to vote at the said Election and you will make a return of the names of all such as do vote, and of those voted for to the Office of the Secretary of the territory on or before the fourteenth day of the said September together with this Writ.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Territory at Cincinnati in the County of Hamilton the 28th day of August 1799 and in the twenty fourth year of the independence of the United States.

Agreeable to the command of the within writ of Election I have taken to my assistance Robert Benham and Joseph Prince Esquires, two of the Justices of the peace within and for the said County of Hamilton, and on the twelfth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety nine, at Cincinnati, in the County aforesaid opened the Election proceeded to take the votes of the Electors within said County, pursuant to this writ whereupon Aaron Cadwell and Isaac Martin Esqrs., two of the Candidates of said Election were duly elected and chosen Representatives to the General Assembly for Hamilton County, and have done in all things as within it is commanded me to do, which will more fully appear by the schedule hereunto annexed.

James Smith Shff.

LIST OF VOTERS
1799

Elisha Abbott	Thos. Alston
H. Abbott	Isaac Anderson
Nath'l Abbott	James Andrews
Jas. Adams	John Armstrong
John Adams	Sam'l Armstrong
Sam'l Alexander	Jac. Arnest
R. Allison	[Jacob Ernst]
[Dr. Richard Allison]	Wm. Austin



James Burns
Isaac Bush
Edmund Buxton

A. Cadwell
[Aaron]
James Caldwell
Sam'l Caldwell
Geo. Cambell
[Campbell]
John Campbell
Jas. Carpenter
John Carper
Ab'r Cary
John Cassidy
Jos. Cattelin
Bethuel Cavault
[Covalt]
Chenenia Cavault
[Chemiah Covalt]
Timothy Cavault
[Covalt]
John Charles
Wm. Christy
Basil Clark
Dan'l Clark
Icabod Clark
[Ichabod]
Jas. Clark
Tennis Clark
Ab'r Clarke
John Clarke
John Clarke
John Clarke
Jos. Clarke
Charles Coen
Rich'd Colivar
Fred Coms
Hezekiah Conn
James Conn
Jas. Conn Jr.
Dan'l Conner
John Cook
Wm. Cooley
D. C. Cooper
John Corby
Icabod Cordwin
Jeremiah Corey
Mathias Cowan
Jas. Cox
Hugh Craig

Thos. Auter
Chas. Avery

Rob't Badgley
Malon Baker
E. Baldwin
Isai Ball
[Isiah Ball]
Geo. Balsar
[Bolsar]
Clark Bates
Dan'l Bates
Isaac Bates
Jas. Baxter
John Becker
James Bedle
Jas. Bedle
Jos. Bedle
John Beesley
Jos. Beesley
Wm. Beesley
Abel Bell
Peter Bell
Rich'd Benham
John Billington
David Black
John Bockover
Timothy Boothly
Jer. Brand
Sam'l Brewster
John Bridges
John Bridges
Nath'l Brush
H. Broadbury
Jacob Broadwell
Ferdinand Brocaw
Mich'l Brocaw
Reuben Breckney
Eph'm Brown
Is. Brown
T. Brown
Wm. Brown Esqr.
Eno'c. Buckingham
[Enoch]
Levi Buckingham
Rice Bullock
Sam'l Bunam
Calvin Bunnell
G. W. Burnet Esqr.
Jacob Burnet Esqr.



Elihu Crane
 Jos. Crane
 Ross Crosley
 Josiah Crossley
 Reuben Crossley
 Ab'm Crum
 Wm. Crum
 Geo. Cullum
 Wm. T. Cullum
 David Cummins
 John Cummins
 Ja. R. Cumpton
 [Jacob R. Compton]
 Jas. Cunningham
 Jon'a Currangton
 [Carrington?]
 Seth Cutter

John Dailey
 Wm. Darlin
 D'd Davis
 Elij. Davis
 James Davis
 Jon'a Davis
 Stephen Davis
 Walter Davis
 Henry Debolt
 Mich's Debolt
 Dan'l Denham
 Henry Denham
 Nath'l Denham
 Obed Denham
 Timothy Denham
 Nich'l Demerril
 Benj. Denscat
 Dennis Deskin
 Benj. Devee
 Isaac Devee
 Sam'l Dick
 John Dixon
 Wm. Dodds
 John Dodson
 John Dorrel
 Thos. Doyl
 Patrick Dukey
 Francis Dunlevy
 Sam'l Dum
 Jas. Duns
 Jas. Dunseith

Ezk'l Enlaw
 Francis Ennis
 Benj. Enyart
 David Enyart
 Sam'l Ewing

Jos. Fagin
 Fagin - see Phegin
 Jas. Ferguson
 Eli Ferris
 Isaac Ferris
 Jos. Ferris
 Seth Field
 Ebenezer Ward Finney
 Jas. Fitzpatrick
 [Fitzpatrick]
 Geo. Fithian
 Rob't Flack
 Step'h Flin
 Hez. Flint
 Gab'l Foster
 Luke Foster
 Thos. Frame
 Paul Framler
 Nath'n Franks
 Joseph Frazy
 [Frazee]
 Jacob Frazey
 [Frazee]
 Edmund Freeman
 Ez. F. Freeman
 Rob't French
 Lewis Fryberger

Jas. Gallagher
 Sam'l Gallagher
 J. S. Gano
 [John Stites Gano]
 Seth Gard
 James Gardner
 Garrard - see Jarrod
 Levi Garrison
 Jno. Gaston
 John Gaston
 Uriah Gates
 Jno. Gaudy
 Ro't Gaudy
 Thos. Gaudy Esqr.
 Thos. Gavin

