

FOREWORD

There are many motives that lead to the study of family history, some more worthy than others. One of the more valid reasons is an honest desire to really learn about one's ancestral roots. Another reason, not so admirable, is pride of ancestry. When you stop to think that each human being has a father and mother, four grandparents, eight great-grandparents, sixteen great-great-grandparents...and that in every generation the number doubles, it can be safely assumed that by the twenty-first generation back each individual will have more than a million ancestors. Now in that mighty host we may be sure that there may be some of whom we may not be too proud, while others would undoubtedly inflate our ego. Suppose you can find some knights, nobles or even royalty in your family line...there's nothing unusual about that. So can millions of others!