

# This Place Matters

Great - Grandfather Prof. Samuel S. Haldeman and other Family Members

by Audrey S. Haldeman

I, Henry Breneman Haldeman (1923 - ), being the great grand-son of Prof. S. S. Haldeman, and my wife Audrey, have been very interested in family Genealogy. We have travelled around the country and to Canada and England looking up information about different members of the family besides my great grandfather.

We have visited many Genealogy societies in Pennsylvania finding all the people so nice and so co-operative. We also visited the National Archives in Washington, D.C. Since we both are retired and our time is our own we combined the places with vacation spots. Never worrying about returning home at a particular time and date for going back to work.

We went to Branson, Missouri for vacation and decided since we are this far west, let's go to Calvert, Texas to look up Horace Haldeman (1820-1883). We arrived in Calvert, Texas on the widest street we have ever been on which was made wide for the cattle drives. Not knowing where we were at, we stopped at a gas station to ask information. Henry was told to go inside and speak to the Mayor. A few minutes later he came out for me. It turned out the Mayor had his office at the gas station which he ran and in the back was his office and he knew all about Horace Haldeman and told us to help ourselves to all and any of his files on genealogy and we could make all the copies we needed when we explained to him we were doing Horace Haldeman, the Professor's brother. Horace had an interest in the Chickies Salunga Furnace. Becoming dissatisfied with this venture, he sold the interest back to his brother and joined the United States Army. As second lieutenant he was sent to various posts on the Texas border. While at Fort Gates, his last post in the service, he surveyed and located the military road to Austin. In 1858 he resigned from the army. He moved his family to a 1500 acre ranch on Elm Creek in Bell County, where he began raising livestock. He loved horses and is reputed to have had some of the finest horses in the state when the Civil War began.

We visited the cemetery where Horace Haldeman (1820-1883) and his family are buried. He is the great uncle of Henry Brenenan Haldeman; brother of Prof. Samuel Steman Haldeman.

Our next adventure was to Ottawa, Canada. Would you believe when we arrived at the steps of the government building there were people standing outside blocking the entrance? They were on strike. We explained our purpose for wanting to enter the building. They were nice and took us in. They showed us where the files were and where we could make copies and we were the only ones in the room doing research. There were only a couple of men in the building and one spoke with us and he turned out to be a relative to Sir Frederick Haldimand who also is our Sir

Frederick Haldimand. He invited us to his home and showed us his genealogy on Sir Frederick Haldimand. He later sent us a copy of his papers for our book.

We went to California to visit Audrey's sister who lived in Fresno, and while out there we went to the Historical Society of Sacramento looking up Paris Haldeman (1831-1893) the half-brother of the Professor who went to California during the gold rush. Of course ,we went to Yosemite, the Vineyards and other places of interest.

Our most exciting trip was to London, England, with many rewards. We went to the British Museum and British Library where many, many books and papers of Prof. S. S. Haldeman are kept. Also many, many papers of Sir Frederick Haldimand. To see Sir Frederick Haldimand's papers we had to have a special pass and an overseer watched you constantly. The person who signed out for the papers was the only one allowed to touch the papers as all of them are the original ones.

Doing all this genealogy has been extremely interesting, rewarding and fun. We still do some and enjoy every minute of it and have met wonderful people.

I must give thanks to Sir Peter Emery, M.P. a member of the "House of Commons" who got all the proper papers and permission for us to be able to do the research in the British Library. "Sir Peter Emery" was a class mate of Audrey's. Let me explain that. England was at War in 1939 and Peter had an Aunt living in Audrey's home town. His Mother sent him over here to live with the aunt and to attend high school. Peter graduated with us and returned to England to join the Air Force. After the war when his service time was up, I don't know what Peter did. Queen Elizabeth Knighted him and he was in the "House of Commons". "Sir Peter" came over to our 50th. class reunion and that's when I spoke to him about the Prof. S. S. Haldeman and "Sir Frederick Haldimand" and their Papers. He gave me his secretary's name and so I could contact her when we would be going to London. Having a list of all the papers the British Library has of both men and our proper forms and pictures taken before we arrived opened the many doors for us.

We have some of the nicest people in the Haldeman Mansion Preservation Society right at home here and very knowledgeable with many thanks to Norma J. Bair; Keith Shearer; and Dale Good.

P.S. Sir Frederick Haldimand, K.B. (1718-1791) Appointed Gov. Gen'l of Quebec and Canada in 1778 with the title of "Captain-General and Governor -in -chief and over the Province of Quebec and Territories depending there on in America.

Original "coat of arms" of Sir Frederick Haldimand" is in the Chapel of "Henry VII" Westminster Abbey. We missed seeing the original in Westminster Abbey by (1) day. They had closed the Abbey for repairs.