

ALMY

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

No. 2

April 1975

News is a little sparse for this issue. I have been very busy on many things other than Almy genealogy. I think most of you have been busy also because I have received very few comments to the first newsletter.

CORRESPONDENCE

Please do not feel offended or discouraged if I do not reply to your letter right away. I'll get around to writing to each of you eventually. In many cases I'm waiting until I can fit information together so I'll have something really interesting in my reply.

I have written to many of you requesting additional data. In putting together an Almy Family Tree it is very important to have dates (or approximate dates) and the location of birth and marriages. Also, the names of wives, all children, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, cousins, etc. It is very important to have the above information when tracing back through census data.

FORMAT

In all newsletters and other information I send out, I plan to leave a left-hand margin wide enough so that the pages can be three-hole punched and kept in a three-ring binder.

SUGGESTED NAME FOR NEWSLETTER

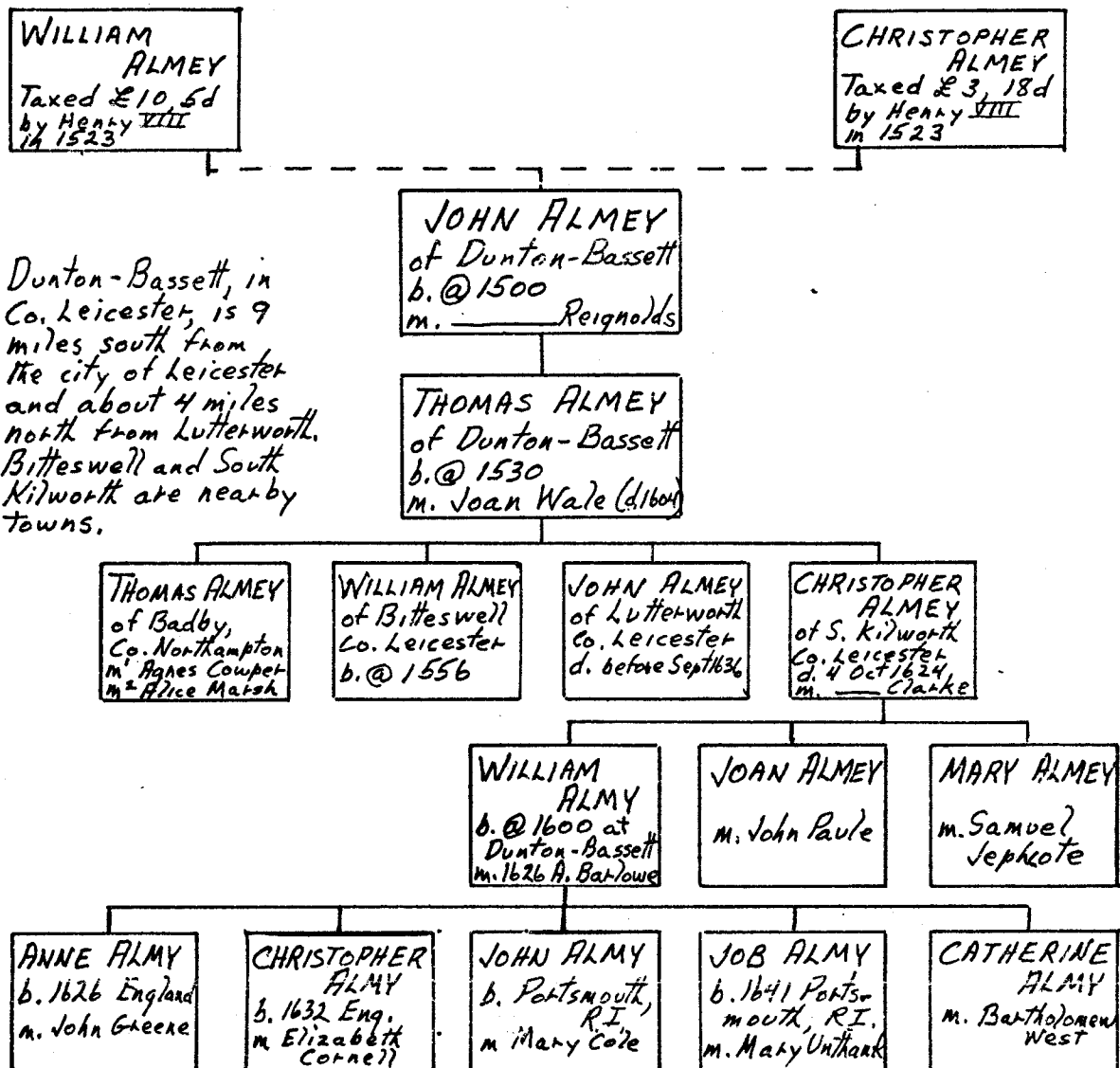
Louise S. Almy of Huntington Beach, California, suggested that the newsletter be named "By the Name of Almy" which is taken from one of the coat-of-arms that has been drawn up for Almy.

My first reaction was favorable. But then I thought of the following: (1) The newsletter is for many that are not known by the name of Almy -- that might have been their maiden name or their mother's or grandmother's name -- but they are very much interested in Almy family history and genealogy. (2) The authenticity of the coat-of-arms -- I want to explore this subject further. So far I have been unable to find that an Almy coat-of-arms was ever recorded in England. Further, the name was spelled Almey in England and coats-of-arms with the new Americanized spelling had to originate here. However, this does not necessarily preclude our Almy (Almey) ancestors having an authentic coat-of-arms.

Above is a suggestion and some of my thoughts concerning it. How about letting me know your thoughts on it.

OUR ENGLISH ANCESTRY

A number of you have asked about the origin of the Almy family in America and I feel that others that do not have this information may be interested. Therefore, I am presenting below a chart of the ancestry of William Almy, the immigrant of around 1628, from whom I believe most, if not all, of us descend. This information is taken from the article "English Ancestry of William Almy" contained in the New England Historical and Genealogical Register (pages 310-324 of the October 1917 issue and pages 391-395 of the October 1924 issue).



William and Christopher at the top of the chart could be older brothers of John Almy. However, because of the amounts that William and Christopher were taxed and because the names are repeated in subsequent generations, I think William is the grandfather and Christopher the father of John Almy. I would then estimate they were born about 1440 and 1470 respectively. Those of you who can trace their line back to William¹ have an ancestral line about 535 years long.

ALMEYS IN ENGLAND

While on a Society of Mayflower Descendants tour of England in 1970 I phoned a James Almey in Derby. Although I had a tight tour schedule, he and his wife and my wife and I managed a nice two to three hour visit together. We found that we both were accountants, both worked for our respective Governments, and we were approximately the same age. Although he had not done much on his genealogy, he was very interested in pursuing the subject. (I later sent him a copy of the above article on the English ancestry of William Almy). He said his grandfather Almey was born in Broughton Astley, which is only 2½ miles down the road from Dunton-Basset where the immigrant William Almy was born. These are adjoining parishes. There is no doubt in my mind that this James Almey is descended from the same family as William Almy, the immigrant to America.

CONTRIBUTIONS

I want to thank all of you that sent contributions to help defray the cost of sending out these newsletters. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Because of the stamps I have used in mailing out the questionnaires and newsletters, you have probably guessed that philately is one of my hobbies.

FIRST NAMES

I thought some of you might be interested in the most frequently used Almy given names. Based on the approximately 300 Almys listed in the phone books I used in sending out the questionnaires, here are the most common Almy first names (5 or more listings).

Charles	8 times
David	6 "
Donald	11 "
James	6 "
John	10 "
Richard	18 "
Robert	22 "
Thomas	5 "
William	14 "

REMEMBER

Send me your news.

Your cousin,

Merwin F. Almy

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