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LTC S.M. Nanney,
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February 26, 1987

Dear LTC Nanney,

I apologise for the delay in completing your research but I have now done so and a search of the original baptismal register of the Church of St. Dunstan, Stepney, Middlesex (now East London) showed the following entry:

BAPTISM AT ST. DUNSTAN'S CHURCH, STEPNEY (Ref:P93/DUN/256)

"Robert, sonne of Robert NANNYE of London, Grocer, borne in the house of Austine JAUNIE (?) of Mylend, was baptised the second daye this month November 1614".

I searched the years either side of 1614 until eventually I had covered the period 1600 to 1630 inclusive in the baptismal register of St. Dunstan, Stepney, but as far as I could see there were no other entries in the surname NANNEY and variant spellings.

It is interesting to note that Robert Nannye senior the grocer was residing in the City of London in 1614 and not in Stepney where his son was baptised. However, the hamlet of "Mylend" (now Mile End) was in the parish of Stepney and so this no doubts accounts for the location of the baptism. I could not quite decipher the surname of the person at whose house in Mylend Robert Nannye junior was born, and I hope, therefore, that this detail is not too important to the research as a whole.

It would certainly appear likely that Robert Nannye the grocer of London was the person entered on Griffiths pedigree as one of the sons of Hugh and Annes Nanney, while Robert junior, baptised in 1614, was probably the person located on the passenger list of 1635.

I have now worked up to your remittance of £15 but would be pleased to continue the investigation for you if desired. Perhaps a search of Probate records should next be undertaken for Robert Nanney, the grocer's, Will, if this has not already been attempted.

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LTC S.M. Nanney, Ret.,
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March 25, 1987

Dear LTC Nanney,

Thank you so much for your letter of March 7 enclosing | cash
towards a search of the probate records for the possible Will left
by Robert Nanney senior.

I note you would like to know the exact date of birth of Robert Nanney junior, but I am sorry to say that it is unlikely that this information will be recorded anywhere and so I very much doubt it will ever be discovered. I am afraid the closest we can get to this date is through his baptism which took place, as you know, on 2nd November 1614. Unless this was a late baptism, i.e. when the child was an infant, it was customary in England for the baptism to take place quite soon after the birth, usually within a few weeks or even within a few days. The reason for this was because the infant mortality rate was very high during the 1600's and so the parents usually wished the child to be baptised quite soon to prevent the possibility of the child dying unbaptised. Thus in the case of Robert Nanney junior I would imagine that he was born in September or October of 1614, or even on 1st or 2nd November!

As to discovering the name and maiden surname of the mother of Robert Nanney junior this may prove possible, either through Wills or by tracing a record of his parents' marriage. However, as regards the latter we have no idea of its date and location and I consider our best policy is to try probate records first.

On this occasion I have searched through the indexes of Wills proved in the Prerogative Court of Canterbury, which, as you may know, was the principal English ecclesiastical court of probate prior to 1858. The majority of Wills were proved in the PCC - particularly of the larger estates - and so I hoped to locate the Will of Robert Nanney senior in these records. However, there was no trace of his Will in the period 1614 through to 1700, in which he would have surely died, and in fact your surname is so rare that only the following four entries were recorded:

PCC WILLS PROVED 1614 - 1700 (ALL NANNEY ENTRIES)

LEWES NANNEY of Maesybandu, Tallylyn, county Merioneth, Wales, Esquire, Will proved 5 December 1642 by JANE NANNEY, widow the relict.

EDWARD NANNEY of Cerrig y velin, Llanfihangel y Pennant, county Merioneth, Wales, gentleman. Will dated 20 September 1652, and proved 6 July 1653 by ELIZABETH GWYNNE alias NANNEY, widow the relict,

Continued ...

PCC WILLS 1614 - 1700 (continued)

HUGH NANNEY of Shrewsbury, England, mercer. Died in London.
Will proved December 1663.

EDWARD NANNEY of Wrexham, county Denbigh, Wales, ironmonger.
Will proved 1685.

I do not know if you already know of these Wills, but if any are of interest I can obtain photocopies of them and type out transcripts as necessary.

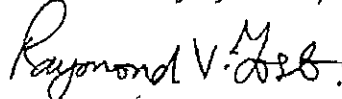
It is unfortunate that I have been unable to trace a Will for Robert Nanney senior and I could next try some of the lesser London courts of probate such as the Consistory, Commissary and Archdeaconry Courts. Please let me know if you would like this done.

Another idea would be to search for the Will of RICHARD HUTCHINSON, the uncle of Robert Nanney junior as named in the latter's Will of 1663. This might mention members of the Nanney family, including the mother of Robert Nanney junior who was probably Richard's sister.

My research time on the PCC Will indexes amounts to exceeding
your remittance by and I trust this is acceptable.

I hope all is clear and of interest and I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Sincerely yours,



Raymond V. Foster