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## C O A L S O N

The ancestry of COALSON (you choose your own version of the spelling of the name) is said to go back before the birth of Christ. There is a chart in my possession which has two names on it before the birth of Christ. The second name on that chart is of a man who died in 48 BC. This chart has names and dates that come right down thru Charlemagne, King of the Franks, to several names and dates in the 1967s.

Since several names on the chart are those of rulers, it is assumed that our ancestors were people, in many cases, who had a great deal of power. The fact that the coat of arms has both gold and silver also indicate royalty.

To me, this is extremely interesting. Those COALSONS of us who are descended from William Coalson and his wife Malinda Melissa Lindsey may readily lay claim to royal ancestors. Melissa Lindsey was of Scots royalty, her ancestors having gone to England with their cousin, William the Conqueror, prior to the battle of Hastings, in England, October 25, 1066; one of the men had established the royal family in Scotland by 1086, according to history. Those of us, and that's most of us, can lay claim to nobility thru the wife of Jacob Coalson, Mary Burton Davis, whose ancestry goes back to Lord Francis Burton of England. Those of us who descended from John Marshall Coalson and his wife Mary Eleanor Shirley-Coalson may lay claim to royal blood thru the Shirleys. And, it is quite possible that Coalson goes back into Norman royalty, thru the Lindseys.

But, this is ancient history, more or less. As far as I am concerned, the world began the day of my birth, and it will end the day of my demise; what had happened will then be history.

There are two versions of how the name COULSON came into being.

The first information about the origin of the name Coalson seems to date back to some time in the 9th century.

COULSON is a West Highland name, prominent in the Orkney and Shetland Islands. It is also found in Normandy, France, (and the coat of arms bears the fleur de lis). The name is derived from the Icelandic (Old Norse) name of Kal or Kali. The original meaning is associated with the Norse word "kalla", meaning "to call", hence a "herald, or one who proclaimed official messages.

The Orkney and Shetland Islands were under the Scandinavian dominion until the 15th century, a circumstance having a lasting influence on West Highland places, names, and surnames.

COLE was the name of a Danish invader of Northumbria, England, in the 9th century. Many present-day Coulsons seem to typify their Norse ancestry with their "wander lust, violent tempers, boundless energy, and honest to a fault".

Heli was King of the Britians, he was succeeded by his son Lud, who died in 48 BC. King Cole was king of the Britians in the 3rd Century, and ascended to the throne amidst the acclamation of people: "OLD KING COLE WAS A MERRY OLD SOUL". (And you thought it was just a nursery rhyme, didn't you?)