

SISTER NANCY GREGG, CSJ

I have been thinking about the request to submit my immigration story to help celebrate our 175th year of coming to the United States. I never really think of myself as an immigrant, so it was a challenge to respond to this request.

When I was stationed in Rome, New York, I visited Fort Stanwix which the British started to construct in 1758. During this visit, I learned that one of the soldiers stationed at the Fort during the Revolutionary War time was named Captain James Gregg. When I returned home after my visit to the Fort, I called my sister, Mary Ellen, and asked her if Captain Gregg could be one of our ancestors and she replied in the affirmative. Mary Ellen then proceeded to discuss our family tree.



Our father's side of the family was from Scotland and was from the MacGregor Clan. They were a rather wealthy clan. Unfortunately, the Clan MacGregor suffered great persecutions and dispersion, besides proscription of their clan name as a result of the Battle of Glenfruin, on February 7, 1602-03. After the battle, the clan was persecuted and its lands confiscated. The use of the name MacGregor was proscribed by penalty of death; thus the clan took a variation of the name--Gregg, Greig, Greg. In 1712 David Gregg came to America and landed in Boston, then went to Watertown, New York. Other family members went to South Carolina. Eventually David's family settled in Waterford, New York.

Our mother's side of the family was from Ireland (not sure what part but certainly the south). My Great Grandfather Farrell emigrated from Ireland sometime before the American Civil War. Grandfather Farrell served in the Army during the Civil War. My grandmother, Ellen Farrell, was born in Lansingburgh, New York, in 1869. She married my grandfather James Flynn in St. Augustine's Church. My mother, Helen Flynn, was born in 1903 and married my father David Gregg in 1929.

