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FAMILY HISTORY  
Society

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 NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM  
 FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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Correspondence connected with the Journal should be addressed to the Editor, Mr G. Nicholson, 57 Manor Park, Concord 11, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE37 2BU. All other correspondence should be addressed to the Secretary, Mr J.A. Readdie, 38 Archery Rise, Neville's Cross, Durham, DH1 4JQ. PLEASE always enclose a stamped, addressed envelope when writing (two International Reply Coupons from overseas members).

## EDITORIAL

This issue sees the Journal expanded to 30 pages - a size which it is hoped to maintain. Some extra space is, of course, needed for the extra members' interests arising out of the high rate of growth of membership, but we also hope to provide more information and articles. Our thanks go to all who have sent items - if yours is not here it could well appear next time. Unfortunately the "Odd Borderers" have been squeezed out this time but they should be back in the next issue. The Editor has a bulging "pending" file but new material is still welcome.

The International Standard Serial Number (ISSN) which you will see on the front cover of this and all subsequent Journals has been allotted to us by the British Library. By law the British Library receives a copy of each publication produced in this country and the ISSN provides a convenient way of identifying our Journal from the thousands of other periodical publications being produced.

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## THE DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

C. P. Neat

In the first Journal a permanent register of members' interests was mentioned; this register is being compiled from details given in members' letters. In the second Journal a form was inserted asking members to give details of all their interests not already reported, mentioning all "genealogical" surnames. At present, 157 members are mentioned in the register, with 735 genealogical surnames - an average of less than 5 per member. Your committee consider that the Register should only be published when an adequate number of surnames can be included. Our neighbouring Society - in Yorkshire - has a register covering 234 contributing members, who are interested in nearly 3400 surnames - an average of 14 per member.

If you have not already done so, you are urged to return the form included in the January Journal, giving details of all the surnames of interest, with the district and century, together with details of any special interests. Summaries of the forms returned by new members will continue to be inserted in the Journal under "Members and their Interests", together with any brief queries.

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## SECRETARY'S JOTTINGS

This is the last Journal before our first A.G.M. on May <sup>20th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>, and it is time to review our progress. Like similar societies elsewhere, we have experienced a growth which no one could have foreseen just a few short months ago, and if nothing else, have proved the need for our existence! We now have well over 200 members, divided roughly equally between those who live locally, those elsewhere in the U.K., and those abroad. New friends have been made, and links established all over the world - we know of at least two members who find themselves to be distant cousins, although separated by the Atlantic Ocean! We are financially solvent - an achievement in itself in these inflationary times - and have, we hope, established a sound base for the future. But it is your Society, and it is for you to continue to make it work - by helping each other if you can, offering suggestions, taking part in projects, and generally being an active genealogist if you possibly can.

All the officers come up for re-election at the A.G.M. and nominations are invited for the posts of Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Editor and

Programme Organiser, and for the Committee. Nominations should be made to me in writing not later than May 17th, with a proposer and seconder.

Next, a news item. Northumberland Record Office have recently acquired microfilms of all the Northumberland nonconformist registers held by the Public Record Office in London. This might help to solve a few problems! Durham Record Office have had similar microfilms of the nonconformist registers in their area for some time. I can supply details of exactly what is included, for either county, in return for payment of postage.

Finally, my day was brightened recently by the arrival of a letter from a lady whose address was simply "What Cheer, Iowa". Surely, it should be "Wot Cheor"! (Non-Geordies, read on quickly!)

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### WHO CLAIMS THIS LAD FROM MORPETH?

A. T. Jobson

At the General Quarter Sessions of the Peace for the County of Northumberland held on the 16th of July 1788, the Grand Jury comprised the following gentlemen: Anthony Surtees of Newbiggin (Foreman), John Dawson of Hexham, John Hind of Stelling, Ralph Smith of Westerhall, Edward Charlton of Hexham, John Maughan of Hexham, John Craig of Hexham, Thomas Kirsopp of Hexham, John Chicken of Newbrough, William Harbottle of Anick Grange, William Bell of Highfield, William Bell of Hexham, and Joseph Walker of Corbridge. Before this jury stood John Jobson of Morpeth, on charges of stealing items of clothing. The witnesses for the prosecution were John Brown, servant, Matthew Arkle, shoemaker, and Robert Oliver, petty constable, all of Rothbury.

Mr William Bell, High Constable for the West Division of Coquetdale Ward, ordered that the treasurer pay him four pounds sixteen shillings and fourpence, for his and his assistant's horse-hire and expenses in apprehending and prosecuting John Jobson for larceny. Jobson's plea of Not Guilty was rejected, and he was sentenced to seven years imprisonment and transportation to Botany Bay, New South Wales.

Held in the Thames Hulks until the spring of 1791, he was placed on board the transport "Matilda" and arrived in Australia in August of that year. He was immediately trans-shipped in the "Mary Anne" to that Hell of all Hells, the Norfolk Island Penal Settlement, from which few ever returned.

Nevertheless, with all claims and demands met, John Jobson left Norfolk Island in 1803 and found employment with the shipping firm of Underwood and Cable. Aboard the ship "Surprise", he was engaged in Sealing in the Bass Strait, in the area of King's Island, and that December he survived a shipwreck in a violent storm. From then on, no more is heard of John until November 1817, when he boarded the clipper "Harriet" as a servant to the Charters family, who were returning to London. It is tempting to think that after an exile of almost thirty years, John Jobson may have managed finally to return to his native Morpeth to be re-united with friends and tell of his adventures.

#### Sources

Newcastle Press, Northumberland Record Office; Sydney Press, Mitchell Library, Sydney, National Library, Canberra, State Library, Victoria.

BISHOPS' TRANSCRIPTS OF PARISH REGISTERS  
AMONG THE DURHAM DIOCESAN RECORDS DEPOSITED IN THE  
DEPARTMENT OF PALAEOGRAPHY AND DIPLOMATIC, UNIVERSITY OF DURHAM

Margaret S. McCollum

PART I, A - Ne

Provisional list of terminal dates of transcripts,  
correct to February 1976

For most parishes in the Diocese of Durham the bishops' transcripts cover the period from approximately 1760 until the mid-19th century. There are usually gaps within the series for each parish, especially during the earlier part of the period. The exact dates of all surviving pre-1760 transcripts have been noted in this list but terminal dates only have been given for most series of post-1760 transcripts. Few bishops' transcripts of marriage entries were made after the introduction of civil registration of births, marriages and deaths in 1836 but transcripts of baptismal and burial entries were still sent in from many parishes for some years after that date.

The Durham Diocesan Records contain bishops' transcripts of parish registers from the following areas: the archdeaconry of Durham; the archdeaconries of Northumberland and Lindisfarne (which until 1882 were in the diocese of Durham); Hexhamshire from 1837 onwards when this area ceased to be an ecclesiastical peculiar of the diocese of York and was transferred to the diocese of Durham; the Durham ecclesiastical peculiars of Allertonshire (in Yorkshire) prior to 1813; the Durham ecclesiastical peculiar of Crayke (now in Yorkshire) prior to 1837; and Alston parish and its chapelry of Garrigill which, although situated in the county of Cumberland, were for ecclesiastical purposes in the diocese of Durham during the period when bishops' transcripts were made. Pre-1837 Hexhamshire transcripts are among the York Diocesan Records deposited in the Borthwick Institute of Historical Research, St. Anthony's Hall, York.

Abbreviations

D	County Durham
N	Northumberland
ND	North Durham until 1844 when this area was transferred to Northumberland
Y	Yorkshire
C	Cumberland
p	parish
+	Indicates that for the year in question there is within the Durham Diocesan Records a photostat of a parish register transcript, the original of which is among the muniments of the Dean and Chapter of Durham at the Prior's Kitchen, Durham.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Acklington (N)	Sept. 1855 - April 1876 (Acklington transcripts Sept. 1855-1858 are included with Warkworth transcripts)
Allendale (N)	1843 - April 1853
Allendale, Alston, Edmondbyers & Haltwhistle Friends [Allendale p. (N), Alston p.(C), Edmondbyers p. (D) & Haltwhistle p.(N)]	1871-1892

Allendale, St. Peter (N)	1838-1852
Alnham (N)	1813-1878
Alnwick, St. Michael (N)	Oct. 1777-1890
Alnwick, St. Paul (N)	Oct. 1846-1847
Alston (C)	March 1762-1840
Alston & Haltwhistle Friends	1873-1884
[Alston p.(C) & Haltwhistle	
p.(N)]	
Alwinton & Holystone (N)	March 1762-1876
Ancroft (ND)	1764-1867
Auckland, St. Andrew (D)	March 1765-1844
Auckland, St. Helen (D)	1762-1854
Aycliffe (D)	1762-1877
Ayresome Friends [Acklam p.(Y)]	1875-1888
Bamburgh (N)	1762-1851
Barnard Castle (D)	1762-1846
Beadnell (N)	March 1767-1838 (Some Beadnell transcripts
	June 1790 - March 1798 are included with
	Bamburgh transcripts)
Bedlington (ND)	1760-1858
Belford (N)	1760-1868
Eellingham (N)	1762-1846
Beltingham (N)	1812
Benfieldside Friends	1869-1892
[Lanchester p.(D)]	
Benwell, St. James	1838-1875
(Newcastle-upon-Tyne)	
Berwick-on-Tweed, Holy Trinity	March 1764-1840
Berwick-on-Tweed, St. Mary	Nov. 1858 - April 1869
Billingham (D)	May 1762 - May 1872
Birkby (Y)	April 1600 - May 1601, June 1603 - April
	1604, 1665 - May 1666, [1667], Dec.
	1673 - May 1674, Nov. 1689 - June 1690,
	1718 - [March 1719], 1726 - [March 1727],
	May 1760 - May 1813
Birtley, St. Giles (N)	1769-1834
Birtley, St. John (D)	1850-1880
Bishop Auckland Friends	1865-1891
[Auckland, St. Andrew p.(D)]	
Bishop Middleham (or	1769 - 1867
Middleham) (D)	
Bishopton (D)	March 1769-1854
Bishopwearmouth, St. Michael (D)	March 1742 - March 1743, March 1762-1855
Bishopwearmouth, St. Thomas (D)	Nov. 1846-1849
Blanchland (N)	1770 - Feb. 1876
Blyth (or South Blyth) (N)	1762-1844 (All Blyth transcripts 1762-
	1844 are included with Earsdon tran-
	scripts)
Bolam (N)	1759-1760, 1769-1835
Boldon (D)	March 1765-1837
Bothal (N)	1760-1843
Brancepeth (D)	Aug. 1762-1847
Branxton (N)	1762 - March 1856 (Some Branxton tran-
	scripts 1764 - May 1827 are included
	with Cornhill transcripts)
	1765-1841 (All Brinkburn transcripts
	1765-1841 are included with
	Longframlington transcripts)
Brinkburn (N)	



Brompton (Y)	April 1660 - April 1663, <u>March</u> 1697 - <u>March</u> 1698, March 1712 - March 1713, <u>March</u> 1726 - <u>March</u> 1727, April 1731 - March 1732+, 1769, 1776, 1780, 1785, 1808
Broomhaugh, St. James (N)	July 1871 - May 1874 (All Broomhaugh, St. James transcripts July 1871 - May 1874 are included with Bywell, St. Andrew transcripts)
Byers Green (D)	July 1845-1846
Byrness (N)	June 1800 - May 1803, 1813
Bywell, St. Andrew (N)	1762 - May 1874
Bywell, St. Peter (N)	1762 - May 1874
Cambo (N)	1845-1850
Carham (N)	Aug. 1762-1866
Carr Shield (or High West Allen) (N)	1842-1852
Castle Eden (D)	1769-1851
Chatton (N)	1760-1888
Chester-le-Street (D)	1765 - April 1916
Chevington (N)	Sept. 1855-1858 (All Chevington transcripts Sept. 1855-1858 are included with Warkworth transcripts)
Chillingham (N)	1760-1868
Chollerton (N)	1769-1868
Choppington (N)	1869-1871
Cockfield (D)	1766-1867
Collierley (D)	1843-1846
Coniscliffe (D)	1762-1846
Corbridge (N)	March 1769-1875
Cornhill (ND)	1760-1879
Corsenside (N)	1762-1877
Cotherstone Friends <u>Romaldkirk p.(Y)</u>	1876-1878
Coundon (D)	1843-1845
Cowesby (Y)	<u>Oct.</u> 1661 - April 1663, <u>March</u> 1669 - March 1670, <u>March</u> 1697 - March 1698, March 1718 - March 1719, March 1769-1812
Cramlington (N)	1762-1858
Crayke (part of Co. Durham until 1844 when it was transferred to Yorkshire)	March 1704 - March 1705, March 1713 - March 1714, March 1715 - March 1716, March 1718 - March 1719, March 1721 - March 1722+, March 1728 - March 1729+, March 1731 - March 1732+, 1769-1835
Cresswell & Ellington (N)	1837-1844
Crook (D)	Oct. 1843-1848 (Crook transcripts Oct. - Dec. 1843 are included with Brancepeth transcripts)
Croxdale (D)	1787-1831
Dalton-le-Dale (D)	1763-1867
Darlington Friends <u>Darlington, St. Cuthbert p.(D)</u>	1865-1897
Darlington, Holy Trinity (D)	Aug. 1843-1854
Darlington, St. Cuthbert (D)	Aug. 1762 - Jan. 1872
Deighton <u>Northallerton p.(Y)</u>	<u>March</u> 1661 - March <u>1663</u> , May 1673 - May 1674, March 1715 - March 1716, 1718 - <u>April</u> 1719, <u>March</u> 1726 - <u>March</u> 1727, April 1731 - Feb. <u>1732</u> +, 1769, 1776, 1785, 1808

Denton (D)	(Deighton transcript <u>March</u> 1726 -
Deptford, St. Andrew (D)	<u>March 1727</u> is included with Brompton
Dinnington (N)	transcripts)
Dinsdale (D)	1765-1882
Doddington (N)	Nov. 1845-1852
Durham Cathedral (D)	1835-1856
Durham, St. Cuthbert (D)	1769-1857
Durham, St. Giles (D)	1765-1881
Durham, St. Margaret (D)	1813-1848
Durham, St. Mary-le-Bow (D)	1863-1893
Durham, St. Mary the Less (D)	1777-1857
Durham, St. Nicholas (D)	1765-1919
Durham, St. Oswald (D)	1762-1841
Earsdon (N)	1787-1838
Easington (D)	<u>March 1740 - March 1741</u> , July 1787-1836
Ebchester (D)	1773-1869
Edlingham (N)	1762-1844
Edmondbyers (D)	March 1769 - May 1851
Edmondbyers Friends	1766-1871
<u>Edmondbyers p. (D)</u>	March 1760-1877
Egglescliffe (D)	1765-1849
Egglesstone (D)	1872
Eglington (N)	1763-1844
Ellingham (N)	1795-1854
Elsdon (N)	1762-1842
Elton (D)	1764-1842
Elwick Hall (D)	1762-1830
Embleton (N)	1762-1838
Escomb (D)	1762-1870
Esh (D)	1762-1850
Etherley (D)	March 1765-1849 (Some Escomb transcripts
Falstone (N)	May 1795-1803 are included with Anckland,
Felling (D)	St. Andrew transcripts)
Felton (N)	May 1763-1867 (Some Esh transcripts May
Ferryhill (D)	1763-1803 are included with Lanchester
Ford (N)	transcripts)
Gainford (D)	1834-1860
Garrigill (C)	1770-1856
Gateshead (D)	1867-1869
Gateshead Fell (D)	1765-1843
Gosforth, North (N)	1843-1864
Gosforth, St. Nicholas (N)	1762-1841
Greatham (D)	1763-1851
Greystead (N)	March 1760 - Sept. 1840 (Some Garrigill
Grindon (D)	transcripts Feb. 1784 - Sept. 1840 are
Halton (N)	included with Alston transcripts)
	1769-1840
	Aug. 1825-1863
	May - Dec. 1872
	1762-1846
	1769-1856
	1818-1852
	1762-1835
	March 1769-1875 (Some Halton transcripts
	1814-1843 are included with Corbridge
	transcripts)



Haltwhistle (N)	July 1758 - June 1761, May 1768-1858
Haltwhistle Friends	1865-1885
[Haltwhistle p.(N)]	
Hamsterley (D)	1765-1852
Hart (D)	1762-1871
Hartburn (N)	1769-1845
Hartlepool, St. Hilda (D)	May 1769-1849
Hartlepool, West Friends	1897
[Stranton p.(D)]	
Haughton le Skerne (D)	1765-1882
Haverton Hill (D)	1866-1872
Haydon Bridge (N)	1769-1870 (Some Haydon Bridge transcripts 1783-1843 are included with Warden transcripts)
Healey, St. John (N)	Aug. 1868 - May 1874 (All Healey, St. John transcripts Aug. 1868 - May 1874 are in- cluded with Bywell, St. Peter transcripts)
Heatherycleugh (D)	1825-1839
Hebburn (N)	1773-1842
Heddon on the Wall (N)	April 1727 - March [1728]+, 1762-1848
Heighington (D)	1765-1821
Hetton le Hole (D)	1832-1835
Hetton, South (or Haswell) (D)	Oct. 1838 - Oct. 1852
Heworth (D)	June 1768-1879 (Heworth transcripts June 1768 - March 1809 are included with Jarrow transcripts)
Hexham (N)	1837-1858
Holy Island (ND)	1765-1868
Horton (N)	1762-1856
Houghton-le-Spring (D)	1762-1847
Houghton-le-Spring Municipal Cemetery (D)	1892-1896
Howick (N)	1763-1874
Humshaugh (N)	1818-1846 (Humshaugh transcript 1818 is included with Simonburn transcript)
Hunstanworth (D)	1765-1871
Hurworth-on-Tees (D)	1787-1885
Hutton Bonville (Y)	[?Feb. 1662] - April 1663, 1665-1667, March 1669 - Feb. [1670], [1699 - March 1700], [March] 1701 - [March 1705], 1726 - [Feb. 1727], 1759-1760, 1768-1812 (Hutton Bonville transcripts 1665-1667 are included with Birkby transcripts)
Hylton, South (or Low Ford) (D)	1821-1842
Ilderton (N)	1765-1869
Ingleton (D)	1844-1876
Ingram (N)	1766-1878
Jarrow (D)	March 1765-1860
Kelloe (D)	March 1762-1852
Kirby Sigston (Y)	[1639], [March 1692 - March 1693], Sept. 1697 - [March 1698], April 1708-1709+, April 1721 - Feb. [1722], April 1726 - March [1727], April 1729 - March [1730]+, April 1732 - March [1733]+, April 1769 - April 1770, March 1776 - April 1777, April 1780 - April 1781, April 1785 - April 1786, 1808
Kirkharle (N)	1762-1845
Kirkhaugh (N)	1760-1844

Kirkheaton (N)	1861-1862
Kirk Merrington (or Merrington) (D)	1762-1884
Kirknewton (N)	1762-1837
Kirkwhelpington (N)	1760-1853
Knarsdale (N)	1769-March 1856
Kyloe (ND)	1762-1836
Lamesley (D)	1765-1851
Lanchester (D)	May 1763-1865
Leake (Y)	<u>March</u> 1661 - March 1663, April 1665 - Feb. <u>1666</u> , March 1696 - March 1697, April 1726 - March <u>1727</u> , 1759, 1760-1812.
Lesbury (N)	1765-1847
Longbenton (or Benton) (N)	1762-1872 (A duplicate of the Longbenton transcript 177 <u>5</u> is included with Gosforth, St. Nicholas transcripts)
Longframlington (or Framlington) (N)	March 1765-1841
Longhirst (N)	Oct. 1876-1884
Longhorsley (N)	1769-1830
Longhoughton (N)	1765-1870
Longnewton (D)	1762-1841
Lowick (N)	1760-1841
Lucker (N)	1769-1837
Lumley (D)	1861-1867
Medomsley (D)	1766-1846
Meldon (N)	1769-1835
Middleton in Teesdale (D)	1762-1832
Middleton St. George (D)	1768-1843
Mitford (N)	1769-1851
Monk Hesleden (D)	1769-1840
Monkwearmouth (D)	May 1766-1869
Morpeth (N)	1769-1840
Muggleswick (D)	1765-1852
<u>See also:</u> Durham Diocesan Records, Miscellaneous Volumes for Muggleswick parish registers, 1783-1812	
Netherwitton (N)	1766-1880
Neville's Cross, St. John (D)	1913-1919 (All Neville's Cross, St. John transcripts 1913-1919 are included with Durham, St. Margaret transcripts)
Newbiggin-by-the-Sea (N)	Aug. 1760-1878 (Some Newbiggin transcripts 1828-1868 are included with Woodhorn transcripts)
Newbrough (N)	1769-1878 (All Newbrough transcripts 1769- 1878 are included with Warden transcripts)
Newburn (N)	April 1764-1880
Newcastle upon Tyne, All Saints	1762-1868
Newcastle upon Tyne, Christ Church	1861-1863
Newcastle upon Tyne, St. Andrew	1762-1880
Newcastle upon Tyne, St. Ann	1813-1844
Newcastle upon Tyne, St. John	1762-1854
Newcastle upon Tyne, St. Nicholas	1762-1855
Newcastle upon Tyne, St. Peter	1844-1883
Newton Hall, St. James (N)	Aug. 1868 - May 1874 (All Newton Hall, St. James transcripts Aug. 1868 - May 1874 are included with Bywell, St. Peter transcripts)

(To Be Continued)

## A VANISHING ARCHIVE

A. G. Bunting

An enormous amount of time and energy has recently been devoted to the conservation and collection of all kinds of archives, so that we can be confident that these irreplaceable records are being safeguarded for all time. Nevertheless, one invaluable type of archive has been seriously neglected - the Monumental Inscription (MI). In thousands of churchyards gravestones are being eroded by the weather, smothered by undergrowth or thrown away in clearance schemes. As the member of your committee with a special interest in Monumental Inscriptions I would suggest a scheme for recording all the older MIs in our area before these archives - for that is what they are - are lost for ever. MIs can be invaluable in that they often give family groupings which may be impossible to ascertain by other means, they can sometimes fill spaces in missing or defective burial registers and they usually give the age (and sometimes the occupation) of the deceased.

A considerable amount of recording work has already been done in our area. Local histories often contain isolated mentions of MIs and a number of antiquaries have at various times deposited lists in local libraries. I am still inspecting and evaluating these records and would be pleased if anyone knowing of copies in outlying libraries would notify me. Much work has been done in Northumberland by certain members of our Society. Copies of their lists are in local libraries and record offices, and with the Society of Genealogists in London.

Our aim must be to cover all churchyards in Northumberland and Durham within as short a time as possible, and to give indexed copies of our lists to local libraries, etc. As most of the work already done covers Northumberland rather than Durham I propose that the remainder of Northumberland be tackled first. If a target were set for each of the next three years both counties could be covered. There are about sixty ancient churchyards in Northumberland still to do and an undetermined number of 19th century sites. To cover all the sixty ancient sites by this autumn would not be unrealistic. In 1977 the remainder of Northumberland could be done, and a start made on Durham which could be completed in 1978.

It can take a long time to record a complete churchyard, so I propose that for the time being we should make complete copies of all inscriptions inside and outside the church bearing a date of 1851 or earlier, this being the year in which all persons then alive stated their ages to the Census enumerators. When I say a "complete" copy, I do not of course mean that all the verbiage such as "in loving memory of" (omit) and "departed this life" (died) need be included. The important thing is to record everything likely to be of use to a family historian - names, dates, places, relationships, etc.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

1. Find out what needs to be done in the areas that interest you. I am compiling what I hope is a complete list of the work done so far and I can supply information by telephone (Gosforth 857371) or for a SAE sent to 17 Moor Place, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4AL.

2. Obtain the incumbent's permission! Most Vicars are only too glad to cooperate and will appreciate a copy of your work in due course. They may even know of someone in the parish who has already done the work.

3. Take with you a notebook or a portable tape recorder, something to kneel on and a wire brush or wooden scraper for removing lichen (be careful - a stone's facing is often loose). If using a tape recorder be sure to speak some words such as "next stone" between inscriptions, otherwise transcribing from the tape can be very confusing.

4. Prepare copies for the incumbent, the County Record Office, Newcastle Library and the Society of Genealogists, indexed if possible. Have a look at Messrs Readdie and Mason's volumes in Newcastle Library if you are not sure how to go about this.

5. Finally, when you have finished, tell me.

In the October issue of the Journal I hope to publish a list of all complete copies of MIs from Northumberland. It is up to you to ensure that this is as complete as possible. If every member living in this area would do only two churchyards between now and September our aim would be more than realised.

One final hint - the best time of year for recording is now - before the grass gets too long and the undergrowth too thick.

### STRAYS FROM SIDBURY

D. Mason

The following transcript was made from the original registers of Sidbury Chapel, Devonshire (yes - Devonshire!), now in the P.R.O. It is rare indeed to find such gems so far from home.

'A register of baptisms while the Reverend John Scott was Home Missionary at Weardale & Wolsingham, Durham.

<u>Born</u>	<u>Bapt<sup>d</sup></u>	
1822 21.3	7.4	Mary daur. of John & Anne SCOTT, Protestant Dissenting Minister, Westgate, Weardale.
1822 8.3	12.3	Joseph son of Joseph & Jane RICHARDSON, miner of Iron Wells.
		Isaac son of Jonathan & Elizabeth DAWSON, miner of Sick Head, Weardale.
1817 3.11	27.9	Joseph son of John & Mary VICKERS miner of Westgate, Weardale.
1822 26.4	27.11	Jane daur James & Elizabeth YOUNG taylor of Weeds, Nr Weardale.
1824 30.5	22.8	Thomas Ebenezer son of John & Ann SCOTT, Protestant dissenting minister, Westgate, Weardale.
1827 30.7	27.7	Elizabeth daur of John & Anne SCOTT, Protestant dissenting minister, born at Wolsingham bapt Parkhead Meeting House, Nr Kirk Oswald Cumberland.
1813 25.9	24.10	Ann eldest daur of John & Ann SCOTT, Protestant Dissenting minister born Hexham bapt Broadgates Chapel Hexham.
1823 6.11	5.10	Robert s Robert & Ann SMITH taylor of Wolsingham.
1825 27.5	21.6	Gordon s James & Margaret MURRAY, Smelter of Boltshope Mill, Hunstanworth Parish.
1825 30.5	21.6	Ann dr John & Margaret SMITH, miner of Boltshope Mill Hunstanworth Parish.
1825 21.11	1826 3.1	Mary dr James Mitchel & Mary TELFORD of Ramshay Hunstanworth Parish.'

## MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Once again space considerations, combined with the rapid growth in membership, prevent us from publishing all the members' interests received to date. This rather longer than usual list should, however, reduce the backlog to acceptable proportions.

- 1 Mr C.P. NEAT, 43 Westcliffe Rd, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear, SR6 9NP.  
The Chairman of our Society, Mr Neat is a Fellow of the Society of Genealogists and is himself a genealogist of repute. His personal interests are in Caris, Toase, Wood, Mennell (Easingwold, N.Yorks); Greening, Sadler, Blackwell, Horne (Winchcombe, Glos.); Norman, Holland, Wheeler, Thomas (Worcester); Treherne (Ledbury, Herefordshire); Neat, Wakely, Masklinge (N.Wilts); Page (Ely); Whitechurch, Wilson (Harlton, Cambs); Evered, Honiball (W. Somerset). Mr Neat is seeking the marriage (1770-77) and baptism of John Morley/Morley of Haughton le Skerne, Co.Durham and the baptism (1751-2) of his wife Jane (?Claxton). Special interests include the 2nd Regt of Foot and the 2nd Regt of Life Guards (1797-1844).
- 5 Mr J.A. READDIE, 38 Archery Rise, Neville's Cross, Durham, DH1 4JQ.  
Secretary of the Society and compiler of an index of marriages for North Northumberland, 1812-1837. Families of interest are: Readdie/Reddie, etc. of Fifeshire; Tunnah, Sibbit (N.Northumberland/Border area); Logan (Berwick/Tweedmouth); Johnson (Alnmouth/Alnwick); Potts (Alnham and surrounding areas). Searching particularly for the birth of Stephen Sibbit, c.1740.
- 24 Mr J. FARKER, 144 Desborough Av, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP11 2SU.  
Interested in the following families: Harker (N.Yorks/Durham/Tyneside); Thompson (Auckland/Middleham); Robinson (Hedworth); Robson (Tyneside); Scott (Tyneside, esp. N/cle All Sts.); Spence (Swaledale/Teesdale, etc.). Also interested in Lead-mining (records and people), Methodism (in areas as above), Industrial Archaeology and the migration of families particularly in the Shildon/Auckland area.
- 26 Mrs J. HANSON, 109 Kitson Hill Rd, Mirfield, Yorks, WF14 9DS.  
Offers help in Huddersfield, Wakefield and Dewsbury areas. Local families are: How (Berwick); Shanks (Wooler); Riley (Berwick); Hogg (Berwick).
- 39 Mr K. YOUNG, 38 Regent St, Hetton-le-Hole, Tyne and Wear, DH5 9AA.  
Interested in Young (Northumberland, c1780-1800), Matthews (Newcastle), Craggs (Co.Durham) and Baggott (Kidsgrave, Staffs).
- 59 Mr S.R. WALES, 146 Wear Av, Westerhope, Newcastle 5.  
Main interest is in Wales/Wailes/Waless of Northumberland and Cumberland in the 18th century. Looking for the birth of Joseph Wales, who, according to the 1851 Census, was born in Cumberland in 1796.
- 109 Mr A.T. JOBSON, 27 Illawarra St, Williamstown, Melbourne 3016, Victoria, Australia.  
Local families are Jobson (Corbridge/Heddon/Newburn) and Charlton (Ryton/Greenside). Particularly seeking any Jobson descendants of the marriage of Anthony and Elizabeth at Heddon-on-the-Wall in 1785. Will give assistance to members interested in the early settlers in Victoria.
- 110 Mr R.H. RULE, 1115 May St, Victoria V8V 256, BC, Canada.  
Interested in Rule of Norham and Ford from the 16th to the 18th century.
- 111 Mr R.P.H.L. THOMAS, 31 Broadwater Down, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.  
Interested in Thomas, Hogg and Bunting of Sunderland and Tynemouth.
- 112 Mr H.H. WRANGHAM, 803 S.Nelson St, Kennewick, Washington 99336, USA.  
Main interest is in the Wrangham families of Co. Durham.



- 113 Mr C. HEDLEY, 37 Dominion Rd, Sawmills, Brandon, Co. Durham.  
Tracing details of Christopher Hedley, born at Corsenside - in 1831 according to the 1851 Census but parish registers only record this name under 1829. Information is required of his marriage to Anne (?) of Bellingham. In 1871 Christopher was an engine man at Lamesley and had three children, the baptisms of which are still required.
- 114 Mr H. ROSS, 15 Larkfield Rd, Richmond-on-Thames, Surrey, TW9 2PG.  
Families of interest are: Ross, Cargett, Barrass (Rainton area); Kell (Tanfield/Byers Green); Morgan, Cheal (Sunderland/Hartlepool); Taylor, Booker, Sedgewick (Sunderland).
- 115 Mrs L. SIMPSON, 829 Dogwood Drive, Beloit, Wisconsin 53511, USA.  
Interested in relatives of Henry Simpson, born in Neasham, Yorks, in 1818. Henry's father was John Simpson (of Sunderland, 1859), a shipper for the Derwent Iron Co. Henry's first wife was Elizabeth Robinson, born Co. Durham 1819, died at Todd Hills, Byers Green, 1849, daughter of George Robinson. His second wife was Hannah Nixon, born in Newcastle in 1831, married in Sunderland in 1850, daughter of Hugh Nixon. Wishes to correspond with any relative of these families.
- 116 Mr A.P. STROTHER Junr, 308 E. Market Av, Searcy, Arkansas 72143, USA.  
A descendant of William Strother, who first appears in the records of Virginia in 1673. It has been accepted and published in the USA that William was the son of William son of Lancelot Strother of Newton, Northumberland, but proof is lacking. If correct it gives a descent from the Strothers of Wallington and a Royal descent from the early kings of Scotland.
- 118 Mr G.H. ROCHESTER, 165 Rodney Crescent, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1H 5J8.  
Interested in Rochester families throughout Northumberland and Durham, especially John Rochester of Berwick, who married Barbara Young of Sunderland c1810.
- 119 Mrs I. AIRD, 17 Askew Crescent, Tweedmouth, Berwick-on-Tweed, TD15 2AU.  
Engaged in the difficult task of establishing the identity of her father, for whose birth certificate a fruitless search has been made at Register House, Edinburgh, as he is thought to have been born in N. Frederick Street, Glasgow. It is likely that he was adopted as a child and he is thought to have been the son of a Miss Hagan or Hogan (? of Romany or French blood) and to have been Irish on his father's side. He died in Sheffield, where he had only recently settled, in c1947.
- 121 Mr P.R. JOINER, Greystones, The Spital, Yarm, Cleveland, TS15 9EX.  
Interested in Liddell (Stamfordham), Stephenson (Hexham/Stamfordham), Sherris/Sherry/Sherries (Sunderland), Blackett (Ryton/Newcastle/Gateshead, particularly Thomas, c1850-1912). Seeks birth of John Sherris, born c1802-7.
- 122 Mrs J.B. THOMAS, 3764 Belleau Drive, Memphis, Tennessee 38127, USA.  
Descended from Richard Branxton, born c1811 in Scotland (married Eden Patchett, born c1813, Galloway). Is interested in tracing any connection with the village of Branxton, near Wooler, and in corresponding with any Branxtons. Offers assistance in Tennessee and W. Pennsylvania.
- 123 Rev. W. MCCARTHY, OB, 2/10 Rawson St, Rockdale, NSW 2216, Australia.  
Interested in Oswald, Robson and Younghusband families in Co. Durham.
- 124 Mrs M. TAGGART, 830 Kenyon Drive, Springfield, Illinois 62704, USA.  
A great-granddaughter of Joseph Sedgewick, born in Co. Durham in 1815, who emigrated to USA in 1837/8. Wishes to trace other Sedgewicks from this area.
- 125 Mr S. MCGUIRE, 45 Wood View, Grays, Essex.  
Maternal Northumbrian ancestors are Dixon, Ainsley/Aynsley, Robinson, Wilson, Shipley, Kenny, Fuller, Ward, Christie,



- Stevens, Marshall and McKenzie (S.Shields). Has much information on Bates of New England, USA.
- 126 Miss M.B. BOYLE, Hillrise, Sandhills, Thorner, Leeds LS14 3DF.  
Interested in several Yorkshire families - North-East interests are Boyle (Earsdon/Newcastle/Gateshead), Wilson (Newcastle/Stockton) and Hall (Newcastle). Has a particular interest in the Flax trade and offers short searches in Leeds.
- 127 Canon L.B. WILSON, 16 Oak Lea, Witton Gilbert, Co.Durham.  
Has a fairly complete record of the Rule Family of Norham, Wooler and Ford parishes and can trace his own ancestry on this line to 1660. Wishes to correspond with anyone interested in Rule or Halliday.
- 128/9 Mr & Mrs E.K. LANDLESS, 34 Gaywood Court, Nicholas Rd, Blundellsands, Liverpool, L23 6XN.  
Interested in Landless (and variants) of Wooler/Ford area, especially William, who had a lease of the coal-mines near Ford in 1776 (NCH, XI, p.425) and Cdr. William Landless, RN, who served with Collingwood. Landless is supposed to be one of the aliases used by the McGregors when that name was proscribed in Scotland (1603-1784).
- 130 Mr T.H. WOLSTENCROFT, 29 Meadowfield, Whaley Bridge, Stockport, Cheshire.  
Tracing Dickinson (Allendale), Langlands (Morpeth), Havelock (Guisborough) and I'Anson (anywhere). Is editor of the "I'Anson Times", a One-Name Society Journal.
- 131 Mr W.N. PHILIPSON, 20 Gretna Rd, Newcastle, NE15 7PE.  
Interests are Robinson (Allendale/Stanhope/St.John's, Weardale) and Emerson of Stanhope and St.John's, from 1800 onwards. Is seeking the marriage of Ralph Emerson of Low Rush, Weardale, and Hannah Vickers in the St.John's Chapel area in 1812-15.
- 132 Mr E.S. MALTBY, 5 Plas Isaf, Rhosymedre, Wrexham, Clwyd, N.Wales.  
Interested in Maltby (Durham, Sheffield, Lincolnshire and Norfolk), Rhodes (Sheffield), Keal (Lincolnshire) and Cowx (Northumberland).
- 133 Mrs E.D. CUMMINS, 22 North State St, Dover, Delaware, 19901, USA.  
Is descended from George, son of Marmaduke Blakiston of Newton Hall, Co. Durham, and brother of John Blakiston, MP, the regicide. Her main interest, however, is searching for details of an immigrant ancestor, Timothy Cummins.
- 134 Mr B. CESSFORD, 9 The Royd, Yarm, Cleveland, TS15 9HU.  
Interested in Cessford (and variant spellings) of North Northumberland and Borders area. Missing references include the (?Presbyterian) marriage, c1808-12, of John, son of John and Margery Cessford of Chillingham and Mary --- of Earle, near Wooler. Also sought is the birth or baptism, c1829, of their son David and David's marriage c1847-53 (?in Scotland) with Mary Thornton (born in Gamston, Notts. in 1831).
- 135 Mr T. MANNERS, 6 The Crescent, Loansdean, Morpeth, Northumberland.  
Interested in all Manners families - concerning which he has much information - and in related families in the Bishop Auckland area, including Jolly and Simpson.
- 136 Mr G.W. BLAKEY, 74 Shields Road, Seaburn Dene, Sunderland.  
Interested in Blakey of the Houghton-le-Spring and Rothbury areas and in Thornton of Durham.
- 137 Mrs M. JAY, JP, 75 Feckenham Rd, Redditch, Hereford & Works, B97 5AH.  
Interested in Coates (Gateshead), Hind (Darlington), Waistell (Cleasby, near Darlington) and Gibson, Matthews and Hall (all of Newcastle). Major current search is for her great-grandfather, James Coates, a former Butler who died at Espley Hall, Highlaws, Morpeth, in 1882, ages 67. He was not at that address in the previous Census and has not been located in any other Census. His wife and children were at Low Fell in 1851 but the father

# POGATELLO REGIONAL

## GENEALOGICAL

was presumably at his place of work. Requests members to keep a look out for him when searching Census returns of Gentlemen's residences. He is known to have been at Chowdene in 1849 and was previously at Ponteland and Bedlington.

- 143 Mr N. NICHOLSON, 8 Horsley Avenue, Ryton, Tyne and Wear.  
As a first cousin of your Editor, Mr Nicholson shares his Cumbrian interests - Nicholson, Salkeld, Smith (all Kirkoswald area, 18th century and earlier); Nicholson, Mingins (Farlam/Brampton, 19th century); Raine (Alston); and Wilson (Newton Reigny). Has a considerable amount of information on Cumberland Nicholsons and invites correspondence on this subject. Interested in any Martin Nicholson - any place, any period (including the present). Maternal ancestry includes Knotts of Winlaton.
- 145 Mrs W.E. SCOTT, 3142 South, 2750 East, Salt Lake City, Utah 84109, USA.  
Interests are Close, Embleton, Rowell/Powell, Young and Vickers.
- 147 Mr A.K.S. PHILLIPS, 33 River Road, Brentwood, Essex, CM14 5NU.  
Seeking: (1) baptism of George Rennison, born in Eglington in or before 1823; (2) baptism of Francis Watson (wife of George), born in Rothbury in or before 1825, daughter of William Watson, shepherd; (3) marriage of Thomas and Ann Rennison (George's parents); (4) baptism of Thomas Rennison (?Tynemouth 1792). Mr Phillips' father-in-law, the late John Scott Rennison, steeplechase jockey and National Hunt trainer, was a grandson of George Rennison of Alnwick who at various times in his life was a miller, a gamekeeper and a coachman. George's father, Thomas, was born at N.Shields but Mr Phillips thinks there may be a connection with an Alnwick family of Rennison who were members of the Alnwick Company of Tanners.
- 150 Mrs B.J. ASPINALL, "Avondale", Lynton Av, Boston Spa, Wetherly, W.Yorks, LS23 6BL.  
Interested in the ancestors of George Charlton and Margaret Wardle (Wardell), both of Low Angerton, who were married at Hartburn in 1788. Also interested in Wilson of Ulgham c1826 and Mather of Ilderton Dod (from 1870) and of the Morpeth area.
- 151 Mrs G. MUNRO, 7 Wave St, Hampton, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia 3188.  
Seeks information on ancestors of Francis Carr (probably the Francis who was baptised at Longbenton in 1789, son of Francis Carr and Margaret Robson) and his wife Mary (1787-1852), born at Backworth (1851 Census). Mary's maiden name may have been Simpson as this was a "middle name" of one of their children.
- 152 SUNDERLAND BOROUGH LIBRARY, Central Library, Borough Rd, Sunderland, Tyne and Wear.
- 153 Mrs M.M.B. APPS, 26 Lloyd Square, London WC1X 9AD.  
Seeks information on Stote of Hedworth, near Jarrow. They were there in 1538 (Sir Bertram Stote) but there is a large gap from then until 1713 when Robert Stote was born. He moved to Horsley Hill and died there in 1790.
- 154 Mr B. PEARS, 65 South Sherburn, Rowlands Gill, Tyne and Wear, NE39 1JY.  
Primary interest is in Pears and Philipson/Phillipson of N.W. Durham and S.W. Northumberland. Seeks (1) baptism of Francis Philipson (?Stanhope), married at Allendale in 1727; (2) baptism of Francis Pears (Northumberland c1810), who spent most of his life at Blanchland; (3) baptism of Matthew Pears, c1760, probably the son of Archibald and Jane of Swinhope, Allendale; (4) a copy of the poem "Greendykes or the forged Will" by M. Wilson, privately printed in 1845 by Thomas Cheeseborough, Fore St, Hexham. The poem tells of the forging of the Will of Matthew Pears by his wife and younger sons, the suspicious death of the disinherited eldest son, the deathbed confession of one

- of the forgers and the unsuccessful attempts by the children of the eldest son to expose the forgery.
- 155 Mr J. DONAHOE, 2160 Leavenworth St, San Francisco, California 94133, USA. Interested in Wilson and Howey, both of Wooler, particularly the ancestry of (1) Rev. Alexander Wilson of Wooler (d1777) and of Alice his wife and (2) of Henry Howey of Wooler Haugh Head (1723/4-1785) and of Frances his wife (1729/30-1791).
- 156 Mr J. RAMSAY, c/o Mrs Coxon, 4 Akenside Terr, Jesmond, Newcastle NE2 1TN.
- 157 NEWCASTLE CENTRAL LIBRARY, Queens Square, Newcastle upon Tyne 1.
- 158 Mr H. NICHOLS, 7 Church Lane, Costock, Loughborough, Leics LE12 6UZ. Interested in Nichols/Nichol of Bamburgh (from 1669), Willington, Wallsend (from third quarter of 18th century) and Kelloe (from 1830s). Particularly looking for marriage, probably before 1788, of Walter Nichol(s), born in Bamburgh, and Mary Lidster/Lister of Hartburn. Their children were born in Willington. Also seeks marriage of Walter and Margaret Nichols of Willington. Their first (known) child was baptised at Wallsend in 1817.
- 159 Mrs E. SMITH, 7518 Lindsay Drive, Indianapolis, Indiana 46224, USA. Looking for descendants of Lionel and Margaret Robson, whose four known children were William, b1793 (emigrated to USA), Roger, Elizabeth, who married Walter Rutherford in 1815, and Mary, who in 1858 married Edward Robson and who possibly lived in Simonburn.
- 160 TYNE AND WEAR COUNTY RECORD OFFICE, 109 Pilgrim St, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 6QF.
- 161 Mrs M. ALLEN, 394 10 St, Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401, USA. Interested in the ancestry of Joseph Bambrough, her great-grandfather, who was born in Newcastle in 1811. His wife, Ann Newton, was born in 1813 at Newburn or Ryton and their children were born in Elswick in 1841-53. Also interested in the family of Thomas Charlton (b1809), whose wife, Ann Scott, was born at Benton, Northumberland, in 1821 - their family were born in Benton in 1841-57.
- 162 Mrs R.C. MELDRUM, 30 Sandy Lane, Irby, Wirral, Merseyside. Desires baptism, or any other record, of Edward King, born on Tyneside c1823-27. He worked as a pee-dee (keel-boy) with his uncle William (King?). He was apprenticed as a carpenter, served on an East India Co. clipper for 18 months, then went into the Navy. He married in Queenstown, Ireland, in 1851 and became pilot to Cork Harbour Board. He died in Queenstown in 1924.
- 163 Mr J. BULLOCK-ANDERSON, 202 Wingrove Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne 4.
- 164 Mrs J.D. WORSTER, 3518 Erie Drive, Orchard Lake, Michigan 48033, USA.
- 165 Mrs M.P. CHARLEWOOD, 31 Wilson Gardens, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4JA.
- 166 Mrs E. DOUGLAS, Austen Croft, 31 Austen Road, Guildford, Surrey. Families of interest are: Baitey/Batey/Baty and Hemsley, both of Willington Quay/Wallsend (18th - 19th cents); Newby (especially Ralph) of Tynemouth (early 19th century); Bainbridge of Whickham (1800-25); Forster and Reay of Blaydon (c1800); Armstrong and Foster of Winlaton (late 18th century) and Shields of Hexham (1820-40). Mrs Douglas, who is a member of the Northern Group of the Society of Genealogists, would be willing to do research in London on a reciprocal basis.
- 167 Mrs F.W. Wintering, 4222 Patricia Way, Dunsmuir, California 96025, USA. Main interest is in Stokoe, particularly of Bellingham and Hexham. Requests information on any Stokoes who migrated from this area to Canada or USA, especially two who went from Bellingham to New York - Edward (c1799) and Thomas Edward (c1801) - and Thomas of Nafferton who sailed from Greenock in 1801. Also requests information on occupants of Shitlington Hall (between Bellingham and Wark) in 1799 and/or 1910. Seeking also parents of William Reed/Read, born c1587, married Mabel Kendall c1628, travelled in "Defence" to Massachusetts in 1635, returned to England and died in Newcastle c1656.

- 168 Mrs E.J. NEWELL, 457 Queen Mary St, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, K1K 1W3.  
Mrs Newell's paternal great-great-grandfather, Ralph Johnson, was born in Wolsingham in 1766, son of George Johnson and Martha Dixon, and emigrated to Canada (Nova Scotia) in 1817. Ralph had a brother Robert (born 1777) and sisters Margaret, Ann, Mary Jane and Elizabeth. Would be interested in locating any living relative of these Johnsons, or obtaining any further information on Johnson of Wolsingham.
- 169 Miss J.V. LISLE, 155 Chillingham Rd, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 5XN.  
Interested in Brown of Cresswell and Lisle of Cullercoats, Newbiggin, Woodhorn and Longbenton.
- 170 Miss G. CHAMBERS, 3 Rhoda Terrace, Ryhope Rd, Sunderland SR2 9SY.  
Main interest is in Chambers of the Borders, Northumberland and Newcastle. Requires information on the parentage of William Chambers, who was born in the late 18th century. His wife was a Wilkinson (her father was either the Morpeth postmaster or a shipbuilder). Of William's two sons, Andrew (b1821) became a druggist and grocer in Morpeth and Joseph (b1824) became an engineer.
- 171 Mr H.W. SUTHERLAND, 3 Westlands, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7YL.
- 172 Mr J.W. GOWLAND, 115 Bosworth Gdns, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE6 5UN.  
Particularly interested in his own surname, Mr Gowland has traced his family to one Thomas Gowland whose name appears in the Stanhope Registers in 1677. Legend has it that he fled the persecution of the covenanters in Scotland and built a chapel at Ireshopeburn, in Weardale - remains of this chapel still exist. However, no proof has been found and Thomas' origin remains a mystery. Invites correspondence with anyone interested in Gowland.
- 173 Capt H. BROWNE, 24 Kay St, Newport, Rhode Island 02840, USA.  
Is descended from one George Browne of "Burnitofts" who married in Leeds in 1684. His family, all baptised in Leeds and all of Burnitofts, were Martin (1685/6), Ann (1687), Margaret (1688/9) and Mary (1690). Family tradition says that George was forced to remove from the parental estate, which lay near Bishop Auckland. This finds support from the baptismal register of St. Andrew's, Auckland, which records the following children of George Browne of Coundon: Richard (1656/7), Jane (1659/60), John (1662), Martin (1665) and Margaret (1667). Halmote Court records indicate that George had been a copyholder at Coundon since 1664 and by Will (1687/8) left his estate to his son George. Unfortunately the record of George's birth or baptism has not yet been found. Capt. Browne invites correspondence from anyone with a similar interest.
- 174 Rev. R.E. JONES, 407 Riverside Drive, Tequesta, Florida 33458, USA.  
The only record Rev. Jones has of his grandfather, William Spearman, is "Hexham, April 23 1831". He has traced Spearman from Shropshire and Devonshire but now thinks that perhaps his family were connected with the Spearman of Thornley. He would therefore appreciate any information on that family.
- 175 Mr D.W. SMITH, "Simonburn", 22 Careen Cresc, Middle Herrington, Sunderland.  
Mr Smith is specially interested in all Newbiggin mentions, from throughout Northumberland and Durham, for which he possesses many complete genealogies. Other special interests include Corbridge and North Tyne families, the Hexham Jacobites (1715) and the Hexham Riot of 1761. He is willing to search in the North-East in return for Yorkshire searches.

- 176 Mrs I. PARFITT, S.S. No. 1, Kimberley, British Columbia, Canada, V1A 2Y3.  
When her grandfather, Owen, started school he did not know how to spell his name so the teacher told him to spell it McNainey. It was thus spelled until the family moved to Canada in 1909. It then became McNainy, and has remained so ever since. Owen's father, Michael, is recorded in the 1881 Census as McAney (aged 45, born in Ireland). He was a labourer in iron works at Crook, and later Middlesbrough. Other spellings of the name - on birth certificates - are McEnany, McInneny, McCaniney, McNerney and McNeaney. Requests help with this most difficult family.
- 177 Mrs G.W. BOYD, 434 Bigham St, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15211, USA.  
A descendant of William Bullerwell of Bywell St. Peter's parish who emigrated from Sunderland in the early 1800's with his wife, Mary Simpson, a native of Ebchester. Interested in all County Durham Bullerwells.
- 178 Mrs R.R. ATHEY, 143 Ridge Av, New Kensington, Pennsylvania 15068, USA.  
Families of interest are Minto (Northumberland), especially John Minto, born in Wylam 1799; Hutchinson (Northumberland); and Ramsay (Northumberland).
- 179 Mr W.W. MURRAY, 209 Palomina Drive, Oakdale, Pennsylvania 15071, USA.  
Interested in Murray (Coxlodge and Ponteland), Gray (Glasgow), Davis and Skeldon (Wales) and Weir (N.Ireland).
- 180 Mrs J. LAING, 1 Parkside Rd, Reading, Berks, RG3 2DA.  
Families of interest are Laing (Newcastle and Sunderland); Vardy (Durham and Whalton); Forster (Morpeth and Meldon Park); Inglis (Newcastle); Gibson (Goswick and Tweedmouth); Dixon (Tweedmouth); and Johnstone, Carr and Graham (all Berwick).
- 181 Mr W.E. BOUNCE, 40 Salcombe Ave, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear, NE32 3SY.  
Mr Rounce, who has recently compiled an index of Jarrow marriages and baptisms 1813-37, is interested in Rounce (Norfolk and West Suffolk) and Cawthorn (Northumberland, Durham and N.Yorks.), both pre-1837. He offers help with searches in local record offices.
- 182 Mr D.A. SPOTSWOOD, P.O. Box 227, High St, Norfolk, New York State 13667, USA.  
A descendant of George Spotswood (or Spottiswoode) who emigrated from Scotland (probably Lauder or Berwick) to Kemptville, Ontario, Canada, Mr Spotswood is searching for some link to connect him with any Spotswoods from our area.
- 183 Mr R. McNULTY, Box 483, Cozad, Nebraska 69103, USA.  
Mr McNulty's information from his family Bible (but which has not been confirmed by Somerset House) is that in 1864 Daniel McNulty married Mary Ann Arrington (daughter of Thomas Arrington, she was born in Northumberland in 1845). They had a daughter Dorothy in 1866 and a son Peter in 1869. They went to the USA in 1870, leaving the children with their parents. In 1878 the children were taken to America by an uncle.
- 184 Mr J.M. VINCENT-SMITH, 150 Pear Tree Lane, Bexhill-on-Sea, Sussex.
- 185 Miss P.A. BRADSHAW, 6 Marsh Hall Lane, Thurstonland, Huddersfield, HD4 6XD.  
A member of the Family History Section of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, Miss Bradshaw is at present following up her mother's ancestors - Charlton, Bates, Cheesman, Dodd and Robson, all of N.Durham and Tyneside.
- 186 Mr L.B. BREWIS, 3 Lance Lane, Liverpool 15.  
A member of the Brewis family of Morpeth who are the subject of one of the Hodgson Pedigrees in Newcastle Central Library. Unfortunately Hodgson did not take the family earlier than 1779, when John Brewis married Ann Thompson at Warkworth, so Mr Brewis is attempting to find John's ancestors. It is likely that he is the John, son of John Brewis, baptised at Warkworth in 1750, and there is an earlier baptism (John Senr?) of a John, son of



Thomas Brewis of Grange Mill in 1720. Requests information on earlier Brewises. Mr Brewis is also descended from the wide-spread Northumberland family of Fenwick.

- 187 Mr H.J. ASH, 52 Lumley Close, Oxclose, Washington, Tyne and Wear, NE38 OHY.  
Has come to a halt with his own family (lost in London in 1830) and is now interested in all references to the name Ash, Ashe, Asch, etc. Another interest is in Pickerden or Pickedden. Offers help with topographical problems from his collection of books and maps and invites correspondence on Ash, etc.
- 188 Mrs M. CHRISTENSEN, P.O. Box 250, Washington, Utah 84780, USA.  
Interested in Angus and Lee of Darlington and Co. Durham.
- 189 Mr W.P. LIVELY, 314 North St, Portsmouth, Virginia 23704, USA.
- 190 Mr L.B. LANDER, 1545 McGregor Av, Apt 507, Montreal, Quebec N3G 1CY, Canada.
- 191 Mr G.W. GIBSON, 34 Wagoninheel Rd, Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776, USA.
- 192 Mr M.W. EISE, MBE, 84 The Esplanade, Brighton 3186, Victoria, Australia.
- 193 Mr W.A. PELOW, Wychgarth, 16 Dingle Rd, Pedmore, Stourbridge, Worcs., DY9 ORS.
- 194 Miss D. EADES, c/o Plaza Shopping Centre, 11th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand.
- 195 Mrs D. CLARK, 70 Southcliffe, Roker, Sunderland, SR6 QPH.
- 196 Miss E.S. CLARK, address as above.
- 197 Mr J.C. GWYNN, 81 Kirkstone Place, Newton Aycliffe, Co.Durham.
- 198 Mr J. SCOTT, 33 Bywell Close, Ryton, Tyne and Wear, NE40 4XD.
- 199 Mr A. WRIGHT, 41 Cherrytree Drive, Whickham, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE16 4TQ.
- 200 Mr A.M. PEART, 4 Mylesview Place, Willowdale, Ontario, Canada, M2N 2M6.
- 201 Mr H.W. GRAY, 1 Orchard Cottage, Park Lane, Cramborough, Sussex.
- 202 Mr G.A. EMBLETON, 50/259 Fitzgerald Av, Moramba, Sydney, NSW, Australia.
- 203 Miss K.B. SHOVER, 617 Kewanna Av, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15234, USA.
- 204 Rev. T.M. OLIVER, Restharrow, Longhorsley, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE65 8SY.
- 205 Mrs J. CROOKS, 117 Conway St, Spreydon, Christchurch 2, New Zealand.
- 206 Mr L.L. DINNING, Flat 22, Sunset Lodge, The Avenue, Poole, Dorset, BH13 6MG.
- 207 Miss P.A. JOHNSON, 14 Dorchester Rd, Morden, Surrey, SM4 6QE.
- 208 Mrs D. SMAILES, 9 Tyle Rd, Tilehurst, Reading, RG3 4TE.
- 209 Mrs M. MULLIGAN, Brawnlee, Nebraska, 69126, USA.
- 210 Mrs N. JENNINGS, 38 Crowgreen Lane, Pilgrims Hatch, Brentwood, Essex.
- 211 Mr R. W. LOCK, P.O. Box 44154, Tacoma, Washington 98444, USA.
- 212 Genealogical Society of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 50 East North Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84150, USA.
- 213 Mr A. KNIGHT, 8 Greenhill Lane, Leabrooks, Derbyshire, DE5 4DY.
- 214 Mr R.H. CALASCA, 6 Earls Dene, Low Fell, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear, NE9 6BJ.
- 215 Mrs D. STANTON, 3 Lake Rd, Chandlers Ford, Hants, SO5 1EZ.
- 216 Mrs H.S. SCOTT, 10 Elmdene Rd, Kenilworth, Warwickshire.
- 217 Mr P. CLOUGH, 73 Cecil Avenue, Sale, Cheshire, M33 5BG.
- 218 Mr H.G. WEST, 650 South Grant, Pocatello, Idaho 83201, USA.
- 219 Mr E.R. STEVENS, 121 Easdale Gardens, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear.
- 220 Mrs M. ALLGOOD, What Cheer, Iowa 50268, USA.
- 221 Miss P.E. CALVERT, 1/514 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn 3122, Victoria, Australia.

#### Change of Address

- 78 Mr E.A. JOHNSTON, Tanglewood, 37 Bramber Rd, Seaford, Sussex.

#### Death

We regret to announce the death of the following member:

- 64 Mrs E. COOK, 51 Heatherslaw Rd, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne.



## LIBRARY LIST

The following Journals, etc., belonging to the Society are in the keeping of our Chairman, Mr C.P. Neat, 43 Westcliffe Road, Sunderland, SR6 9NP, and may be borrowed by members on payment of 11p. for postage and packing.

### 1. Society Journals

Journal of the Birmingham Society for Genealogy and Heraldry, N<sup>o</sup>. 34, Aug. 1974.

Journal of the Bristol and Avon Family History Society, No. 1, Autumn 1975.

The Cheshire Family Historian, No. 4, Oct. 1974; No. 7, July 1975.

The Essex Family Historian, No. 3, Oct. 1975.

Genealogical Society of the East Midlands, Bulletin No. 9, March 1975; No. 10, June 1975; No. 11, Sept. 1975.

The Greenwood Tree (Somerset and Dorset Family History Society), Vol. 1, No. 1, 1975.

The Hampshire Family Historian, Vol. 2, No. 2 (undated); Vol. 2, No. 3, Nov. 1975.

Kent Family History Society Journal, Vol. 1, No. 4, Sept. 1975.

The Manchester Genealogist, Vol. 12, No. 1, (undated - ?Jan. 1976).

The Midland Ancestor (new name for the Journal of the Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry), Vol. 4, No. 1, May 1975; Vol. 4, No. 2, Aug. 1975.

Journal of the Norfolk and Norwich Genealogical Society, No. 5, April 1974.

The North Cheshire Family Historian (Northern section of the Family History Society of Cheshire), Vol. 1, No. 5, Dec. 1972; (no number), Nov. 1975.

Journal of the Rossendale Society for Genealogy and Heraldry, Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1975; Vol. 1, No. 2, April 1975; Vol. 1, No. 3, July 1975.

Suffolk Roots (Suffolk Genealogy Society), Vol. 1, No. 4, Oct. 1975; Vol. 2, No. 1, Jan. 1976.

Root and Branch (West Surrey Borders Family History Society), Vol. 1, No. 4, Summer 1975; Vol. 2, No. 1, Autumn 1975; Vol. 2, No. 2, Winter 1975.

### 2. Society Directories of Members' Interests

The Midland Directory (Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry), June 1975.

Handbook (Essex Society for Family History), 1975, with supplement, 1975.

Members' Directory of the Family History and Population Studies Section of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society, February 1975.

Members' Directory (The North Cheshire Family History Society), Sept. 1975.

### 3. One Name Society Journals

Journal of the Dalton Genealogical Society, Vol. 5, 1974; also Sept. 1975.

Harrington Family Miscellany, Vol. 1, No. 1, Sept. 1975.

Higginbottom Family Bulletin, No. 23, Dec. 1975.

L'Anson Times, Vol. 1, No. 1, Jan. 1976 (Edited by T.H. Wolstencroft, our member No. 130)

Moot (Thirkill and Threlkeld families), No. 2, 1973; No. 3, 1974; No. 4, Aug. 1974; No. 5, Oct. 1974; No. 6, 1974; No. 7, 1975.

Swinerton Family History, Vol. 1, No. 10, Aug. 1975.

Walcot Family Bulletin, No. 1, June 1975; No. 2, Sept. 1975.

### 4. Genealogies

Conyers Notes on the Conyers family of County Durham, England, and the descendants of John, Walter and James Conyers of Leeds, County of York and Philadelphia (32pp.)

Strother The Strother Family of Northumberland, England and Virginia. (24pp.)

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## 13TH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF GENEALOGICAL

### AND HERALDIC STUDIES

The above Congress will be held at Imperial College, London, from 31st August to 7th September 1976. The Congress, which is held biennially in a different European city each time, is this year being jointly sponsored by the Society of Genealogists, the Institute of Heraldic and Genealogical Studies and the Federation of Family History Societies. The Annual Conference of the Federation of Family History Societies will be held during the Congress, on 5th September. Various excursions and exhibitions will be available during the week.

Whilst it is true that many of the lectures will be on highly specialised topics, with more than a hundred titles to choose from there should be more than enough for everyone. In addition to the international programme of specialist lectures a series of talks and seminars will be held, covering more general aspects of British and European Genealogy. Parallel with this there will run a programme of illustrated lectures on Heraldry and related topics. Unfortunately we do not have space to print the full detailed programme, but anyone interested in attending can obtain this and an application form from the Editor (SAE please!).

The Congress Fee is £3.50 per day (minimum £5). This covers lectures and light refreshments only; a composition fee of £35 covers the whole Congress - lectures, light refreshments, initial buffet reception, published Proceedings and one volume of printed lectures. Limited bed and breakfast accommodation is available in Imperial College at £40 for the whole Congress. Registration Fees, payable on booking, are £5 (day attenders) or £25 (whole Congress).

Space is limited and over eight hundred provisional registrations have been made already, so do not delay if you wish to attend!

## THE DECEMBER MEETING

### "SOME DIFFICULTIES IN THE USE OF DATA REQUIRED

#### FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH" (PART 1)

C. W. GIBBY

(These notes formed the substance of the entertaining and eloquent talk given to the Society on 4th December by Dr. Gibby. They are being published in two parts - Part 2 will be in the July issue of this Journal. - Ed.)

The following notes have been put together because books on genealogy usually take for granted the truth of statements found in records and in particular the infallibility of "Somerset House". In reality, the only safe rule seems to be to view all statements, oral, written, printed or carved, with suspicion unless they can be checked. Unfortunately, verification is not always possible.

In making declarations to Registrars, clergy, census officials, etc., people who have something to hide are unlikely to boggle at false statements. In other cases errors may arise through ignorance or stupidity. Some people may invent names of parents or places of birth rather than admit that they do not know. The responsibility for the truth of statements rests with the person making them, not with the official who records them.

The implications of these curious cases will be obvious to anyone with experience of genealogical investigations. Most of them are within my own experience.

#### 1. Discrepancies in Census Returns and Registrations

The Cole family of Little Holland, Clacton, Essex:

	Census June 7/8, 1841	Census March 30/31, 1851
William	age 35	47
William	11	-
Elizabeth	9	-
Elizabeth Jane	7	-
Alfred	5	-
James	4	-
George	3	12
Ann Maria	1	11
Joseph	3 months	-
John	-	10

If William's age on 8/6/1841 were 35 years, he should have been ten years older in 1851, but ages over 15 in 1841 were supposed to have been rounded downwards to the next lower multiple of 5. So William could have been 37 in 1841.

Joseph in 1841 seems to have become John in 1851, unless they were twins, one being away from home in '41 and the other in '51.

William senior seems, from Parish Registers, to have married twice, unless there were two William Coles in the parish at the same time, with duplication of the names of their children.

Alfred, son of William and Marian, was baptised 20/6/1835 and so could have been nearly 5 on Census Day. James, son of William and Marian, was baptised 5/5/1837 and so could have been 4 on Census Day.

A William Cole married Elizabeth Clark 31/8/1829, and their son William Thomas was baptised 11/10/1829; he was therefore 11 on Census Day, assuming that William Thomas is William. Elizabeth, daughter of William and Elizabeth, was baptised 2/11/1830, and so could have been 11 on Census Day if her baptism had been delayed.

Ann Maria in 1841 is plain Ann in 1851. Her baptism has not been traced. When she married John Pallister 10/8/1886 she was Anna Maria Cole. She had by that time registered three children born out of wedlock, describing herself as Annie Maria Pallister, formerly Cole, falsely implying that she was a married woman. The father's name was given as John Pallister each time. For the births of the three children she gave three different addresses, none of them being the address at which she was living with John Pallister. Had she changed her name to Pallister before getting married she should not have appeared in the register as Cole, unless she changed it back for the wedding. At the wedding she described herself as "spinster", but was doubtless known to the neighbours as "Mrs Pallister". At her death 29/7/1895 she was Anna Maria again, aged 55. The ages at marriage and death are in agreement and are not inconsistent with the Census age.

The ages of John Pallister are confused, and no record of his baptism has been found.

- A He died 27/4/1917 aged 87, so he was born between 27/4/1829 and 27/4/1830.
- B He was admitted to school 22/3/1838 aged 7 years 5 months so he was born between 22/9/1830 and 22/10/1830.
- C He was married for the first time 11/8/1850, being "of full age", so was born not later than 11/8/1829.
- D In the 1861 Census (April 7th) his age was 30, so he was born between 7/4/1830 and 7/4/1831.
- E He was married for the second time 10/8/1886, aged 56, so he was born between 10/8/1829 and 10/8/1830.
- F He left school on 25/10/1844, and as children left that school (The Duke of York's School, or, more correctly, the Royal Military Asylum), on all kinds of dates, they may have done so immediately on reaching their fourteenth birthdays. This suggests that he was born on, or immediately before, 25/10/1830.

A comparison of these dates is shown on the diagram at the top of the next page.

John Pallister was married three times, in 1850, 1886 and 1900. The third wife and her child knew of the second marriage but not of the first one. A child of the first marriage was born in 1851 and of the third in 1900. The first wife was the one he did not seduce.

A similar confusion exists regarding the age of his father, Thomas Pallister. He was baptised at Leeds 23/6/1799. He enlisted in the

	1829				1830				1831					
	4	6	8	10	12	2	4	6	8	10	12	2	4	6
A	_____													
B										_____				
C	_____													
D								_____						
E			_____											
F											_____			

Army 1/6/1819 giving his age as 19, which could have been correct if he had been born between 1/6/1799 and 22/6/1799. On discharge, 14/9/1847, his age was 47 years 3 months, putting his birth between 14/5/1800 and 14/6/1800. At death 24/6/1840, his age was 61, which agrees with birth between 24/6/1798 and 24/6/1799. During the whole of his military career his age seems to have been understated by one year.

## 2. False date registered to save money

One of my cousins was born in 1880, in very bad weather, on a farm twelve miles from the Registrar's office. The necessary journey was postponed for a few months, and when it was found that a late fee was payable, a false date of birth was given. The earlier birthday is recognised by the family, but the later one is her legal birthday. This kind of thing could obviously put the births of two successive children only six months apart.

## 3. False name registered

Another cousin, Florence X, was the illegitimate daughter of Jane X by James Y. At her wedding, she turned at the church door to the cousin who was giving her away and said "Now don't forget, my father's name was James X" - and as such it was put in the register.

## 4. Incomplete name registered

Mary Norbury married a man of British birth but German origin, known to her and entered in the marriage register as Max Senst. Many years later she found that he was really Hermann Ludwig Max. Somerset House will have his birth indexed as Hermann L. M. and his marriage as Max.

## 5. Spelling problems

Variations in spelling are notoriously common, and in many cases do not matter, as there can be no doubt as to the identity of the person concerned. The following example is one in which the spelling does matter. In the parish of New Moat, Pembrokeshire, John Gibby married Martha Harry in 1778, a few weeks after his banns had been called as John Gibbin. In the parish there were families of both Gibby and Gibbin.

## 6. A man of straw set up as a father

A village in Pembrokeshire is just across a creek from the former estate of one of the Country Gentry. Within living memory the Squire used

to get his coachman to row him across at night, so that he might go visiting the local girls, who took it as a compliment to be selected. Any resultant children were blamed on the coachman, who admitted paternity, was entered in the register accordingly and undertook to pay weekly maintenance. The Squire had an understanding with the coachman, and provided the money.

#### 7. Spurious pedigree from a paid researcher

An American Gibby was supplied with a pedigree going back to John Gibby, born in 1693 at Abergavenny, Mon. It is identical in every detail - Christian names, marriages, dates, etc. - with that of the family of Gabb of the Goitre, near Abergavenny, except for the surname. At a certain point a genuine Gibby tree, supplied by the client, is grafted on to it. The Gabb tree was published in a standard history of Monmouthshire, and the refusal of the searcher to reveal his sources is understandable.

(To be concluded in the next issue)

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### THE JANUARY MEETING

#### RECORDS IN THE ROCKIES

The Society met at the Sunderland Stake Centre (Church) of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, where Mr Jeffrey Packe, the British Isles Negotiator of the Church's Genealogical Society, showed a film and slides about that Society's programme of recording and preserving genealogical information.

The Society is engaged on one of the most comprehensive record-gathering programmes ever, with over 60 people microfilming parish registers, marriage and probate records, census returns, and other documents throughout the world. The records are stored in the Granite Mountains Record Vault, 700 feet below the Rocky Mountains near to Salt Lake City, Utah. The vault has a total capacity of 26 million 300-page volumes and can be extended when required by further excavation.

The statistics of the Society's Library in nearby Salt Lake City are quite mind-boggling - more than 130,000 volumes on open stacks, some 240 microfilm readers to give access to over 812,000 rolls of microfilm, equivalent to three million 300-page volumes, and over six million genealogical records filed by church members. There are branch libraries of the Society throughout the world and one is soon to be opened in Sunderland. This will have copies of microfilms and microfiche indexes of local interest and, through an inter-library loan arrangement, will give access to the main library's vast collection.

The microfiche indexes are potentially a most useful tool for the genealogist. Information extracted from microfilm copies of parish registers, etc. has been processed by a computer, programmed to produce a county-by-county index. The microfiche index is essentially a miniaturised copy of the computer print-out. One such index in our area at the moment is that for County Durham (mainly baptisms), now in Durham Record Office. Most, though not all, of the county is covered - much more than the national average of about 55%. The Northumberland equivalent is now on order by the Northumberland Record Office.

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## THE FEBRUARY MEETING

### GENEALOGY FROM NEWSPAPERS

Patricia J. Storey

(The following is a highly condensed summary of Miss Storey's most detailed and scholarly paper on this subject - Ed.)

The extent to which a local newspaper is likely to interest the genealogist depends on its period. 18th century papers are unlikely to be much help, but there are exceptions. The family notices from the Newcastle Courant relating to Sunderland, 1745-1800, were published by Sunderland Antiquarian Society in 1913. These are mostly deaths and marriages; births are relatively rare and those that were announced tend to belong to the highest social class. In the 19th century marriage and death notices are still the most likely to appear. Many 19th century papers published family notices in continuous paragraphs, often grouping together those from particular places. Such entries generally contain the minimum of information: the date, place and father's name for births, date, place, name and age for deaths and date, place and names of the couple for marriages. Sometimes additional information is given, and again the higher the social class the more likely that the family would pay for the fuller entry, which would probably be on similar lines to those of the present day. The continuous entries are trying to read, whereas the separate entries, beginning with the surname in capitals, are easier to skim as well as being more fruitful. Once daily papers began to be published outside London in the mid-1850s, it is worth checking for a few days after an announcement as additional detail was sometimes added later.

19th century marriage reports are rare, unless someone prominent was involved, but brief obituaries were published for a wide range of people. If the deceased held any local position it is worth checking for a reference to his death. Such a paragraph would not necessarily appear at once; if the editor was short of space he might hold it until the next edition. Funerals may also be reported, sometimes with a list of mourners including their relationship to the deceased. This is commonest for those who had held public office - Magistrates, Councillors, members of Boards of Guardians, etc. 19th century papers tended to be strongly political in tone and a man's religion or politics could well influence the length or inclusion of an obituary so all local papers should be checked if more than one was being published at the time. The Tory Sunderland Post was unlikely to report the death of a hard-working Liberal party worker but the Radical Sunderland Echo would probably publish at least a brief obituary. On the other hand, the nonconformist Echo would not go into such detail on the death of a C. of E. clergyman as would the Post. Obituaries may well be published even though the subject had left the area, if they still had relatives living locally. The death notice of James Middleton, for example, was published on Monday 12th Jan. 1880, but he had died on the 9th, and on the 10th the Echo had put a paragraph in its local news column, announcing "Sudden death of a High Street tradesman". On Monday, as well as the death announcement, there was a further news paragraph about him, the next day a brief report of his funeral, and the following day a detailed obituary. There are no details of his family, however, except that "He leaves a family of four to mourn his loss". Earlier in the century information like this would have been in one, or perhaps two, issues of a weekly paper. Thus in the days before registration of births, deaths and marriages, the task of tracking down an obituary is actually easier than later on.

In the case of sudden or violent death, local papers may well be informative. Any inquest is likely to be reported and may (or may not!) yield useful information.

Local papers can provide much information about individuals if one already knows something of the person concerned or if the paper has been indexed. The only known indexes for the N.E. of England are for the Durham County Advertiser 1814-1825, and a nearly completed one for the Sunderland papers in the 1830s prepared by Sunderland Public Library. For those in public life, the local press should have reports of elections to, and meetings of, public bodies, from a relatively early date. Nomination lists were usually published giving the address and occupation of each candidate and the names of his nominators; reports of contested Council and, after 1870, School Board, elections may well include personal details. Reports of meetings will show whether he was given to speaking and may reveal a special interest or a strongly held opinion. Other items which may be revealing are Law Suits and Bankruptcy Proceedings, both of which may include matters mentioned in evidence which might never otherwise have been made public. Evidence from a Court of Law has the advantage of probably being true, whereas much 19th century press comment needs to be taken with at least a grain of salt.

Another useful part of a local paper is its advertisement columns, and these are potentially helpful at an earlier date than the rest of the paper. If you know that a person was in trade at a particular period, a scan of the advertisement columns may turn up something indicating the size or type of business and changes in it. On the type of information obtainable from 18th century advertisements the paper by W. W. Tomlinson in Procs. of the Newcastle Soc. of Antiquarians, 1893, is interesting.

The local public library should know what papers were published in the area in given periods but various other sources of information are available. One of the most useful for this area is Maurice Milne's book, The Newspapers of Northumberland and Durham (Frank Graham, 1971). Two useful general reference books for 18th century papers are A Census of British Newspapers and Periodicals, 1620-1800 by R.S. Crane & F.B. Kaye (1927) and the New Cambridge Bibliography of English Literature, vol. 2. Volume 3 of the New Cambridge Bibliography, covering the 19th century, lists only daily newspapers. Another general reference book, The Times Tercentenary Handlist of English and Welsh Newspapers, lists papers from the 17th century to 1920, arranged by year of first publication, and includes a title index. Easier for tracing an area's 19th century papers, if you can find a copy of it, is the volume of the printed British Museum Catalogue listing the Museum's 19th century holdings under place of publication. Mitchell's Newspaper Press Directory, published more or less annually since 1846, gives a virtually complete list of all papers being printed at the time of publication. There are also a few lists covering particular areas, e.g., F. Barnes, Handlist of Newspapers published in Cumberland, Westmorland and North Lancashire (1951), which includes the location of the papers. Possibly useful for locating a particular paper is the University of Leicester's Victorian Studies Centre Handlist No. 6, Local Newspapers and Periodicals of the 19th Century, comp. Diana Dixon (1973), a list of holdings in a number of libraries including several in the N.E.

Newcastle, Gateshead and Sunderland Public Libraries all have good collections of local papers and it may be possible to consult back files of papers which still exist at their head offices, where other former local papers may also sometimes be found. The whereabouts of these files does, however, depend on individual circumstances. Many libraries are now micro-filming their newspaper holdings, partly to save storage space and partly to help preserve the originals - old newsprint is notoriously fragile. If you want papers from another area or ones which are very rare the answer is a visit to the British Museum Newspaper Library at Colindale. It suffered bomb damage during the last War but unless you are unlucky it should have a copy of any British newspaper you may want to see.

## A CAUTIONARY TALE

### A. Readdie

Most genealogists, in their wilder moments perhaps, dream their researches will show them to be heirs to a long-forgotten title or to an unclaimed fortune. I cannot claim to be rightfully a Duke, or even a mere Baronet - although for a few fleeting moments I once had hopes! - but I can claim that genealogy has brought me a fortune - well, almost!

The story begins with my maternal grandfather, who received an income, via a firm of Edinburgh lawyers, from the estate of a Mrs Potts. When my grandfather died, my mother received the income but she had no idea who Mrs Potts was, apart from a vague idea that perhaps she had lived in the Tyne-mouth area in the 1920's or thereabouts.

When my interest in genealogy began I was naturally curious to find out about this mysterious lady, so I wrote to the Edinburgh firm. Their reply was not long in forthcoming, and you can imagine my surprise when I was told that Mrs Isabella Aitkenson or Potts (being Scots, she still bore her maiden name) had died as long ago as 1826 and had left a Will dated 1802.

A visit to the Scottish Record Office soon turned up the Will and I discovered that Mrs Potts was the widow of a Thomas Potts, late Merchant and Grocer, of Bristol Street, Edinburgh. Obviously a woman of some wealth, she had set up a trust under which Thomas and Isabella, "children of the deceased John Potts, my deceased husband's brother" benefitted. Now the "deceased John Potts" happens to be my great-great-great-great-grandfather. The lady also mentioned Sir James Hall of Dunglass, Baronet, and talked of favours done for her "deceased mother, Mary Hall by Sir John Hall, Baronet, Sir James' father". "Aha," I thought, "I have, after all, got noble blood!"

A moment's thought disillusioned me; the deceased Mrs Potts' mother may have been the cousin of a Baronet, but I am not descended from Mrs Potts, or even from her mother, but from the brother of Mrs Potts' late husband, who, so far as I can ascertain, was a fellow of no particular distinction in Coquetdale, who left no Will and does not even have a Tombstone to recall his time on this planet!

Nothing daunted, I again wrote to the helpful Edinburgh lawyer. My mother, he told me, had received the income because the Will directed that the children of the original beneficiaries would in turn take their parents' share, and "so on among their heirs so long as any one of them shall exist". Moreover, if I was born after 1st August 1924 - which I was - I would inherit on my mother's death not the income, but the capital which produced the income, because the law now prevented inheritances of income in perpetuity and allowed the transfer of capital to a beneficiary born after 1924.

"Great!" thought I, "Genealogy has provided me with funds for an early retirement". Holidays in the Bahamas seemed another distinct possibility.

Once again, alas, 'twas not to be! You see, in addition to Thomas and Isabella Potts, the Will left an income to "Mary Potts spouse to Thomas Redpath and Jane Potts spouse to Thomas Purves my deceased husband's sisters, both residing in Northumberland" and between 1802 and 1974 the beneficiaries of Mrs Potts had multiplied more than somewhat, and there were now "some 600 people entitled to share this income". Ah, well, at least 1/600th of a fortune is better than nothing at all - Yes, but my mother's income is only 20p every two years! At today's interest rates the capital needed to produce this, which I shall eventually inherit under the law of 1924, cannot be more than about £3. By the time my mother dies

it will just about buy a page of this Journal!

The lawyer's comment that it is just as well that my interest in the matter is mainly from a genealogical, rather than a financial standpoint is perhaps the understatement of the year!

Seekers after hidden fortunes, beware!

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### THE VITAL PHOTOGRAPH

R. E. Vine

I can count myself fortunate in the amount of information received from elderly relatives concerning my family history. This verbal information has been reinforced in many instances by actual paper. This is indeed a compensation for a rather annoying feature of my ancestry, that my great-great-grandparents were married in the early 1830's, only one couple of the eight having the thoughtfulness to wait until after 1837. On my wife's side, however, six marriages were publicly registered and I found the other two quite quickly, so it happened that not long after I became interested I had 31 surnames on a "tree" and just one obstinate blank.

The great-great-grandfather's name was William Sale, and from the 1851 census I learned that his wife's name was Elizabeth and that my great-grandfather was born about 1832-33 and had a brother some 18 months younger. Boyd's marriage index gave me one marriage immediately of a William Sale to an Elizabeth, but register searching proved quite fruitless. The Boyd entry was for a little parish some 15 miles from the 1851 census address but immediately attracted because this parish was given as the birthplace of the younger of the two children. Unfortunately there was a serious snag - the age of William Sale as given in the 1851 census. A surprising feature of the census entry was that this William was 10 years younger than his wife and only 20 years older than my great-grandfather. Elizabeth was just the right age for the Boyd marriage but William was impossibly young. I suspected an enumerator's error, but sought in vain for another census or a death certificate which would resolve the matter. Turning to parish registers again, I found that Boyd's William and Elizabeth had had four children at their "marriage parish" and then had disappeared from the scene about 1830, so it all fitted except for that awkward reported age.

In searching for the death of William Sale I was handicapped by the lack of ages in the Somerset House indexes from 1851 to 1865. If only I could limit this area of search in some way! The only help on this line which had come to me from relatives was a photograph of William in the family album. Turning it over my gaze fell upon the name and address of the photographer. A business long since expired of course, but perhaps even the old address could tell me something. I turned to trade directories for the period and there I was delighted to find my photographer. He first appeared in 1869 at one address, was there again in 1870, and then in 1871 he moved to the address on the back of my photograph. He appeared there each year until 1883 and is absent from the directory from 1884 onwards.

Hence my photograph was taken in 1870 at the very earliest, and I can forget all about those wretched William Sale deaths at unknown ages. Re-studying the indexes, I eventually obtained what is probably his death

certificate. Eventually, too, I found him in the 1861 census, which agreed precisely with that of 1851. Later still, I found what is probably his marriage as a widower to Elizabeth, herself a widow, as late as 1848.

Lessons to be learnt? Try not to jump to conclusions, however tempting, and look out for ways of making use of even very incidental items of information.

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### EXHIBITION - THE TYNE AND THE WEAR

This exhibition, which is well worth a visit, is the first major exhibition to be mounted by the Archives Department of Tyne and Wear County Council. It is intended to illustrate, in documentary form, the influence of the two major rivers of the County on its social, economic and environmental development. There should be something there to interest every member as the influence of the trade arising from the Tyne and Wear has extended throughout Northumberland and Durham and has played a part in shaping the lives of the ancestors of each of us. The exhibition can be seen at Newcastle Central Library (3rd April - 1st May), Gateshead Central Library (8th May - 27th June) and Jarrow Hall (6th July - 31st August).

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### CORRECTION

In the last issue of the Journal, under the title "Some Recommended Books" (p.48) it was stated that Mr A.J. Camp's book Tracing Your Ancestors is out of print. We have been asked by Mr Camp to point out that this is not so, reprints of the revised edition of 1970 being available from the publishers, John Gifford, Ltd., 125 Charing Cross Road, London WC2, and from the Society of Genealogists, 37 Harrington Gardens, London SW7 4JX (price 62½p, or 85p including postage).

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### FUTURE PROGRAMME

#### Thursday, April 22nd

Fr. W. Vincent-Smith, Archivist for the Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, and author of the paper "Tracing our Catholic Forefathers" in the January issue of this Journal, will speak on an aspect of Catholic family history in the North-East.

YMCA building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

#### Thursday, May 20th

Annual General Meeting, followed by a "Brains Trust" with a panel of "experts".

YMCA building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

#### Thursday, June 10th

Meet at 7.00 p.m. at the "Members' Entrance", Lower Ground Floor, County Hall, Aykley Heads, Durham. Mr J.K. Bishop, County Archivist, will give an introduction to the work of the Durham County Record Office.

#### Wednesday, September 15th

Dr D.F. Roberts, of the Department of Human Genetics of Newcastle University, will give a talk on the use of local records in Genetic Research. More details in the next issue.

YMCA building, Ellison Place, Newcastle, 7.15 p.m.

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Net membership of the Society on 18th March 1976 was 245.