

# THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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PLEASE ALWAYS ENCLOSE A STAMPED ADDRESSED ENVELOPE FOR YOUR REPLY (TWO INTERNATIONAL REPLY COUPONS FROM OVERSEAS MEMBERS) AND QUOTE YOUR MEMBERSHIP NUMBER

## EDITORIAL

I begin with apologies. First, to our local members, some of whom turned up at our usual meeting place -- the British Legion Club in Jesmond -- to find that the planned March meeting there had been cancelled at short notice. The club decided, for their own reasons, that we could no longer hold our meetings there, so we had to seek a new venue. After much deliberation, we have arranged to hold the June 1991 and subsequent meetings at Pelaw Social Club, Heworth, Gateshead - only a short walk from Heworth Metro Station. Motorists from Newcastle should turn left at Heworth roundabout and then right almost immediately. Please also note that meetings from June onwards will be on Tuesdays instead of Thursdays. We hope the new location and dates will prove satisfactory to you all.

My second apology is to those members abroad, mainly in Canada and New Zealand, who may have received our Journals later than they should have done, or who did not receive one or more Journals at all! We have been unable to find out why this happened, but certainly a batch of Journals seems to have vanished into thin air. If any overseas member has not received any earlier Journal (especially the Autumn 1990 edition), will they please contact Miss L.C. Winter (address on contents page) if they have not already done so. She has written to a few members about this, but there may still be one or two more people who are still waiting for their Autumn Journal, which is a pity because it is the issue in which we asked you to renew your subscriptions (and we need the money!).

My third apology is a personal one. You may have written to me, or sent material, and not received a reply or acknowledgement. I am sorry about this, but I have suffered from two family bereavements since Christmas, and my life has accordingly been very hectic indeed.

This note is written before our AGM in May, but this is an opportunity for me to tell you that, for the first time for some years, the Committee will be proposing an increased level of subscriptions. No precise details as I write -- suffice to say that inflation has caught up with us and we are suffering something of a cash flow problem at present, so we need your increased cash!

## NOTES & NEWS

The 1991 NDFHS Conference is to be held in Durham between 27th and 29th September and members will find further details in a leaflet enclosed with this Journal. I can now give you advance notice of a one day conference, organised jointly by ourselves and the Society of Genealogists to be held at Gosforth High School in Newcastle on Saturday, 16th November. The cost will be £12 and the subject "Computers in Family History", with a variety of topics in this field to be discussed. So if you are interested in this topic, whether you are a novice or an "expert", make a note in your diary. Full details will be given in the next Journal due out in August.

The Cumbria Family History Society has recently published two transcripts and indexes of the 1851 census. One covers Cornery, Bootle, Whitbeck, Millom and Ulpha (HO 107/2438 folios 95-229). The other is for Allithwaite, Cartmel, Staveley, Broughton and Holker (HO 107/2274 folios 5-96). Cost is £3.75 in UK, £4.10 by surface mail abroad, £4.80 Air mail to North America, and £5 by air to Australasia for each volume, including postage. These, and other transcripts of the 1851 census published by the Cumbria Society can be obtained from Mr K.J. Chisholm, 33 Rannerdale Drive, Whitehaven, Cumbria CA28 6LA.

Under the heading "Bowron of Cotherstone", the Winter 1990 Journal mentioned a collection of mainly 19th century documents held by our member Miss D. Iceton of Croydon. She now tells us that this N. Yorks/Co. Durham related collection is now held by Durham County Record office under reference Acc 1945(D) D/X 920. Miss Iceton also says that as a result of the note in our Journal, she was contacted by another researcher and a problem which has troubled her for "many, many years", a search for "a roving blacksmith ancestor", has now been solved. Glad to hear it - that is what the Society is all about!

Can anyone offer similar assistance to Miss J.V. Lisle of 11 Glebe Road, Forest Hall, Newcastle NE12 0JQ, who has recently bought a black enamelled mourning brooch containing a lock of fair hair? On the reverse is engraved "Hannah Chadwick ob. 30th Jul 1834. Oct '48". Does anyone know anything about this Hannah?

Local members will be interested to learn that Newcastle Central Library now has, on microfiche, the St Catherine's House indexes of Births, Deaths and Marriages in England and Wales from 1837. With similar indexes held by Morpeth and South Shields Libraries, the area is now "well stocked" with these invaluable genealogical tools.

Sunderland Group have recently compiled a list of the 88 tombstones still remaining at Holy Trinity Church (Sunderland parish) after the old burial ground was cleared. Copies of this list can be had for 50p from Sunderland Group (address on inside back cover).

# OVERSEAS HELP WANTED

G. Nicholson

I have recently come across two instances where our overseas members could help solve minor mysteries from N.E. England.

First, you Australians. We all know your strange sense of patriotism has led you to identify with the most unlikely of anti-heroes, and that chief of them is probably Ned Kelly, the nineteenth century bank robber and renegade. Now, according to all I have heard, and some of that comes from the Dictionary of Australian Biography, Ned was born in Australia - or was it Tasmania? - the son of parents of Irish extraction. Why, then, is there a persistent story in Washington that Ned's parents came from Usworth, which is now a part of Washington New Town in that part of Tyne & Wear which rightfully belongs to Co. Durham?

Mr Fred Hill (d 1955), quoted in "Washington - Local History", by C. Bennett (1967) says:

*"About 100 years ago a man named Kelly lived at Usworth Village. During his stay here he seemed to have plenty of money and he spent much more than he could earn as a miner. As there was much false money in the district the police suspected Kelly of being a coiner. He was secretly watched and at last the police caught Mrs Kelly hiding false coins in a hedge at the bottom of the garden. Kelly and his wife were arrested, tried, found guilty and sentenced to transportation to Botany Bay, Australia."*

*"After their release from prison in Australia two sons, Ned and Dan, were born. These followed in the evil footsteps of their parents ..."*

Bennett adds a note that Fred Hill's uncle, who was a young man in Australia at the time, saw Ned Kelly in prison before he was hanged. Is there anything in this story or is it just another "romantic" tale? On the one hand Usworth parish registers and census returns give no clue; on the other they wouldn't anyway, for an Irish Catholic family. Mrs Kelly is believed to have been a Quinn and that is a name quite common among Usworth residents of Irish extraction, even today.

Second, a chance for Canadians to help locate a Canadian family of local extraction.

I have recently been loaned, by a friend, a small collection of photographs and letters referring to a Mary Millicent Coates, an emigrant from Co. Durham, England, to Canada, who married Mr Osbert E. Scranton Jr on Aug 20 1928 at St James' Church, Hamilton, Ontario. The letters were written from Hamilton to Mary Millicent's friend over here - my friend's deceased mother. They, and the photographs, would be of great value to any descendant of this couple and my friend tells me he would be quite happy to give them to anyone who is such a descendant.

Mr. Nicholson's address is 57 Manor Park, Concord, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE37 2BU.

## REPLIES TO QUERIES AT THE CONFERENCE

In the Spring Journal, we published some of the questions which were asked at the Society Conference last year. Thank you to the several members who responded.

Where can details of Master Mariners be found? - Lloyd's Captains Registers 1868-1947 are held by the Guildhall Library, Aldermanbury, London EC2 where they can be searched. They list all holders of master's certificates and give full name, place and date of birth and many more details, including a complete service history. For masters serving in 1868, details back to the early 1850's are given, "so to compile a service history of any British master or mate holding a master's certificate, from this date to 1947 is quite straightforward." The Public Record Office at Kew also has much information on Merchant Seamen generally, and a useful book is "My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman" by C & M Watts.

Was there an epidemic in Newcastle in 1904 or 1905? Grandfather's sister and brothers all died then, in their thirties, within a year.

There was a smallpox epidemic in 1903-05, according to "Newcastle upon Tyne, its Growth and Achievement" by S. Middlebrook (page 276) - from Mrs. M.R. and [Dr. R.W.G. confirms](#) this. - In Tynemouth, there were 33 smallpox cases in the 6 weeks ended 12th September 1903, whilst in Wallsend there were 49 cases in 1903 and 53 in 1904.

# ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

*Doreen Tait*

Here is a further list of additions to the Library. Please return borrowed items quickly--it makes my job much easier. Could I also ask members, when returning borrowed items, to enclose the requisite stamps in an envelope rather than loose. Sometimes the plastic envelope is torn in transit and stamps have been known to drop out!

In the list below, an asterisk means the item is not suitable for posting. Can I recommend the purchase of a Library Catalogue, price 75p, from Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne & Wear NE36 OTQ - it gives full details of the operation of the Library as well as lists of items held.

- 1.158 HISTORY OF NEWCASTLE STREETS. Desmond O'Donnell.
- 1.159 GATESHEAD PERAMBULATIONS. Desmond O'Donnell.
- 1.160 WARKWORTH - A WALK ROUND THE TOWN. Ian Smith.
- 1.161 NEWCASTLE PAST & PRESENT. Geoff Phillips.
- 1.162 HISTORY OF BRANDON COLLIERY. Laurie Moran.
- 1.163 OF MINING LIFE AND ALL ITS WAYS. Ned Cowan.
  
- 2.264 CARMICHAELS OF HEXHAM & [NEWCASTLE. G.A. Higgins.](#)
- [2.265](#) PRUDDAH FAMILY OF FELLSIDE, [HEXHAM. S.S. Pruddah.](#)
- [2.266](#) URWIN FAMILY OF STOCKTON. M. Johnson.
- 2.267 SOFTLEY FAMILY TREE OF [SUNDERLAND. T.K. Steward.](#)
- [2.268](#) TURNBULL OF WASHINGTON FAMILY [TREE. S. Hughes.](#)
- [2.269](#) FOY FAMILY OF JARROW. A. Pye.
- 2.270 HEPPELL & PEEL FAMILY TREES. C. Heppell.
- 2.271 INNES, MILLICAN, STEEL & HALL FAMILIES OF [WOOLER. S. Carter-Duff.](#)
- [2.272](#) CARR FAMILY OF NEWCASTLE & SUNDERLAND. M. Johnson.
  
- 3.114 MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS - ST MARY'S, HEWORTH. S. Tyneside Branch.
- 3.115 INDEX OF MARRIAGES, ST MARY, WHICKHAM 1837-1910. R. & D. Tait.
- 3.116 NORTHUMBRIAN PRESBYTERIAN MIGRANTS. D. Mason.
- 3.118 TODD MARRIAGE INDEX. J.W. Todd.
- 3.120 INDEX 1851 CENSUS, RYTON, [CRAWCROOK. G. Nicholson.](#)
- [3.121](#) SHIP REGISTRATION NUMBERS, NEWCASTLE [1845. A. Robson.](#)
- [3.122](#) LIST OF BAKER'S AND LAYOUT. R.W. Baker.
- 3.123 INDEX 1851 CENSUS, OXFORD CITY. Oxfordshire FHS.
- 3.124 MARRIAGE INDEX, ANCROFT, NORTHUMBERLAND. 1813-1837.
- 3.125 MARRIAGE INDEX, DODDINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND. 1813-1837.
- \*3.127 1816 CENSUS OF ROTHBURY, Pts 1 and 2. P. Redmile.
- 3.128 REGISTERS OF CHOLLERTON, NORTHUMBERLAND [1643-1763. D.W. Smith.](#)
- [3.130](#) 1851 CENSUS INDEX, VOL 3, MANCHESTER. Manchester FHS.
- 3.131 1851 CENSUS INDEX, VOL 5, ANCOATES. Manchester FHS.
- 3.132 BURIAL INDEX, GATESHEAD ST MARY [1559-1662. C. Jewitt.](#)
- [3.133](#) TURNBULL MARRIAGES OF CO [DURHAM. S. Hughes.](#)
- [3.134](#) STOCKTON, ST THOMAS, BAPTISMS [1637-1707. J.W. Todd.](#)
- [3.135](#) STOCKTON, ST THOMAS, MARRIAGES 1637-1706, [J.W. Todd.](#)
- [3.136](#) STOCKTON, ST THOMAS, BURIALS 1622-1706. J.W. Todd.
  
- 4.053 HISTORICAL SKETCH OF ALL SAINTS ANGLICAN CHURCH, LONDON, ONTARIO. A.G. James.
  
- 5.106 IRISH FAMILY HISTORY IN N E ENGLAND. G.F. Duffy
- 5.107 PO VACANCIES & APPTS 1737-1957. PO Archives.
- 5.108 GUIDES (4) to S AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES. G. Bell.
  
- 6.101 HOW TO PUBLISH FAMILY HISTORIES. Ian Templeton.
- 6.102 75 YEARS OF SERVICE. South Shields Local Studies.
- 6.103 TRACING YOUR ANCESTORS (leaflet). Tourist Board.
- \*6.104 NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM. A SOCIAL MISCELLANY. D. Dougan & F. Graham.
- 6.105 NAMES FROM "HISTORY OF BERWICK" 1224-1837. B. Greenhalgh.
- 6.106 COPY OF DOCUMENTS RE PROPERTY IN BERWICK. B. Greenhalgh.
- 6.107 PHOTOCOPY OF ARTICLE IN DURHAM CHRONICLE RE SOFTLEY [FAMILY. T.K. Stewart.](#)
- [6.108](#) GENERAL RESEARCH DIRECTORY 1981 AUSTRALASIAN EDITION, Parts 1 & 2.
- 6.109 HOW PLACE NAMES BEGAN. C.M. Matthews.
- 6.110 JOURNAL OF HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF S AUSTRALIA.
- 6.111 PEDIGREES FROM "CURRY'S ESTATE." Dr [C.T. Watts.](#)
- [6.112](#) BOOKLETS RE LIBRARY AT SOCIETY OF GENEALOGISTS.
- 6.113 VINEYARD OF THE EMPIRE. G. Bell.
- 6.114 NOVA SCOTIA HISTORICAL [REVIEW. M.D. Oldershaw.](#)
- [6.115](#) SURREY PROBATE RECORDS TO 1649. Cliff Webb.
- 6.116 MAP OF ESSEX PARISHES. M. Johnson.
- 6.117 CONTRIBUTORS TO BEDLINGTON (NORTHUMBERLAND) COOK BOOK 1912. M. Grisdale.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

*Mrs Ruth Appleby, 51 Beaufort Road, Bedhampton, Hants PO9 3HT writes:*

"I shall be visiting northern France in early September, in particular the area around Albert in Somme.

I would be most pleased to take photographs of war graves for members who have relatives buried in the Commonwealth War Graves in that locality. My particular interest is in Euston Road Cemetery at Colincamps. As my time will be limited, I will require an exact grave reference. I have found the Commonwealth War Graves Commission extremely efficient and helpful in providing details given only minimal information on an individual. I received a reply within two weeks.

Please write to me, giving name of deceased in full, cemetery and grave reference and as much other information as possible e.g. regiment or corps, date of death. I will take as many photos as my time allows on a "first come first served" basis and to cover costs I will charge £1 per photograph. Requests should arrive no later than 25th August 1991."

*Mrs J. Borrowscale, 14 Eaglehurst Road, Gateacre, Liverpool L25 3QH, writes:*

"I have been helped with my research in Canada by a Mr Ted Wallace of Brantford, Ontario. He has asked me to advertise the fact that he is willing to help anyone who has interests in Canada. His address is 21 Southglen Road, Brantford, Ontario, Canada N3R 6Z8."

## A TALE OF TWO PARISHES

### Romance and Deception in the Eighteenth Century

by

*Geoff Nicholson*

I have recently been investigating a family called Johnson, who came from the parish of Earsdon, Northumberland, which is just to the north of Tynemouth. I found one of the baptisms I sought in Tynemouth parish register, as the parents had apparently moved south to North Shields in the early nineteenth century. Fortunately the entry was of the extended type used in Durham Diocese from 1798 to 1812:

1800 Edward Johnson, b Jly 22, bap Aug 24, 6th son of Thomas Johnson of Toll Sq, Labr, by his wife Jane Archbold, natives of this parish.

My next step was to find the marriage of Thomas and Jane. I began by checking both Boyd's Marriage Index and the IGI for both Northumberland and Co. Durham. To my surprise, this little survey produced not one, but three likely entries! The possibilities were:

23 April 1776	Earsdon
13 August 1776	"Newcastle upon Tyne, Sunderland"
21 February 1778	Earsdon

At first, I was tempted to ignore the second possibility, taken from the IGI, as it had obviously been submitted by someone who did not really know what they were doing. Fancy implying Newcastle was part of Sunderland! My Geordie sensibilities were outraged! Nevertheless, there had to be something behind it, so I set out to investigate all three entries.

Taking these entries in chronological order, the first was that at Earsdon in 1776. It was not to be found in the marriage register, so I looked at the Banns book, and found:

*Thomas Johnson and Jane Archbold, both of this parish, published 28 April 1776 (an impediment alleged, Jane under age)*

The Banns should have been published three times - it seems Jane's family moved quickly to stop proceedings. The next entry was the Sunderland one, which I found at Sunderland Parish Church:

*Thomas Johnson and Jane Archbold, both of this parish, were married in this church by Banns this 13th day of August in the year 1776 by me John Coxon, Rector.*

*This Marriage was solemnised between us: Thomas Johnson, Jane Archbold In the presence of us: Thos Atkinson, Henry Lightfoot*

Thomas Atkinson and Henry Lightfoot were both "regular" witnesses, probably the parish clerk and his assistant. Taking this together with the incorrect statement about being "both of this parish", we seem to have the makings of an elopement, with only the couple themselves attending the wedding - not even taking a friend with them to be a witness. Someone must have gone to Sunderland a few weeks before, to arrange the Banns to "con" the Rector into believing they really were both of Sunderland, of course. The journey from Earsdon to Sunderland probably meant travelling some three or four miles to North Shields, then getting a ferry across the River Tyne to South Shields, taking them from Northumberland into Co Durham, then travelling another six or seven miles from South Shields to Sunderland. I wonder how they did it - on foot? If so, then at least the effect on the bride may have been sufficiently ageing for her to look over 21 after it! To make that journey, have the wedding ceremony and then return, would be a long, hard day. They would then presumably have to face the wrath of her parents on their return!

Their first child, Reay (probably an ancestral surname), was baptised at Earsdon on 12 February 1777. Assuming this was just a few days after the birth, as was usual, it would appear that he was conceived quite soon after the first, unsuccessful attempt at marriage - so stopping the Banns had not stopped the couple seeing each other! It also meant that Jane must have been some three months pregnant when she made the journey to Sunderland. I assume she would have realised this by then, and probably that had something to do with the elopement. The baptism entry is of the usual form for the child of a married couple. The Vicar at Earsdon obviously accepted that they were married at that time, and did not regard their baby as illegitimate. The marriage therefore had not been kept a secret - not for that length of time, at least. The next event is, under the circumstances, even more surprising. It was the marriage at Earsdon in 1778:

*Thomas Johnson and Jane Archbold, both of this parish, were married in this church by Licence this 21st day of February in the year 1778 by me W Workman, Curate.  
This Marriage was solemnised between us. Thomas Johnson, Jane Archbold In the presence of us: Charles Rutherford, John Atkinson*

I do not regard the recurrence of the surname Atkinson among the witnesses as being at all significant, it being a very common one in this area. The points to note are (1) this time neither of the witnesses are regulars, so both were presumably friends of the families and (2) this time the marriage was by Licence, not after the calling of Banns.

Couples got married by Licence for various different reasons, usually connected with the facts that, compared with Banns, a licence was quicker, more confidential and more expensive. It was therefore used when speed (baby on the way, sailor's ship about to sail), secrecy (wealthy family do not want the common masses to know their business) or expense (even today, a wedding is an occasion for pulling out all the stops, to impress the guests with the one's wealth) were important. Another reason for marrying in this way was if the couple came from different Dioceses, or sometimes even different Archdeaconries within the same Diocese.

The Licences themselves had to be handed in at the church where the wedding took place, and hardly ever survive. What do survive are the Allegations which the couple made, through a third party, who stood surety for their truth, and whereby a legal Bond was entered into. These "Allegations for Marriage Licences" or, as they are commonly called, "Marriage Bonds" for Durham Diocese, which included Northumberland, survive today in Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections (the former Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic). I found it more convenient to use the reliable indexed summary prepared early this century by HM Wood and Edwin Dodds, and of which there are copies in some local reference libraries. Only the details specific to each individual Bond are given, and in this case it told me that the Bond was issued on 18 February 1778 - three days before the wedding is about usual - he was "Thomas Johnson of Earsdon parish, aged 26, yeoman" and she was "Jane Archbold of Earsdon parish, aged 18". The Bondsman was "Charles Rutherford of Tynemouth, Gent", who witnessed the marriage three days later. Unusually, the Bond is endorsed "Frances Rutherford is her mother and consents".

So, we now know the ages of the couple. He was eight years older than her and she was probably only 16 when they eloped to Sunderland. No wonder her mother tried to stop them!

We also have the information that her mother was not called Archbold, but Rutherford. Presumably she had been widowed and had remarried. Was Charles Rutherford, the "Gent" Jane's step-father? - or was he a more distant relative? And why was this marriage deemed necessary at all? Could it have been that the deception of a year and a half earlier had come to light and had cast doubt on the validity of the first marriage? They had, after all, married without her parents' consent and deceived the Rector of Sunderland about their residence into the bargain!

I can't help feeling sorry for Jane and Thomas. Had this unorthodox start to married life something to do with his change of status, from farmer at Earsdon to labourer at North Shields? And whatever did they do about keeping wedding anniversaries?

# "THOMAS ARMSTRONG, SOLDIER"

*Captain (Retd) Erik A. Gray*

Let us assume that you have found in the Exeter old parish registers an entry which shows that in 1813 your ancestor Thomas Armstrong, Soldier, married a Devonshire lass. Of course, you are delighted with such a find and ~~immediately make a downwards search to seek Thomas's baptism. But family history can be fickle, and you cannot find one. Your initial pleasure turns to dismay, and then you recall having read somewhere that the service and~~ personal details of a soldier cannot be researched unless you possess the name of his regiment.

Unless you have a good knowledge of the history of the regiments of the British Army, I wager your next step would be a visit to your local reference library. There you will dig out some military work or other that will contain a list of regiments. After scanning it carefully, you will discover that only two old foot regiments had a connexion with Devonshire - the 11th (North Devonshire) Regiment of Foot and the 46th (South Devonshire) Regiment of Foot. Well, there is your answer: one or the other would have been Thomas's regiment. Or would it? You will have to research in the old War Office collection at the Public Record Office at Kew to find out.

So, during a trip to London you visit Kew, where you excitedly requisition the muster returns of both the 11th and 46th Foot for 1813, the year of Thomas's marriage. But your excitement soon turns to disappointment and dismay, because Thomas's name is not to be found in the paylists, and you observe from the muster covers that the 11th Foot was in action against the French in Spain in 1813, while the 46th Foot was on garrison duties in the Island of Jersey.

Well, let us leave Thomas Armstrong for the moment. The fact is that the county regiments as we knew them ~~before and after the First World War and up to the amalgamations of the 1960s, did not possess the same titles~~ during the 18th and 19th centuries. When the regular British Army was created by Charles II in 1660, regiments of **foot or infantry were raised as and when required. Each was then named after its Colonel. This practice led to** confusion for obvious reasons. So in 1751 each foot regiment was given a precedence or seniority number according to the date on which it had been raised. In 1782 the titles of most regiments were expanded to include a territorial connexion, so that, for example, the 34th Regiment of Foot, which had been raised in 1702 as Colonel Lord Lucas's Regiment of Foot, and had thereafter changed its name with each new Colonel, became the 34th (Cumberland) Regiment of Foot.

The county connexions of those times were exceedingly loose and in many instances stemmed from regiments having been raised within particular counties or areas; or because, over a period, the Horse Guards as the old War Office was termed, had issued instructions to Colonels of regiments to recruit in certain parts of Britain and Ireland. These instructions were known as 'Beating Orders', because recruiting was carried out by beat of drum to attract the attention of likely lads to an inviting, yet deadly, tankard of ale in which The King's Shilling lay hidden. Generally, enlistment was for Unlimited Service, which meant for life, or until such time as a man had become so disabled by wounds, injury or diseases, or by having become worn out, that His Majesty had no further use for his services. Those who survived the ordeals of their soldiering days and were discharged on such grounds received a small pension of a few coppers per day as out-pensioners of the Royal Hospitals at Chelsea or Kilmainham in Ireland.

However, it is a popular misconception that, during the 18th and 19th centuries, and to some extent to-day, men enlisted in regiments that had a connexion with the county in which they were born and bred. Some did so, of course. But an analysis of those in, for example, the old 68th (Durham) Regiment of Foot in, say, 1785 would probably reveal that the majority of its men had Irish and Scottish origins. There would also be some from the Tyneside area, because the regiment was in Newcastle-on-Tyne in 1774. And there would be many from Hampshire, the southern counties of England and from the Channel Islands, where it had served subsequently. Moreover, it would have recruited as it marched, so its ranks would include men of other English origins.

But now to return to Thomas Armstrong. How do you discover which regiment was garrisoned in Devonshire (or in any county in Britain or Ireland, or anywhere else in the world) in 1813, or any year? There are two ways that offer some hope. The War Office Monthly Returns at Kew will tell you with almost absolute accuracy where regiments were garrisoned or operating month by month in any year. Consulting the Monthly Returns is the safest way, but it can be time-consuming. If you are short on time, you can ask the National Army Museum in Chelsea which regiments were stationed in a particular place or country in a certain year. The Museum will usually be able to provide approximate locations; but they are not based on those yielded by the Monthly Returns and have been culled from a number of sources. Thus, they are not wholly accurate and must be treated with extreme caution; but, with luck, this hit-and-miss method of 'finding the regiment' sometimes pays off.

To which regiment did Thomas Armstrong belong? The answer is that he enlisted in the 5th (Northumberland) Regiment of Foot at some time prior to his marriage at Exeter in 1813. As the Monthly Returns will show, the 2nd Battalion 5th Foot was stationed in Exeter for some part of that year, while the 1st/5th was serving in the Peninsular.

Thus, if I had not invented him, you would be most likely to find Private Thomas Armstrong listed in the quarterly muster rolls of the 2nd/5th Foot - 'The Shiners', their ancient nickname from the Seven Years War; or, of later origin, 'The Fighting Fifth' - a grand old regiment, which later became the Royal Northumberland Fusiliers and is now part of the Royal Regiment of Fusiliers (5th, 6th, 7th and 20th Foot).

If you discover Thomas Armstrong serving in the ranks of the old 5th Foot in 1813, you might just find that he had been transferred to the **1st/5th in time to fight with that battalion at Orthes and Toulouse in the closing stages** of the Peninsular War, that he had then served in Montreal, from whence he and his regiment had returned post haste in 1815, only to miss the battle of Waterloo on 18th June by a whisker, but in time to participate in the army of occupation in France for several years. He might then have gone on with the 5th Foot to soldier in the West Indies at Antigua, St Kitts, St Vincent or St Lucia.

With good fortune, you might discover that he had been discharged to a Chelsea Royal Hospital out-pension, and that his discharge document had survived in the vast collection at Kew. Not only would you then possess his age and birthplace, but a lot more besides. You might be pleased to discover that your ancestor was a Geordie lad as you believed. But you never can tell, because you might be surprised to find that he hailed from Ireland, Scotland or London Town, or from any of the old counties of England and Wales; or even from the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Editors Note: Captain Gray points out that Thomas Armstrong is fictitious but the Regiments and their locations mentioned are factually correct. Erik Gray specialises in the records of soldiers who served in regiments and Corps of the British Army on the regular establishment, the Royal Marines and the King's German Legion during the period 1661 to 1913. He has kindly offered to advise any Society members who have queries within this field and will be pleased to offer guidance about the records of men who served after 1913. This service is free, and all enquiries, which should be expressed briefly, will receive a considered response, provided a stamped addressed envelope, or three International Reply Coupons are sent. His address is 32 Minster Drive, Croydon, Surrey CRO 5UP.

## LETTER FROM AN EMIGRANT

The following letter appeared in the "*Durham Advertiser*" on Friday 29 April 1853. It is stated that the letter "has just been received by a lady in Barnard Castle, whose husband, formerly a tradesman in that town, left home for the 'diggins' about the middle of last year. The date is not very recent, owing probably to some delay in its transmission".

Melbourne Sept 12, 1852

MY DEAR WIFE -- I am safely arrived in Australia, quite stout, and as red as an Indian. You would scarcely know me. After leaving the Liverpool docks, we laid four days in the river and sailed on Friday, the 4th of June, and came to anchor just within Port Philip Heads on Tuesday, Sept 7th. Next day, we got a pilot -- a consequential, drunken old rascal. In less than ten minutes after he weighed anchor, or before he had got the vessel swung round, she grounded on a sandheap. Fortunately we had powerful assistance from the 12 gun man-of-war brig, *Phantom*, lying close by, and got off again in three or four hours. Had to anchor again immediately, for want of water within the harbour. Next day, Thursday, made the head of the bay, about some 30 or 40 miles long by 10 to 15 miles broad, at one o'clock, among a forest of vessels and tremendous cheering, and on Friday, we were taken by a steamer up the Yarra Yarra river, a muddy stream, twenty or thirty yards wide, grown with brushwood very like the juniper close the water's edge; no banks, but very deep, apparently as deep at the sides as the middle - we could sometimes touch the bushes as we went past them. We landed at Melbourne at 12 o'clock about noon, exactly fourteen weeks from starting, and a most pleasant favourable voyage throughout. We never had a storm and only had to reef sails twice or thrice. I had not a moment's seasickness; indeed I have seen more sickness among twenty people in 24 hours in a steamer than we had all the way --- it is only like a goodsized pleasure trip; we had nothing whatever to mar the pleasure of the voyage by deaths or anything of that sort, excepting one melancholy occurrence, which I will mention bye-and-bye. All the inconvenience we had to suffer was from ourselves, being too great a number in a small space - 400 people in one ship must put one another about a little; still all were cheerful and courteous, except mischievous larks and drunken rows now and then. We had two young Irishmen kept the whole ship alive with fun and fighting. It is impossible to be anything but cheerful on board a ship like ours. There is so much diversity of character and intellectual capital brought in that old Grimes himself could not help laughing. Our provisions were good and plentiful; the only drawback was the cooking department, which was sadly too small. Such crushing to be first; if you wait for your turn it will never come, it is "God helps them that help themselves." A ship is a very selfish place to be in. Here is the most beautiful exemplification of the first law of nature, No 1, that can possibly be met with. If a person wants anything that No 1 had, No 1 would see him at the devil first, if he wanted it himself. "Everyone for himself, the devil take the hindmost" is the principle on board a ship. Perhaps you would like to know how we lived, and what sort of a house we had to live in. I will tell you, and a description of our house will do for the rest. It is altogether 8 feet long and 6 feet wide, occupied by six persons, sleeping in cribs two feet wide, in tiers one above the other, two on each side and two across the far end. Into this place, which we had to keep almost constantly lighted with a lamp of our own, we had to stow each a box and carpet bag, water-cans, drinking-cans, &c amounting to about a dozen each person, bags of flour, biscuits, potatoes, rice, sugar, tea, coffee, treacle, butter, oatmeal, beef and pork, hung round and over us, and in bed beside us, so that one-self was the very last thing that could be admitted. Lived! Why we lived like pigs in a trough. It will not do for persons to be nice that come to



sea, yet it is astonishing how a person can adapt himself to any circumstances. Lived! Why we lived on plum pudding three or four days a week, and boiled beef or pork three or four days a week, as we had a mind to vary them -- by-the-bye, hasty-pudding and coffee for breakfast. Now for the managing department. We all messed together - that is, took all provisions &c for the six, which were delivered out daily in turns, two one day and two another, who cooked and cleaned for the rest. We got on pretty well when we got used to it. As for sleeping, I have not slept so well for a long time. Although my bed was like a bagful of coble stones, it was a luxury compared to the hard planks and spars we had to roll on all day. Sleep! even there were exceptions to that. Once the vessel tossed me right out of bed, and I had to hold fast of it and look at it all night. Sometimes they held musical concerts of donkeys, pigs, sheep, dogs, cocks and hens, ducks, geese &c accompanied with frying-pans, tin kettles, plates, or anything else, and carried on with vigour from ten till one or two o'clock in the morning. I could even go to sleep in the midst of it all; such is use. I kept a sort of logbook or diary on the passage, and a leaf or two may interest you. Mind you, a sea-voyage is a very monotonous affair, one day is so like another that materials are wanting for an everyday description to be amusing. One day we would boil our potatoes with their jackets on, another day with their jackets off, and make a variety of changes that way; even that we got tired of. Reading, draught-playing, card-playing for nothing, all wouldn't do, we got tired of everything, till we fairly got habituated to the style of life, and then time went on as pleasantly and the usual everyday life of business succeeded one another as naturally as it did at home.

"Saturday June 26 -- A dead calm, the sea smooth and clear as glass -- sun scorching hot, frizzling us like collops in a frying pan. Acted washerwoman for the first time, guess it won't be the last.

Thursday, July 8 -- My turn to cook. Strange coincidence! the first time I ever made a plum pudding was on the anniversary of my wedding day. Wilson pronounced it good and worthy of the occasion. Further commemorated the event with a bottle of wine and drunk both your good healths.

Saturday, August 28 -- Strong wind from the S.W., sea running high, ship going at great speed - all went well till 9 o'clock at night, when a most melancholy accident took place. As the ship was rolling over, a heavy sea struck her at the same time and sent her on to her broadsides, so that she shipped the water on that side; I thought we had struck on a rock, the sound was so like it. A young man, George Johnson, was on the quarter-deck, smoking his cigar, at the time; he was one of our sleeping partners -- in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, he was thrown over the bulwarks (not more than two feet high at that place) like a shot into the foaming sea, he appeared for an instant, then sunk to rise no more. There was not the least chance of saving him, as no man could have lived for a moment in such a sea. That awful sound, "A man overboard!" went through the ship like wildfire, striking dismay into every countenance -- a cry of fire could not have caused greater consternation, only with the difference that it rivetted everyone to the spot. The moon was about the full, but clouded. I got no sleep that night, for thinking on the fate of our friend, who, instead of being comfortable in his bed beside us, was 'sleeping the sleep that knows no waking' at the bottom of the roaring sea. He was a nice young man, the son of respectable parents, eminent as file-manufacturers, at Rainhill near Liverpool. His father died some time ago, and he had left his mother and brothers to try his fortune in Australia. He was one of the useless sort that would not or could not work. When it came to his turn to cook we invariably had nothing for dinner that day, he was so idle. That did not do for us. He had a little money to purchase idleness with, so he paid the difference and went as second cabin passenger, still sleeping with us. Had he taken his turn like a man, and not have gone where he had no business, he might have been here yet.

I will tell you next of the class of passengers on board. They were as fine as a set of men on the whole as could have been selected out of any large town; the greater proportion Scotch, Yankees that had been in California, Irish, German, Dutch, Jews and men from nearly every county in England. Shrewd, clever looking tradesmen from Newcastle, Leeds, Manchester, Liverpool; mechanics of all sorts; Newcastle and West Auckland pitmen, Welsh miners, parsons, quack doctors, pettifogging attorneys, jolly butchers, barbers, all equipped with picks and spades for the diggings. One jolly fellow more I cannot help mentioning, a very respectable looking man, up to 20 stones, the very model of Mr B. It would be a very curious problem to solve the affairs of such men. Whatever could cause such a revolution in their business and domestic affairs but gold. Gold is the ostensible cause at present--99 out of 100 are for the diggings. Now for something. As soon as I set my foot on shore, the first step up to my ancles in mud, with Ks in my pocket, I felt myself an independent man, capable of earning any amount of money. I was offered 15s a day at my business. Our butchers got places at £2 and £3 a week, with board. One of the barbers got a situation at £3 a week, having to pay £2 10s board for himself and wife; 24s and 25s a week is the regular thing, and poor accommodation at that price. A person here pays 26s a week rent for two rooms; a wool sorter got a place merely to class, %ool at £4 4s a week; with lodgings. A tripe-dresser, close by here, that can make from £2 4s to £211 s a day is giving up his place to go to the diggings. There is no exaggeration in the reports we heard before leaving home - the reality is far beyond the report. People here do not think as much about a sovereign as you would about a sixpence, there is so much to be made in a hundred different ways. Melbourne is the prettiest situated town I ever saw. It stands on a high ground from the river, upon a range of hills from north to south, and a range of hills from east to west, cutting one another into valleys, but not deep, and at considerable distances. The streets are wide and spacious, at right angles with one another; shops as good (all but plate glass) and as well stocked as shops in London; no flags, or pavements, or macadamised roads, all mud. In wet weather, it is cut two or three feet deep with bullock drays and waggons. In hot weather I suppose all this mud is converted into dust, an evil nearly as bad as the mud itself. About a week before we arrived it was in a sad state from the rain, it having been the worst season known for a long time. At present, the weather is delightfully fine, having dried up the water and made it pleasant to walk

about. The town is about a mile square, with an astonishing number of shops and brokers for the purchase of gold dust, and lumps in their windows are shown — nuggets of gold from the size of a pea to a pigeon's egg, queer, vitrified looking stuff. In one shop is a nugget with a pistol on one side of it, and on the other a skull, with a bullet hole through it — very significant. Violence and robbery are of continued occurrence, mostly among the worst characters and drunken brawlers. I have not seen anything of the sort yet, for I feel it is easy to keep out of bad company here as anywhere else. If a man will get drunk, he stands a good chance of getting severely handled if he is worth powder and shot. A doctor, one of the passengers by the *Merlin*, a gentlemanly man, with good classical attainments, chose to get drunk during the whole of the voyage, and pursued the same course on his arrival here this morning (Sunday). He was going about the town without either hat, coat or waistcoat, smothered with mud, and robbed of every farthing in the world, luggage and all. That is the way such men are served, while I have always met with the greatest civility. The country round the town is really grand, all studded with trees, no fences, fine green sward. Talk of a nobleman's park, it is nothing to compare to it; it is nature's park, sublime in its own native grandeur. Now is the commencement of the spring quarter here, yet there are no signs of the trees having lost a single leaf. They are a little darker coloured, that is all. To compensate for this the trees have lost all their bark, standing with their bare and bleached trunks, in mockery of our English trees that would inevitably die if deprived of a small rim of bark. Some of these great centenarian-looking chaps, as sturdy as our oaks, are upon the point of breaking out into full flower. It truly is the Antipodes of our country. Such numbers of vessels are daily arriving loaded with passengers. Every day they are departing in droves for the diggings. I forgot to mention a vessel we passed crowded with people to this port; it was the splendid British-built barque, the *Surrey*, from Bristol. We passed her with a fair wind like a greyhound, while she was rolling from side to side like a sailor on horseback. She had been out 154 days and us 84 days, longitude 108 deg. east, latitude 39 deg. south; in fact our vessel was an admirable specimen of sailing; those who were grumblers had the wind completely knocked out of them. A little bit more about Melbourne:— provisions of every sort are high. Mutton and beef, 4d per lb; potatoes 2d per lb; egg 6d a piece, butter 2s 6d a lb; carrot 4s a dozen; cabbages 3s a dozen; teas 1s 9d to 2s 6d per lb; tobacco 4s 6d to 7s per lb; flour £3.10s per bag of 15 stone; sugar 3d per lb; coffee 1s 2d per lb. Bootmakers have 22s per day. I have sent you a Melbourne paper, so that you will see the prices of boots and shoes. Our party intend to start for the diggings about Wednesday or Thursday next. They are a very respectable, useful set of men. One gentleman had a cart and cradle which he brought out with him, but which we will not be able to take out with us at present, on account of the roads. They are scarcely passable for a man, let alone a horse and cart. Carts are struck fast here and there, horses tired and shot on the spot. All are going with very small packs and we intend to do the same. Any person coming out here to dig for gold cannot do a more foolish thing than bring luggage with him of any sort but shirts and stockings, and not too many of them. There is great risk of getting things stolen, and an immense deal of trouble and anxiety of mind about it, great expense when here of getting it conveyed to a store-house, where they charge 1s per box per week, and not taken in for less than 6 or 12 weeks, so that two or three boxes comes to a serious sum. The accounts of the gold diggings are better and better, some getting £200 or £300 in two or three days, some more and some less, just as luck happens. We are going to the Bendigo Diggins, the best known at present. I will write to you once a month, if there are facilities for sending letters from the place, and if you or anyone writes to me, direct to be left at the Post-office, Melbourne. I have enclosed you a copy of our rules that we have made for conducting our operations, and if perseverance and determination will insure success, we are the boys to get on, and the very first gold we find you shall have the first share. I have just seen one of our passengers, a farm labourer, and his wife, who had £70 a year and his board offered — he is sticking for £100. I could fill you other 8 pages. Things are in a dreadful state. No man's life is safe. I will send you more particulars afterwards, and in the meantime believe me, yours affectionately.

**Editors Note:** Unfortunately, the name of the writer of this letter, and that of his wife in Barnard Castle is not stated. We do not know the name of the ship, but we are told the dates and places of departure and arrival and also the name and origin of the man swept overboard. I wonder whether it might be possible, from these few clues, to locate a passenger list and identify "our tradesman from Barnard Castle"? Maybe some of our Australian members might like to have a go? I would be glad to hear from them.

## TYNESIDE SCOTTISH

In the Spring Journal, the article headed 'From North Shields to the Somme' sought information on why the Northumberland Fusiliers unit was called the "Tyneside Scottish".

The answer is that, in October 1914, when Kitchener called for men to form his 'New Army', permission was given by the War Office to raise a Tyneside Brigade, to consist of two battalions raised by the Newcastle Chamber of Commerce, one by the Tyneside Irish Committee and one by the Tyneside Scottish Committee. The rush to volunteer was so overwhelming that the Tyneside Scottish and Irish each became complete Brigades, of four Battalions each, and any attempt to limit the recruiting in the former unit to Scots was soon abandoned, although the title was retained.

The author of the article, Mr A.J. Brown, tells us that the original 1 : 10,000 scale Trench Maps of most of the Western Front have now been released to the PRO at Kew. Piece W 0295/1512 is of the area around La Boisselle, all of the individual trenches are named, and it is easy to work out exact positions mentioned in the War Diaries.

# PRESBYTERIAN MIGRATION INTO NORTHUMBERLAND

*D. Mason*

In the last Journal, I listed names of individuals extracted from the Communion Rolls of certain Presbyterian churches, where the people concerned had left and gone to other areas. I now list more names, this time of people moving in the reverse direction, i.e. coming into the area of the church shown. Under the heading of each church or chapel, the names are followed by place of residence and occupation, (where shown) the place from which the individual came, and the year. The churches included are all in the northern part of the county, and it will be noted that most people came from Scotland. I hope the list may help members who have Presbyterian ancestry but have been unable to locate the places of origin of their forebears.

**LOWICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH. 1848-60.** Mrs Helen Adams (nee Bolton), Moorhouse, Barmoor, Tilemakers wife, Coldstream 1858. William Alexander, Haggerston, Gardener, Clackmannan 1855. James Allan, Holburn, Blacksmith, Coldstream 1850. Henry Black and wife and daughter Catharine, Farm servant, Coldstream 1858 (left for Learmouth 1859). John Black, Breckenside, Farm steward, Crailing 1850. William Bone and wife, Barmoor Red House, Manservant, Edrom 1859 (left for East Ord 1860). George Brown, wife and daughter Agnes, Haggerston Toll, tollkeeper, Ayton 1855 (left for Ayton 1857). Susan Brown, daughter of George, Haggerston Toll, Sprouston 1856 (left for Ayton 1857). William Cockburn and Isabella, Barrington Law, Farm steward, Horndean 1859. William Crombie and wife Elizabeth, Laverock Law, labourer, Mordington 1849 (Removed to Scotland 1850 with David Linnes). Margaret Davidson, Holburn Grange, Coldstream 1856. George Fairbairn and wife Elizabeth (nee Richardson) and son George and daughter Isabella, farm servant, Coldstream 1850. James Hindhaugh, Bowsden, farm servant, Coldstream 1858. James Lambert and wife, Lowick, labourer, Sprouston 1857. David Linnen and daughter Mary, Laverock Law, Mordington 1849. Mrs John Lockie (Ellen Young), Ford Moss, farm servant, Yetholm 1854. James Lunn, Holburn, shepherd, Foulden 1849. Mrs Helen Millar, widow, Laverock Law, Ayton 1849. John Mackinlay and wife, Lowick 1849, groom, Houndwood 1855. Robert Renton and wife, Holburn, farm servant, Yetholm 1851. Alexander Spark, wife Elizabeth, daughter Mary and son George, farm servant, Coldstream 1860. Helen Stewart, Beal, house servant, Saltoun & Bolton 1857. Janet Stewart, Fenham, house servant, Coldstream 1855 (left for Edinburgh 1860). Elizabeth Tod, Beal, farm servant, Coldstream 1858. Margaret Todd, maid servant, Sprouston 1858. William Todd, wife Margaret and son George, Beal, Farm steward, Coldstream 1857 (left for Brandon Whitehouse 1860) Henry Walker and wife, Lowick, farm steward, Garvald 1857. Robert White, Beal, farm servant, Pitcairn Green 1857. Hugh Wood, Kentstone, shepherd, Yetholm 1848.

**CHATTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1850-60.** Isabella Ainslie, Hepburn, Yetholm 1857. Mrs Brodie, N. Lyham, Ayton 1852. Jane Cairns, widow Coldstream. Henry Cairns (son of above) Wanden, Nanthorn. Robina Cairns (Hope), daughter of above, Wanden, Coldstream. Mrs Elizabeth Campbell, Fowberry Mains, Sprouston 1860. Ann Campbell, Fowberry Mains, Sprouston 1860. Elizabeth Campbell, Fowberry Mains, Sprouston 1860. Mr and Mrs Cleghorn, Horton, Chirnside 1857. Margaret Darling, Hazelrigg, Horndean 1852. Margaret Douglas, Fowberry, Yetholm. Helen Fleming, N. Lyham, Coldingham 1853. Thomas Fortune and Mary, N. Hazelrigg, Duns 1854. Jane Gilham, Chillingham Barns, Yetholm 1853. Robert Hope, Wanden, Coldstream 1855. Jane Hope, daughter of Robert above, Wanden, Coldstream 1855. Elizabeth Hope, daughter of Robert above, Wanden, Kilham 1855. Eleanor Hope, Wanden, Kilham 1855. Mary Hoyes, Fowberry Hall, Edinburgh 1858. Andrew Joice, Chatton, Burlington, Canada 1858. Jane Laidler, Henlaw, Mordington 1853. John & Margaret Laidler, Chillingham Barns, Coldstream 1860. William Marshall, Greendykes, Sprouston 1858. Mrs Mary Moffatt, Greendykes, Yetholm 1857. Mrs Margaret MacIntyre, Chillingham, Lanark 1856. John Newton, Greendykes, Stichel 1852. Mrs Elizabeth Rankin, N. Hazelrigg, Duns 1854. Samuel Sanderson Hepburn, Laswade 1851. Mrs Elspeth Smith, Old Lyham, Coldstream 1851. Barbary Spense, Chatton Park House, Yetholm 1855. John Steel, Chatton, Yetholm 1859. Robert & Mrs Swan, Newtown, Coldstream 1854. Robert Thompson & Agnes, Wanden, Yetholm 1856. Helen White, N. Lyham, Eyemouth 1852. Isabella Wilson (Colville), Chatton Park Hall, Yetholm 1851. Margaret Wilson, Chatton Park Hall, Yetholm 1851.

**SION MEETING HOUSE, ALNWICK 1793-94.** John Cob, London 1793. Helen Elliott, Edinburgh 1793. Mrs J. Mowatt, widow of John, Edinburgh 1793.

**HARBOTTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 1737-54.** William Aires, Eckford 1748. James Allen, Greenlaw 1750. William Armstrong, Oxnam 1738. Thomas Atchison, Melrose 1746. Elizabeth Baloner(? Balmer), widow, Jedburgh 1747. Jean Bell, Hownam 1747. Robert Boorup (Bowrup), Jedburgh 1746. George Brown, Legerwood 1745. Thomas Brown, Jedburgh 1737. William Brown, Oxnam 1741. Ann Burn, Yetholm 1751. Robert Burn, Oxnam 1748. Agnes Clerk, Minto 1743. James Cleugh, Melrose 1745. William Common, Linton 1751. James Common, Morebattle 1747. Adam Crawford, Coldstream 1748. William Crees (and wife Isabel Milcolm), Kelso 1742. Thomas Crosier, Hinhope (Oxnam) 1739. William Davidson, Yetholm 1746. Mary Davyson, Morebattle 1748. Rebeckah Davyson, Crookham 1749. James Dixon, Crookham 1749. Isabell Douglas, Jedburgh 1751. William Dryden, Jedburgh 1738. Jane Dunn, Jedburgh 1741. Joseph Elliott, Hownam 1746. Donald Frazer, Jedburgh 1742. Jane Graham, Hownam 1744. Margaret Grey, Jedburgh 1749. Mary Grey, Ousdon 1751. Walter Grey, Inveresk 1737. Agnes & Flora Haddon (sisters), Hownam 1749. Ellioner Hall, Oxnam 1745. Thomas Hall, Minto 1741.

Henry Halliday, Lauder 1747. William Halliday, Melrose 1745. James Hallyburton, Martin Session 1739. Robert Henderson, Edrom 1750. Susy Henderson, Jedburgh 1751. Thomas Henderson, Jedburgh 1747. Robert Hogg, Hownam 1745. James Hunter, Kelso 1747. James Inglis, Galashiels 1744. Agnes Jameson, Hownam 1740. Margaret Kerr, Abbotrule 1741. Robert Kerr, Oxnam 1742. William Kilson, Jedburgh 1746. Jannet Kor (? Kerr) Coldstream 1746. Thomas Kor, Morebattle 1740. Andrew Laidley, cooper, Jedburgh 1750. John Lamb, Bedrule 1749. George Lumsden, Jedburgh 1741. John Madder, Ancrum 1748. John Middlemist, Selkirk 1742. Isabel Milcolm (widow of Wm Crees), Kelso 1742. Andrew Mitchell, Minto 1738. Isabel Moscrup, Oxnam 1742. Andrew Oliver, Abbotsrule 1742. Thomas Oliver, Bedrule 1748. John Off, Kelso 1742. Thomas Paton, Hownam 1747. Elspeth Phillip, Oxnam 1743. Robert Richard, Eckford 1748. Andrew Robson, Hownam 1745. Stephen Robson & wife, Jedburgh 1749. James Russell, Jedburgh 1751. Archibald Rutherford, Hownam 1746. Elizabeth Rutherford, Ancrum 1745. John Rutherford, Sprouston 1743. Thomas Rutherford, Jedburgh 1751. Elenor Sanderson, Crookham 1751. Helen Sanderson, Crookham 1751. Adam Scott, schoolmaster, Oskirk 1745. John Scott, Oxnam 1741. William Scott, Morebattle 1744. Agnes Shiel, Abbotsrule 1739. William Shillinglow, Legerwood 1746. Andrew Simpson, Morebattle 1751. Thomas Sprott, Jedburgh 1747. William Stephenson, Southdean 1748. John Stodard, Westkirk 1746. Margaret Strachan, Yetholm 1750. John Taylor, Morebattle 1751. Robert Taylor, Oxnam 1753. Thomas Trotter, Kelso 1740. John Tully, Jedburgh 1750. Elizabeth Turnbull, Eckford 1738. Mary Turnbull, Morebattle 1750. Isabel Wanlaw, Morebattle 1744. John Wanless, Morebattle 1745. Thomas Welsh, Yetholm 1745. Thomas White, schoolmaster, Oxnam 1745. Cecil Wright, Oxnam 1738. Cicely Wright, Minto 1742. Janet Wright, Castletown 1749. Janet Wright, Jedburgh 1751. John Wright, Hounam 1754. Jane Young, Oxnam 1739. John Young, Eckford 1748.

TOWER HILL CHAPEL, WOOLER, 1843-60. Walter Allan & wife, Weetwood Hill, shepherd, Coldstream 1858. Peter Anderson & wife, Newtown, shepherd Yetholm 1854. Jane Banner, Caddington, Hawick 1859. John Blyth, Copland Mill, Yetholm 1850. James Brown (with Agnes & Margaret), Haugh Head, hind, Coldstream 1852. John Brown, Haugh Head, Coldstream 1852. William Brown and Martha, Haugh Head, hind, Coldstream 1852. Ralph Buglass & wife, Goldsleugh, shepherd, Monkwearmouth 1855. Andrew Carr, Fenton, hind, Coldstream 1851. Elizabeth Compton, Coldmartin, Coldstream 1853. John Cowans, Common Burn, shepherd, Morebattle 1852. Helen Davidson, Akeld, Kelso 1853. James Davidson and Ann, Ilderton Dod, shepherd, Morebattle 1859. Mary Dickson, Earl, Yetholm 1858. Sarah Duncan, Langleyford, Yetholm 1860 (left for Edinburgh). Mrs Alex Edmonstone, Humbleton, Duns 1858. Ann Edmerston, Humbleton, Coldstream 1852. Catherine Fleming, Doddington, Kelso 1854. William Fleeming & wife, Doddington, hind, Yetholm 1855. William Fortune & Euphemia, Coupland, shopkeeper, Morebattle 1860. William Fortune & Euphemia, Akeld, Coldstream 1853. Jane Fraser, Barmoor, Governess, Coatbridge 1851. William Fullarton, Kimmerston, hind, Hartlepool 1851. Patience & Jane Fullerton, Ilderton, Crookham 1853. Mary Gibson, Wooler, Leith 1852. Mrs Jane Hadden, N. Middleton, Coldstream 1856. Elizabeth Hindmarsh, Middleton Hall, Hartlepool 1856 (left for America 1857). William Hislop, Wooler, baker, Lilliesleaf 1854. Thomas Kennedy, Copeland Mill, miller, Legerwood 1855. Elizabeth Little, Wooler, Cavers 1850. Job Melrose jnr, Threestoneburn, shepherd, Yetholm 1860. Jacob Oliver & Mrs Helen, Goldcleugh, shepherd, Morebattle 1857. Rachel Percy (also known as More), West Weetwood, Yetholm 1852. Andrew & Isabella Richardson, Doddington, hind, Yetholm 1855. Jane Robertson, Fenton Hill, servant Homdean 1858. Jane Robertson, Middleton Hall, servant, Greenlaw 1855. James & Mrs Ann Rutherford, Weetwood Hall, servant, Yetholm 1859. Andrew Scott, Wooler, baker, Edinburgh 1850. John & Mrs Euphemia Scott, Earl, shepherd, Yetholm 1857 (both died - Mrs Scott 1866). John & Mrs Jane Smith, Haugh Head, joiner, Coldstream 1855. John Steel, Wooler, Yetholm 1857. James Swan, Newtown, hind, Coldstream 1854. Francis & Mrs Trotter, Wooler, joiner, Kelso 1865. George Turnbull, Humbleton, shepherd, Yetholm 1858. Joseph Turnbull, Ilderton Dodd, shepherd, Yetholm 1853. Mary Walker, Way-to-Wooler, Yetholm 1860. John Wallace, Hartside, shepherd, Yetholm 1856. Thomas & Elizabeth Wood, Lilburn Hill, shepherd, Coldstream 1851. (Jane Wood admitted 1852, Isabella Wood 1855, Mary Wood 1855). Mrs Margaret & Jean Young, Humbleton Buildings, Greenlaw 1856.

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*Douglas W. Smith*

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# THE HALMOTE COURT RECORDS OF THE BISHOP OF DURHAM

*J.M. Fewster*

The records of the Bishop of Durham's halmote court (the court of the lord of a manor held in a hall) can sometimes provide useful information for the family historian concerned with persons who lived in certain parts of the Palatinate of Durham. The extensive copyhold lands belonging to the Bishops were administered by this court and its records from 1519 onwards are housed at 5 The College, Durham, now part of Durham University Library Archives and Special Collections. Microfilms are also held here of the earlier court rolls dating from 1348, which are preserved in the Public Record Office. Copyhold tenure was abolished by the Law of Property Act of 1925 but business, mainly concerning compensation agreements as manorial incidents were extinguished and copyholds were thereby converted into freeholds, continued in the halmote court office at Durham until 1953.

Copyhold evolved from mediaeval villein tenure. As the name implies, the copyholder's title was a copy of the court roll on which his or her admission was recorded. Provided that copyholders paid their rents, performed the customary services and observed the other customs of the manor, their estates would, on death, pass to their heirs, if they claimed them. A proclamation was made at three successive sessions of the Bishop's halmote court, calling on the heirs of deceased copyholders to claim their estates on pain of forfeiture. Copyholders might sell or mortgage their property, but whatever private agreements were made, the transaction had to be finalized in the Bishop's court where the existing copyholder surrendered the holding in favour of the new tenant who was thereupon admitted. In the case of a mortgage or other transaction that did not involve the absolute alienation of the property, a defeasance stating the purpose of the surrender and the conditions under which it would become void was also enrolled in the court book. Many surrenders and admissions were made 'out of court' but, usually, the particulars were subsequently enrolled in the court book for the appropriate area.

The Bishop's copyhold lands were situated in wide areas, from 1720 onwards known as 'divisions', around Bishop Auckland, Chester-le-Street, Darlington, Easington, Houghton-le-Spring, Lanchester, Stockton and Wolsingham. Each division encompassed several townships, some a considerable distance from the one after which the division was named. For example, the Chester division also covered Ryton, the Boldons, Whitburn and Cleadon; Houghton division included Burdon, Tunstall, Ryhope, East and West Herrington, Newbottle, Warden Law and Wearmouth; Wolsingham division covered Stanhope, Bishopley, Lynsack, Softley and the Bedburns (North and South). From various dates separate courts were held for some manors within the above areas, as in the case of Evenwood (with Killerby, West Auckland and West Thickley), Bishop Middleham (with Sedgefield and Conforth), Gateshead, and Whickham. Bedlington in Northumberland was the only area north of the Tyne where the Bishop held a halmote court. Not all land in the areas named was copyhold: some was let out on lease by the Bishop and for this different records have to be consulted.

Since there was a potential hereditary element in copyhold tenure, details of family relationships are often recorded in the transactions. Ancestors of one or other of the parties concerned are sometimes mentioned; married women's maiden names (or former married names in the case of widows who had remarried) may be stated; the names of children are often given, and sometimes even distant relationships are recorded. Many copyholders were of very humble social status and these records are therefore particularly valuable as a source of information about persons for whom little or nothing else is likely to be found. A few examples taken from the Auckland court book, 1734-42, will indicate the sort of information that may be derived from such records:-

10 December 1737, Alice Simpson, widow of Edward Simpson the younger, Esther wife of John Thompson, Jane wife of John Crabtree and Elizabeth wife of Nicholas Watson, daughters of the said Alice Simpson, were admitted to land at West Auckland surrendered by Jane Tempest, spinster, and Ralph Smith (f.114).

19 January 1738/9, William Hodgson of Selaby, County Durham, was admitted to premises in Evenwood which Jane Marley, widow, surrendered on trust for herself for her life and thereafter for George Marley, her son, and, after his death, for his son John (f.132).

4 May 1739, Ann Vickers and Margaret Vickers, spinsters, were admitted to premises at Ramshaw which William Vickers and Margaret his wife (lately called Margaret Stephenson, spinster) and Silas Ramshaw and Ann his wife (lately called Ann Stephenson, spinster) had surrendered (f.134).

4 May 1739, Thomas Moor, grandson and heir of Elienor Taylor (late wife of Thomas Taylor) deceased was admitted to her property in Evenwood (f.134).

15 December 1738, Mary Popley, spinster, was admitted to land near Bildershaw surrendered by William Ward, eldest son and heir of Thomas Ward deceased, who was brother of William Ward late of County Durham, gentleman, deceased (f.136).

In citing the above examples, details of the properties have been omitted. However, a description of the property is always given in the court records, often with such details as field names, acreages and the names of adjacent landholders. Buildings erected on the land are generally mentioned. Such information is obviously of value to local historians.

Before 1733 (except during the Commonwealth period) the Court records are in Latin and are written in a variety of scripts, some carelessly or untidily executed. If there is a defeasance to a surrender, however, that part is written in English.

The halmote court records include some thousands of original surrenders written on separate pieces of paper or parchment. These duplicate the entries in the court books, though the latter do not bear the signatures (or marks) of the persons making the surrender as the originals do. Many originals must have been lost or destroyed in the course of time but where they exist they can sometimes clarify entries in the court books that are difficult to read (though some of the originals themselves can be difficult to decipher). Several lists of original surrenders have been published and may be purchased from this Department. The lists give the names of persons admitted, mainly in the 17th and early 18th centuries, but do not include the names of those who made the surrender. These lists are by no means a complete guide to the court books, but if relevant names appear in them it would indicate that a thorough search of the records would be worthwhile. The absence of such an encouraging sign should not, however, be taken to mean that an extensive search would be fruitless.

Before 1720 all transactions were entered into a single court book but after this date each division had a separate court book, with an index of persons who surrendered and of those who were admitted. The volumes before 1720 do not have such an index incorporated in them but there is a separate series of index and alphabet books which serve the same purpose. There are certain difficulties in the use of these index volumes but they need not be explained here. Another difficulty arises from the fact some transactions in the halmote court were, for various legal reasons, made through trustees. This complicates the researcher's task.

About the middle of the 18th century the Bishop's officials introduced a system of call numbers for plots of copyhold land. All transactions in respect of each numbered holding were recorded in call books. Eventually the court officials identified these plots on O.S. plans and marked the call numbers on them. They also coloured the maps to distinguish the copyhold, leasehold and freehold lands belonging to the Bishop in County Durham. In the case of copyhold land one can refer from the call number on the map to the appropriate call book and, from the transactions listed there, proceed to the court books. Thus with the aid of these call numbers it is possible to find documents concerning an area delineated on an O.S. map, and conversely, again with the aid of the call numbers, one can identify on the map land about which there are entries in the call and court books. Of course the halmote court officials could make mistakes and sometimes they were not certain about the situation or tenure of a given plot, but they clearly made great efforts to achieve accuracy and strong evidence would be needed to convict them of error.

It would be misleading to suggest that the halmote court records always yield useful information. Even when transactions about a property are found in the court books the details given might prove disappointing and sometimes considerable time and effort is required to pursue a search. Nevertheless, there is often information that could not be obtained elsewhere to be found in these records and they deserve to be better known and more fully explored by local and family historians.

Editors Note: Dr Fewster is Senior Assistant Keeper in the Archives & Special Collections Section of Durham University Library (formerly the Dept of Palaeography and Diplomatic). I am asked to point out that the staff there can NOT undertake searches on behalf of enquirers.

Handlists of original surrenders may be purchased at 5 The College, Durham as follows: Auckland and Chester divisions; Darlington, Easington and Houghton divisions; Lanchester, Stockton and Wolsingham division (£3.50 each); Bedlington, Bishop Wearmouth Rectory, Evenwood, Middleham and Whickham Manors (£2.50 each). Postage extra.

## A SOBER AFFAIR

At Kirknewton Church, on the 4th instant, Mr Thomas Clark, draper, Millfield (married) to Miss Jane Cranston, Millfield Hill. This was the first teetotal couple ever married in this church and the abettors of the use of the mountain dew on such occasions had all caught a piece of the 'prophetic mantle' and thus foretold that it was impossible for the happy pair to celebrate their nuptials without the aid of the 'spirits' usually called in on such occasions. However, much to the disgrace and chagrin of the company of young prophets, the bridal day was spent by a numerous and happy party in the most pleasant and cheerful manner without ever feeling so much as a desire to call in the assistance of any 'spirits.'

(From *Berwick Advertiser* March 14th 1840).

# A BIT OF GENEALOGICAL FUN

## PART TWO

You may recall that the Winter Journal, at page 89, gave you a problem to solve. I told you of a "gentleman's billfold", a wallet in leather with a silver clasp engraved with the words "JOSEPH GAMUL, NEWCASTLE 1750", with another silver piece with "ROB GIB" engraved over two clasped hands. I offered a prize for the most information about Joseph Gamul, "Rob Gib" or the billfold. Clearly, I misjudged your appetite for the chase, for I received a single response, obtained from your Chairman (with a bit of armtwisting), so he wins the magnific prize of a years subscription to the Society -- and has agreed to waive his prize! His "entry", reproduced below, demonstrates just what can be done with a minimum of information to work on and demonstrates also how local history and genealogical data can be woven together to provide an interesting tale in which considerable "colour" has been added to the "bare bones" of names & dates. Much of the information was obtained from sources less obvious than parish registers, and I hope that members, and beginners in particular, will find it instructive as well as interesting.

### JOSEPH GAMUL AND HIS BILLFOLD

*Geoff Nicholson*

#### 1 DESCRIPTION

The billfold is of leather, and rather similar to a modern man's wallet. It is essentially a folded pouch, secured with a silver buckle, bearing on one side the inscription "*Joseph Gamul, Newcastle, 1750*" and on the other "Rob Gib" and a representation of a pair of clasped hands. There is no visible hallmark but one could easily be hidden by the leather.

#### 2 "ROB GIB"

Either Joseph Gamul or "Rob Gib" must, I assume, be the silversmith who made the buckle. It is not likely to have been Joseph Gamul, as the place and year of assay would have been effectively included in the hallmarks, making the "Newcastle upon Tyne 1750" unnecessary, so I have assumed "Rob Gib" to have been the maker.

A list of silversmiths working in and near Newcastle', compiled mainly from the records of the Newcastle Assay Office, was consulted to see whether it mentioned any Rob(ert) Gib(son). It did not, but there was a mention of one Robert Gillson. The names were sufficiently close to make me wonder whether one (but which one?) was a mis-reading of the other and any doubts about this were dispelled as soon as I looked at the details of the entry. It appears that Gillson worked in Sunderland and his only appearance in the Newcastle Assay Office's records is in connection with his having, in 1750 of all years, sent a dozen silver buckles to Newcastle for assay. Was one of these "ours"? **If so, did the batch of a dozen merely represent what passed for mass production in the silverware industry of the 18th century or was this a special order from someone charged with making twelve identical billfolds for presentation to twelve favoured recipients?**

#### 3.1 JOSEPH GAMUL - BIRTH & FAMILY

The obvious place to begin looking for Joseph Gamul was the Northumberland IGII, and there indeed he was, baptised at Kirkwhelpington in March 1701. The actual entry in the Baptism register' is:

*1700-01 March 2 Joseph s of Francis Gamul, Clark, Vicar, of this P(arish)*

The baptisms of several of Joseph's brothers and sisters were similarly located, as were several burials, of those who died young.

Knowing now that Joseph's father was a clergyman opened several doors. It became worthwhile looking up Kirkwhelpington in the County History - in this case one of the volumes of Hodgson's History of Northumberland. Here I discovered that Rev Francis Gamul had previously been the Curate at Easington, Co Durham and a hint was dropped that between these appointments he may have been at Bishop Auckland for a short while. The Easington and Auckland St Andrew parish registers were next checked, together with Boyd's Marriage Index for Co Durham, as a result of which the following story emerged.

The first I know of Francis Gamul is that on Jan 9 1672-3 he was married at Great Stainton, Co Durham. The marriage was by Licence (not checked) and the bride was Jane, daughter of Rev Thomas Pearson, Rector of Great Stainton. Francis was described at the time as "Clericus", of Elwick Hall. Oddly enough no children are recorded in Elwick Hall registers, the first baptism being in 1676 at Easington. However, one child buried at Easington had not been baptised there so we do not need to assume a four-year period of celibacy for the newly-weds! All in all there were six baptisms at Easington from 1672 to 1685, one being named Dennis, after Dennis Grenville, the then Rector of Easington. Three of these children, and the "extra" eldest one, were buried there also. Francis was at Auckland

St Andrew from 1683-1685, his signature appearing regularly in the register at that time. The only family event recorded was the baptism of one more child. In 1685 he went to Kirkwhelpington where three more children were born, Joseph being the last, but there were also another nine burials, for six of which the corresponding baptism has not been found.

To sum this up, Joseph was the seventeenth child of his parents but no more than three of his siblings could have been living at his birth. These were (1) his brother Thomas, 25 years old and probably already starting his career as a Goldsmith in Newcastle, (2) his brother Francis, 24 years old, who was to marry Mary Hunter in 1708 and settle down in Kirkwhelpington and (3) possibly his sister Jane, born in Bishop Auckland in 1684 and for whom no burial has been found.

Joseph's mother's burial has not been found but it surely cannot have been long after his own birth in 1700-01- she must have been worn out after 17 births and 14 deaths. It is likely that brother Francis would play a large part in Joseph's young life, especially after Francis' own marriage.

### 3.2 APPRENTICESHIP

Joseph Gamul was enrolled as an apprentice in the Company of Hostmen' of Newcastle upon Tyne in January 1719, his Master being Alderman Richard Ridley of Heaton Hall, Governor of the Company, who was an extensive coal-owner in the region.

The Hostmen were the most powerful group of people in Newcastle in those days as the town's Charters gave them control of the Common Council which ran the town. They also exercised a monopoly over trade, as the rule was that only a Freeman of Newcastle could trade in Newcastle and the only way a "foreigner" could do business was to use a Hostman as a "middle man". This gave the Hostmen control of the Coal trade in particular, as all coal had to be brought down in keels from up-river staithes to be trans-shipped below the Tyne Bridge at Newcastle which prevented the passage of sea-going colliers. Only Hostmen were allowed to organise this so they could squeeze out any coal owner (or coal merchant) who was not "one of them". Most were in fact coal owners in their own right anyway.

As apprentice, Joseph probably spent his time in Richard Ridley's office. The death of his father back in Kirkwhelpington in September 1720 would have been a major upset to his carefree life. One wonders whether he received the news in time to attend the funeral. Travel from Newcastle to Kirkwhelpington could not have been easy in those days.

According to the published lists Joseph was enrolled as a Freeman of Newcastle on 4 Jan 1726 (described as a "host" [man]), and admitted to the Hostmen's Company on 23 Jan 1727. This seems contradictory, as he would have to have been a member of a Company or Guild first, before he could become a Freeman. Probably in this case we have to be careful not to fall into the trap of taking these dates too literally. At the time, the Old Style calendar was still used in this country and the year began on March 25th (Lady Day). The period Jan 1 to March 25 belonged to the previous, or the next, year, according to whether dates are reckoned as Old Style or New Style and are usually written as "1726-27". Possibly in this case the transcriber of the Freeman's Records has used Old Style and that of the Hostmen's has used New Style, causing an apparent contradiction. We still have nineteen days to account for, however, so perhaps these exact dates are not as accurate as would at first appear.

### 3.3 CAREER

When Joseph died in 1777 it was stated in the Newcastle Courantb that he had been principal Agent for Matthew Ridley for "upwards of 50 years". For this to be true he must have been appointed to that position as soon as he was out of his apprenticeship, which is not very likely, even though his old Master was Matthew's father. What is more likely is that he took up some less important job with the Ridleys in 1727, serving them for 50 years and eventually rising to become principal Agent.

During this time Joseph did have at least one other interest as Brand's *History of Newcastle*, quoting the Common Council Books, states that he was appointed as Water Bailiff in 1737. This was a very important position as it meant defending the Council's rights to a monopoly of all trade on the Tyne, inspecting the state of the river and prosecuting offenders in the Town's Admiralty Court. It was usually held for long periods of time, but unusually Joseph Gamul was succeeded in it after only one year. Perhaps he found it incompatible with his duties for the Ridleys; perhaps it was they who had arranged it, to get "their man" temporarily in a position of some power, or perhaps it was a means of bringing pressure to bear on his employers - showing them that he could get a responsible position independent of them and so forcing his own promotion.

In 1739 Joseph's old Master, Richard Ridley, died at his home at Heaton. Joseph must surely have been prominent among the 86 tenants and Agents who accompanied the elaborate funeral procession from Heaton Hall to St Nicholas' Church. So solemn an occasion was this that, we are told, *"the rejoicings of the day, it being the 5th of November, were suspended."*

Matthew Ridley it was who stood up to the riotous keelman in 1740, when the mob broke into the Guildhall and removed many of the Town's records as well as much money. If he had been allowed to deploy his volunteer militia - the "White Stocking Regiment" - as he wished, the riot might have been prevented entirely. He had another moment of glory in 1745 when, as Mayor, he organised the defence of Newcastle against the Jacobites, and may have been the cause of their advancing into England by the west, rather than the east coast route. For this he received the King's personal thanks, delivered to him by the Duke of Cumberland when staying at the Mansion House in Newcastle while pursuing the Scots back to their Nemesis at Culloden. As Agent, or at least a Ridley loyal servant, Joseph Gamul must surely have played a large part in these affairs. He must also have accepted great responsibilities when his Master's business took him to London for long periods, where he was Whig MP for Newcastle from 1747 to 1774.

### 3.4 SOME PERSONAL INSIGHTS

Three incidents from Joseph Gamul's later life allow us to get more informal glimpses of the man.

George Marshall, who made his Will in 1759 must have been a friend, for Joseph Gamul was one of three people to whom he left £5 each. George Marshall had two tenanted houses on the Quayside so probably he was a Newcastle man and perhaps even a boon companion of Joseph.

Like all of us Joseph Gamul must have had his minor ailments - the sort of thing which is a great inconvenience to us personally at the time but which we would hardly expect to get US into the history books. Nevertheless, it is interesting to read in the Hostmen's records that when he failed to appear at a meeting called in February 1759 "*upon a fine of 3s 4d*" he was excused payment of the fine because the Company were "*informed he was indisposed*." That this was more likely to have been a winter cold than a serious illness is perhaps born out by the fact that he lived for another 18 years!

In 1771 the first report and Balance Sheet of the Newcastle Lying-in Hospital was published. It covered the years 1750-1771, although it is stated elsewhere that the Hospital was founded in 1762. Possibly the first twelve years were ones of fund-raising and planning. Joseph Gamul's name appears as a subscriber. The Lying-in Hospital was established at the corner of Rosemary Lane and Westgate Road, near St John's Church, and did not move into the premises on New Bridge Street, which many will know as the former BBC building, until the 1820's.

### 3.5 DEATH

The Family Notices published in the Newcastle Courant<sup>6</sup> for 18 January 1777 include:

*DIED - Wednesday in his 77th year at his house in Percy Street Mr Joseph Gamul, son of the late Rev Mr Gamul, Vicar of Kirkwhelpington in Northumberland and upwards of 50 years principal Agent to Matthew Ridley, Esq, which trust he discharged with the greatest probity, and is much lamented for his many acts of benevolence.*

He was buried, as "*Joseph Gamul.. Gent*", on 18 January 1777 at St Andrew's church, near his home in Percy Street. There is now no stone to mark his grave.

By his Will, which he had made some four years before, in April 1773, at which time his address was "Barras Bridge" Joseph left £ 10 per year to his nieces: Ann wife of Joseph Marston, tailor, Newcastle, and Elizabeth wife of William Garland, shoemaker, "without the Westgate". He also left to William Garland's son Gamul Garland £4 10s per year until he was 21 and then £400. His other niece, Jane Gamul, unmarried daughter of his brother Thomas "*late silversmith of Newcastle*", (as were probably Ann and Elizabeth also, although Joseph's brother Francis had a spinster daughter Elizabeth back in Kirkwhelpington) received the slightly enlarged legacy of £ 12 per year. David Lamb, a fellow Hostman, was to receive £25, as was his daughter Alice but David Lamb's other daughter, Mary, who was Joseph Gamul's God-daughter, was to get £50, was David Lamb's nephew, Richard Hetherington.

The next legacy hints at a story which *would* repay further research - Christopher Reed of South Blyth, son of Thomas Reed of North Blyth, was to be given £50 "*by way of some satisfaction for the ill usage he has received on my acct*". The Ridley family owned a great deal of property in Blyth so Joseph's dealings with the Reeds were almost certainly connected with his position as their Agent. The remainder of Joseph's money and possessions was left to his employer, Matthew Ridley of Heaton "*as a testimony of the great regard which I have always had for his interest and family*".

Although he had been "*sick and weak in body*" when making his Will, Joseph lived long enough to amend it, in September 1776, cutting out Richard Hetherington, who had that day received his £50, and David Lamb, who was dead.

The Will was proved in Durham by Matthew Ridley, the executor, in 1777.

I have found no record, in Boyd's Marriage Index or elsewhere, of Joseph Gamul ever having married, so he presumably has no descendants to claim him today. Nevertheless, this research into his life and times, occasioned by a query about his billfold, may have helped rescue the story of his life from undeserved obscurity.

#### 4. BACK TO THE BILLFOLD

Let us reconsider the silver buckle on Joseph's Billfold. I accept that "Rob Gib" was the silversmith and Joseph Gamul the owner. What is the significance of the year 1750 and of the clasped hands? Three possible explanations suggest themselves.

(1) The hands may be a Masonic symbol and it is possible that Matthew Ridley's father-in-law, Matthew White, who died in 1750, was a Mason. The Whites and the Ridleys are both thought to have been "Masonic" families.

(2) The hands may refer to the Hostmen's Company, whose Seal shows two men shaking hands. These are meant to represent an early merchant meeting his "host", (the original hostmen at the beginning of Newcastle's history as a trading town, are thought to have been innkeepers). The reason for the Company issuing the Billfolds may have been to mark services done in another rebellion and "strike" of keelmen in 1750 which at one stage looked as though it might be as serious as that of 1740. This time the keelmen, many of Scots extraction, actually proclaimed the Pretender King of England (from a stile in the fields around Elswick). Anyone who played a part in bringing the strike to an end would earn the gratitude of the Hostmen and that gratitude may well have taken more substantial form. A reward was offered at one stage for information about the ringleaders and perhaps the Billfold was part of that reward, possibly to hold the cash.

(3) Possibly, of course, the Billfold was just an everyday working tool of the Agent, part of whose job it would be to collect rents and to carry money and documents for his employer. In this case, however, would it have had an ostentatious silver buckle?

Editor's Note: With the exception of Gamul's Will, held in Durham, the whole of the evidence for this tale was collected without moving from the Genealogy and Local History Rooms at Newcastle Central Library. More information on Gamul is to be found in the Ridley papers at Northumberland Record Office, and it is also possible that Tyne & Wear Record Office in Blandford Street, Newcastle may have papers relating to his role in the Newcastle guilds. Margaret A.V. Gill's "Directory of Newcastle Goldsmiths", 1980, also in Newcastle Library, mentions Joseph's elder brother Thomas, who was also a Freeman of the city and who was buried at All Saints Church in 1718. Another source is the Newcastle Poll Book of 1741, which unsurprisingly shows that Gamul voted for Matthew Ridley in the Parliamentary election of that year.

#### REFERENCES

1. "A handbook of Newcastle Silver" by Margaret Gill (Frank Graham 1978).
2. International Genealogical Index (IGI) for Durham & Northumberland.
3. Parish registers of Elwick Hall, Great Stainton, Easington and Auckland St Andrew in Co Durham, Kirkwhelpington in Northumberland and St Andrew in Newcastle provided the basic genealogical data.
4. Hodgson's History of Northumberland, Part 2, Vol 1, Kirkwhelpington parish.
5. Newcastle Records Committee Vol 6 (1926) "Register of Freeman of Newcastle upon Tyne"
6. Family Notices in Newcastle Courant, Newcastle Library.
7. Local Records by John Sykes 1833.
8. Surtees Society, Vol 105 (1901) "extracts from the records of the Company of Hostmen ..."
9. Joseph Gamul's will in Durham University Library, Archives & Special Collections.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Q. Where is YELDOM in Northumberland? I can't find it on the map.

A. YELDOM is a local dialect pronunciation of ALNHAM. The spelling is often found on old documents.

Q. On what dates were the censuses of 1841 to 1881 taken?

A. 1841 ... 6 June. 1851 ... evening of 30/31 March.  
1861 ... 7/8 April. 1871 ... 2/3 April.  
1881 ... 2/4 April.

And to complete the picture, 1891 was taken on 5 April.



# "HATCHES, MATCHES & DESPATCHES" IN THE NEWCASTLE COURANT

*Hermit*

Reposing on the shelves in the Genealogy Room at Newcastle Central Library are six sturdy red-backed volumes. On the fly leaf of the first of them, we are told that "The value of the notices of births, marriages and deaths in local newspapers is well known to genealogists, whilst at the same time the enormous amount of work involved in searching for an entry where the date is only approximately known is most discouraging to any but the most patient and persevering worker." Quite so -- these comments are as valid now as they were when they were written in 1906.

The six volumes are titled "*Family Notices from the Newcastle Weekly Courant*", or, more simply, "*Courant Notices*" and we are told that "through the kindness of the Editor of the *Newcastle Journal*, arrangements have been made for the careful transcription of all entries in the files of the *Newcastle Weekly Courant* relating to families in the four Northern Counties." The *Courant*, one of the earliest newspapers in the area, was first published early in the 18th century, but in its early years it contained no "Family Notices" and the "careful transcription" -- made by an eminent local genealogist Edwin Dodds --- commences in 1723 and is "nearly complete for the following ten years; one or two, however, contain no references to local families." The files of papers which Dodds used contained gaps from 1734 to 1737 and again from 1739 to 1744 but from 1745 "they have been regularly preserved." Occasionally, another local paper, the *Newcastle Chronicle*, has been used.

The "Family Notices" concerned births, marriages and deaths (with the odd note of a bankruptcy thrown in for good measure), but they are unlike those in today's press, which are placed mainly by family members. The "*Courant Notices*" are "news items" and the "events" were mentioned only if they were considered to be newsworthy.

Volume I of the series has 295 typed pages covering the years 1723 to 1768. The earliest entries relate almost wholly to the aristocracy but by the middle of the century we find notices relating not only to titled people, but also to "lesser mortals", often gentry but also well established local businessmen and others of some standing in the community. Thus, from the issue of October 10th 1747 we learn that "Last Saturday, died after 3 days illness, universally regretted by his Acquaintances, Mr Charles Atkinson, an eminent Merchant & Coal Fitter of this Town" and also that "Wednesday last died at Chipseys, Mrs Reed, wife of John Reed Esq of Chipseys and daughter to Gawyn Aynsley of Little Harle Esq; her Death is much lamented." The issue for February 20th 1762 tells us that "Tuesday last was married at Hutton, Caleb Buglass, bookseller in Berwick, to Miss Johnson, sister of Weyn Johnson of Hutton-hall Esq., an agreeable Young Lady with a fortune of £2000." Less lucky was Mr Salkeld Robinson, "innkeeper on the Key" who, on a Wednesday in January 1763, "arose from bed, complained of being unwell and died immediately."

Occasionally, there is an entry which hints of scandal and of family feuds. What are we to make of the note in the issue of February 13th 1748 ?- "We hear from Easington, that, after Eight months Deliberation, the Treaty of Marriage betwixt Mr Ralph Firry, aged 90 and Mrs Brandling of the same Place and Age, was happily consummated, and the Settlement for the issue of this Marriage amicably adjusted, after having been at Church in that time and return'd without compleating the Ceremony, on account of some lesser incidents occuring not properly fix'd for their former or future offspring but at last settled to intire satisfaction."

Volume II, pages 297 to 678, and Volume III, pages 679 to 1145, cover the years 1767 to 1783, and 1783 to 1800 respectively. On the whole, the entries are now more numerous and perhaps also more informative. The 'Births' are not especially helpful and are typically quite brief - "4th August 1792 Saturday, Mrs Keenlyside, wife of Richard Keenlyside, surgeon, of a daughter." But the 'Deaths' tell us more. Here are the 27th December 1788 items. "Last week at Norwich, George Greene Esq of Stannington bridge .... Lately at North Shields, Mrs Monkhouse, widow of Mr Monkhouse, many years a midshipman on the Impress Service in this Port .... Saturday, on the Sandhill, Mr John Wilson, an eminent tobacconist .... Same day, in a very advanced age, Mr J Millie, hardwareman in North Shields. Mr Wilson and Mr Millie dying on one day reminds us of the similarity of their conduct when living; in the early part of their lives, from unavoidable misfortunes, they failed in business and divided what they had amongst their creditors who were satisfied; afterwards, by industry, they became possessed of sufficient to discharge the whole of their debts, which they did, and thereby raised themselves to an enviable estimation in the opinion of every friend to honesty and worth."

Then, as now, a sudden death, or one occurring in tragic or unusual circumstances, would merit a mention. -- "1800 November 8th Died. On Tuesday last, Mr William Galley of Sunderland, butcher, he was at a farmhouse on the Morpeth road and expired, shortly after his supper in good health .... On the 30th of September, off the Naze of Norway, Mr W Mowbray, mate of the *Swallow* of this Port, son of Mr Daniel Mowbray of this Town, flaxdresser, fell off the bowsprit into the sea while righting some of the tackle of the ship and was unfortunately drowned."

There is a separate volume comprising an index to the entries in Volumes I to III. Although helpful, it is not especially easy to use, because only the surnames are indexed, with the page numbers on which they appear, but there are no Christian names or any indication whether the indexed entry relates to a birth, a marriage or a death, or any dates. Thus, if you are seeking a William Charlton, you will be faced with 91 page numbers relating to this surname and although the search can be narrowed by checking one or two to find approximate dates, a search for a common surname can be time-consuming. For some reason, however, the indexes for Atkinson, for Hall and for Pattison are more helpful and give Christian names and, in some cases, dates.

Volumes IV continues in similar vein and covers 1801 to 1806 in 402 pages. Volume V, pages 410 to 714, covers 1807 to 1812 and then there is another surname index in a separate volume. The series ends with Volume VI covering 1813 to 1820, with just a few entries for 1821, and this volume has its own surname index. The entries follow the same pattern as previously -- "3rd January 180 1. On Sunday last, in an advanced age, at the Three Tuns, Birtley Lane, near Chester-le-Street, Mr John Bedlington, many years a viewer at the collieries leading to the River Wear" passed away, whilst in August 1805, the luckless "Thomas Hanby of Bishopwearmouth, while working at a lime kiln, slipped his foot and fell in; he was so severely burnt that he died a few hours after he was got out, leaving a widow and 4 children."

If you are lucky enough to find an entry relating to an ancestor, it can add considerable colour to the bare facts of date or place. It can supplement or augment the information which should appear in the appropriate parish register and give further detail and perhaps a clue which can point to further avenues of research. Thus, an entry in the St Nicholas, Durham register records the marriage on 25th January 1803 of Robert Nelson of the parish of Kirkleatham, Yorkshire, to Ann Nelson 'of this parish'. The *Courant* extract, however, notes that the parties were "Mr Nelson of the Navy" and "Miss Nelson, sister to Mr John Nelson, butcher in Durham." So we glean the further knowledge that the groom was "of the Navy" and that the bride had a brother John who was a butcher. Similarly, the burial register of the Northumbrian parish of **Netherwiton records the death** and burial in March 1803 of "William Richardson, Longwiton, servant to the Revd Walter Trevelyan" but the newspaper tells us, in addition, that the dead man was "formerly a shopkeeper in this Town" and that he was "killed at Netherwiton Low Trench Gate by a fall from a horse he was riding at exercise."

Sometimes, there is conflicting information, The South Shields parish register details the marriage in January 1803 of William Heppell and Alice Blake "both of this chapelry" i.e. of South Shields. How does this reconcile with the *Courant* entry, suggesting both partners were from north, rather than south, of the river Tyne ? -- "married on the 11th instant at South ShieldS, Mr William Heppel of Walls-end to Miss Blake of North Shields, milliner."

Finally, ponder on this! "30th October 1802. On Thursday afternoon, the body of Mr Matthew Hill of Sunderland was found in the Wear near Ayres Quay. He had been missing from Monday night." And yet, on 8th January 1803, some weeks later, the body of Mr Hills turns up again! "On Sunday evening, the body of Mr Matthew Hills who has been missing for ten weeks was found floating on the River Wear." The entry in the Sunderland burial register confirms the second entry with the note that "buried 3rd January 1803 aged 28, Mr Matthew Hill of Spring Garden Lane, Mariner, drowned ten weeks ago." So was the corpse found on an October Thursday in 1802 not that of Matthew Hills at all? Was there a "change of mind" on the identity after the discovery of another floating body on a Sunday evening in January 1803? And why is there no entry in the burial register for the first luckless soul?

Obviously, only a tiny proportion of births, marriages and deaths found their way into the columns of the *Courant* but if the man or woman you are seeking was "well-off" or was an "Eminent Merchant" or other prominent citizen, you may just be lucky! And if he or she died in a tragic or odd fashion, you might just find a mention!

## A STREAKER -- 1795 STYLE

Last Saturday night, as Mr Thomas Sewell of Bishop Auckland was going along Elvet Bridge in Durham, he was attacked by a man, and a woman, who knocked him down and robbed him of half a guinea and\_ some-silver. The woman was apprehended on Sunday morning and committed, on the oath of Sewell, to Durham Gaol and proves to be the notorious Frances Blackett, better known in that city by the name of Fan Streaker. (*Newcastle Courant* 28 February 1795).

**Editor's Note:** Does anyone know anything about the lady, or her life?

### *Quite a Family*

29 June 1849. Died at Kenton, aged 104, Mr Selby Robson, The deceased was father of eighteen children, sixty-nine grandchildren, 58 great grandchildren and two great-great-grandchildren, making a total of 147 descendants. (Fordyce "Local Records")

# PUBLICATIONS OF THE SOCIETY

Like most Family History Societies, we have produced several publications over the years. Recently joined members may not realise just what we have on offer, or how useful they can be.

## THE DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

The current edition of our Directory was published in 1988, and should be used with the supplement issued in 1990. The Directory is rather like a "super-edition" of the Members' Interests column of the Journal, enabling the user to see at a glance which members share his or her interests.

## THE 1851 CENSUS INDEXES

So far, we have published 10 printed volumes, and 7 microfiche indexes, of the 1851 census. The microfiche alone contain over 35,000 names!

### Northumberland

Vol 1 - Hartburn, Netherwitton, Longhorsley, Mitford, Meldon & Hebron (part).

Vol 2 - Seghill, Backworth, Burradon & Earsdon (part).

Vol 3 - Morpeth, Tranwell & High Church, Newminster Abbey & Bullers Green.

Vol 4 - Bedlington, Hepscott, Netherton, East & West Sleekburn, Choppington & Cambois.

Vol 5 - Woodhorn, Widdrington, Warkworth (part), Ulgham, Bothal, Hebron (part) & Felton (part).

Vol 6 - Tynemouth (part) (mainly North Shields).

Vol 7 - Newcastle St Nicholas and part of Newcastle St John.

The microfiche covers:-

1. Ponteland & Stamfordham
2. Bywell, Ovingham, Shotley, Blanchland & Whittonstall.
3. Hexham, Corbridge, Slaley and part of St John Lee.
4. Allendale & Haydon Bridge.
5. Chollerton, Simonburn, Warden, Newbrough.
6. Whitfield, Kirkhaugh, Knaresdale, Lambley and Haltwhistle.
7. Falstone, Thorneyburn, Greystead, Bellingham, Corsenside, Wark, Thockrington, Kirkharle, Elsdon (part), Kirkwhelpington (part), Birtley.

### County Durham

Vol 1 - S.Shields St Hilda (part), Westoe (part), Cleadon, Harton, Boldon, Whitburn, East Jarrow (part).

Vol 2 - Jarrow, Monkton, Hedworth, S.Shields St Hilda (part), Westoe (part).

Vol 3 - Chester-le-Street and adjacent parishes (most of Chester parish, Lamesley, Great Lumley (part), S.Biddick, Lambton, Burnmoor (part) Little Lumley, Walldridge, Plawsworth, Edmonsley, Pelton, Ouston, Harraton, Birtley (but none of Tanfield chapelry). The parishes of Witton Gilbert, Washington (part) and Usworth (part).

## LIBRARY CATALOGUE

Our Library is of necessity a postal lending service. We have a great deal of material of immense use in genealogical research - many transcripts of parish registers and monumental inscriptions, pedigrees, books and pamphlets on local history etc. The latest edition of the catalogue was produced in 1989 and has been updated by several supplementary lists published in the Journal since then.

## BACK NUMBERS OF THE JOURNAL

You will no doubt have all the Journals issued since you joined, but what about all the earlier ones? Who knows, they may contain just that one piece of information you have been seeking! Vols 1 and 2 are sold out, as are parts of Vols 3 to 9, but all of Vol 10 and later issues are still available.

All Society publications can be obtained from Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne & Wear NE35 0TQ. She can provide up-to-date information on availability.

PRICES (SUR = Overseas Surface [Mail: AIR](#) = Overseas Air Mail)

	UK	SUR	AIR
Directory of Members Interests and Supplement - each	£2.75	£3.50	£4.25
- when ordered together	£5.00	£6.50	£8.00
1851 Census, Northumberland - Vol 1	£2.50	£2.75	£4.00
- Vols 2 to 5	£3.25	£3.75	£5.00
- Vols 6 and 7	£3.50	£4.00	£5.25

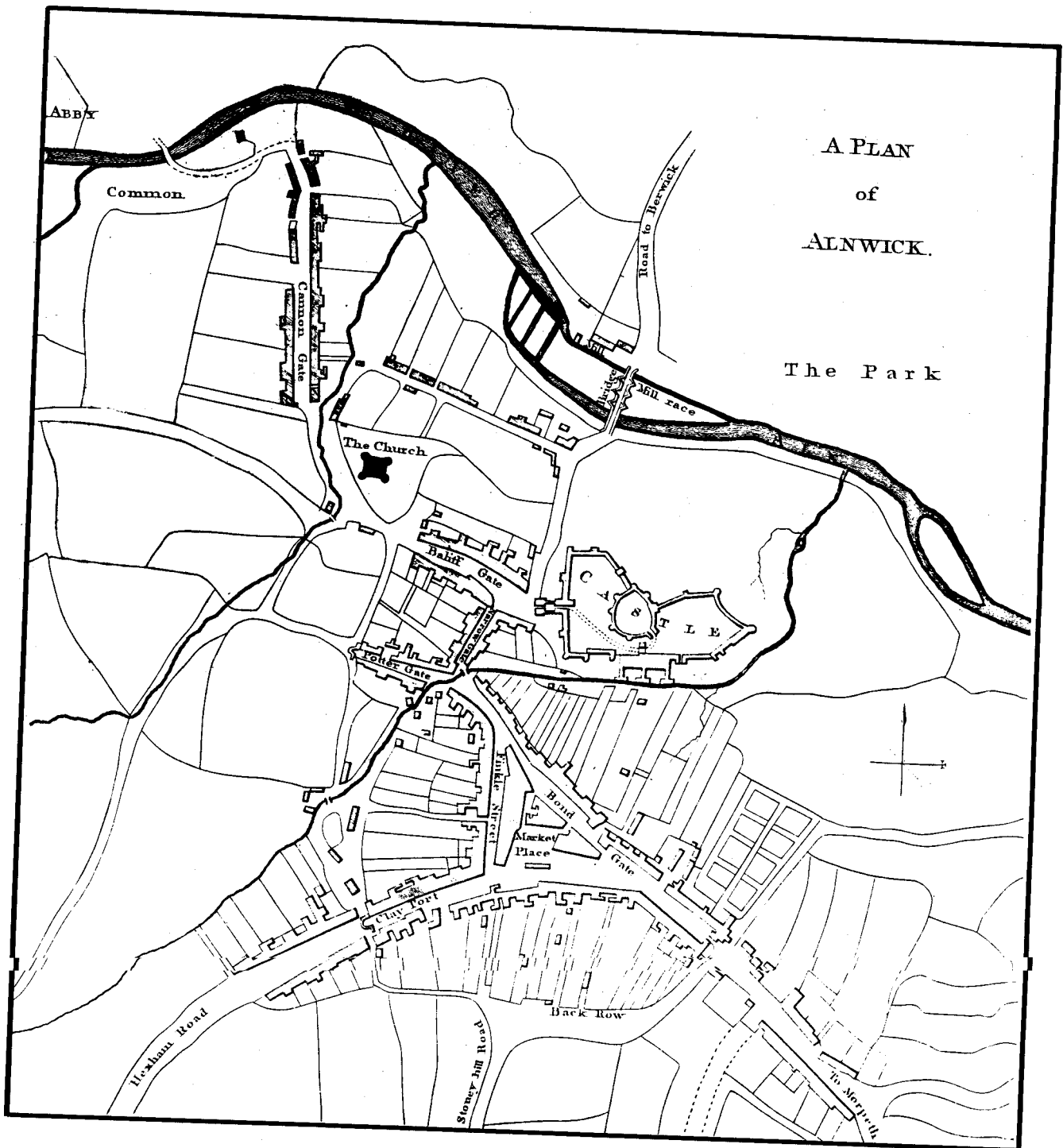
Microfiche each £1, set of seven £5. Add 30p to each order for postage.

(SUR and AIR the same)

1851 Census, County Durham Vols 1, 2 and 3	£3.25	£3.75	£5.00
Library Catalogue	£0.75	n/A	n/A
Back numbers of Journal	£1.00	£1.25	£2.00

## MAP PAGE

Many members have expressed a desire to see maps and plans printed on our pages. The difficulty with this is that maps, if they cover a worthwhile area in terms of size, are likely to be too large to be printed here. On the other hand, large scale detailed maps of a small area would probably be of some interest only to members having an interest in the area covered. As often, we must compromise, and we begin our 'Map Page' with a reproduction of a 19th century plan of the town of Alnwick, Northumberland. Our thanks, to Northumberland County Record Office for allowing us to reproduce this.



ALNWICK, NORTHUMBERLAND

# MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Entries for this feature should be sent to Mr P. Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kenton Bank Foot, Newcastle on Tyne NE3 2SG. Please keep your queries brief and specific -- not more than 150 words excluding address. The Editor reserves the right to alter entries and to omit details, especially those which have no Northumberland or Durham connections. Entries for the Autumn Journal should be submitted by 13 July 1991.

- 2130 Mr K. ILDERTON, Whiteshell P.O., West Hawk Lane, Manitoba ROE-2HO, Canada.  
Seeks marriage of William Ilderton/Elderton and Isabella Dawson c1769. Eight children baptised at South Shields and Isabella buried there September 1791. Trying to link this William with the William who married Hannah Robson at Jarrow in April 1794 and had a son George baptised South Shields in August 1795. Is doing a one-name study on Ilderton and would welcome any scraps of information.
- 2257 Mr R. OXLEY, 16 Sherbourne Crescent, Coundon, Coventry CV5 8LE.  
Seeks (1) birth of Joseph Oxley about 1755 and interested in the family in Tanfield, Slaley, Warden and Catchgate (2) marriage about 1820 of Thomas Reynoldson and Barbara Fenwick who lived at Collierly, Dipton. Was she from Rothbury? (3) birth of Dorothy Winship about 1771, Chester-le-Street area, daughter of John (4) birth of Ann Heslop who married Robert Robson in Bellingham (5) families of Hart, Orchard, Dawe, all miners in Kyo, who came from Cornwall about 1876 (6) any information on leadworks at Dukesfield, Slaley 1778-1817. (7) Robson, Bellingham and Stamfordham, tailors from 1766 to 1872.
- 3060 Mr L. RIDLEY, 1322 10th St SW, James Town, ND, USA 58401.  
Researching Ridley of Hexham, Simonburn, St John Lee, Wark and Acomb. Seeks information on George Ridley who married Isabel Stephenson at St John Lee 1783 and had children James, Joseph and Ann. James, shoemaker, married Margaret Nixon at Simonburn 1810 and had 12 children in Hexham. Also researching Topping of Haydon Bridge.
- 3695 Mr A. TURNBULL, 66 Buckinghamshire Road, Belmont, Durham DH1 2BE.  
(Tel. 091 384 9642) Seeks information on family of Thomas Turnbull who married Hannah Smith in Kilburn, N.Yorks, December 1792 and their twelve children (1793 to 1815). All children, except Thomas born c1801, were baptised at Kilburn, but some evidence that Thomas may have been born in Chester-le-Street area, to which he returned c1817. A further child Parmella (aged 6) was baptised at Chester-le-Street in June 1821 - abode stated at Ouston. Mr Turnbull is working on an index of Turnbull wills proved at Durham 1788-1897 and offers help to anyone who might find this of use.
- 3901 Mr J.W. CURRY, Massey Greene Park, Brunswick Heads 2483, N.S.W., Australia.  
Interested in Curry in north Northumberland (Carham in 1851) -- James and his wife Elizabeth, both born c1798, and children Mary, John, Jane, Ralph, William & Thomas, born 1829-45 Ancroft. John married Margaret, daughter of John & Eleanor Patton at Crookham Presbyterian Chapel in 1854, Margaret being born at Doddington 1826. John and Margaret emigrated with their family, Andrew (1852 Doddington), Eleanor and James (1855 and 1857 Carham), and John (1860 Seaton Burn).
- 3946 Mrs T. CARTER-DUFF, 723 South Gaylord Street, Denver, Colorado 80209-4629 USA.  
Researching Millican, Innes, Steel(e), Hall and Clark in Wooler and Chatton areas especially George Millican (c1781 to 1844) married to Elizabeth (? surname) who lived Glanton and Coldmartin Farm near      | Also Thomas Steel (c1795 and dead by 1841) married to Margaret (? surname) who lived in Carham and Chatton. Also George Hall of Fowberry Mains near Wooler whose daughter Catherine married Andrew Steele 9 June 1843 at Relief Chapel, Wooler. Also Robert Clark(e) (died 1813) whose daughter Isabella married John Innes (1780-1838).
- 3988 Mr H. PARKER, 71 Pinford Ave., Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds LS25 6LA. Researching Parker family, Winlaton. Samuel Parker arrived there c1700 -? to work in Ambrose Crowley's Ironworks. "A History of *Blaydon*" states that their accountant had to record workmen's names, residence, birthplace, age and other personal details. Do these records survive, and if so, where? Also interested in James Rowe Trembath (? Liverpoolian) who bigamously married Mary Elizabeth Dodds 27 December 1898 -- they lived 16 Skinnery Terrace, Blaydon.
- 4014 Mrs M. HARLAND, 87 Marmion Street, Fremantle, W. Australia 6160.  
In February 1806 James Fair, mariner, married Dorothy Potts at Christchurch, Tynemouth. Baptisms of Mary (1807), George (1811), Jane (1812), Isabella (1814) and Roger (1816) there. James "native of Whitby" and Dorothy "native of Woodhorn" but was she the Dorothy Potts baptised there July 1775, daughter of Thomas Potts & Barbara Carr, or the Dorothy baptised August 1778, daughter of Roger & Mary Potts? Dorothy was buried Christchurch January 1826. Did James remarry a Jane?
- 4015 Miss J. THORNTON, 9 Fir Avenue, Sherburn Road Estate, Durham DH 1 2EU  
(Tel: 091-3867653) Seeks baptism of Sarah Mary Winifred Murray born Carlisle 1833 who married Robert Laing (born Hexham 1824) at St Johns, Newcastle in September 1856. They moved to Benfieldside near Shotley Bridge and had six children between 1857 and 1869, one of whom was Mary Emma Laing born Sept 1860 who married John Holt August 1883 and had four children, including Philomena Annie Holt born 1895, who was Miss Thornton's grandmother. The family lived at Barr House Avenue, Consett.
- 4051 Mrs C. LOCKHART, Oak Lodge, Recreation Road, Durrington, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 8HH.  
Seek information on family of Frederick Thomas Riccalton and his wife Alice Maud Laing Watson, probably married about 1888 in Houghton-le-Spring. They lived in Hetton-le-Hole and had three children, Gertrude Marion, Norah Theodora (1892) and Percival. Any information on surname Riccalton appreciated.
- 4067 Mr H. COWAN, Glendale, Sandhole Lane, Shipton-by-Beningbrough, York YO6 1 BL.  
(Tel: 0904-470610) Seeks descendants of John Cowan (McCowan), shoemaker, Wellington Street, Newcastle and his wife Elizabeth Irwin, married St Peters Church, Newcastle 1853 and their family Martha, Robert, Elizabeth, Isabella, William, Thomas, James, Archibald. Also seeks birth of Alexander Barrass (c 1762) who married Sarah Hempseed of Hartley, daughter of William, a glassmaker, at Earsdon in 1784. Seeks information on glassmaking there at this period. Also seeking information on Fairless (Frailes) family of Allendale area.

- 4087 Mr J. MAVINS**, Box 6, Grp 70, RR 1 Anola, Manitoba ROE 0AO, Canada.  
Interested in all references to **Mavin** (and variations) with a view to a One Name Study. His line goes back to Rothbury 1678 and he is particularly keen to find birth of Ann Mavin c1830-31 daughter of a joiner Thomas who lived in Ludworth, Co. Durham 1851. Ann married Robert **Willis** June 1853 at Shadforth.
- 4104 Mrs M. OATES**, 25 Windermere, Vigo, Birtley, Chester-le-Street, Co Durham DH3 2JX.  
Seeking information on John **Lawson** and his wife Mary **Todd**. John was of Horsegate Farm, also known as Folly, and moved to Minsteracres, Bywell c1790. Married May 1779 at Ryton aged 28, Mary 24. Was Robert Lawson of Crawcrook his father? Also Miles Todd of Horsegate who obtained a licence to marry Mary **Dunn** April 1776 but marriage not in Ryton registers. Also a Miles Todd of Greenside aged 21, who married Sarah **Richardson** at Ryton by licence 22 June 1779. Witness to both licences was Ralph **Swinburn** of Durham, victualler and innkeeper.
- 4114 Mr G. CORBETT**, 20 St Leonards Walk, Lancaster Park, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3SZ  
(Tel 0670 - 517160). Gathering information on **Corbett** in Northumberland and Durham, especially the Irish in Durham City. Also **Falconer** (Edinburgh and Macclesfield), **Gabriel** (Liverpool), **Tunley** (Shropshire), **Atchinson** (Northumberland and Durham). Also **Bowmer**, **Elliott**, **Harle**, **Parker**, **Vasey** and **Goy** in Durham.
- 4136 Mrs L. DALTON**, 1 Woolacombe Road, Blackheath, London SE3 8QJ.  
Seeking any information on the families of **Craggs**, **Darnton**, **Iley** and **Metcalf** in Sunderland 19th and 20th centuries.
- 4157 Mrs M. OLIPHANT**, 12 Shepherds Hill, Alnmouth, Northumberland NE66 3NG.  
Seeks marriages of (1) John **Holland**, baptised Longhoughton 1760 to Martha **Gair**, widow of Edward **Hann** - their first child baptised Embleton 1787. (2) William **Holland** born Longhoughton 1789, married Elizabeth? - first child around 1818. (3) Robert **Holland**, son of William and Elizabeth, baptised 1828 Longhoughton, married Ann Jane **Aitchison** (?**Atkinson**) about 1850 first child born 1850 at Callaly Mains.
- 4158 Mrs A. BATEMAN**, 17 Queensthorpe Close, Bramley, Leeds LS13 4JT.  
Seeks information on George **Burdon** and his wife Ann **Proud** c1830-40 and children Elizabeth, Ann and George. George Senior from Chilton, Durham, Ann from Northumberland. George Jnr married Isabel **Hunter** of Sherburn in December 1870. Also interested in John **Iveson** and wife Jane (?surname), father of Robert born Tyne Main, Gateshead 1866.
- 4206 Mrs M.A. BURLS-JOHNS**, 8 Fair View Lodge, Underwood Square, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 3QH.  
Interested in Anthony **Compton**, born 1810 at Carham, Northumberland, Fenwick **Compton** (and/or Ralph) who married Mary **Younghusband** at Belford in 1804 and Thomas **Gardner**, shipowner, father of Elizabeth **Gardner** who married Anthony **Compton** at Bishopwearmouth in 1837.
- 4209 Mr & Mrs D.C. PRINCE**, 10 Netley Close, Maidstone, Kent ME14 5SA.  
& Interests are (1) George **Facey** (? Cornish tin miner) whose son George William b1866 married Eliza Ellen **Atkinson** born 1871 from Cumberland. Their daughter Ada **Facey** married c1909 John Daniel **Prince**, son of Thomas William **Prince**, born c1860 (Pitshaft sinker - ? Welsh) and Polly **Coates**. **Faceys** and **Princes** lived around Durham City. (2) Thomas Campbell **Burn** b1854, master rigger, Sunderland married Elizabeth Jane **Elliott** b1855. Why Campbell? James **MACDONALD** b1820 married Ann **Cameron** b1833, both from Rosskeen, Invergordon. Their daughter Catherine b1858 Rosskeen married Michael **Maddison**, mariner, born 1867 - their daughter Catherine Annie b1886 married (c1905 Sunderland) Richard Bertram Campbell **Burn** b1881, ships rigger, son of Thomas Campbell **Burn**.
- 4229 Mr C.E. NEWTON**, 49 Lockton Ave, Heanor, Derbyshire DE7 7EQ.  
Researching (1) William **Davidson**, publican of Marlborough Inn, Scotswood Road, Newcastle pre-1946 (2) **Melville**, Newton by the Sea pre-1900 and Prudhoe post-1917 (3) **Knox**, Embleton pre 1917 (4) **Newton**, Tow Law and Wolsingham pre-1860 (5) **Galley**, Tow Law pre-1865.
- 4233 Miss M. COUTTS**, 15 Crowborough Drive, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 4UG.  
Researching William **Middlemiss** (-mass) c1820, son of James, a mason and Margaret. Also Isabella **Egdell** c1822, daughter of John, a gardener, and Margaret. Unable to trace marriage. Both families living Alnwick area, in Narrowgate in 1861.
- 4241 Mrs D. OLIVER**, 11 Eighth Avenue, Oldham, OL8 3SA.  
Researching Moses **Greathhead** born 1890, married Lily **Langstaff**. Brothers Thomas (? married Annie) and John Joseph and their father Peter in Stanley, Crook, Tow Law, Sunnyside area.
- 4248 Mr A.M. MILLS**, Edenhall, 40 Bloxham Road, Banbury, Oxon OX16 9JN.  
Interests are (1) **Raine** in Romaldkirk, Middleton, Mickleton area. Edward was born 1840 in Mickleton and his father William was buried at Laithkirk in 1869 aged 80. (2) Edward **Raine's** mother, Sarah **Cruddas**, who died 1863 aged 65 (3) Edward married Janet **McKenzie**, daughter of George and Isabella **McKenzie**. George was a bailiff to John Bowes of Streatham Castle.
- 4257 Mrs J. MYLAN**, 2 The Wirrals, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent ME5 0NT.  
Seeks ancestors of James **Greason** born 20 January 1887 Gateshead. Father was Thomas, a master joiner who at one time lived at 65 Taylor Terrace, Gateshead. Was John **Greason**, joiner/builder, at 81 Taylor Terrace 1870/79 related? Or Joseph **Greason** (from Carlisle) who in 1851 was a lodger at 21 Wilson Road, Low Fell with Mary **Greason**? Also does anyone have information about Annie **McDonald** who married James **Greason** in June 1908 in Gateshead?
- 4264 Mr R.E. PATTISON**, 8256 W. Green Tree Road, Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53223 USA.  
Is grandson of Robert Tiplady **Pattison** born Lanchester 21 August 1851 who married Elizabeth **Sutton** (? where? when) who died April 1890 - 7 children. Second marriage 17 December 1890 to Mary Ann **Cousins** (? who was she) - 1 son, 2 daughters. In 1910, Robert followed his sister Isabelle to Marseilles, Illinois. They were the children of Isaac & Mary **Pattison** - when were they born and married? Robert was a well known cyclist who ran a cycle shop in Newcastle in late 19th century.
- 4268 Lilian WOODWARD**, 65 Ellerker Rise, Willerby, N. Humberside HU10 6EU.  
Local interests are **Gallagher** (Heworth), **Joicey**, (Lamesley), **Tweddell** (Felling), **Wilson** (Washington) and **Woodward** (Boldon).



- 4269 Mrs S. RITCHIE, 39 Grosvenor Road, Caversham, Reading RG4 0EN.  
(Tel. 0734 473747) Seeks (1) marriage of Ralph Kitchen to Hannah ---, whose daughter Elizabeth was born 1770-1781 Haltwhistle and other children baptised Auckland St Andrew. (2) Where/when did John Robinson die? He was blacksmith at Tanfield and then Greencroft until 1881, when he was 46. In the 1870's he married Emma Waktins from Marsham, Norfolk. Both had probably been widowed. She had a son with the strange name of Cumsley.
- 4272 Mr J.F. HUTCHEON, 4 Rural Way, London SW16 6PF.  
Interests are Hutcheon (Byker, Walker, Hebburn, S. Shields) Todd (Newcastle), Cunningham (South Shields, Hebburn, Tynemouth), English (Hebburn) and Fairweather (Gateshead).
- 4274 Mr I.P. PRESLAND, 7 Rothbury Close, Sholing, Southampton S02 8JX.  
Local interests are Somervill (Durham, Northumberland) and Tindall (Durham, Northumberland and Yorks).
- 4278 Mrs C.M. WILSON, 17 Hunsley Crescent, Grimsby, S. Humberside DN32 8PU.  
Seeking details of family of William Hamilton, a skinner of Scots descent living in Newcastle in 1832-4, when his 13th child Mary was born. Also her son John William Broughton, probably a marine engineer apprentice on Tyneside in 1871.
- 4279 Mr B.M. BRAKE, 315 Unthank Road, Norwich NR4 7QA.  
Interested in the following families in the 18-19th centuries - (1) Nicholson, especially Thomas and John, in Gainford and Darlington, (2) Walton, especially Thomas, in Gainford, Westwick and Darlington, (3) Grey (Gray), especially William, in Westwick and Durham.
- 4282 Mr N.R. CURRY, 5 Catcliffe Way, Eagles Wood, Lower Earley, Reading RG6 4HX.  
Interests are Curry (Kirknewton, Northumberland 17-18 C), Marshall of Milfield, Heatley of Cornhill, Hindmarch of Gateshead, and Dodgson and Daglish of Langley Park, all 19th C.
- 4294 Mrs E.M. AINSLEY, 37 Gerald Street, South Shields NE34 8RG.  
Researching Thomas Seymour born 1803 died May 1874 who married Ann (surname?) died 2 July 1865 aged 62 -2 known sons, (1) John born Witton Gilbert and moved to Berryedge, Consett (2) Thomas, who married Isabella Chapman of Walbottle and had children Mary Ann (1853), Isabella (1866), Charlotte (1870) and finally Thomas (Sept 1873) who married Elizabeth Gray Amos in South Shields, lived at 62 High Street, Witton Gilbert in 1881 and had 13 children. Also interested in Betts (anywhere), Jowsey, Grey, Bix (Bicks), Metcalf, Buckingham, Amos, all South Shields area.
- 4300 Mr F.R. AMBLER, 99 Uxbridge Road, Hanworth, Middlesex TW 13 5EH.  
Seeks information about the Ambler family of Framwellgate, Durham 17-18th C. and Broomside 17-18th C.
- 4305 Mrs A. MURPHY, Dale Cottage, Todds Green, Stevenage SG1 2JE.  
Seeking James Napier born 3 April 1860 near Newcastle. Had siblings William, Jack & Bella, parents died young. Aged 11, James went to Blyth to work for an uncle, ships master. Emigrated to USA aged 17 c 1878. There is no birth registered for a James Napier in April 1860. Would appreciate any information, or 'sightings' of Napiers in 1871 or 1881 censuses.
- 4309 Mr B. BAILEY, 37 Oval Park View, Felling, Gateshead NE10 9DS.  
Interested in John Corbrick/Corbridge born Blackburn 1841. Father Christopher or Dennis? Possible links with Great Mitton or Myton upon Swale. Also interested (1) Isaac Bailey born Ireland 1869 whose mother was Elizabeth Burns/Small. (2) Hugh Bellis born Wales c 1870, married Martha Ann Gornall in Durham in 1892. She was born Bradford 1871, daughter of innkeeper George. (3) Rachel Wilson, born Marske c1810 who married William Ruddock from Bishopston c 1830 - ? first child Christiana.
- 4316 Mrs A. BARNES, 28A Frogwell, Chippenham, Wilts SN14 0DQ.  
Researching her Northumbrian ancestors and also an Irish priest whose name is on an inscribed silver salver she bought - she knows more about the priest than about her family! Interests are Craig(g)s of Radcliffe, and Hodgetts of Cambois, both 18-19 C, and also Marmion from Cork, Eire.
- 4318 Miss E.J. SUTHERLAND, 2 Inchwood, Birch Hill, Bracknell, Berks RG12 4ZX.  
Researching John Durry, yeoman who married Mary Rogers of Earsdon on 2 July 1791 at St Andrews, Newcastle (dissenters), and had children (1) Ann born 1791 (2) Mary baptised 1794 (another Mary was baptised 1792 as "illegitimate daughter of John Durry, yeoman (3) Charles, baptised Ford, Northumberland in 1797 - John at this time a groom at Etal (4) Esther, baptised 1801 and soon after the family moved to Cruden, Aberdeenshire where John was servant to the Earl of Errol. (5) James baptised 1803 in Cruden. Mary Rogers was baptised 1762 at Horton, Blyth, daughter of John Rogers and Esther nee Curry of Laverock Hall and died 1832. John was "native of Alnwick" but neither baptism nor death found.
- 4323 Mr A. McNAUGHTON, 76 Guelder Road, High Heaton, Newcastle NE7 7PP.  
Seeks origins of John McNaughton, colliery blacksmith born Haddington 1805 who married Sarah Jane Wilson at St Johns, Newcastle in 1825, spent 30 years at Willington Colliery and 30 at Seaton Burn and West Moor Coal Co, dying at Wallsend in 1881. His children were Elizabeth, Alice, Thomas, Sarah Jane, Ann & William.
- 4325 Mr M.L. MARTIN, 48 Nether Way, Nether Poppleton, York YO2 6HW.  
Researching Lee Martin born 1864 Carrshield West Allendale, son of John born 1830 at Horsley West Allendale and grandson of Joseph born 1798 at Leadgate West Allen. Lee married Jane Featherstone who was born 1866 at Westgate in Weardale, daughter of George born Stanhope 1839, and granddaughter of Joseph born 1808 At East Hanging Wells Farm.
- 4336 Mr J. AYTON, 37 Oyster Row, Cambridge.  
Researching Ayton (Wolsingham, Crook, Thornley) Kilburn (Witton-le-Wear, Firtree), Davison (Crook, Firtree), Gibbon (Witton-le-Wear), Moralee (Esh, Blackhill), Gornall (Snows Green, Shotley Bridge).
- 4344 Mrs O.M. DICKINSON, 72 Raumanga Heights Drive, Whangarei, New Zealand.  
Interested in Fleck family, especially alleged link with world famous navigator Capt. James Cook. James Michael Wheatley Fleck (1850-1933) who married to Mary Jane Armstrong (1863-1943). He was a coachman for Lord Blacket and later drove horse and electric trams in Newcastle. His father, James Fleck, born c 1825 (?where) married Jane Cuthbertson c 1850 (? where) -- family tradition says that this James was grandson of the James Fleck who married Margaret Cook, Capt Cook's sister, at Redcar 1764. Can this be proved?

## SECOND TIME AROUND

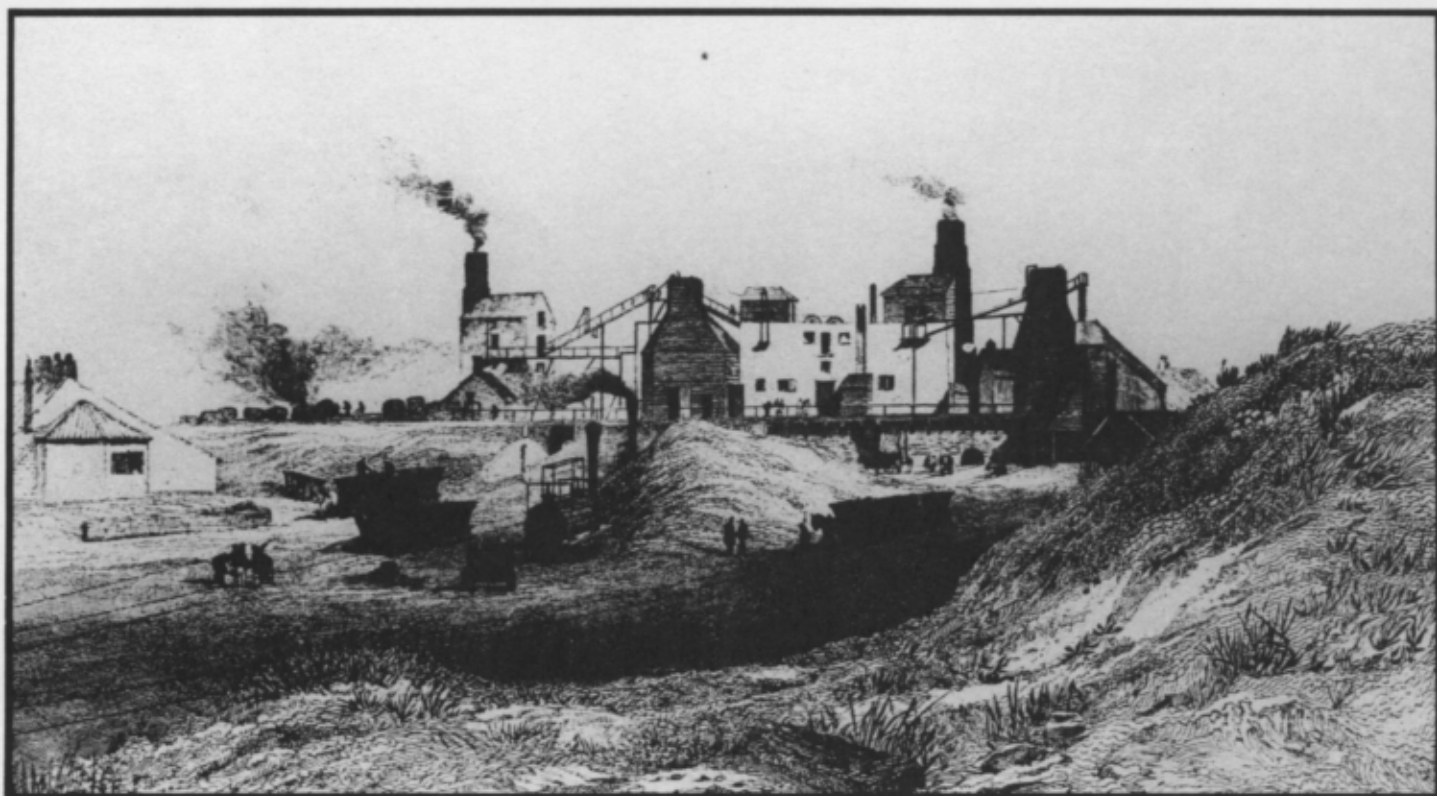
For the benefit of new members, can I say that this section is intended to give members who have already had their interests printed under 'Members and Their Interests' another opportunity to seek information as their research progresses. The title is misleading -- you can have queries printed as many times as you wish but in fairness to your fellow members, please keep your comments brief and specific -- not more than 150 words, excluding address. The Editor reserves the right to shorten and edit material.

- 601 Mrs V. SILVESTER, 29 Harcourt Road, Dorney Reach, Maidenhead, Berks S16 ODT.  
Seeks origins of Robert Dobson who married Alice Hodgson in Sunderland 1746 and was later tanner in Barnard Castle. Died 1802. Was he related to the Dobson family, skinners and glovers in Durham City 17/18 c? Names Robert and Anthony common in both families. His daughter Margaret married Robert Johnson in Barnard Castle 1773. Origins of Robert Johnson sought -- a stonemason who died 1817, probably Roman Catholic as his children all baptised at Lartington RC chapel. Was he the Robert Johnson, Catholic living at Tuddoe, Brancepeth in 1767 Return of Papists, with his father, another Robert, a mason?
- 1327 Mr W.D.M. MITCHELL, 507 Riverdale Avenue, Cornwall, Ontario, Canada K6J 2K5.  
Researching John Mitchell, born Sept 1853 and baptised Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Blyth 11 Nov 1853, son of George Mitchell and Mary Dobson both of Blyth. He married Dorothy Jane Bowmaker, possibly of Gateshead c1877 and died Newcastle 11 October 1915. Known children Helena (Born Gateshead 1878, George Dobson born Middlesex 1879 died Blyth 1881. John, a joiner, had a building business in Blyth with his cousin William Golder, seeks information on descendants of this union and on the Bowmaker family. Also interested in John Ditchburn born Dec 1744 at Ditchburn (? East or West) Northumberland who died in Kent aged 95 in 1839 -- twice married, first in 1777 in Kent to Elizabeth Lee, daughter of Thomas Lee of Longhoughton (13 children by this union) and second to Ann Cook of Gravesend. John a cable maker in Kent for many years.
- 1632 Mr J. PORTEOUS, 55 Firtree Crescent, Newcastle NE12 OJU.  
Seeks birth, c 1806 in Scotland, of James Porteous, believed to be son of John Porteous and Isobel Craig who were at Liberton, Midlothian from 1801 to 1805, at Prestonkirk in 1811, and Tranent 1818 to 1841.
- 2292 Mrs S. HUGHES, Fron Ednyfed, Amlwch Port, Anglesey LL68 9HW.  
**Researching Matthew Turnbull, baptised Washington, who formed an iron foundry,**  
Turnbolls Foundry and later (1899) as Turnbull Bros. Also seeks baptism, parent of -a \_Matthew cnr+.nf William Turnbull and Jane Thornton.
- 2627 Mrs D.M. BURNS, 17 Winton Drive, Glasgow D12 OPZ.  
Seeking descendants of Henry Elliott, coal miner of Bedlington, born 1853 East Holywell to William Elliott and Hannah Robson. Henry married 20 February 1873 at Morpeth to Jane Ann Green of Sleekburn, born 1855 to Mary Green of Bedlington Colliery (father unknown). Henry and Jane Ann lived at Doctors Terrace, Bedlington and had three children Margaret, Henry and Hannah and possibly more. Also interested in death of Robert Green, who was returning from goldfields in either the Klondyke or Australia in the 1880's when the ship sank near Liverpool.
- 3476 Mr K.M. GARRETT, 13 Cliff House, Marske, Cleveland TS II 7LY  
(Tel 0642 489360) Interests are William Brown in Allendale, Crook and Tow Law 18-19 C Garrett, Ulverston W. Hartlepool, Hinderswell and Whitby 19th C, Masterman and Hardwick of Leeds and Crossgates.
- 3477 Mrs R. GARRETT, (address as entry above).  
Interests are Rain(e), Coulson, Dixon, Gowland, Hall (Weardale 18-19 C), Kirtley of Weardale, Tow Law and Kirk Merrington (18-19 C), Moses Weardale, Tow Law and Bitchburn (18-19 C), Coulson of Kirkharle, Kirkwhelpington, Chollerton, Newcastle, Stanhope (18-19 C), Thompson of Chollerton (18-19 C).
- 3498 Ms J. MERRY, 22 Withnell Fold, Chorley PR6 8BA.  
The grandmother of Ms Merry was Jessie Brammer, daughter of William Brammer and Agnes Lyons. Had two sisters, Agnes and Lilian who may have married a Christianson. Has any member links with Brammer family, who can identify a photograph, possibly Jessie's mother or a sister?
- 3562 Mr R.J. WATSON, 31 Lexington Drive, Reading, Berks RG2 8UG.  
Seeks information on following families - Watson, Walton, Shield, (Middleton-in-Teesdale 16-19 C) Brumhill/Bramwell (Ettersgill 16-19 C), Shield (Winton Park 19-20 C), Park (Romaldkirk 16-18 C), Coltherd (Stanhope 16-18 C), Stephenson, Parker, Copeland, Maughan, Liddle/Siddle, Locke, Rogerson (Sunderland area 16-19 C), Brown, Gibson (Sunderland 16-17 C), Hart (Consett 17-19 C), Parker, Robinson (Houghton-le-Spring 16-17 C), Scott, Price (Newcastle 16-19 C).
- 3758 Mrs H.R. MILLINGTON, 'Fourtops', Withens Lane, Weaverham, Northwich, Cheshire CW8 3HX.  
Researching families of Simpson, Barnard Castle area, and Lee, Teesdale, both 18th century. Seeks parentage etc of Thomas Simpson, a cooper, who married Susan Lee at Middleton-in-Teesdale 1823. Also Burden and Scott in Coxwold/Raskelf areas of North Yorks -- Edward Burden, farm bailiff, born Raskelf 1806, son of Thomas, married Ann Scott at Coxwold 1832.
- 3841 Mr C.G. BROWN, 4 Kinglsey Street, March, Cambs PE15 8LX.  
(Tel: 0354 55735) Researching for a book about Cambridgeshire regiment. Seeks contact with relatives of late Brig-Gen Edward Pius Arthur Riddell, born 23 May 1875, son of J.G. Riddell of Felton Park and Swinburne Castle and his second wife Victoria Henrietta Purcell. He married Frances Hygnia Sumner and commanded Cambs Regt 1916-17. Awarded

- CMG, DSO and two bars. Commanded 149th Infantry Brigade October 1917 to June 1918 and the Northumberland Infantry Brigade, Northern Command from 7 May 1920.
- 3848 Mrs M.E. NICHOLSON, Pele Tower, Corbridge, Northumberland NE45 5LA.  
Interested in Affluck (Hetton area 1850-1900), Carr (Coundon), Moss (Darlington) Purdy and Race (Stockton 19th C), Hardy (Bishop Auckland and Quarrington Hill 1840-1900).
- 3934 Mr M. STOKER, 39 Woodbourne, Weybourne, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9EE.  
(Tel. 0252 28252) Interested in Matthew Stalker, born Workington 1794, son of another Matthew, a collier. Lived Newbottle, near Houghton-le-Sping 1820-1870. Married Ann Ferry. Name changes to Stoker and Matthew and his sons John, William and Matthew became involved in grocery and drapery businesses in Fatfield, Washington, Chester-le-Street and South Shields around 1850. Has anyone come across the Stalker/Stoker name change, and does anyone have knowledge of small businesses in 19th C Durham mining villages? (see also p78 of Autumn 1990 Journal).
- 3943 Mrs F. McKINLAY, 11 James Lane, St John's, Newfoundland, Canada A1E 3143.  
Seeks information on (1) Samuel and Sarah Blenkinsop of Whickham and later Westoe, (2) William & Jane Errington of Lamesley (3) Isabella Errington, spinster of Whitley Bay (4) Henry David and Mary Furness of Close House Farm, Ravensworth (5) James Pattison of Norwood Farm, Whickham.
- 4085 Mrs H. MILLER, 4 Southfields Road, Eastbourne, E. Sussex BN21 1BU.  
Would like to hear from any of the Scott family of North Shields and would like to know who has the family bible.
- 4177 Mrs J.V. STIRK, Shode House, Ightham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HP.  
Researching Stirk, Mendum, Rowe, Blackett and Goldsmith in Co Durham, especially West Hartlepool - mainly tailors, shoemakers and dairymen from 1860's. One branch of Stirk in Thirsk, N. Yorks in 1780's. Interested in papermakers, especially in Durham City area. Extensive national index searched (SAE please).
- 4336 Mr J. AYTON, 37 Oyster Row, Cambridge.  
Researching Ayton (Wolsingham, Crook, Thornley) Kilburn (Witton-le-Wear, Firtree), Davison (Crook, Firtree), Gibbon (Witton-le-Wear), **Moralee (Esh, Blackhill), Gornall (Snows Green, Shotley Bridge)**.
- 4344 Mrs O.M. DICKINSON, 72 Raumanga Heights Drive, Whangarei, New Zealand.  
Interested in Fleck family, especially alleged link with world famous navigator Capt. James Cook. James Michael W heatley Fleck (1850-1933) who married to Mary Jane Armstrong (1863-1943). He was a coachman for Lord Blacket and later drove horse and electric trams in Newcastle. His father, James Fleck, born c 1825 (?where) married Jane Cuthbertson c 1850 (? where) -- family tradition says that this James was grandson of the James Fleck who married Margaret Cook, Capt Cook's sister, at Redcar 1764. Can this be proved?

## CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 0503 Miss C. TENNICK, 29a The Crofts, Wolsingham, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 3BA.
- 0712 Mrs B.H. DASHBY, 5 Elmfield Avenue, Potters Bar, Hertfordshire EN6 2JH.
- 0795 Miss J.L. LOWRIE, 45 Clarkston Road, Glasgow G44 3BQ. Scotland
- 0909 Mrs J. HOWE, 2 Cottesmore Drive, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside L60 IYG.
- 0963 Mr S.P. COE, 8 Old Fives Court, Burnham, Bucks SL1 7ET.
- 1146 Mr S.W. TEASDALE, 16 Yewtree Avenue, Ockbrooke, Derby, Derbyshire DE7 3TB.
- 1279 Mrs C.C.S. RIDDELL, 48 Common Lane, Tickhill, Doncaster, South Yorkshire DN11 9UN.
- 1342 Mr F. KITCHING, 51 Hackness Road, Scarborough, North Yorkshire YO12 5SD.
- 1413 Mrs M.O. COOMBS, 18 Tudor Court, Castle Way, Hanworth, Middlesex TW 13 7QQ.
- 1845 Miss R. LISLE, 27 Kings Avenue, Bishopston, Bristol, Avon BS7 8JL.
- 3000 Miss V. CIUKAJ, 70B King Henrys Walk, London, Middlesex N1 4NJ.
- 3006 Mrs P.A. COURT, 53 Heath Court, Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire LU7 7JR.
- 3046 Miss A. JACKSON, 18 Cranleigh Grove, Prudhoe, Northumberland NE42 5QA.
- 3517 Mr M. ATKINSON, Terenure, 116 Queens Road, Llandudno, Gwynedd LL30 1TY.
- 3585 Mr D.H. STOBBS, P.O. Box 61206, Brentwood Centre K217, Calgary, Alberta, T2L 2K6. Canada
- 3748 Mr C.V. MACKENZIE, 40 Buckingham Gardens, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 9TH.
- 3919 Mr G.P. PHILLIPSON, 1 Westbourne, Honeybourne, Evesham, Worcs. WR11 5PT.
- 3952 Mr G.W. SANDERS, 59 Woodlea, Newbiggin by the Sea, Northumberland NE64 6HH.
- 4000 Miss S. YOUNGER, 15 Hartley Court, New Hartley, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE25 ORX.
- 4050 Miss C.J. MOTT, 16 Haversham Close, South Gosforth, Newcastle on Tyne NE7 7LR.
- 4261 Mr R. SWINDALE, 32 Stamford Brook Road, Hammersmith, London W6 OXL.



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