

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

Another NDFHS Conference has come and gone - successfully, I feel. I am sure that all members who braved the elements (yes, it rained!) will want to thank the organisers Moira Furness and Elizabeth Lyall for a most enjoyable weekend. I persuaded the speakers to write articles on their topics and you will find one of them in this issue and, hopefully, more in the next Journal. I can now give you advance notice that the 1992 Conference will again be held in Durham, this time at Collingwood College, from Friday 18th to Sunday 20th September. More details later, but in the meantime make a note in your diary.

The "Know Your Parish" series is popular, rightly so, and for good measure there are two such articles in this issue. On looking back at this feature over the years, I see that there has been a distinct bias in favour of Northumbrian parishes - roughly two to every one Durham parish. The editor can only publish what he is given, so come on, you Durham fans, let's have some articles about your particular parish of interest! The Durham parishes so far included in this series are Medomsley, Heworth, Chester-le-Street, Washington, Tanfield, Hetton-le-Hole, Jarrow, Lamesley and (in this issue) Stanhope. Articles on any other parishes would be welcomed.

We are planning to follow in the footsteps of other Family History Societies and will make available for purchase copies of the considerable stock of Monumental Inscriptions held by our Library. The list for each churchyard will be photocopied and made available to purchasers. More details next time.

The Society has a number of back issues of this Journal for sale, mainly from Volume 11 onwards, at £ 1 each plus postage. Contact Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne and Wear NE36 OTQ.

The Society's "Directory of Members Interests" has been updated and republished, on a microfiche this time, and members should find a copy enclosed with this Journal. An article about it is included within.

Finally, a public acknowledgement of the kindness of a member (who wishes to remain anonymous) for a gift of £700 to the Society. As requested, this will be used to produce more booklets of the 1851 census. Thank you very much indeed, Member X.

FURTHER CHANGES IN THE NORTHUMBERLAND RECORD OFFICE

Local Society members may be aware that the Northumberland Record Office was closed to the public between 28 October and 8 November 1991 to allow for the transfer of approximately 30% of its holdings to a new archival repository, the Morpeth Records Centre, situated at The Kylins, Morpeth. The ground floor of the building has been converted to contain a strong-room with 5000 linear feet of archival storage and a small public searchroom.

The following categories of records are presently housed at Morpeth: Quarter Sessions; Petty Sessions; County Council; Borough, Rural and District Councils; Civil Parish Councils; Police; Hospital; and records relating to coalmining. Further categories of records will be transferred in the week commencing 16 December 1991.

Records stored at Morpeth may be consulted at Morpeth each Wednesday, or by prior arrangement, with 24 hours notice, at Melton Park, any other day of the week. However, there is a limit on the quantity of material that may be brought down from Morpeth. In advance of a visit, intending searchers should seek advice on whether or not their topics of study involve the use of records held at Morpeth. This may be obtained from either:

Mr. R.M.C. Sims, Archivist-in-Charge, Morpeth Records Centre, The Kylins, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2EQ. Tel: (0670) 514343 Ext. 3170.

or

The Duty Archivist, Northumberland Record Office, Melton Park, North Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 5QX. Tel: (091) 236 2680.

Postal enquiries should continue to be sent to Melton Park, addressed to Mrs. A.M. Burton, County Archivist.

TWO FAMILY BIBLES

Mr Bob Forster tells us that he spotted two family bibles among Solicitors' records in Durham County Record Office, reference D/X 422/1-31 is a Robinson family bible containing details of births, marriages and deaths of a Robinson family 1767-1837 and including the names of Charles Forrest Dawson and his grandmother Alice Forrest Robinson. The other is a Jepson family bible with dates of birth 1698 to 1817 (Reference D/X 436/1-41).

DIRECTORY OF MEMBERS INTERESTS

Members will find enclosed with this Journal a microfiche of a new edition of the Directory of Members Interests.

SCOPE This is a complete index of all members' interests for current members. It replaces both the 1988 Blue book and the 1990 Gold book. It contains all the interests printed in those books provided by current members and updated by all the forms which reached me by the 1st September 1991.

The good news is that the Society Committee continues to accept my contention that the publication of members' interests is so fundamental to the reasons for the Society's existence that the cost should be borne entirely from subscriptions. Therefore this present index is again being distributed free to every current member. The bad news is that we cannot afford to supply it free on paper. The cost of the 1988 Directory which was the same size as this one, nearly broke the Society. Accordingly this is being sent out as a microfiche, which means for virtually everyone a visit to the local library in order to read it. I'm sorry about this, but at the time of writing it is also being considered that we might be able to supply a Xerox copy if the demand was small. At 10p a sheet this would cost over 11 pounds without postage, and no one has volunteered to handle this service yet.

PURPOSE For the benefit of new readers I want to draw attention to the purpose of these Directories, which is to advertise the Surnames of the families in which members are interested, together with the town or parish. Requests for help on locating information about individual persons are printed in the columns of our quarterly Journal. Here we are concerned with long term interests in whole families, so the placenames should tend to be generous in defining the area, and the times are indicated by whole centuries not by specific dates.

In order to appear in these Directories you need to complete either one of the white forms which are issued to every new member or one of the coloured forms which have an additional section to handle deletions of previously submitted entries. When you come to update your list I strongly recommend that you make the new list a complete one. Please "put your X in the box" and send a fresh list under Section B. It should be easier for you to keep track of what you have told me already and it avoids me scratching my head trying to reconcile two lists where half the entries are partly the same but not quite. (It has happened).

Do not worry if your form was sent after the 1st September. It will be processed for the next edition. The reception of these forms is a continuous process, since the Society receives new members every week of the year. There is no need to hang on to your form trying to match it to the next edition. If you don't send it as soon as it is ready you may end up missing another deadline. Feel free to replace the despatched form by a revised form at any time you so wish.

CONSTRUCTION OF ENTRIES The entries are presented in Surname order and not by the membership number, as they originate on the supplied forms. Under each Surname will be found entries ordered geographically. First comes any relating to the whole countries, England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales. (I have taken Ireland as the single entity it was in historical times). After that the Counties are treated alphabetically by their codes, but taking them from all four countries without distinction. Entries without a place name, which state implies an interest in the whole County, are first, followed by all places named within that County alphabetically. Every entry is accompanied by a membership number which may be converted into a name and address using the second part of the directory. Attention should also be paid to the timescale which follows at the end of most entries and should be regarded as an important part of it. An absence of time restriction is to be interpreted as meaning an interest at all periods.

THE COUNTIES Each County is identified by the 3-character code devised by Colin Chapman. These codes have been in use amongst Societies affiliated to the Federation of Family History Societies for some years. The British Standards Institute has recently declared a standard for all purposes in this country and they started from Mr. Chapman's codes. I have not seen a copy yet but I understand that they have introduced only a few minor alterations for this British Standard. Whether it is adopted for this Directory will depend upon the editor of the next edition, which will not be me. A full list of the codes used here follows at the end of this introduction and is unchanged from my two previous editions.

Since the source documents upon which our research must be based are almost entirely framed around the traditional Counties as they existed prior to the reorganization of 1974, it makes most sense to keep to this framework. Accordingly I have restored the pre-1974 County to some entries in the Directory but only where the placename was unambiguous. Similarly I have allocated the Yorkshire references to the 3 Ridings, but there are a few which came in simply as Yorkshire and the placenames appear in more than one Riding, so I have to leave them as YKS. I have also left the city of York with the code YKS. I have defined London for the purposes of this directory, as consisting of the City together with the ring of substantial parishes which immediately surround it on both sides of the river. Beyond this limited area it is Middlesex to the North and Surrey to the South, except for Greenwich which is in Kent.

PLACE NAMES Unless we are researching a rare name or are possessed of unusual energy we will wish to restrict the advertised interest to a locality. I suggest that in most cases a parish is a suitable size for rural families and a town rather than a parish when out of the countryside. Families particularly over several generations tended to flow outwards from a given hamlet or farm so we should beware of spreading our net in too confined a pond. If the area mentioned is very small then potential contacts may not recognise it, thus leading to the loss of the chance of useful information. Remember local place names may disappear or become very hard to identify so that someone interested in the same family quite close nearby may not be aware of the possible connection. In a town the parishes were often very tiny and it was common for several to be lived in successively. The parish boundaries were even less significant than they were in the country and so the town is the natural unit to use. Of course if the actual parish is unknown or much movement took place then we may have to specify a large area.

We make no charge for making these entries but we do ask that you be sensible about it. Do not submit long ~~not enough~~, and stick to surnames in which you are really interested. Finally if you are family members please don't ~~send the same entries more than once from the same address, agree to divide them h m-an you way.~~

VARIANT SURNAMES The trouble with Surnames is that until about a hundred years ago they were very fluid in the way they were represented. With research one is forced to realise that as we see them they are for the most part just how some clerk happened to fancy showing them. If the family moved or a new vicar arrived then the name often changed. Fashion played a part in this too, at certain times and places it was the thing to finish a Surname with an E or with an ES and lots of names will appear like this but 50 years later the same names will appear in shorter form. Not only were names shown differently in different parishes but they stopped changing at different times. The outcome today is that each Surname exists in a variety of forms. There are 5563 differently spelled names mentioned in this directory, (but how many Surnames?). There is sufficient material here to stimulate quite a lot of thought on the topic. To sum up we should be prepared to see the form of a name change as we trace successive generations into the past. Be warned too that the opposite process sometimes took place, in which names that were originally different became the same. This is one of the reasons why we should not assume that everyone with the same name is related if only we could trace the trees sufficiently far back.

By and large then I have kept the Surnames just as submitted, and not attempted to group variant names even when obviously the same. The chief editing difficulty comes from the fact that some members will note the presence of variants and others will give only a single spelling. Thus for example we end up with 3 sections, CLARK, CLARK/CLARKS, and CLARKS, when really these should all be together. With rare names I occasionally combined an entry specifying a single spelling with one giving alternatives, thus crediting someone with more than they asked for. This should make the publication easier to consult as well as reducing the pages (and therefore the cost), so I trust they forgive me.

OVERSEAS INTERESTS Some of our members are interested in families abroad so I attempt to cater for them with a modest section which will be found at the end of the United Kingdom interests. Here I have chosen to present the entries by continents, breaking down to surnames only within each section. When supplying these interests please write the country name in full to avoid any possibility of confusion with U.K. Counties, even though you will observe some homemade codes in my columns, where the identification should be obvious.

The Society requires a volunteer to take over the editorship of this Directory.

The requirements for the post are the possession of, or at least access to a computer, and an interest in Surnames.

The Directory contents are currently on computer and such is the wide variety of equipment available to me, that I think I can safely promise to convert it to any format desired by the new editor. The information is updated from forms which new members submit, and also from revisions sent by members who have previously submitted. A professional data entry team have been responsible for typing the forms in batches at intervals and the NDFHS pays for this service. My job has been to check their files against the paper forms to correct the occasional error, and to reshape the information into the way it appears in the publication.

I am hoping that a volunteer will appear in time to take over the computer files in an efficient manner, and to benefit from my experience in the past. But this is not to say that they must copy exactly what I have been doing, the details of what happens to the forms can be rethought by the new editor and the NDFHS committee between them.

I happen to think that this is a useful and important part of the Society's activities and look forward to cooperating with a like minded person.

Will interested members please contact me at 8 Grenville Court, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne NE20 9HT.

R.E. Vine

OUR 1991 CONFERENCE

The conference this year was beset with troubles from the start with a change of venue and the illness of our conference organizer, Mrs Lyall, and her husband. Nor did the continual rain help the walk from the dining room to the lecture hall. However, as someone said, conferences are for meeting old friends and making new ones, and we certainly did that.

The conference began with a talk and slides on the changing face of Weardale from the bishops park and tiny farming settlements, to the loss of the mining industries and the new tourist activities. Those of us who braved the rain to go on the trip next morning toured the area and saw many of these places. Mr Bowes' informed commentary certainly added to our enjoyment.

Those who stayed at the college enjoyed a very informative talk about The Public Records at Kew. There was an excellent display showing a selection of the kind of records to be found there. They also were able to discuss computer ideas with Mr George Bell and do that all important individual research in the library or using books bought at the book stall.

After tea Dr. M. Sill told us how our coal mining ancestors moved from pit to pit, though not moving very far until later when miners from other parts of the country moved into the area.

Dinner was followed with entertainment by Johnny Handle with tunes on the Northumbrian pipes, North Country Songs and recitations.

Sunday began with an excellent talk with slides by Dr. Barrow about all the old ports of Northumberland. Many of these ports are now very small places but in their day were thriving ports.

A short question and answer session followed. I hope we gave some help to the problems. Then lunch was followed by an interesting talk about the Records of Nonconformists. As everybody must have at least one nonconformist in their family somewhere this was a very useful talk.

It was a busy weekend, not without its grumbles, but on the whole it was enjoyed by many and we certainly were given much food for thought by our speakers.

I am told that detailed transcripts of some of the lectures will be printed in our magazine but if you really want to know what a conference is all about, well join us next year and see for yourself.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Here is a further list of additions to the Library of the Society. An asterisk means the item is unsuitable for posting. If you wish to borrow Library items, please write to Mrs D. Tait, 26 Beechwood Avenue, Low Fell, Gateshead NE9 6PP. You will have to pay postage both ways. Why not buy a Library catalogue? -- only 75p from Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne & Wear NE36 0TQ. The Librarian Mrs Tait will look up names in the "asterisked" items in return for a stamped addressed envelope and a small donation to the Society's funds.

- 1.164 PHOTOCOPY OF POEM "MINER'S FAREWELL TO ALLENHEADS 1849".
- 1.165 "AS THEY WERE". PHOTOGRAPHS OF NORTH SHIELDS, TYNEMOUTH AND WHITLEY BAY. By R. Thomson Dix.
- 1.166 HISTORY OF MONKWEARMOUTH COLLEGE. W. Fordyce.
- 1.167 SHORT HISTORY OF BERWICK, TWEEDMOUTH, SPITAL & NORHAM. Frank Graham.
- 1.168 CRIMES OF YESTERYEAR - WEARSIDE AND OLD CO. DURHAM. N. Green.
- 1.169 MORE MONKWEARMOUTH MEMORIES. Monkwearmouth Local History Group.

- 2.273 PHOTOCOPY OF NEWSPAPER PAGES RE PARK FAMILY IN CANADA. Donated by Mrs M. Ruddick.
- 2.274 PEDIGREE OF BLENKINSOPP OF BELLISTER.
- 2.275 FAMILY CHART OF SHIELD FAMILY OF ALLENDALE. J. & A. Sechiari.
- 2.276 DESCENDANTS OF WM. SPARKE OF ALLENDALE AND HUNTER FAMILIES OF NORTH SHIELDS. J. & A. Sechiari.
- 2.277 JOHNSTON AND CLARK FAMILY OF NORTH SHIELDS. Mrs [D.C. Whittaker](#).
- [2.278](#) STEPHENSON FAMILY OF SOUTH SHIELDS. W.L. Stephenson.
- 2.279 BROWNBRIDGE FAMILY OF BISHOP AUCKLAND. Mrs L. Boyle.
- 2.280 FAMILY OF LANCELOT BROWN OF ELSDON. J.K. Brown.
- 2.281 PAGE FAMILY OF STANHOPE. Miss M.A. Stewart.
- 2.282 FAIRCLOUGH FAMILY OF SUNDERLAND. Miss [M.A. Stewart](#).
- [2.283](#) STEWART FAMILY OF COUNTY DURHAM. Miss [M.A. Stewart](#).
- [2.284](#) GELLEY FAMILY TREE. L.G. Gelley.
- 2.285 WATSON FAMILY OF ALNWICK. J.J.T. Watson.
- 2.286 CURREY FAMILY OF CHESTER-LE-STREET. M. Johnson.

- 3.137 MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. MARY-LE-BOW [1837-1968. I. Applegarth.](#)
 - [3.138](#) MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. MARY-THE-LESS [1837-1964. I. Applegarth.](#)
 - [3.139](#) MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. NICHOLAS [1837-1923. I. Applegarth.](#)
 - [3.140](#) MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. OSWALD 1837-1912. I. Applegarth.
(Above items donated by C. Jewitt)
 - 3.141 BURIAL INDEX, ST. GILES, DURHAM 1584-1812. C. Jewitt.
 - 3.142 KIRKHEATON CHAPELRY, TRANSCRIPT OF PARISH [REGISTERS. J.K. Brown.](#)
 - [3.143](#) LUCKER CHAPELRY, TRANSCRIPT OF PARISH REGISTERS. J.K. Brown.
 - 3.144 SURVEY OF ST. MARY'S CHURCHYARD, ACKLAM, MIDDLESBROUGH. Julie A. Tweedy.
 - 3.145 MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS OF FELTON DISTRICT. Felton & Swarland Local History Society.
 - 3.146 OUT-OF-PARISH MARRIAGES & BANNS. G. Bell & Mrs M. Furness.
 - 3.147 MARRIAGE INDEX, ST. ALBANS, HEWORTH, GATESHEAD 1843-1914. R. & D. Tait.
 - 3.148 NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE QUARTER SESSIONS 1818-31. F. Furness.
 - 3.149 MARRIAGE INDEX, SUNDERLAND HOLY TRINITY 1846-1908. Donated by C. Jewitt.
 - 3.150 MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. GILES 1837-1926. Donated By C. Jewitt.
 - 3.151 MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. CUTHBERTS 1863-1914. Donated by C. Jewitt.
 - 3.152 MARRIAGE INDEX, DURHAM ST. MARGARET 1837-1900. Donated by C. Jewitt.
- 6.118 MATCHING FAMILY INTERESTS IN NDFHS & TAY VALLEY FHS.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr A.J. Coulthard, "Colescote", Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset DT2 7QP, writes:

"Owners of *A Coulthard! A History of the Surname*, any edition, are advised that five addenda have so far been published which answer many queries left unanswered in the book itself and bring the number of family charts to 111. Most remain in print and may be obtained from me. This is not a commercial notice and no charge will be made, other than postage if costly."

Mrs Jean Stirk, Shode House, Ightham, Kent TN15 9HP, writes:

"I am somewhat concerned at the paucity of material on paper makers and paper mills of Durham. Interest in this important but small industry there of the late 18th to mid 19th century has been overshadowed by concentration on the study of iron, shipbuilding and, particularly, the coal industries. A note of any references to paper makers or paper mills in Co. Durham, any sources or copies of relevant material will be most welcome. (Photocopying expenses by arrangement please).

This request is so that I can help people seeking their paper maker ancestors (national index searched for s.a.e. and stamp) possibly use the material as part of a dissertation on the mobility of paper makers and to help build an archive at Durham County Record Office. The Archivist will be happy to receive any material direct."

COMPUTER CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 1991

R. Hale

Saturday, 16th November was an historic day for the NDFHS Computer Users Group. We hosted a One Day Conference jointly with the Society of Genealogists. Over 150 people, from all over the country, met at Gosforth High School in Newcastle to hear a selection of well qualified speakers and to see demonstrations on the use of computers on various Family History projects. Space does not permit us to **print full details of all the talks**, but an enjoyable and educational day was had by all.

Although it may be some time before we see a similar event held in this area again, it does not mean that work in this field must stop. We have an active Computer Users' Group within the Society and wish to use the impetus created by the Conference to develop further. At present, we are rather few in number and have many ambitious ideas and plans, but as in all things, the service we can provide is limited by the number of willing hands. May we therefore ask you to consider lending a helping hand in some small way in one of our many projects? If you have a computer at home, this will be easy, because much of the work can be done on it. But even if you don't have a computer, there is much you can do to help, so please do get in touch with me.

One of the services we can offer is to supply you with fact sheets on buying computers and equipment and on various software reviews. We also have a range of shareware software disks and demonstration disks available at modest cost, to help you to choose the right software for your needs.

So if you are interested in computers, even if you can't help out and no matter how little you might know, please contact me and register as a member of the Computer Users' Group. Membership is free to all NDFHS member.

My address is 88 Reading Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE33 4SF.

THE PUBLIC RECORD OFFICE (P.R.O.) AT KEW

Marjorie R. Moore, F. S. G.

Anyone who has been researching for three years or more should seriously consider that it is time to visit the P.R.O. at Kew. It is a veritable Aladdins Cave of Information.

Before travelling there you should write for Leaflet 9 which shows the division of records between Kew and the other part of the P.R.O. at Chancery Lane in London. You should also study *The Guide to the Contents of the Public Record Office*, published by H.M. Stationery Office and available in most good reference libraries.

Kew is easily accessible by train, tube and road and has a large free car park. Researchers must obtain a Readers Ticket, obtainable on the spot by a simple procedure -- take a Driving Licence or some other means of identification.

On entering the building, be prepared to have your bags and briefcases searched. No large bags are allowed in the search rooms but lockers are available. There is an excellent restaurant which caters for all tastes and pockets or you can take in your own sandwiches etc. There is a bookstall where you may buy HMSO and other publications which will assist your research. Researchers are now encouraged to use yellow paper on which to write their notes -- this is on sale at a modest price. New readers are encouraged to watch a video which gives a simple introduction to research procedures.

The search rooms are open from 9.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Monday to Friday, but you may enter the building at 9.00 a.m. to deposit any coats or large bags or if you wish to obtain a drink. At 9.30 a.m. researchers are informed that the research rooms are open. and they should first go to the Langdale Room to be allocated a seat and a bleeper which should be carried at all time. Do your homework before you travel so that you will know exactly what you need to look at when you arrive.

In the lobby on the first floor there are pigeon-holes containing Fact and Information leaflets on various subjects, which you should study carefully, especially Leaflet 36 *Means of Reference at Kew*, which also gives an excellent plan of the layout of the rooms.

Once you have left your writing materials etc at your table, go next door where you should select the volume for your class references. There are a series of files on shelves around the room, arranged in alphabetical order by their prefix letters e.g. ADM, BT, FO, HO and so on. May I clarify the system with all PRO references, which are abbreviations of the Government Department which is, or was, responsible for the records. An example of this is that records for the Army are in WO (i.e. War Office), although if they were being classified today they would come under M.O.D. (Minister of Defence). Other examples are ADM for Admiralty (Royal Navy), BT for Board of Trade, FO for Foreign Office, and HO for Home Office. Find your group reference by looking through the lists, then find the piece number you require. You should now have a three part reference e.g. Group Letter ADM, Class 51, piece number 18. Then you should go to one of the computer terminals and order your documents. Type in your Readers Ticket Number, Seat Number, Group Reference, Class Number and finally Piece Number. Messages on the screen will tell you whether your document is available or whether it is oversize (in which case it will be made available to you upstairs in the Map Room). Initially you may order three items, then three more, then on a one for one basis. When your documents are ready for collection from the main counter in the Langdale Room, your bleeper will sound.

What can you expect to find? I guarantee that all researchers will find hundreds of documents of use to them in their own family history research. Patience is needed to find them. Examine all the reference lists thoroughly. You will be amazed at the what you find. Whilst waiting for your documents to arrive, make good use of your time by looking along the open shelves at the reference books, Army List, Navy List, Lloyds List, Gazetteers etc and at the main index drawers in the room.

More and more documents are being filmed and are now available on microfilm in the Romily Room on a self service basis -- which increases the amount of work you can expect to accomplish in a day's research.

Family historians tend first to look at Army Records, in particular WO 97 (Attestations of Soldiers Discharged to Pension) which gives information about a soldier at the time of his enlistment, his date and place of birth, physical description, next-of-kin and address, then his career, tours of duty, matters of discipline, promotion and much more. Details of his marriage and dates and places of birth of his children may be given and there are possibly certified true copies of baptism certificates. If a soldier was single when he enlisted and then subsequently married, his next of kin and address will change, thus providing clues for research in a census. There are numerous classes which might help you trace an Officer's or soldier's career.

Similarly, for the Royal Navy, you might look at ADM 139 (Continuous service Record of Ratings) which gives much the same information as for a soldier. You can examine ships log books and find out about conditions on board ship, floggings and much more.

Personally, I have derived a great deal of pleasure from examining documents about the Merchant Navy, which come under the Board of Trade. I readily found all the relatives I was seeking, and by doing a "blanket search" was amazed to find many more that I had not known had gone to sea. The indexes to apprentices and agreement and crew lists will give dates and places of birth. So do many other documents. Medal Rolls are worth a look and will often provide clues to other avenues of research.

Not all Births/Marriages and Deaths are at St. Catherine's House. BT 153, 157, 158 and 159 give information about British nationals at sea, seamen at sea, passengers at sea and deaths at sea. There are many other classes too!

Records of the Poor Law Union Commissioners in MH 12 etc (which are divided by county and then town) reveal information about appeals from parishes, and sometimes Births, Marriages and Deaths and describe conditions in workhouses and diets. There is a massive amount of correspondence giving names of individuals. These are time consuming to research but can be very rewarding.

Militia Records in WO 13 often provide clues about elusive ancestors. It is useful to follow a name through successive musters.

It is always interesting to trace information about the "naughty" members of a family. If you are seeking a criminal you will find most information at Chancery Lane, but there are documents at Kew. I have looked at information concerning a relative of mine from Northumberland who was tried at the Old Bailey and found not guilty of murder. He was held in Middlesex County Prison and knowledge of the date made it a simple matter to find him in the Register. Following on from there, Prison commission Records in PCOM 1 gave me the whole proceedings of his trial. There are calendars of prisoners, information about prison hulks and, on the other side on the law, service records of the Metropolitan Police which will lead you to Division Records.

There are various documents which will enable you to research a convict in the family, especially the Criminal Register series HO 11, where you will find an alphabetical index to ships and dates of sailing in the front of the register and then names of convicts, where convicted and term of imprisonment.

In Alien Entry books HO 5 may be found names and grounds for application for entry to this country. You might look at Passport Registers, Tithe Maps and Apportionments and maps concerning Common Land. Records relating to individual Railway Companies are in RAIL 1-799. I have examined staff records and also information about accidents. I have looked at Staff lists of Customs Officers listed by port and give salaries and so on. There are many classes which will list details of pensions e.g. Admiralty War Office and Paymaster General -- but you will not find Old Age Pension records!

You will not find prisoner of war or internee records, national registration records of the two World Wars or Civil Service staff records.

My hope is to encourage you to visit the PRO, Kew. I have been able to mention only very few of the tremendous volume records there. I hope I have persuaded you to have a look for yourself, because researchers who have concentrated on Civil Registration, the Census, and Parish Registers will probably never proceed with their research unless they examine some of the records I have mentioned.

Recommended Reading: Tracing Your Ancestors in the Public Record Office, by Amanda Bevan and Andrea Duncan. Published by HMSO £6.95.

CATHOLICS IN DURHAM DIOCESE 1767

In June this year, a useful 72 page booklet entitled "Roman Catholics in the Diocese of Durham ... Extracted from returns of Papists 1767" was published. The work, compiled by John P. Perkins and Pauline M. Litton, "consists principally of an index to the 1767 Returns of Papists for the Diocese of Durham which included Northumberland and County Durham." It does not include Hexhamshire, but does include Craike in North Yorkshire. The index is alphabetical by surname. Also included are covering dates of Catholic Registers for this area which were deposited in the Public Record Office in 1840, details of Catholic Registers known to have been printed or transcribed (including some not deposited in the PRO), a short bibliography of books and articles and some useful addresses.

A most useful piece of work, it can be obtained from Mrs C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne & Wear NE36 OTQ, price £2.75 including postage.

THE POSTCARD STORY

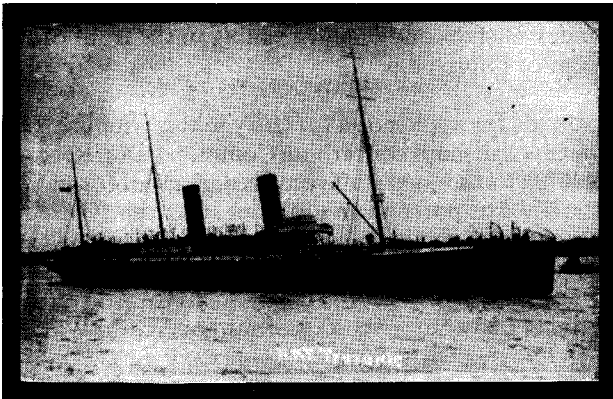
Margaret Taylor

After doing research on our Gray family history for some years, I located a cousin living in Ontario, Canada, so I wrote to her to ask for her assistance. Her name was Elizabeth McDonald (nee Gray), an alert and active ninety year old at the time of our first contact.

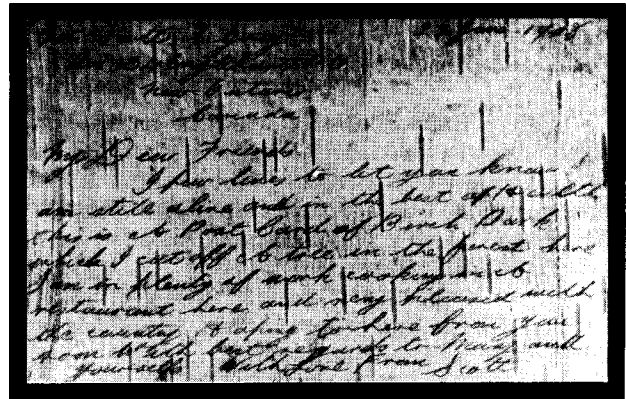
Elizabeth was able to tell me a lot about the Canadian branch of the family but suggested I write to her older brother, Scott Coates Gray, then aged ninety three and residing in California. I did as she suggested but unfortunately Scott had died before my letter could reach him, so his daughter Marge was back giving me the sad news. She and I then began to write on a regular basis and she would tell me things she remembered her parents telling her as a child. Her mother, Elizabeth (nee Gibson) told her that she had met Marge's father, Scott Coates Gray, in Sunderland where both families lived and they became childhood sweethearts. Elizabeth's sister, Sarah Gibson, went with Scott's brother Thomas.

Scott Gray then worked for a small bakery, Crakes, in Houghton-le-Spring, a neighbouring town in County Durham. A year or so later he chose to go to sea and shortly afterwards his parents, Thomas and Mary Gray, decided to emigrate to Canada with his younger brothers and sisters. Scott and his brother Thomas later followed their parents and settled in Canada. The story goes that Scott and Thomas then sent for their sweethearts, Elizabeth and Sarah Gibson in England. Apparently the girls were to have sailed on the ill-fated *Titanic* but fortunately they were delayed, so eventually set off for Canada on board a ship called *Teutonic*.

Some weeks after reading Marge's letter with the above story, I was in Durham and called into a shop where I sometimes bought old postcards for my daughter Gail who is an avid collector. Whilst flicking through the albums I was surprised to come across a card of the ship *Teutonic*. Had it been the *Titanic* I would have not been at all surprised, but to be attracted to this postcard, I was amazed. But that was just the beginning of a strange series of events.



"Teutonic"



"The Birch Bark Postcard"

A few weeks later, I returned to the same shop and the young man there told me he had just bought some more postcards and asked whether I would like to see them. I accepted his offer and began looking through the albums. I was attracted to a very ordinary looking card with a stamp showing the Canadian flag. Deciding to buy it, I took it out of the plastic binder and could not believe my eyes. I was absolutely stunned for a few seconds! The sender was Scott Coates Gray of Englehart, Canada. It was addressed to Crakes Bakery and had been mailed some eighty or so years ago. Remember, Scott had died in Canada only weeks before I found this card in England! Scott's message to Crake's read "My Dear Friends. Just a few lines to let you know I am still alive and in the best of health. This is a postcard of birch bark which I cut off a tree in the forest here. I am in plenty of work cooking in a restaurant here and very pleased with the country. Hoping to hear from you soon. With regards to Mary and yourself. With love from Scott." It was dated 23rd June 1908.

I sent a copy of the postcard to Marge in Canada. She wrote back saying she has to go by car to pick up her mail, and after reading my letter and seeing the card, she was too stunned and overcome with emotion to drive home, and had to sit for a while. She remembered her father had told her as a little girl of the birch-bark postcard he had sent to England.

This is just one of the unexplainable and wonderful events which have happened while researching the family history.

Editor's Note: Mrs Taylor, who lives at 2 The Meadows, West Rainton, Co. Durham DH4 6NP, is a descendant of Lawrence Gray and Eleanor Jackson who married at Holy Trinity, Sunderland in 1729. There is a magazine 'Outward Bound' which is sent to families who are descended from this couple, including people in Australia, New Zealand, U.S.A. and Canada. If you are interested, please contact Mrs Taylor.

PRESBYTERIAN AND CONGREGATIONALIST REGISTERS IN NORTHUMBERLAND RECORD OFFICE

Compiled by the Society

Over the last few years, a number of registers of the Presbyterian and Congregationalist Churches and Chapels in Northumberland have been deposited with Northumberland County Record Office at Melton Park, and a further number have been microfilmed and are available for search by the public. It therefore seems appropriate that we should provide an up-to-date list of the Record Office holdings. The details shown below are correct as at September 1991. The abbreviations used are as follows:- Presb = Presbyterian. Baps = Baptisms. RG indicates that the registers are held by the Public Record Office but Northumberland Record Office has a microfilm copy. IGI indicates that the details in the register appear, wholly or in part, in the International Genealogical Index produced by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. T indicates that a typed or manuscript index exists of part or all of the register, NRO indicating that the transcript is at Northumberland Record Office and NCL indicating that Newcastle Central Library has a copy. Transcripts held elsewhere are not included.

- ALNWICK Clayport (later Greenbatt). Baps Aug 1785 - May 1838. RG. IGI.
- ALNWICK Ebenezer Unitarian Meeting House. Baps June 1817 - Oct 1831. RG. IGI.
- ALNWICK Green Batt (formerly Clayport). Baps Aug 1785 - Oct 1954. RG. IGI to 1838.
- ALNWICK Lisburn Street. Baps Sept 1878 - Dec 1881.
- ALNWICK Pottergate Protestant Dissenters. Baps March 1760 - Dec 1836; June 1904 - Dec 1988. RG. IGI to 1836.
- ALNWICK Zion Meeting (formerly Bondgate) House, Baps Feb 1762 - June 1837. RG. IGI.
- ASHINGTON PRESB. Marriages July 1930 - April 1960.
- BAVINGTON PRESB. Baps March 1754 - Oct 1832. IGI. T-NRO.
- BEAUMONT PRESB. Baps March 1919 - March 1975.
- BEDLINGTON PRESB. Baps Dec 1845 - March 1980.
- BELFORD Erskine St. Baps March 1793 - March 1819. T-NRO. NCL.
- BELFORD United Secession Chapel. Baps Feb 1820 - June 1837, 1841, 1856, 1858. RG. IGI to 1837.
- BELFORD West St (Scotch Presbyterian). Baps Oct 1776 - Sept 1848.
- BELLINGHAM PRESB. Baps Nov 1803 - Sept 1988.
- BERWICK Bankhill United Presb. Baps Apr 1835 - May 1838. RG. IGI.
- BERWICK Bankhill English Presb (formerly Low Meeting House). Baps Feb 1849 - June 1890.
- BERWICK Chapel St United Presb. Baps Mar 1782 - May 1858; Marriages Jan 1785 - Feb 1791. IGI.
- BERWICK High Meeting House. Baps Jan 1761 - Sept 1879.
- BERWICK Low Meeting House. Baps Dec 1780 - 1890 (with gaps); Marriages Feb 1838 - Dec 1848.
- BERWICK St Aidans. Baps March 1953 - Oct 1976.
- BERWICK United Secession, Golden Square. Baps Dec 1771 - July 1837; Marriages March 1782 - Dec 1812. RG. IGI. T-NRO.
- BIRDHOPECRAIG PRESB. Aug 1728 - Dec 1850. T-NRO.
- BRANTON PRESB. Baps Oct 1785 - 1837, July 1901 - Aug 1904. T to 1837 - NRO. NCL.
- CROOKHAM PRESB. Births Oct 1732 - May 1787; Apr 1795 - Aug 1833; Baps July 1777 - Dec 1833. T-NRO. NCL.
- EMBLETON PRESB. Baps May 1833 - Aug 1984.
- ETAL PRESB. Baps May 1769 - March 1843. IGI. T to 1828. NRO.
- FALSTONE PRESB. Baps March 1752 - Oct 1978.
- GLANTON PRESB. Baps Sept 1784 - Aug 1836. T-NRO. NCL.
- HALTWHISTLE SCOTCH CHAPEL. Baps Nov 1752 - July 1874. RG IGI. T-NRO.
- HARBOTTLE PRESB. Baps Dec 1736 - May 1979. IGI to 1802. T (to 1802) - NRO. T (1803 - 1856) NCL.
- HARTLEY PRESB. Baps Oct 1789 - May 1862. T-NRO.

HAYDON BRIDGE CONGREG. Baps March 1817 - March 1987.

HEXHAM Ebenezer Chapel. Baps July 1787 - Nov [1836.RG.IGI.T-NCL.](#)

[HORSLEY](#) Independent Chapel. Baps Nov 1785 - Jan 1837. Births March 1772 - May 1800. RG. IGI.

HOWDEN PANNS Independent Chapel. Baps June 1835 - June 1837. RG.

KIRKLEY -- see THORNEYFORD.

LONGFRAMLINGTON PRESB. Baps Feb 1754 - Sept 1859.

LOWICK ENGLISH PRESB. Baps Aug 1820 - Oct 1935.

LOWICK SCOTCH PRESB. Baps Jan 1804 - Oct 1849. 1906 - 1975.

MORPETH Dacre St Congregational. Baps March 1829 - July 1837; Jan 1842 - Apr 1872; 1915 - 1954; 1968 - 1976. Marriages 1915 - 1965. Burials 1915 - 1928. RG (to 1837). IGI (to 1837).

MORPETH ST GEORGES PRESB. Baps June 1747 - July 1848.

NEWCASTLE Blackett St The Close. Baps July 1757 - April 1845. IGI to 1837.

NEWCASTLE Carloli St Chapel (formerly Sallyport). Baps 1759 - Oct 1837. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE Castle Garth. Baps Apr 1708 - Sept 1836. IGI to 1820.

NEWCASTLE Clavering Place Chapel (United Secession; formerly Old Postern) Baps Feb 1802 - June 1837. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE Erskine Presb. Baps March 1853 - Sept 1926. IGI to 1875.

NEWCASTLE First United Secession Congregation (The Close). Baps March 1758 - March 1837. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE Hanover Square Chapel. Baps Aug 1752 - July 1844. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE John Knox Presb. Baps 1726 - 1846; 1863 - 1923. IGI to 1875.

NEWCASTLE Park Road. Baps Nov 1872 - Jan 1877.

NEWCASTLE Postern Chapel. Baps Sept 1784 - April 1837. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE St James Chapel (formerly Silver Str). Baps June 1746 - Dec 1836. RG. IGI.

NEWCASTLE Wall Knoll Chapel. Baps May 1781 - Sept 1844. IGI.

NEWCASTLE Zion Chapel, Westgate Street. Baps Sept 1821 . June 1828. RG IGI-

NORHAM English Presb. Baps Feb 1753 - Feb 1854; 1858 - [1879.IGI.T-NRO.NCL.](#)

[NORTH](#) SHIELDS Associate Congregation (Secession). Baps Oct 1783 - Aug 1837. RG. IGI.

NORTH SHIELDS Bankside Chapel. Baps Sept 1799 - Apr 1820. RG. IGI.

NORTH SHIELDS Bethel Chapel (Congregational) Baps Aug 1835 - June 1837. RG. IGI.

NORTH SHIELDS Howard St. Marriages Aug 1926 - Sept 1945.

NORTH SHIELDS Low Meeting. Baps June 1756 - March 1812. RG. IGI.

NORTH SUNDERLAND Secession Chapel of Burghers. Baps Oct 1797 - Apr 1838. RG. IGI. Baps 1870 - Sept 1981. Marriages May 1872 - Jan 1902. Deaths 1870 - Sept 1989.

OTTERBURN PRESB Baps Feb 1835 - June 1986. Marriages Aug 1887 - June 1981.

ROTHBURY CONGREGATIONAL Baps Sept 1840 - Aug 1856; 1893 - 1906. Marriages 1894 - 1903. Burials Dec 1894 - March 1904. T-NCL NRO (to 1856).

ROTHBURY PRESB Baps Oct 1804 - Oct 1811.

SPITTAL United Presb. Baps Oct 1751 - June 1837. Marriages Dec 1781 - June 1784. 1795 - 1798. RG. IGI.

STAMFORDHAM PRESB. Baps 1754 - Dec 1896. IGI.

THORNEYFORD PRESB. Baps May 1804 - Sept 1832.

THROPTON PRESB. Baps Apr 1799 - Dec 1847; Sept 1904 - March 1963. T-NRO (to 1847).

TWEEDMOUTH Scotch Presb. Baps Dec 1910 - Aug 1971.

TYNEMOUTH St Andrews Independent, Camden Street. Baps June 1817 - 1837. RG. IGI.

WALLSEND United Associate. Baps Sept 1817 - March 1837. RG. IGI.

WARENFORD PRESB. Baps Oct 1747 - July 1971. T-NRO (to 1854). NCL.

WARKWORTH Scotch Church. Baps June 1815 - 1860.

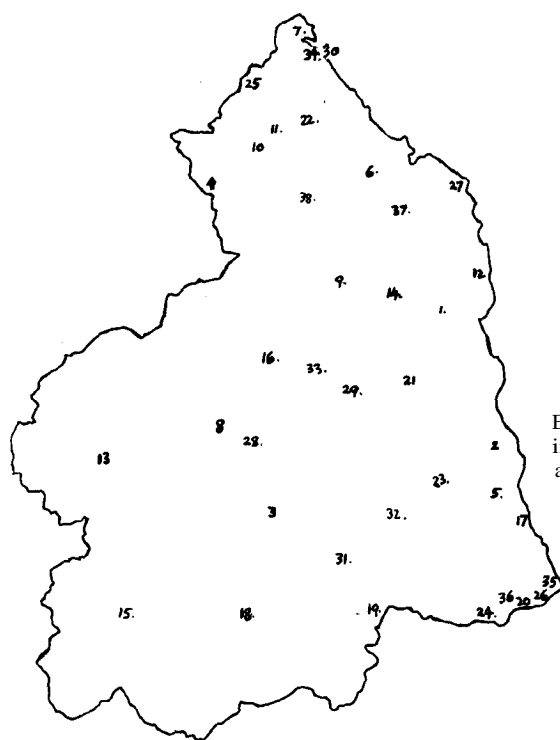
WOOLER Cheviot St. Baps Aug 1749 - 1851. IGI to 1833.

WOOLER Tower Hill. Baps Jan 1786 - Sept 1836. IGI.

WOOLER West Chapel. Baps Jan 1752 - May 1857; Aug 1885 - Sept 1950. Marriages Jan 1895 - Oct 1948. Deaths Jan 1906 - Nov 1921. IGI to 1857.

This list has been compiled by the Society from indexes held at Northumberland Record Office. We are grateful to that office for permission to publish it.

LOCATION OF PRESBYTERIAN & CONGREGATIONALIST PLACES OF WORSHIP WHOSE REGISTERS ARE HELD BY NORTHUMBERLAND RECORD OFFICE



Key

1 = Alnwick.	2 = Ashington.	3 = Bavington.
4 = Beaumont.	5 = Bedlington.	6 = Belford.
7 = Berwick.	8 = Birdhopecraig.	9 = Branton.
10 = Crookham.	11 = Etal.	12 = Embleton.
13 = Falstone.	14 = Glanton.	15 = Haltwhistle.
16 = Harbottle.	17 = Hartley.	18 = Hexham.
19 = Horsley.	20 = Howdon Panns.	21 = Longframlington.
22 = Lowick.	23 = Morpeth.	24 = Newcastle.
25 = Norham.	26 = North Shields.	27 = North Sunderland.
28 = Otterburn.	29 = Rothbury.	30 = Spittal.
31 = Stamfordham.	32 = Thorneyford.	33 = Thropton.
34 = Tweedmouth.	35 = Tynemouth.	36 = Wallsend.
37 = Wardenford.	38 = Wooler.	

Editorial Note: A map showing the dates of foundation of each chapel, and including chapels not shown on the above map, can be found with some accompanying notes in Volume 3 of the Journal of Presbyterian Historical Society.

DO YOU HAVE CONVICT ANCESTORS?

At Northumberland County Record Office, reference QSB 89/26, there is a small collection of papers relating to criminals who were transported to America or Australia following their conviction at Northumberland Assizes. They comprise orders from the trial judge authorising the Justices of the Peace "to contract with any person or persons for the transportation of the aforesaid felon to any of his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in America." The names of the convicted men, together with the offences of which they had been found guilty, and the sentences, are shown, but there are no addresses, ages or other information about them. The details are as follows:-

1. John ELLERTON & Thomas WAITE. 1768. Larceny. Sentenced to death, commuted to transportation for 14 years.
2. Thomas LAIDLER & Robert BILTON. 1768. Grand Larceny. Sent to death, commuted to transportation for life.
3. Robert TRUEMAN. 1768. Grand Larceny. Transportation for 7 years.
4. George BROWN. 1768. Grand Larceny. Death, commuted to 14 years transportation.
5. Charles BROWN. 1769. Grand Larceny. Transportation for 7 years.
6. William WILLSON. 1770. Grand Larceny. Death, commuted to 14 years transportation.
7. John GRAY. 1770. Receiving goods knowing them to have been stolen. Transportation for 14 years.
8. William TODD otherwise HUDSPETH. 1770. Grand Larceny. Transportation for 7 years.

9. William SMITH & Thomas SOULSBY, otherwise John ROBSON. 1771. Grand Larceny. Death, commuted to transportation for 7 years.
10. William TODD, otherwise William SMITH. 1772. Grand Larceny. Transportation for 7 years.
11. Robert BROWN, William BROWN, George ROBSON & Robert PATTERSON. 1772. Grand Larceny. Death, commuted to transportation for 7 years.
12. William WIGHT otherwise William WRIGHT. 1774. Horse stealing. Death, commuted to transportation for 14 years.

There is also an order relating to two men who were convicted on 25th July 1808. John MOULD was convicted of "high treason in counterfeiting the Coins of this Realm" and James LOWREY was convicted of burglary. Both men were sentenced to death, but reprieved and ordered to be "transported to the coast of New South Wales or some one or other of the islands adjacent." Mould is described as "in the 32nd year of his age and is by trade a house carpenter. He is a bad character and connected with a set of notorious people who infest Newcastle upon Tyne and its environs," Lowrey is "in the 57th year of his age and is by trade a shoemaker. He is an old and most notorious offender and has for several years travelled the country leading a vagabond life."

Interestingly, the *Newcastle Courant* of 6th August 1808 tells us that "Eleanor, the wife of John Mould who at the last assizes for Northumberland was convicted of coining and received sentence of death but was afterwards reprieved on condition of being transported for life, was on Saturday 23rd ult taken into custody for putting off base coin in the Poultry Market in this town. Another woman in the name of Hope was detected in the same crime in company with her but then escaped; on the Saturday following she was observed in the same place making another attempt to put off money of the same description and was taken into custody. These offenders will both be tried at the next quarter sessions."

The final document in **the series held** at Northumberland Record Office is a certificate from a sea officer who had delivered some convicts to Virginia in 1772. This is reproduced on the back cover of this Journal.

Editor's Note: These details, and the illustration on the cover, are printed with permission from Northumberland County Record Office. A list of people sentenced to transportation by Newcastle Quarter Sessions 1836-55 (extracted from records held at Tyne & Wear Archives Department) was published in the Summer 1988 Journal (Vol 13, number 2). We hope to print a further list, from Newcastle Quarter Sessions 1818-31, in the next Journal.

KNOW YOUR PARISH - XXIX

STANHOPE

Geoff Nicholson

Stanhope parish was originally the most extensive in Co Durham. It contained over 54,000 acres and could be described simply as "Weardale". Most of this vast area is still open moorland, leading up to the eastern side of the Pennine Hills and little changed since mediaeval days, the human settlements being confined to the fertile bottoms of the valleys of the River Wear and a few of its larger tributaries, of which the Rookhope Burn is the most important. The main industries at present are farming and limestone quarrying.

Stanhope itself is the main settlement in the dale, and is situated towards the eastern, or lower, end of the parish. Higher up the dale, there was a Chapel of Ease dedicated to St. John, from at least 1465, when Bishop Booth made arrangements for a Chaplain to be provided there. This Chapel became the centre of a village named after it - St. John's Chapel, still the major settlement in the upper dale.

The first sub-division of the parish was into four Quarters. From east to west there were: Forest (the upper dale, served from St. John's Chapel), Park (that part of the dale corresponding to the Bishop of Durham's ancient Hunting Park, lying between Eastgate and Westgate), Stanhope (around the village itself) and Newlandside (the area east of Stanhope, including Frosterley). By the end of the nineteenth century increases in population had brought about the creation of seven parishes within this area - St. John's Weardale, Westgate, Eastgate, Heathery Cleugh, Rookhope, Stanhope and Frosterley.

The Prince Bishop of Durham was the Lord of the Manor in Stanhope, as in so many other places in his Palatinate and from about the twelfth century a branch of the Featherstonhaughs, from the place of that name in South Tynedale, were settled at Stanhope as keepers of the Bishop's Park and as owners of several pieces of land, both under the Bishop and in their own right. The seat of this family, the early house called Stanhope Old Hall, is now a Hotel of great character.

Like many an isolated valley, the truly local families had few surnames and were very much intermarried. Even today, if you were to remove from Weardale all the Featherstones (the Weardale branch seems to have dropped the "haugh" a long time ago!), Bainbridges, Dawsons, Emmersons, Kidds, Pearts, and Races, there wouldn't be many left!

Lead mining took over from farming as the main industry of the dale from quite an early date. It is likely, though as yet unproven, that the Romans mined lead in the area. Certainly lead mines existed in Co Durham, which probably means Weardale, by the end of the fourteenth century. In 1698 Sir William Blackett, who had the lead mines in nearby Allendale and who had purchased the manor of Hexham from Sir John Fenwick four years before, leased the lead mines in Weardale from the Bishop and set them on the road to great expansion. The peak of production was around 1870 but thereafter the mines were in decline. In 1870 the total British production of lead, nearly all of which was from the northern Pennines, was about 74,000 tons but by 1890 it had fallen to about 34,000 tons. In 1891 the Co Durham mines alone still produced 5312 tons. Some mines did continue into the twentieth century but one by one they closed and today there are no lead mines working as such, although a few have been sporadically reopened to produce other minerals. The main centre for anyone wanting to learn about the history of the industry in Weardale must nowadays be the Killhope Centre at the head of the dale, in and around the former Ore Crushing Mill with its giant water wheel.



STANHOPE, WEARDALE, DURHAM
(from 'Monthly Chronicle' August 1889)

Unlike coal mining, lead mining never lent itself to large mines employing hundreds of men. Lead veins are roughly vertical, in hard rock and cannot be relied upon to extend very far, whereas coal seams are roughly horizontal, in sometimes very unstable rock and usually extend for miles, so the mining technique is quite different. Many Weardale men worked as partners in small, part-time mines and combined this hard, dangerous and often unrewarding work with running a small farm at the same time. Although an "immigrant" population did appear in the dale during the heyday of the industry it is remarkable how they and their descendants were also those who left when mining declined, so that it is the original Weardale surnames which are still the commonest there today.

Stanhope had its own weekly market from 1421, when it was granted by Bishop Langley. It fell into disuse but was revived in 1669. The church is dedicated to St. Thomas the Apostle and is essentially a Norman building - another testament to the ancient importance of Stanhope. It is remarkable for having the fossilised stump of an ancient tree preserved behind railings just outside the gate.

Stanhope Castle, opposite the church, is supposed to be on or near the site of the castle built by Bishop Anthony Bek in the early fourteenth century, but of which nothing now remains. The present "castle" is just a large Victorian house, built by Cuthbert Rippon.

Unfortunately Stanhope is not included in any of the standard histories of Co Durham, though several local booklets and papers have been produced over the years, notably a series by Lt. Gen. Sir H.C. Surtees and by W.M. Egglestone. There are likewise many publications on the Industrial Archaeology of the Lead Industry which deal with the area.

The parish registers of Stanhope date from 1595 and the early ones also include entries from St. John's Chapel, which has its own registers from 1788. They are now to be found in Durham County Record Office, with transcripts among the HM Wood MSS in Newcastle Central Library and Bishops' Transcripts from 1762 in Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections. The marriages from 1613 to 1812 were published by Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society and are also included in Boyd's Marriage Index for Co Durham. They have been indexed, to 1837, by Bill Rounce. There is a transcript of the Monumental Inscriptions of St. John's Chapel in Newcastle Central Library. The only other pre-1837 Church of England register in the dale is that of Heathery Cleugh, which began in 1825 and which is also in Durham County Record Office.

There were many nonconformist churches in the parish, mainly attended by the lead miners. The Presbyterian Church at Ireshopeburn was founded in 1750 and its registers, after being lost for many years, were rescued from a London saleroom in the 1970s and are now also in Durham County Record Office, with transcripts by Don Mason in all the usual libraries. Many miners were Methodists and the dale is full of former and surviving Methodist Chapels, most of the older registers of which are now in the Public Record Office at Kew, though microfilm copies are to be found in Durham County Record Office. The early Wesleyan Chapels, at least, were in Wolsingham Circuit. When Emmerson Muschamp Bainbridge left the dale for Newcastle, to found the large Department Store which bears his name, he took the Weardale brand of Methodism with him. He is commemorated in the Bainbridge Memorial Methodist Church in Heaton Road, Newcastle.

Apart from the sources already mentioned, information about the area covered by the original Stanhope Parish is to be found in "Weardale Memories and Traditions" by John Lee (an old book, long out of print but worth looking out for in Libraries) and in what I have referred to before as my personal Bible of Co Durham History, Whellans' Directory of 1894. A recent publication by Peter Bowles gives a good modern overview of the settlement of the dale, largely from the Historical Geographer's point of view. Many members will remember Mr Bowles for his excellent talk on Weardale at our recent Conference and as the guide on the bus tour around the dale in which many went. Something of the flavour of **the dale in the mid-nineteenth century is also to be** found in the early chapters of our member Steve Race's, biography of his grandfather, "The Two Worlds of Joseph Race", published in 1988 and available in, among many other places, the Society's Library. It contains much information on the Races and Dawsons.

There is a good, brief account of lead mining in the area, placing it in its regional context, in Les Turnbull's "The History of Lead Mining in the North East of England" (Harold Hill, 1975).

Editors's Note: The NDFHS library contains two booklets dealing specifically with Stanhope. One is a 24 page booklet, apparently written about 1960 by Stanhope Women's Institute, entitled "The History of Stanhope". The other is "The Parish Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Stanhope" by Rev. L.L. Knightall (20 pages). They can be borrowed via the Librarian.

CATHOLICS IN DURHAM CITY 1713

Mr Bob Forster tells us that he has recently handed over to Durham County Record Office ref. D/X 952 a small pocket book with notes made by Thomas Rudd who was vicar of St. Oswald's, Durham from 1711 to 1725. The notes include details of his tithes and a list of Catholics in the parish in 1713. The details are as follows:

An account of the popish dissenters in the parish of St Oswald in Durham as I presented them at the Bishop's Visitation August 28th 1713.

Old Elvet
Mrs Rowel and two boarders
The Lady Mary Ratcliffe and her servants
Mrs Hixon
Mrs Bellasis and her servant
John Bellamy
Mr Bains, wife & servant
Christ. Donkin & wife
Ralph Trotter & wife, laborer
Mr Forcer, wife, three children of age, four servants
Mr Metcalf, wife, son & servant, writing master

Mrs Thornton and two servants
Mrs Pudsey, a boarder and servant
Mr Bulmer, servant and two daughters
James Dawson
Mr Coxon, wife and two servants
Mrs Johnson & two servants
Will. Mason, a poor cripple

Dr. Brown, wife & servant, physician

Mrs Tod & niece

in New Elvet
Widow Moikil and servant, in-keeper
Mrs Smith
Jn Hercules & wife, taylor
Andrew Morton's wife & daughter, wheelwright
Mrs Greenwell & servant & a kinsman
Thomas Thomson & wife, horse rider
Geo Bowes, wife & servant, in-keeper
Mrs Errington wid
Mrs Errington a sojourner with John Fisher

in Church Street
Wm Kirkly Taylor
Ralph Bilton, wheelwright & wife
Wid Lamb, poor
John Palmer, mason

in Hallgarth Street
Mrs Swale
Hen Rea, wife, two sons & two daughters
Mr Witham wife & servant

out of the town
at the Horse-bridge house
John Thomson, wife and two servants

priests
Mr Jennison with the Lady Mary Ratcliffe
Mrs Pudsey
Mr Jackson
Mr Johnson
Mr Jennson often in the parish

Geo Hob's wife cooper
Nic Hercules & wife Taylor
Mr Tourville
John Harrowmond's wife
Sarah Hercules poor
Elis Winter, servant to Ant. Watson
An Bently poor
Rob Hall, wife & mother, carter

Matth. Hunter, wheelwright

Mr Mich. Johnson, wife, three daughters & two servants

Jane Polson a poor widow
El. Gainforth wife to Will. Gainforth, mason

KNOW YOUR PARISH: XXX BELLINGHAM

J.K. Brown

The parish of Bellingham in North Tynedale includes some of the wildest and most barren fells of the county. The land is generally high, and except for the sheltered valleys, through which flow numerous burns, the land is not adapted for the successful growth of cereal crops.

The name "Bellingham" was written as "Bellinham" in 1279, and this may account for Northumbrians of today pronouncing the name as "Belling-jum". At about that time and for some time before the most powerful family in the area adopted the name as their own. William de Bellingham owned two-thirds of the land, for which he and his successors paid rent to the King of Scotland. The King retained the remainder for the Scottish crown until it was seized by Edward I, who allowed the Bellinghams to retain their share. Later their holding was reduced and came under the Bishop of York. In the late 13th century Richard Bellingham married an heiress with vast estates in Westmorland, and he moved to live there. When a cadet branch sold their Abberwick (Alnwick) estates in 1571 the family finally severed all connection with Northumberland.

The other main families of Saxon stock whose descendants are still numerous in the parish are the Charltons (recognized as being the most powerful), the Robsons, the Dodds, and the Milburns. These four families dominated not only Bellingham but the whole of Tynedale. Each clan or group of families of the same surname recognized one man as its "Hedesman" (Headman), to whom they were under some kind of subjection. Clanship, with the usual characteristics that distinguished it in North Tynedale and Redesdale, existed long after the rest of the county had settled down to a more peaceful way of life. After the union of the two kingdoms the degree of strife lessened, but even so cattle lifting and sheep stealing continued, though on a much reduced scale, until the end of the 19th century. Today river bailiffs appeal to the public to help their 'crackdown' on trout and salmon poaching; no longer a romantic game played by one man with a rod or gaff, but by organized gangs, who according to residents come in from outside!

The people were a hardy, lawless thieving race, always ready to prey on their countrymen as well as on neighbouring Scots. The characteristics of the people are portrayed in an account of a sheep stealing raid by the Robsons on the Grahams of Netherby in Liddlesdale. After stealing a flock of sheep the party of Robsons drove them into North Tynedale, but some time later found that the stolen sheep were scabbed and had passed on the disease to their own sheep. This discovery warranted a further raid in which seven of the Graham clan were captured and hanged. The Robsons left with the warning: "Next time gentlemen cam to tak their schepe they were not to be scabbed."

Some years earlier, in 1499 the Bishop of Durham stated in his account of North Tynedale that "not only were the majority of the people thieves and resettlers of stolen goods but the great men of these valleys do protect and hide the thieves from justice for clanship's sake and for the benefit of partaking the robberies". The Bishop's report also stated: "Nay, the priests of that country are most evil, they keep their concubines, they are irregular, suspended, ex-communicated and interdicted clergy, ignorant almost entirely of the works of mass ... as we have proved by examination of them ..."

The parish church of St Cuthbert was built early in the 11th century and consists of nave and a chancel, with the old chapel of the Bellingham family now forming the transept. During the Scottish wars the church was twice burned down by the Scots. The good folk of Bellingham were not church-going: communion was held only once a year; the font was broken, the Bibles and prayer-books were conspicuous by their absence, and the clerks were not noted for their dedication. In the later years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth some attempt was made by the Rev. Bernard Gilpin to bring about a religious revival, but with little success. Fortunately Cuthbert Ridley, a man of great influence in the county and related to Bishop Ridley who had been burnt at the stake by 'Bloody' Queen Mary, was appointed vicar, and he was responsible for some improvement and for the rebuilding of the church. The church is solidly built, and has a massive roof which consists of hexagonal ribs overlaid with heavy grey stone slabs. The chapel was re-roofed in 1864. The windows are extremely narrow, and the whole structure could be used for the purpose of defence against attacking Scots.

An interesting episode involving the church and one of its parishioners took place on 21 February 1711. William Charlton of the Bower (known as "Bowery Charlton") killed Henry Widdrington in a duel; Charlton obtained a pardon, but as Widdrington was later buried inside the church and directly in front of Bowery's pew, he never entered the church again. Being a Catholic he was liable, according to the law of the land, to prosecution for non-attendance at church.

In the churchyard there is a flat oblong stone slab over five feet in length by over one foot wide and less than one foot high. There is no lettered inscription, only three lines resembling a rope. This burial stone is known as the "Long Pack". In the mid-winter of 1723 the then owner of Lee Hall was a Colonel Ridley, who had retired from the Army after serving many years in India. The Colonel was a very wealthy man, and he and his wife left the Hall for a stay in London. Alice, the sole maidservant, was left in charge with two retainers. Early one evening a handsome and well-dressed pedlar called and requested a night's lodgings. On being refused by Alice he then asked if he could leave his heavy pack overnight whilst he sought lodgings in the village, and he would return for it in the morning. Permission was given, but later, Alice, being uneasy about the pack, went to have another look at it, and to her astonishment thought she saw it move. She called a manservant who assured her the pack was alright, and that she had been mistaken owing to the bad light. Just then Edward, the ploughboy, came in carrying an old gun of the Colonel's which he used for shooting crows. On hearing what had happened he immediately fired the gun into the pack. To their horror a stream of blood gushed from the pack on to the floor, followed by the groans of a dying man. The scared servants realised this had been part of a plot to rob the Colonel; they hastily sought help, and a number of men laid wait inside the house. Nothing happened until 1.00 a.m., when young Edward, who had found a silver horn on the body, sounded it. Within minutes a group of horsemen rode into the courtyard, and on being fired on by the men in the house, immediately rode off leaving behind some of their dead or dying comrades. Next morning, when the defenders ventured out of the Hall, all the bodies had disappeared.

The Colonel on his return offered a reward for any information on the would-be robbers, but no-one came forward. It was subsequently noted that some of the respectable families of the village moved out and were not seen again. The dead man was never identified, and his burial place is believed to be under "The Long Pack".

In Bellingham town there is a Catholic church dedicated to Northumbria's St Oswald. It was built in 1839 by public subscription, the main contributor being Mr W.H. Charlton, a descendant of the notorious Bowery Charlton. The Presbyterian church was erected in 1883 and the Methodist chapel in 1866.

In 1886 the small townships of Leemailing, The Nook, Tarret Burn and the two Charltons were united with Bellingham to form the present busy little market town, set in a lovely part of the county.

The parish registers, which commence in 1684, have been deposited at the Northumberland County Records Office.

MARRIED YET AGAIN

Monday was married at Hexham William Magin in the 78th year of his age to Mary Wilson aged 77 his fourth wife and her sixth husband. They were attended to and from church by a great number of people.

From *Newcastle Courant*, 8th October 1763.

(Note: The bridegroom is shown as Madghon in the Hexham parish register).

THE DURHAM YEOMANRY CAVALRY

by T.A. Sergeant

In the second half of 1819, much of England was in turmoil. In August, eleven people were killed by charging yeomanry at a protest meeting in St. Peters Field, Manchester, the massacre which was to become known as "Peterloo". All over the country, the people gathered together to discuss "Reform", and many were killed with violence. In October, a meeting at North Shields and poor Joseph Claxton was shot dead by marines. "Justifiable homicide", decided a jury. On December 4th, the volunteer soldiers of the Durham Yeomanry Cavalry were called out for duty when "a dreadful convulsion in some part of the county of Durham was anticipated." (1) The ancient city of Durham presented "a military appearance" as the local Yeomanry, assisted by their "brethren in arms", the Gibside Cavalry and the regulars of the 4th Dragoon Guards, patrolled the streets and bridges. The Dean and Chapter presented 9100 to a fund for the purchase of cloaks for the men, and 25 guineas was donated by George Baker of Elemore Hall, whose son-in-law Henry Tower commanded the corps. (2) There were, however, no disturbances as Christmas approached and on Christmas Eve Lt. Colonel Tower himself showed seasonal goodwill by gifting "a quantity of prime beef" to the poor of Whitworth and Merrington. (3) On December 27th came orders from the Lord Lieutenant to release the troops. Serious trouble had been avoided. The *Durham Advertiser* reflected that "We cannot withhold our tribute of praise for the orderly conduct of the corps when here and we feel convinced that had they been called into more active service, they would have fully maintained the high character they have acquired." (3)

The Corps of Durham Gentlemen and Yeomanry Cavalry was one of a "multitude of local auxiliary forces known variously as volunteer and fencible infantry, provisional, fencible and yeomanry cavalry... these units were not subject to military regulations but were controlled by the county lieutenancies. They could form and disband at will, whilst men could leave and join them as they wished. Most of the men were paid only whilst in training" (4) or, of course, when they were called upon to maintain order.

Who were the men of the Durham Yeomanry Cavalry? Was an ancestor of yours among them? How can you find out more?

There seems to be little in print, but there are two manuscript volumes which give a fair amount of information about the composition of the corps. They are held under references 66/194 and 66/195 in the Baker Baker papers at Durham University and Special Collections -- formerly the Department of Palaeography and Diplomatic -- at 5 The College, Durham, where they can be consulted. The two volumes relate to the time when the corps was under the command of Henry Tower, who had replaced Arthur Mowbray as Commander on 4th March 1817. The principal contents are:-

- (a) A list of the officers, with the dates of their commissions - see below.
- (b) The Regimental Rules.
- (c) A list, with signatures, of men who, between 26 July 1817 and April 1822, agreed to "inrol themselves" in the Corps and to abide by its rules.
- (d) A list of 128 recipients of money paid for "Duty at Durham" from December 4th to 27th 1819 (see above). Each man received 9s-11-9d, being £2-2-0 "received from the County" less a deduction of 10s3d for "necessaries".
- (e) A list of 85 recipients of ten shillings each for duty at Sunderland on 25 March 1815. The payment was made in September 1718 -- the reason for the delay of over two years is not stated! Possibly this duty was in connection with a riot of Wear keelman. (5)
- (f) A signed acknowledgement by each man of the receipt of various items of uniform and equipment. Each volunteer was issued with a "Jacket, Cap and Feather, Pantaloon, Saddle, Girth, Crooper and Pad, Set of Straps, Holsters, Bridle, Collar and Breast Plate, Sabre and Belts, Pistol, Spurs and Coat Case."
- (g) Muster Rolls. Quarterly returns to the Lord Lieutenant of the county, the Earl of Darlington, of persons serving. These show the names of the volunteers, their parishes or townships, and the date of enrolment of each.
- (h) Returns to the Collector of Horse Duties, showing names of those claiming exemption from the duty, and also the handful of "effectives not entitled to exemption." These duplicate the names and parishes in (g) above, but also show who provided the horse for the volunteer.

There are 12 separate lists in (g) and (h), covering periods from 1st April 1819 to 5th April 1825 and including, on average, rather more than 140 names on each. I have combined the details from the lists of 1st April 1820, to show the persons then serving, their parishes, dates of enrolment and "who provided the horse." I am grateful to Durham University for permission to publish these details.

Name	Parish or Township	Horse provided by	When enrolled
Thos Adamson	St Oswald	Himself	Feb 1808
William Appleton	Whitworth	Henry Tower esq	Mar 1817
William Atkinson	Sunderland Bridge	Thos Atkinson	Mar 1815
John Atkinson	Marrington	Himself	Sep 1813
John Allan	St. Nicholas	Richd Kirton Esq	Mar 1815
John Ainsley	St. Nicholas	John Ainsley Snr	May 1819
Thos Bulmer	St. Nicholas	Robert Cowans	May 1818
Ralph Best	St Oswald	Robert Westell	Sep 1805
Anthy Brignall	St. Nicholas	Himself	Apr 1805
John Bennett	Newbottle	Robt Widdowfield	Mar 1817
John Bland	Brandon	Stephen Bland	Mar 1815
Thos Brown	Gilesgate	Himself	May 1812
Henry Bell	Kelloe	John Bell	Mar 1815
Robert Brown	Gilesgate	Thos Brown	Mar 1815
John Blackett	St. Nicholas	Himself	May 1819
John Bland	St. Nicholas	John Mason	Dec 1819
Wm Blackburn	Crosgate	Robt Blackburn	Oct 1816
George Belton	Elvet Borough	Himself	Nov 1819
Thos Crofton	Hollywell	Himself	Aug 1817
William Clarke	Shincliffe	Ann Clark	Jun 1819
James Cowans	St. Nicholas	Robert Dixon	Aug 1817
Mich Cowans	St. Nicholas	Himself	Mar 1815
George Coates	Ferryhill	George Coates Snr	May 1819
George Dixon	St. Nicholas	Himself	Jly 1810
Ralph Dickinson	Mainsforth	Mary Dickinson	Oct 1815
Ralph Elliott	Harraton	Thos Robinson	Nov 1817
Chas Ebdy	St. Nicholas	John Wolf	Nov 1817
Joseph Emmerson	Gilesgate	William Thompson	Feb 1818
Joseph Egglestone	Crosgate	George Walton	Feb 1808
William Elliott	Witton Gilbert	Himself	Mar 1812
Thos Egglestone	St. Nicholas	Joseph Pearson	Jly 1817
John Wilson Elliott	St Nicholas	John Thompson	Jly 1817
Percival Forster	St. Nicholas	Himself	Feb 1808
James Graham	Great Lumley	Michl Robson	Jly 1818
George Greenwell	Helmentonrow	Himself	Jun 1819
John Gibbons	West Rainton	Lord Stewart	Dec 1819
Christ Garry	St Oswald	Himself	May 1818
Thomas Harling	Brandon	Himself	Aug 1815
George Harland	Great Lumley	Thos Harland	Aug 1810
William Haslop	Pittington Halgarth	George Baker esq	Oct 1816
Frans Hardy	Offerton	Himself	May 1819
Robinson Hobson	Newbottle	Himself	May 1819
John Hammond	Elvet Borough	Himself	Jun 1804
William Hobson	Silksworth	John Hobson	Nov 1819
George Horsington	Rainton	Himself	Oct 1816
George Hornsby	Elvet Borough	Himself	Aug 1810
Robert Hall	Framwelgate	John Hall	Oct 1813
Frans Hodgson	Framwellgate	Himself	Oct 1813
William Haddock	Chester le Street	Robt Swinburn	May 1818
Wm Pearson Hall	Framwellgate	Himself	Oct 1812
John Hepworth	Brandon	Himself	Aug 1801
George Hutton	Elvet Borough	George Hutton Snr	Jly 1817
William Howe	St. Nicholas	John Malonby	Jly 1818
John Hort	Gilesgate	George Baker Esq	Jly 1818
Robert Horne	Gilesgate	Himself	Apr 1817
Richd Kirton Esq	Elvet Borough	Himself	Oct 1803
William Lightfoot	Gilesgate	Marck Lightfoot	Mar 1813
Thomas Lazonby	Shincliffe	Robt Lazonby	May 1819
Robert Lynn	Bishop Middleham	Himself	May 1819
John Layhae	Gilesgate	Mathew Howe	Dec 1819
William Lindsley	Framwelgate	Himself	June 1811
James Lockey	Brandon	John Lockey	Mar 1815
Frans Lockey	Brandon	Himself	Mar 1815
William Lazonby	Shincliffe	Robt Lazonby	Mar 1815
John Lightfoot	Gilesgate	Himself	May 1806
Thos Lambert	Gilesgate	James Thurlow	Mar 1816
William Middleton	Framwelgate	Himself	Jun 1814
Robert Miller	Painshaw	Dawson Lambton	Mar 1809
Michl Middleton	Brandon	John Middleton	Apr 1818
Thos Monkhouse	St. Nicholas	Thos Monkhouse Senr	May 1819

Name	Parish or Township	Horse provided by	When enrolled
Chris Turner Meggeson	St. Oswald	Edwd Sampson	Nov 1817
George Minns	Brandon	John Treegald	Oct 1813
Edwd Mason	Dalton le deal	Himself	Jly 1803
Robt Monkhouse	St. Nicholas	Himself	Mar 1815
John Mallam	Crosgate	George Stonehouse	Mar 1813
John McGuire	St. Nicholas	William Stocker	Jly 1817
James Metcalf	Crosgate	John Metcalf	May 1818
Thomas Maving	St. Oswald	William Crudas	Dec 1819
Joseph Nixon	Witton Gilbert	Himself	Feb 1809
Thomas Nixon	Brandon	Michl Nixon	Jly 1816
John Nicholson	Kelloe	Thomas Nicholson	Jly 1815
Robert Nicholson	Elvet Borough	William Egerton	May 1812
William Oliver	St Nicholas	Himself	Aug 1807
George Ovington	Gilesgate	Himself	Mar 1815
George Ord	Elvet	George Ord Snr	Oct 1801
Ralph Oliver	St. Nicholas	John Clifton	Oct 1818
Robert Ovington	St. Nicholas	Himself	Aug 1801
Thomas Penrith	Pittington Halgarth	John Penrith	May 1819
Anthy Palmer	Elvet	John Palmer	Nov 1817
James Parkin	Witton Gilbert	John Parkin	Feb 1809
Robert Parkin	Witton Gilbert	Himself	Oct 1813
Richard Parkin	Headlyhope	William Parkin	Oct 1809
Joseph Richardson	Broom	Robt Richardson	Aug 1801
George Robson Snr	St. Nicholas	Himself	Nov 1813
George Robson Jnr	Washington	Wm Stobert jnr	Nov 1813
Phillip Robson	Harraton	Edwd Arkless	Jly 1818
Mathw Robson	Gilesgate	John Clifton	Jun 1819
John Rickerby	Elvet Borough	John Burrell	Jly 1818
Thos Richardson	Framwellgate	Himself	Aug 1801
Thomas Renney	Gilesgate	Himself	Apr 1815
Robert Richardson	Broom	Robt Richardson Senr	Mar 1816
James Ralph	Little Benton	Thos Biggs Esq	Nov 1819
Thos Salkeld	St. Mary le Bow	Himself	Jly 1803
William Stobert	Chester le Street	Himself	Jly 1803
James Scott	Washington	William Stobert jnr	Aug 1817
Robert Shadforth	Elvet Borough	George Patrick	Nov 1817
John Shadforth	Elvet Borough	Michl Wheatley	Nov 1817
Thos Shadforth	Elvet Borough	John Dixon	Aug 1801
Michl Scrafton	Framwelgate	Chas Hodgson	Jly 1818
Anthony Stark	Painshaw	Lord Stewart	Jly 1813
Thomas Swann	Brandon	Thos Swann Senr	Oct 1818
Rouland Stout	St. Nicholas	Jonethan Younge	Mar 1815
James Smith	St. Nicholas	Himself	Mar 1812
Edwd Turnbull	Broom	John Arthur	Jly 1817
John Thwaites	St. Nicholas	Himself	Mar 1813
William Turnbull	Witton Gilbert	Joseph Forster	Jly 1811
James Taylor	St. Nicholas	Thos Wilburn	May 1819
Henry Tower esq	Whitworth	Himself	Mar 1817
William Tinkler	Houghton le Spring	Lord Stewart	Mar 1813
Thomas Jerry	Harrington	John Terry	Aug 1810
John Thompson	Gilesgate	Andw Thompson	Nov 1817
John Tomlinson	St. Nicholas	Edwd Alsop	Jly 1818
Robert Thompson	Sherburn	Himself	May 1806
William Thompson	Brandon	Himself	May 1807
Thomas Thompson	St. Nicholas	Himself	May 1812
William Vasey	St. Nicholas	Edwd Simpson	Oct 1809
Andw Watt	Daltonfield House	John Snowdon	Jly 1810
Thomas Wardropper	Chester le Street	Himself	Jly 1807
George Walton	Framwellgate	Himself	Mar 1814
William Welsh	Whitworth	Henry Tower Esq	Nov 1817
Wm Thos Ward	St. Oswald	Himself	Jly 1817
Anthy Whitfield	Framwellgate	Francis Hodgson	May 1819
Robert Weatherley	Chester le Street	William Stobert Senr	Jly 1803
John Wilburn	St. Nicholas	Himself	Feb 1810
George Waddle	St. Mary le Bow	George Burnett	Nov 1817
John Wheatley	Brandon	Himself	Feb 18 10
William Wheatley	Brandon	Himself	Feb 18 10
Gilbert Wood	Kimbleworth	Himself	Aug 1817
Sober Watkin	Painshaw	Himself	Jly 1803
Robert Waugh Esq	Elvet Borough	Himself	Mar 1817
William Wetenhall esq	Houghton le Spring	Himself	Dec 1819

All of the above were "Exempted from **Horse Duty.**" There were also three who were "Effectives not entitled to exemption." Namely:

Saml Gamlin	St. Mary le Bow	Himself	Aug 1815
Robt Huberthorn	Brandon	Himself	Jan 1820
Ed Right George	Gilesgate	Himself	Mar 1820

The officers, with dates of commissions were Henry Tower (Lt. Col 4 March 1817), Richd Kirton (Major Oct 2 1804), Thomas Salkeld (Surgeon Oct 2 1804), Robt Horne (Adjutant Aug 9, 1817), Wm Stobart (Captain 2 Oct 1804), Robert Waugh (Captain 26 March 1817, Major 12 March 1826), William Allan (Captain 1 May 1821), Robert Ovington (Cornet 28 Nov 1814, Lt. 15 Sept 1817), Gilbert Wood (Cornet 8 Sept 1817, Lieut 24 April 1821, Captain 12 March 1826), Thomas Crofton (Cornet 15 Sept 1817, Lieut 24 April 1821, Captain 12 March 1826), Edward George (Cornet 25 March 1820), Wm Alex Cunningham (Cornet 16 April 1823, Lieut 12 March 1826), Mathew Woodfield (Cornet 13 March 1824, Lieut 12 March 1826), Venus Hodgkinson Crosby (Cornet June 1825, Lieut 12 March 1826), Ralph Tenwick (Capt 22 May 1804), Peter B. Durham (Lieut 1 Nov 1816), Thos Bennet (Cornet 26 March 1817), John Hawdon (20 March 1824), John Hawdon (Lieut 20 March 1824), Wm Winston (Cornet 20 March 1824), John Hutchinson (Cornet 10 April 1826, resigned 23 April 1827).

The Regimental Rules are not without interest. Wearing of uniform when not on duty was punishable by a fine, and absence from a muster, without leave, could be costly. Fines were imposed, ranging from 2/- for a private to 10/6d for a field officer. And appearing drunk on parade counted as an absence - there is no record of the men who were fined for this, but I wonder whether Private Watkin of Penshaw was among them? Take a look at his strange Christian name in the list above!

References: (1) *Newcastle Chronicle*, December 1819. (2) *Durham Advertiser*, December 17, 1819. (3) *Durham Advertiser* January 1, 1820. (4) *Militia Lists and Musters 1757-1876* by Jeremy Gibson and Mervyn Medlycott, published by Federation of Family History Societies, 1989, a useful guide to the location of surviving militia lists etc. (5) *Local Records*, by John Sykes.

Editor's Note: A useful and interesting article on "The Muster Rolls of the Northumberland Volunteers" appeared in the NDFHS Journal of April 1978. This gives a detailed list of the contents of 7 volumes of Muster Rolls, and of related documents, then in Newcastle Library but now held by Northumberland County Record Office.

COMPUTER NEWS

Whether or not you have a computer already you should make a note of the factsheets which Raymond Haale, our Computer Organiser, has available.

- 1 Genealogy Programs for IBM & Compatible PC's - Commercial
- 2 Genealogy Programs for IBM & Compatible PC's - Shareware
- 3 Shareware Sources for IBM & Compatible PC's
- 4 Genealogy Utilities for IBM & Compatible PC's
- 5 Genealogy Programs for Amstrad Computers
- 6 Genealogy Programs for Apple Computers
- 7 Genealogy Programs for Atari Computers
- 8 Genealogy Programs for Acorn Computers
- 9 Genealogy Programs for Commodore Computers
- 10 Databases, Spreadsheets & Wordprocessors in Family History
- 11 Recommended reading for Computer Genealogy
- 12 Choosing a Computer
- 13 Choosing a Printer
- 14 Computer Jargon for Beginners
- 15 Current List of Computerised Indexes

Copies of these factsheets are available for 20 pence each - do remember to enclose an SAE when you write.

Of interest to remote members will be factsheet 15, which lists the parish register indexes already committed to disk. There are pre civil registration marriages in Northumberland (events recorded 34,665), Durham (10,558), and Cumberland (3,758). Searches of these databases can be carried out and the results, either printed or copied to disk, forwarded to any member of the NDFHS. Contact Raymond Hale for details of the parishes covered and charges. In addition to searching the databases, copies of the full indexes are for sale. Again, contact Raymond for details. I ought to mention that the money raised from the sale of this information goes towards the Society's computer fund.

So far then, 49,000 marriages have been committed to disk in two years. Progress is slow and we really need more volunteers to help out with the massive project we've started - the computerisation of all pre civil registration parish registers in Northumberland and Durham. You don't have to be a computer owner to help, we need indexers as well as those with access to computers who can perform the data entry. If you want to help contact Raymond- I know he'll be delighted to hear from you. Let's make it 150,000 events computerised by the end of 1992! His address is 88 Reading Road, South Shields NE33 4SF.

SERENDIPITY IN FAMILY HISTORY

Olive Trewick

As we all run into a dead-end from time to time and this can be a little depressing, it seemed useful to share some results of a more "general" approach to the past. Perhaps my experience will be of help to others.

Despite the advantage of an unusual name -ours is a 13th century Northumbrian place-name - the outlook was not promising when I made a start some years ago. My grandfather died in 1935, having been an estate worker all his life, as had his father before him. However, it was encouraging that the family had been in one county for generations. In an old gazetteer, Trewick is described as dating from 1240 and having been "a township of some 24 souls" - not very big even in those far off days.

Grandfather had made two statements which intrigued me. He claimed that "there are any amount of Trewicks but I'm the last of the real Trewicks." His second statement is implied in the fact that he named six children according to a strict pattern, commenting over the youngest that he was "satisfied now that we have another Mark and Alice". To me, these remarks were the light to the touchpaper when I was told of them.

In the 1950s, a partial family-tree had been circulated on the death of a distant cousin. Inquiries pointed me in the direction of Ford, whose castle housed King James on the eve of the Battle of Flodden. Legend has it that he dallied with the beautiful Lady Heron, but perhaps that is just a rumour! At the time of my own visits, I was delighted to find that the original Parish Records were in the vestry and the custodian gave me ready access to them. This made up a little for the despair I had felt on learning that a lot of papers going back to the 1800s had been destroyed before my researches began - "because nobody wanted them."

Prior to 1837, of course, one relies upon parish records and their hazards. The books tell us to start where we are and work back step by step. The Domesday Book may help some people, but it did not go far enough North for my purpose and I came to realize that the orthodox approach had to be supplemented in some way. The Mormon Church in Sunderland provided numerous parochial entries -and this in the days before the network of centres they have established recently. Most of these parishes were in "my" part of Northumberland. These days they are very scattered and small but in former times many had been larger and were "reference points" on cross-country journeys between Newcastle and the Border. We need to remember that this was the debateable land, subject to constant Anglo-Scots skirmishing, as well as the less official border feuds. Mentioning the names of some of these parishes stirred vague memories for my father and his sister - but nothing very definite.

Visits to the Borders led to my coming into contact with cousins who are still involved in estate work and this has given me a flavour of what this kind of life might have been in the past. Older residents have been a source of much information and such meetings help to "flesh out" the historical background.

A local history librarian guided me in the direction of a long series of books recording the activities of a local Society and included papers which members had read to their meetings in times past. What good scholars some of those Victorian gentlemen were! Their papers were carefully referenced with their sources. However, the sheer number of these books was daunting in the extreme. There was only one approach - to search out Trewick references, keeping in mind various mediaeval spellings I had already found. As so often happens, just when it seemed quite hopeless, a tiny fact turned up to provide the spur for a little more effort. One such find, led me to a Trewick coat of arms amongst those of the various Lords of a particular manor. The design included a hart's head and I knew that over several generations Trewicks had lived in Hartburn. In the same book, was the black-and-white photograph of the seal of Sir Thomas de Trewyk in 1365. This was different but similar to the shield carried by Adam of Jesmond a hundred years earlier when he was in the service of King Henry III. He had held various important posts, including that of Governor of the King's New Castle and Sheriff of Northumberland. There is mention of him in the Gascony wars and, in 1260, with the rescue of the Scottish King. When he failed to return from the last Crusade about 1271, one of his two co-heirs was a Margery de Trewyk. Her son, William, was Lord of Trewyk and transferred land to the Proctors of Middleton who may have connections with the Middletons of Belsay Castle. An earlier Lord of Trewick, Robert (in 1242), had a brother Adam who was the father of John de Belsay. I am told by the College of Arms that John de Belsay and John de Middleton are one and the same person. William de Trewyk and his descendants are documented until 1448.

Adam the Crusader did leave a widow, Christiana, a Cumberland heiress and widow earlier of Thomas de Lascelles. She had been a "royal widow" who needed the king's permission to remarry. Her marriage to Adam illustrates the regard the King had for him: Henry waived the fine, gave his permission together with various manors in other parts of the country and cancelled the debts which had accrued as a result of Adam's expenses as Sheriff which job seems to have been an expensive privilege!

Among the IGI entries which had started me off, was an entry for the birth of John Trewyk in Netherwiton. Three years ago, when browsing in the County Record Office, I came across the manorial court roll for the 1760s. Each sitting included the list of jurors sworn, including one John Trewyk who had been a juror on several occasions. As each juror had been required to sign the record, I have a facsimile signature of a possible ancestor.

Last year I was given an extract from a history of Methodism in Newcastle - the life of Matthew Trewick who founded the Chapel in Dudley in 1800s. My father's family are Wesleyan Methodists and the story of Matthew is such that I rather hope there is a connection here, too.

These are a few of the people I have encountered whilst rummaging in the past. This experience - as a beginner - has shown me the importance of not being too hidebound. I knew it was straying from the "straight and narrow", but I could not ignore the Trewick information which dropped into my hands from these old books.

In conclusion, the correct way has taken me back to the 1700s and the unorthodox uncovered somewhat the period from the 1200s/late 1400s - leaving a mere 300 years to be bridged! The search has been very enjoyable and I have made many friends so the gap hardly seems to matter. On the other hand, there is that coat of arms - so I'll have to keep on looking!

Editor's Note: Olive Trewick's address is 14 The Rowans, York Road, Wetherby, Yorks LS22 5EB.

LOST TOMBSTONES AT A LOST CHURCH

The river Aln today flows to the west and south of Alnmouth and reaches the sea at the south end of the narrow promontory on which the picturesque Northumbrian village stands. Until the early 19th century, however, the promontory stretched further south, terminating in Church Hill, on which a Norman church stood. At Christmas, 1806, following a storm, the river and the sea cut through the isthmus, and the Aln has since then entered the sea to the north of Church Hill. The church itself had been a ruin since the time of the Commonwealth, but the burial ground there remained in use until the narrow neck of land on which it stood was partially washed away.

On September 19th 1841, William Dickson, local antiquarian and historian, "found many fewer tombstones" than he recalled seeing previously. He noted that the land was gradually slipping away into the sea, and he recorded the details of the five tombstones on which inscriptions remained. They were published in a small volume "Chapters from the History of Alnmouth" which appeared in 1852 and can be found in Newcastle Library (reference L042 Local Tracts 39). The inscriptions he noted are as follows:-

1. "Here lieth the body of Robert Long who departed this life the 2d of March 1726 aged ---- years."

Dickson notes that "This family is extinct at Alnmouth." The burial register of Lesbury (the parish which included Alnmouth) does not record this burial.

2. "Here lieth the body of George Young who departed this life Alemth May ye 28th 1749 aged 63 years and Margaret his wife."

On the other side of the same stone was "Here lieth the body of Thomas Young who departed this life May 12th 1761 aged 49 years."

The Lesbury burial register does not include the internment of George and Margaret, but on June 29th 1761 is shown the burial of Thomas Young Senior of Alemouth.

3. "Here lieth the body of Robert Grey jnr. of Alnmouth, mariner, who departed this life March 31 1797 aged 49 years."

The burial on 4th April 1797 is recorded in the register.

4. "Here lieth the body of John Grey son of Robert Grey who died March 1st 1776 aged 83 years."

Dickson seems to have made an error in transcribing the deceased's age, for the burial register shows it as 23.

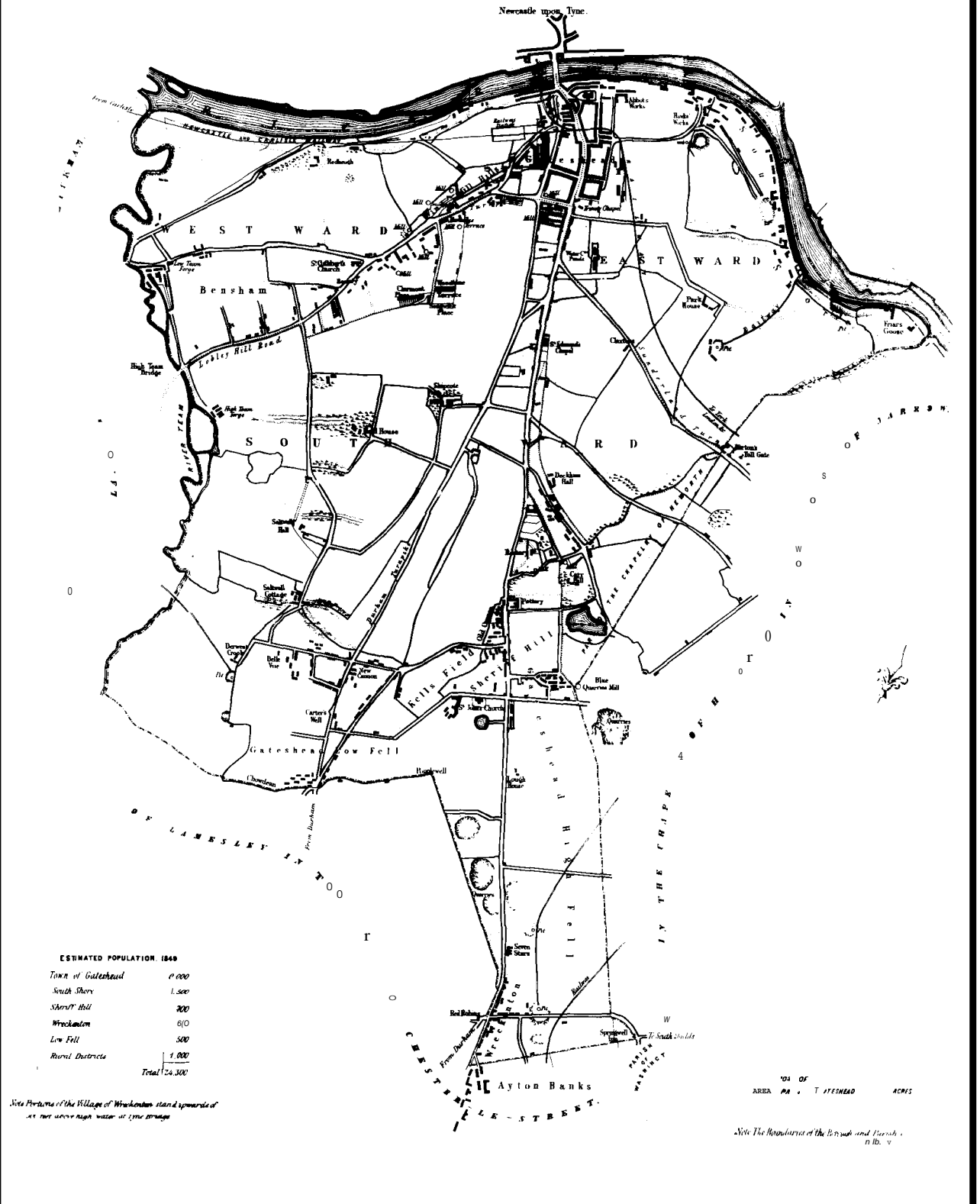
5. "Here lieth the body of Robert Richardson the son of Robert Richardson who departed this life October 24th aged 22 years 1741."

This does not appear in the Lesbury register.

THE MAP PAGE

GATESHEAD

PLAN OF THE BOROUGH OF



This 1850 map of Gateshead was published in the 'Report to the General Board of Health on a Preliminary Inquiry into the Sewerage Drainage and Supply of Water and the Sanitary Conditions of the Inhabitants of the Borough of Gateshead 1850'. We regret that the size of print is necessarily small.

DID YOUR ANCESTOR KEEP A DIARY?

Doug. Smith

Do you keep a diary? I don't mean the sort which contains brief entries about hair appointments or notes to collect the pension and order extra milk. But the sort that Virginia Woolf declared "Should you wish to make sure that your birthday will be celebrated in 300 years hence your best course undoubtedly is to keep a diary." A chronicle, in other words, that records important events for your family history in the future. So often we research the past and forget our unique position in the present-day history of the family. That one day a chronicle of family events and personalities will be of immense interest. Nathaniel Hawthorne mused upon this - "It may be, Oh! triumphant and transporting thought! that the great grandchildren of the present race may sometimes think kindly of the scribbler of bygone days."

You may possibly already benefit from a diary kept by an ancestor and find it contains not just valuable details of family relationships but perhaps, like an Alnwick man, record something of the personality of the compiler - he recorded his entries in court-circular-type pomposity evidently with an inflated idea of their importance. Beware, however, of judging a person by a single event or opinion. Man is an irrational being who, as James Lees-Milne described in his own diaries, on "Monday may be suicidal; on Tuesday go to three cocktail parties and on Wednesday prepare to enter a Trappist monastery; on Thursday he may adore someone who on Friday he will abhor ..." and so on.

Even had you ancestor failed to benefit his descendants with a chronicle it might be that the omission can be filled from the scribbblings of others. If so a wealth of detail can be added to the family story. The annotated bibliography "British Diaries 1442-1942" by William Matthews (Univ. of California Press 1950) is packed with diaries both published and in MS. Year by year they cover all sorts of places in Britain. An example for Northumberland is recorded for the Surtees Society Vol CXVIII viz:

"Thomlinson, The Rev John (1692-1761) of Rothbury and Glenfield, Leics. Clergymans' diaries 1715-22 his student days at Cambridge, work as a curate at Rothbury, search for a wife and a living; parish life scandals, his pursuit of the ladies and amours; social details; a very personal and lively record."

Another diary in the Surtees Society is Vol 124 which contains the account of John Dawson in 1761 - an essential piece of reading for the 'feel' of Hexham at that date. It also includes Bishop Pococke's Tour of the Borders and the North Tyne at the same period.

These diaries record a variety of miscellaneous items as well as local historical events - all grist to the mill where the family historian is concerned when filling in the background to his own chronicle. There are, of course, the desperately dreary as well as the surprisingly delightful. One or two fail abysmally to fulfil their purpose like that of the schoolgirl in 1840 who wrote "I have written this to laugh over when it is nearer the holidays." Following this entry there is ... silence! Nothing further was recorded. Wigan Public Library cherish it as possibly the shortest diary on record!

MEMBERS INTERESTS AND QUERIES

Items for this column should be sent to Phil Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2SG.

If you wish to have your interests or any queries published, send a paragraph outlining your areas of research, problems etc. to Phil Thirkell at the above address. Please include your membership number with any correspondence and print names to avoid errors. Try to be brief, as the shorter the items, the more we can print.

Any inaccuracies in the address shown in these columns should be notified at once to Raymond Hale at the address shown on the contents page.

Welcome to all our new members.

0028 Mr P.R.D. DAVISON, 27 Fryup Crescent, Kemplah Park, Guisborough, Cleveland TS14 8LG.

Any information of the following would be welcome: 1) Philis Aitchison, born 1809 Wooler married William Dixon of Spittal. 2) Thomas Bulmer/Boomer/Boomer died 1816 St. Oswalds, Durham aged 87. 3) John Davison buried 1816 at Tanfield aged 82, married Isabel Nixon at Ryton in 1771. 4) Baptism sought for Mary Ann Hunter c.1820 Haswell married George Davison at Bishopwearmouth 1837. 5) Henry Noble, born Norfolk 1836 died Aycliffe 1917, quarry manager at Crawleyside, Bowes and Aycliffe. 6) George Smith, born c.1803 Penshaw, and John George Smith (1891-1943) his great grandson born Spennymoor. John had connections with the methodist movement and was a well-known local runner and footballer.

- 0280 Mrs EILEEN HOWE, 56 Coach Road, Brotton, Saltburn, Cleveland TS12 2RP.
The Stanhope registers record the following marriages: 17th April 1790 Robert Featherstone and Sarah Liverick, 11 th Jan 1794 Robert Featherstone and Sarah Liverick; and also, 24th Dec 1791 Thomas Ward and Mary Watson, 1st July 1797 Thomas Ward Mary Watson. Are these common names in Weardale and therefore coincidences, or is there another explanation? The families were Methodists.
- 0284 BERYL CHAPMAN, 19 Bredward Close, Burnham, Bucks. SL1 7DL.
Is anyone researching the Middleton families in Northumberland and Durham? Where/when did Mary Ann Middleton marry Edward Waterson (c.1875). Sarah Jane Middleton married John Ashby, where/when? All four buried in Blyth Cemetery. William Middleton married Agnes - who, when and where? Also any information on the baptism of Michael Middleton who married Mary Bone at Greatham in 1787. All postage refunded and letters answered.
- 0296 Dr D.M. BURDON, 186 Rosemary Hill Road, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 4HP.
Offers help to anyone with Burdon connections. He has a large collection of records (especially pre-1851) of Burdon families from all parts of Co. Durham and the neighbouring areas of Northumberland and Yorkshire.
- 0501 Mrs P.L. BARCLAY, 202 Blackhill Avenue, Hadrian Park, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 9XR.
George Dobson was a publican of Westgate Road, Newcastle in 1895 when his daughter Margaret married Thomas Conway, however can't find him in St. Catherine's House indexes. The Dobsons can be traced to Ovingham in 1804 to the marriage of Edward to Sarah Forster, but who were their parents?
- 0688 Mr W.A. FARQUAR, 1 Ox Yoke Drive, Simsbury, CT 06070, U.S.A.
Would like information about the Watson family of Harwood, Middleton-in-Teesdale. John Watson, lead miner of Roughrigg, married Elizabeth Watson of Stoney Hill in 1814 at Middleton-in-Teesdale. They had the following children: Sarah (bapt. 1820), Thomas (1822), William (1823), Jane (1826) and Elizabeth (1828).
- 1116 JOYCE PHIN, 25 Lord Roberts Street, Barrow-in-Furness, Cumbria LA14 3PW.
A silver plaque, originally attached to a marble clock, is engraved: Mr E. Cowey, manager of South Hetton Colliery, by the officials, as a mark of respect, Sept 6th 1890. Does anybody have information about the Cowey family, or the occasion of the presentation?
- 2076 Mrs S. GAIGER, 43 Bradbury Court, New Hartley, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE25 OSP.
Researching: William Hetherington (Etherington) born Newsham, Darlington 1818 and wife Harriett Patchett born Dunston 1819. William Patchett of Durham and wife Harriett Hawks of Whickham married prior to 1814. Miles Usher, keelman of Whickham and wife Elizabeth Watson; daughter Elizabeth born 1800. Also William McKenzie married Susan Fitzpatrick 1821.
- 2855 Mrs BARBARA HOWARTH (nee FIDDES), 2 Beaumont Road, Petts Wood, Orpington, Kent BR5 1JN.
Tracing Fiddes family connections worldwide and would appreciate any information regarding Fiddes/Fittes, or any other variants.
- 2942 DENIS J. ROWAN, 1 Beaumont Terrace, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 IAS.
Looking for the birthplace of George Dunn 1787, said in the 1851 Census of Whittingham to be Norham but no record found. Also his marriage to Ann from Ford according to the same Census. Also birthplace of John Rowan, cordwainer of Percy Street Newcastle buried at St. Andrew's Newcastle in 1807 aged 50. He was a witness to the marriage of William Rowan of Alnwick at St. John's Newcastle in 1787. All the men in this line were cordwainers and go back to Berwick in the 1640's.
- 2999 Mrs CHERYL MAXWELL, 102 Bay Road, Bolton Point, N.S.W. 2283, Australia.
Seeking ancestors and descendants of James Thomas Barry and Elizabeth Binks who married in 1866 at Stockton on Tees. Their children were Joseph Thomas born 1869 at Kelloe, Margaret Jane 1870 Kelloe, Mary E. 1875 Mt. Pleasant, Sarah E. 1876 Croxdale, Annie 1879 Croxdale and John William born 1880 also at Croxdale. Would also welcome any information on Jane Greenfield born about 1811 at Cullercoats, daughter of Joseph and Ellen(?).
- 3307 Mr M.J. PARKER, 44 Lime Tree Avenue, Bilton, Rugby, Warwickshire CV22 7QT.
Great great grandfather Martin Atkinson Parker was baptised at St. Oswald's Durham in 1813. He married at Shelton in the Potteries in 1841 and was described as a journeyman engraver so must have served his time in the north east. Can anyone help with information about potteries in the Northumberland/Durham area and possible locations of apprenticeship records?
- 3413 Mr I.S. KERRY, 13 Wentworth Way, Linksvie, Northampton NN2 7LW.
Mary Elizabeth Richardson born 1875 at Coxhoe, daughter of Robert and Ann nee Cowans, claimed to be an only child but had six brothers and one sister who died young and may have had an elder brother George Richardson born 1858 who possibly went to America. Can anyone help to confirm this information?
- 3499 Ms GWYN DE JONG, Grayeystaat 17, 6525 DM Nijmegen, Netherlands.
Looking for the marriage in about 1810 of William Pattison of Newburn and Ann Gair. Also interested in anyone with the name Borgon, Burgin, etc.
- 3512 Mrs MARGARET FANNEN, 198 Sandspit Road, Cockle Bay, Howick, Auckland, New Zealand.
Seeking information on Logan, Marshall and Dain families. James Logan, mariner, known to be in Westoe in 1873. Married Elizabeth, daughter of George Clement and Jane nee Tait. John (Turner) Marshall, shipwright believed born Berwick married Elizabeth Anderson born Tweedmouth 1831. Benjamin Dain born South Shields 1805 married M. Euphemia Butler at Tynemouth in 1825. Any information on these families would be welcome.

- 3546 Mr ALAN MORGAN**, 22 Jesmond Park West, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7BY.
Researching the **Morgan** family who owned land at Milnhouse (Mill House) near Frosterley, Weardale from 1380 to 1696. John Morgan married a **Brough** at Houghton le Spring in 1714, their descendants living at West and East Rainton and Torrish Hill until 1780. Other marriages were to Elizabeth **Roseby** in 1739 and Mary **Gibson** in 1778. By early 1800's James Morgan had moved via Lumbley to Longbenton and married Sarah **Dodds** from Chester le Street in 1807.
- 3563 MARK ETHERIDGE**, 5 Sherborne Avenue, Cyn Coed, Cardiff CF2 6SJ.
The marriage certificate of 1886 for Robert **Etheridge** and Elizabeth **Adamson** states that they were married in the parish church of North Bishopwearmouth. Would this be St. Michael's? Their addresses were Hedworth Street and Howick Street. Can anyone help with where these streets were? Also, was there a "Ranter's" chapel in the Millfield/Southwick area of Sunderland?
- 3591 Mr KEN FAILL**, 18 Grovewood Avenue, Leigh-on-Sea, Essex SS9 5EG.
Seeks information of the places of birth, marriage and death of Archbald and Jane **Faill**, parents of John who was born at Grindonrigg and baptised in 1767 at Wooler.
- 3709 Mrs RUTH SAMUEL**, 12 Park Road, Sudbury, Suffolk CO10 6OB.
Joseph **Furnes/Furnas**, sailmaker m. Isabella **Weallands** at Bishopwearmouth 1825. They had two daughters Jane and Margaret who married a **Carter**. Large family including a son William who was an architect. Any information of the **Furnas** and **Carter** families would be welcome.
- 3827 SALLY L. FUNK**, 7411-113th Street, Delta, B.C. Canada V4C 5B2.
Researching **Calverts** of Lanercost, Cumberland. Thomas Calvert married Jane **Dixon** in 1784 and they had 11 children between 1787 and 1810. One, Thomas, married Mary **Forster** of Floweryhirst, Cumberland and they had 14 children. Also interested in **Noble** of Bothal. James, gardener, son of Bartholomew **Noble** and Margaret **Rutter** married Jennett or Jane **Hood**.
- 3862 Mrs D.W. JONES**, 27 Middleton Crescent, Bridge of Don, Aberdeen AB22 8HY.
Susannah **Eden** married Jonathon **Sharp** 1795 at Sunderland. They had several children including Mary who married James Edward **Gray**, mariner, in 1839. One of their daughters, Susannah married James **Donaldson** in Gloucestershire and they lived in Southwick and Durham. Any information on the **Eden**, **Sharp** and **Gray** families? Also looking for the birth/baptism of Joseph **Walton**, c.1858 Alston area, son of Matthew, a lead miner. He married Ganny **Price** in Jarrow 1891, daughter of William **Price** and Frances Emma **Buskell**.
- 3878 Mrs D. BELLERBY**, Elm Cottage, Kingsbury Street, Marlborough, Wiltshire SN8 1JA.
Looking for further information on Thomas **Bellerby**, born in 1681 and died 26.3.1757 who married Jane (?) who was born in 1692 and died 12.7.1757. Hoping to find where he was born and who his parents were.
- 4022 Mrs M.G. MANN**, 15 South Crescent, North End, Durham DH1 4NF.
Researching Thomas **Davison**, husbandman, who married Eleanor **Bradford** (nee **Snaith**) at Bishop Middleham in 1839. The marriage licence lists them as widow and widower. He is described on the 1851 census as a farmer and as having been born at Middleton Tyas, N. Yorks. Family tradition is that the family were carriers using pony trains over the Cleveland Hills. Also interested in William **Robinson** born c.1816 who married Mary **Reed** and farmed at Howle Hope, Sedgfield.
- 4177 Mrs JEAN STIRK**, Shode House, Igthham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 9HP.
The Spring Journal indicated an interest in the name **Blackett**. This should have read **Blackall**, so, can anyone help with information of any Co. Durham **Blackall** families, especially in the West Hartlepool area.
- 4218 Mr N.G. BAINBRIDGE**, 42 The Parade, Epsom, Surrey KT18 5DU.
Seeking information regarding the **Bainbridge** family who were in Shildon (c.1830 onwards), Wallsend (1790 - 1830), Gateshead (1770 - 1790) and Chester-le-Street (1676 - 1770). Especially interested in the origins of Ralph Bainbridge married Chester-le-Street 1676. Also Frank Bainbridge, chairman of Shildon Council 1898/9 and Robert Bainbridge, twice mayor of Stockton at the turn of this century.
- 4223 Mr H.B.R. ELLIOTT**, 29 South Barnton Avenue, Edinburgh EH4 6AN.
Thomas **Elliott** married Dorothy **Wardell** (or **Wardale**) in 1746 at North Gosforth, both living at Killingworth prior to moving to Heworth. One son Henry married Sarah **Leadbitter** in 1783 and another, John, married Anne **Brown** at Gosforth and set up a builders business at Dog Bank Newcastle. The Heworth branch of the family moved to Snowdon's Hole where Joseph **Elliott** was born in 1828. Would be pleased to hear from anyone with knowledge of this community. William **Armstrong** of Millshield married Barbara **Swindle** of Limestone Brae at Ninebanks in 1848. Can anyone help with the whereabouts of Millshield (not the village submerged by the Derwent Reservoir). William's parents were Thomas of Carrshield and Jane **Lowdon** of Blackcleugh. One set of grandparents were William and Nancy **Craig** married in 1797.
- 4224 G.G. WHITEHEAD**, 54 Mount Crescent, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF2 8QQ.
Searching for the ancestors of two brothers, John and Mark **Teasdale**, who in 1800 came down from the north east (possibly from Prudhoe) to Barnby Colliery, Cawthorne, near Barnsley. They were killed in a gas explosion in 1805.
- 4272 Mr JIM HUTCHEON**, 4 Rural Way, London SW16 6PF.
Would appreciate any information about James **Hutcheon**, farmer who married Margaret **Todd** at Newcastle Registry Office in 1859. Their son William, better known as Wilson, was a newsagent in Hebburn for 45 years and was the last surviving member of the original Hebburn Urban District Council formed in 1902.
- 4294 Mrs E.M. AINSLEY**, 37 Gerald Street, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 8RG.
Help needed to find the baptism and parents of Thomas **Seymour**, native of Hett, Co. Durham. Married Mary **Pattinson** at Kirk Merrington in 1803. He was a paper maker; does anyone have information about a paper mill in the Hett/Merrington area?
- 4297 Mr B. PEACOCK**, 75 Tudor Avenue, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE29 0RX.
Has traced the marriage of John **Peacock** to Drypool, Hull in 1795 and is sure that there must be connections with the **Peacock** family of Skipsea, East Yorkshire and the **Day** family of Burton Agnes, East Yorks. Can anyone establish a link?

4313 SUE CROW, 20 Wentworth Avenue, Chesterfield S40 2JB.

Anybody digging up information on: Carl Magnus Hammerberg, a Swedish trawlerman who married Lily Walton about 1868 at North Shields. He emigrated to Toronto, Canada between 1904 - 1914 with sister Carrie, Arthur Hammond and wife Ada, and Robert Walton and family. Ada was formerly married to Robert's brother Thomas Walton who was lost at sea. All North Shields area. Also Mary Anne Morley born 1883, married a Kimber who was killed in W W 1. Edward Marley Crow born 1900, a railwayman, who married Lillias Jane Hutton from the Gateshead area.

4323 Mr ALEX McNAUGHTON, 76 Guelder Road, High Heaton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7PP.

Seeking information regarding the parents and siblings of John McDowell, miner of Newbottle Durham, who married Ellen Somers at St. Giles, Durham 1892. It is believed that one of his married sisters was Polly Gladstone of Sheriff Hill, Gateshead.

4345 L. WINSHIP, 21 Cedar Street, Guelph, Ontario N1G 1J3, Canada.

Would like help with information on the following: Winship of Winlaton and Wallsend, Mason of Willington Quay and Kirkwood of Wallsend.

4366 PETER SINCLAIR-LAWSON, 53 Higher Drive, Purley, Surrey CR8 2HR.

Does anyone know of the location of workhouse records for the Sunderland area, particularly the one that stood on the site now occupied by Sunderland General Hospital, c.1870 to 1900?

4372 Mr C.S. DIXON, 16 Moorfield Road, Mattishall, Dereham, Norfolk NR20 3NZ.

There is a family story that great grandparents Robert Snowdon of Longframlington and his wife Jane Bainbridge (b. Bishop Auckland 1817) were members of the staff of the first Lord Armstrong at Craggside, near Rothbury. Enquiries of the present administrator were unable to provide any information. Has any member any ideas where information might be obtained?

4415 NEIL COUPLAND, 5 Ordnance Road, Southampton SO1 2AZ.

Seeking any information on the Coupland family of Sunderland and surrounding area. Particularly keen in establishing links between William Coupland/Sarah Brown (children Thomas Cook and Andrew Henderson in late 1820s) and William Coupland/Sarah the parents of a James born c.1817. Other names of interest in Sunderland area are: Thomas and Elizabeth Hudson (19th C.), Arthur (19th C.) and Hasty(ie) (19th C.)

4418 Miss M.A. CUMBOR, 39 Newton Road, Great Ayton, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS9 6DT.

Seeking birth of Joseph Stephenson. According to burial record it should be c.1750. Married Catherine Fewster at Whittonstall in 1774. Any help would be appreciated.

4423 Mrs VERA KNAPTON, 282 Leaventhorpe Lane, Thornton, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD13 3JL.

Researching Caisley/Caizley. Robert born 1834 at Alnwick married Christiana of South Shields - children Mary Jane born 1858, Robert (1861), Margaret (1863), Isabella (1866) and William (1879). Mary Jane married Edward Tennant and they had issue: Ada, Robert, Isabella, John, Robert and Henry. Father and son all worked on the railway.

4437 Lt. Col. PHILIP C. GRINTON, 828 Beaver Street, Santa Rosa, California 95404-3731, U.S.A.

Seeking birthplace of John Grinton, a mariner, born 1815/6, married Margaret Everson in South Shields 1841, married Isabella Wright in South Shields 1850 and died there in 1886. Two known children: John (b. 1854) and Jane Isabella (b. 1856).

4439 Mr. RICHARD JENNINGS, 1 Wishart House, Armstrong Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE4 7UJ.

Would like any information or contact with descendants of William Makepeace baptised 1824 at Houghton-le-Spring, and his wife Martha Crossan who died 1887. Of their nine known children, four were born Trimdon, three at Wingate and two at Newcastle. Also James Bell, miller of Gateshead born c.1875 whose daughter Hannah born 1902 married Edward Jennings, haulage contractor of Gateshead. Also information of Alfred Jennings, local artist and the parentage of Samuel Elder, Susannah Pringle and Celia Mallett Lake, all of the Gateshead area.

4476 HERBERT H. POST, 3044 Sunrise Drive, Crown Point, IN 46307, U.S.A.

Seeking information and/or correspondence with descendants of Birch or Robinson families of North Seaton. Samuel Birch died at North Seaton Colliery 11.1.1886 aged 79. Samuel may have lived there with his son in law William- Rohjtan_, daughter Louisa and grandson Noah. Family originally from North Staffordshire then Aston juxta Birmingham. All postage refunded.

4480 Mrs SHARON CLARK, 151 Chapel Road, Chapeltown, Sheffield S30 4QWH.

Researching Glendinning of Chollerton. Edward Glendinning married Isabel Weldon at Chollerton in 1742. Nothing known of Edward before this date. Mary Glendinning married William Pattison and Ellen Glendinning married William Moffitt both at Bywell St. Peter's in 1863. Can anyone help with information about the Cross House fire? Kate Glendinning Potter died in the fire of 23 Dec 1919. Would also welcome information about Liddell of Shieldfield, Newcastle c.1900, Wall of St Anthony's c.1900 and Haswell of Newcastle c.1900. Alexander Haswell was a chimney sweep and lived in Benwell.

4487 Mrs BARBARA HEATH, 8 Chichester Drive, Sevenoaks, Kent TN 13 2NR.

Can anyone help with information of the Hindmarch family in the Bellingham area? George Hindmarch of Bellingham married Elizabeth Harrison at Thorneyburn in 1821. Edward Hindmarch was baptised at Bellingham in 1819, son of George by his first wife Hannah (nee Lidderdale).

4489 Mrs J. LAYBOURN, 74 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill, Ryton, Tyne and Wear NE40 3DR.

Research the name Underwood. Frank Underwood, miner married Mary Elliott in 1880 at the registrar's office Gateshead. The name of Frank's father wasn't given and so would appreciate help in locating his parents and birthplace. There may be an Essex/Norfolk connection. Frank and Mary went on to have eleven children.

- 4491 Mrs F. THOMPSON**, 43 Packers Drive, Highbury, South Australia 5089, Australia.
Researching **Hetherington, Dawson, Harkis** and **Richley**. Joseph Hetherington married Margaret Dawson at Ninebanks 1851. Only known issue was William born c.1866 but possible siblings were Mary (1853), Thomas (1855) and Lucy (1857), all baptised at Carrshield. William married in 1896 at Gateshead to Margaret Ferguson Harkis daughter of John Harkis and Isobel (nee Richley). They had five children and in 1910 emigrated to Western Australia where William continued his trade as cabinetmaker.
- 4498 Mr DEREK A. NEWTON**, 62 Egerton Road North, Chorlton-cum-Hardy, Manchester M21 1SQ.
Researching family of great grandfather William Malcolm **Newton**, born Newcastle 1845, died Dartford Kent 1930. Left the north east for London aged 12 and was managing director of city stationers Clements & Newling. Travelled to China, Japan, New Zealand and Egypt. Public figure in Dartford as well as international archaeologist and art collector. His father was William Newton, cast iron moulder, born Ponteland 1823, son of another William. The first William may have been married four times to **Malcolm, Butler, Baker** and **Humphreys**. Also seeking information of Albert and Ernest George Newton born Hackney Middlesex in 1873 and 1874 thought to have emigrated to South Africa but may have returned pre-1914.
- 4502 Mr N.W. FRITZE**, 13 Alder Road, Hadrian Park, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 9UA.
Edward **Fritze** (b. Denmark) m. Margaret Ann 1872 in Newcastle, daughter of Matthew **Whiteford** and Ann **Ramshaw**. Two of their children, Edward and George Waltimar emigrated to Canada after WWI. Would like to contact any descendants.
- 4504 RICHARD EDE**, 22 Rowan Way, Roffey, Horsham, West Sussex RH12 4NX.
Would welcome information or to hear from descendants of any of the following families: John **Cawson**, born in Scotland c.1827. The family lived for many years at Bewicke Main/Birtley from the 1860's. John **Warhurst** of Byers Green born at Glossop, Derbys in 1835. Elizabeth **Thompson** of Houghton-le-Spring born c.1827. **Lemmon** and **Richardson** of Haswell. Elizabeth, born c.1838, daughter of Henry **Nicholson** of South Hetton. **Porter** of Newfield near Bishop Auckland.
- 4507 Mrs E.J. FEATHERSTONE**, 230 Bramford Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 4EP.
Seeks details on the **Dodds** family who, in the 1881 Census lived at Front Street, Langley Moor. Especially would welcome information concerning Richard, Percy and John **Dodds** born in the 1870's at Neville's Cross. They were brothers of Eleanor Jane who married Jesse **Talbot** at Brandon in 1888 before moving to Norwich in about 1900.
- 4511 Mr WM. DAVID KEELING**, 3820 Nicholasville Road, // 1104 Lexington, KY 40503, U.S.A.
Seeking information on any pre-1800 **Matherly** families in either England or Ireland. Especially interested in locating the ancestors of Israel Metherly who was born c.1755 and died in Kentucky in 1830.
- 4513 Mrs J. CRAWFORD**, 199 Durham Road, Stockton on Tees, Cleveland TS19 0QT.
Researching the family of Thomas Proctor **Crawford** born North Shields 1843 and married Jane Hannah **Wilkins** in 1866. They had five children Jane, John Thomas, Elizabeth, Joseph and Martha. Living in North Shields at the time of the 1871 Census and described as a sailmaker. His parents were John **Crawford**, mariner, and Jane (nee **Proctor**). Any information welcome.
- 4514 Mrs S. SEXTON**, 3 Hooked Lane, Wilstead, Beds. MK45 3DL.
Would welcome information regarding Walter Robert **Sexton** (b.1871) who married Margaret Hall **Marshall** in 1891 at St. Hilda's, South Shields. Margaret's father was Matthew **Marshall** who was a timber merchant and might also have dealt in coal and coke. Walter may have arrived in South Shields from Norfolk.
- 4522 MICHAEL CORNER**, 101 Hartburn Village, Stockton on Tees, Teesside TS18 5DR.
Any information would be appreciated on the following: marriage of John and Hannah **Bowran** c.1750, living Middleton Tyas, N. Yks 1772; baptisms of John, son of Thomas **Corner** in 1752 at St. Andrew Auckland, Alfred **Jeynes** 1826 Kemerton Gls., Daniel **Longpray** 1722 Staindrop and Samuel **Lofthouse** 1825 Clifford N. Yks.
- 4525 Mrs T.R. LIDDY**, 3 High Street, Whitwell, Hitchin, Herts SG4 8AJ.
Researching Robert **Skelly** and Priscilla **Hunter** who married at Holy Trinity, Berwick upon Tweed in 1824. They had five children: Matilda (c.1825), Isabella (1827) m. **Watts**, Priscilla (1829) m. **McKenzie**, Frances (1834) and Charles (1836) m. Marie Theresa **Rushton**.
- 4526 M.F. SLATER**, 2 Bridge Road, New Alresford, Hants SO24 9HN.
James **Slater**, mariner, bapt. 1815 at Gateshead married Margaret **Fatkin**, but where? John **Fatkin** married at Ponteland in 1805 to Elizabeth who was born 'on the high seas'. (A captain's daughter?). In the 1851 Census she was a school mistress in the St. Hilda's district of Westoe. Are there any school records anywhere? Also interested in Liverpool families of **Redmond** and **Christian**. There may be a Newcastle connection as there was a Slater/Christian marriage at St. Nicholas in 1878.
- 4530 Mrs W.M. McEWEN-KING**, Beck House, Hornby Road, Caton, Lancaster LA2 9QR.
Interests: (1) James **Miller**, mariner who drowned in the 1820s had a daughter James (sic) Anna m. Ridley **Murray** Newcastle 1854. Seeking any miller connections. (2) John **Snowdon** m. Jane **Boustead** Newcastle 1844: all children born Maryport. Seeking any Tyneside connections. (3) Any information of Nathaniel Carr **Birkett**, anchormsmith of Whickham c.1800. (4) Seeking any connections with James **Hird**, born Scotland 1840, died Gateshead 1895. Also William **Main** born Coldstream c.1779, died Gateshead 1839.
- 4537 Mrs K. ANGELL**, 6 Hallfields Lane, Rothley, Leicester LE7 7NF.
Seeks information about the family of Robert **Armstrong**, grocer and tea merchant of Gateshead and his wife Catherine **Davison**. Married c. 1860 and had children - Aldred, Hetty, Charles, William, Elsie, Minnie and George. Three of the girls married three brothers - Fred, Sep and Joe **Reay**. The family were members of Durham Road Baptist Church, Gateshead.

Virginia, Port of South Potomack.

These are to Certify all whom it doth concern
That Matthew Williamson Junr. Master of the
Brigantine Lowther & Senhouse of Whitehaven,
Burthen One hundred and twenty Tons, mounting
Two Guns, and Navigates with Ten Men.
Built in New England Anno. 1769, and Registered
at Whitehaven. the Seventh day of August 1770.

Islande Spelt

Arrived here from Whitehaven the Twenty third
day of May 1772, And did here land and put on
Shore out of his said Brigantine the following
Convicts, namely William Wilson, William Smith,
Thomas Souleby, otherwise John Robson, Christian
Hornaley, Elizabeth Orde, John Sancel, Robert
Brewster, John Jordain, otherwise Jordan &
Elizabeth Smith, Margret Corodan, which
were Convicted at the Castle of Newcastle upon
Tyne in the County of Northumberland in the
Kingdom of Great Britain, as by Conviction
bearing date the 11th day of March 1772.

Reuben Jordan
Off Compt?

Given under our hands and
Seals of Office at the Custom house the
Twenty seventh day of April One thousand &
seven hundred and seventy two, And in the
Twelfth Year of His Majesties Reign.

Richard Lee Naval Officer