

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

A big thank you to members who responded to my plea in the last *Journal* for material for publication in future issues. I seem to have struck a chord or two, or perhaps shamed you into it! Whatever the reason, I am most grateful. I have received a lot of interesting items -- and I have had to hold over perfectly acceptable material until another day, for space reasons. I know this will disappoint the kind folk who responded. Now that you have started, keep the momentum up -- keep on sending!

This edition includes an article from your Chairman demonstrating that America's First Lady descends from a County Durham family. She may also be distantly related (very distantly!) by a marriage 200 years ago, to George Hepplewhite, the furniture designer! We also mention another County Durham man who reputedly aided another American President in his death agonies. We have quite a bit about the worthy seamen of Sunderland, of both 'Merchant' and 'Royal Navy' variety. Not to mention the usual 'Members Interests' section, to which some of you always turn first, so I am told! Hope springs eternal in genealogical breasts, I suppose, and I trust all of you will find something of interest in the *Journal* -- and perhaps a mention of your ancestor in the many, maybe too many, lists of names in this issue. But you do want lists of names, don't you, in which you will find a clue to assist with your own research? Good hunting!

You will find details of some new publications, arising from the work of volunteers within the membership and their efforts are much appreciated. A request here -- if any of you are thinking of undertaking indexing of Census or other material, or recording of Monumental Inscriptions, do please contact us first, so that advice can be given on the format and also, most importantly, to ensure that no one else is already working on the same material. Duplication of effort is such a pity when there is so much to do.

NOTES AND NEWS

The London Group of N.D.F.H.S. is holding a One Day Conference on 26th March at the Society of Genealogists. The subject is "Trade and Occupations of the North-East" and the four speakers will cover "Beer, Barley and Brigs" (north-east brewers and the local shipping industry), "What did Uncle Harry do?" (Regimental Service records), "Occupations in Towns" and "Glass Making in Tyne and Wear". Cost is £11 including lunch. Closing date for applications is early March. Contact Mrs. W. Bennett, 16 Grayshott Laurels, Lindford, Hampshire, telephone: 0420-473221.

Do you have ancestors from just over the Scottish Border? If so, you might like to consider joining the Border Family History Society. Founded in 1985, the Society publishes a magazine three times a year and has regular meetings, usually in Melrose. It also has a collection of documents and papers in the Borders Region Archive and Local History Centre, St. Mary's Mill, Selkirk. Ten volumes of Roxburghshire Monumental Inscriptions have been published. Subscription is £7, with £5 for Senior Citizens. Overseas members add £2 to these rates. Contact Mrs. Fay Mackay, Caddon Mill, Clovenfords, Galashiels, Selkirkshire TD1 3LZ.

The Talbot Research Organisation, a "one Name Society", is holding the third International Talbot Gathering at Port Talbot in South Wales on April 30th and May 1st. Contact Mrs. Mary Talbot, 142 Albemarle Avenue, Elson, Gosport, Hampshire PO12 4HY.

Would you like to help with the recording of Monumental Inscriptions at Whickham, Medomsley or Shincliffe? No experience needed! Contact Mrs. Kath Willans, 9 The Ridge Way, Kenton, Newcastle NE3 4LP.

News of the 1994 Family History Fair, organised by the Society of Genealogists. May 7th and 8th, 10.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. at the Royal Horticultural Society New Hall and Conference Centre, Westminster. Advance tickets cost £3.50 from the Society at 14 Charterhouse Buildings, Goswell Road, London EC1M 7BA, or pay at the door £4.00.

Felton and Swarland Local History Society has now published a further Volume, the third, in its series *Index of the Census Returns for the Felton District of Northumberland*. This includes the 1881 and 1891 censuses for Acton, Bockenfield, Elyhaugh, Eshott, Felton, Guyzance, Hazon, Newton-on-the-Moor, Swarland and Thirston and costs £3.40 post free in the U.K. (£3.80 overseas) from Mr. P. Cook, 23 Benlaw Grove, Felton, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9NG. A few copies of Volume 1 (1841 and 1851) and Volume 2 (1861 and 1871) are still available at the same price.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Mr. F.G. Holmes, 12 Hatlex Lane, Hest Bank, Lancaster LA2 6EZ writes:

The item on page 3, of the Winter Journal reminds me that I have a copy of Bede College Club (Durham) Report for 1909, which incorporated a list of past students, going back to 1841-1842. I will be happy to supply information.

Mr. W.E. Rounce, 40 Salcombe Avenue, Jarrow, Tyne and Wear NE32 3SY writes:

I have extracted from the 1881 Census details of Norfolk people living in Sunderland, Chester-le-Street, Houghton-le-Spring, Gateshead, South Tyneside, parts of Durham, Bedlington, Castle Ward, North Shields, Tynemouth, Elswick and Morpeth and also those resident in Middlesbrough in the 1860's -- more than 3000 households. I may be able to help members, descendants of these immigrants. Self addressed envelope please.

Dr. T.N.P. Wilton, Walnut Tree Cottage, Alveston Road, Tockington, Bristol BS12 4PH writes:

I have a Press Gang Certificate relating to my great-great grandfather. Handwritten on parchment, it reads 'These are to certify that the Bearer Thos Wilton five and twenty years of age; five feet six inches high, of a brown complexion and wearing his own brown hair, has this day been examined and from an incurable lameness in his left arm is found unfit for the service of his Majesty. John Watson, surgeon, Rendezvous Sunderland August 23rd 1790'. The lameness was probably from a childhood injury, and the certificate would have exempted him from naval service if picked up by a Press Gang. Dr. Wilton would welcome assistance in researching the family of that name in Sunderland.

Mrs. S. Paterson, 60^A West Hill, London SW18 1RU writes:

In the winter issue (page 104) your correspondent Mrs. Erhardt expressed surprise having a female ancestress called 'Nicholas'.

My 3 x great grandmother was also a Nicholas -- Nicholas Richardson born 1824 in Dumfries who married Henry Nevison and settled in Hexham.

On checking the name I found it was a popular one for girls in south-west Scotland years ago. So, if Mrs. Erhardt should lose the thread of her Nicholas family, she may do well to turn her attention to that region.

Editor's Note: Thank you, Dr. Wilton, for this little bit of Naval history. Does anyone else have similar certificates?

NEW PUBLICATIONS

First, an apology to those members who bought the set of microfiche of Family Notices from Newcastle Courant 1723-1800. Due to mistakes in the filming process, some pages do not appear on the fiche. The affected pages are page 2 of the Index, and pages 678, 716 and 771^A in the text. Would any member who would like all or any of these pages please write to Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidan's Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP and he will supply photocopies of the missing pages. A stamped addressed envelope would be appreciated. There are other "missing" pages -- 427, 450, 451, 556 to 560, 638, 684, 850 and 1026, but these are infact blank pages.

New publications this time are as follows:

Index to 1871 Census of Newcastle We have previously confined ourselves to the 1851 Census but this is an Index of the work of the Census Enumerators twenty years later compiled by Mr. J. Nieurzyla, and the Society is most grateful to him for his efforts. It is an index of part of Newcastle, or more accurately, seven separate indexes covering the P.R.O. piece numbers RG 10/5069 to RG10/5075 inclusive, a total of over 26000 names. The area covered is the teeming township of Westgate, although the final piece also includes a small part of Elswick. The indexes give names, addresses, occupations, ages, places of birth and relationship to head of house. This is available on microfiche only. A set of 8 fiche costs £3.50 post free (£4.00 overseas) from Mr. K. Dalkin, address above.

1851 Census of Tweedmouth, Northumberland This index was compiled by Mr. Norman Grey and Mrs. Mary Graham of the Blyth Group of N.D.F.H.S. It covers the P.R.O. piece number HO 107/2421, the Tweedmouth area of the Berwick-on-Tweed Registration District and gives name, age, occupation, marital status, occupation, relationship to head of house and birth place of each individual. Volume 16 in the Society's series of the 1851 Census of Northumberland, this is available both in book form and on microfiche. The book costs £3.00 (£4.00 overseas) from Mrs. C. Davison, 22 Ferndale Avenue, East Boldon, Tyne and Wear NE36 0TQ and the fiche costs £1.50 in the U.K. (£1.70 overseas) from Mr. K. Dalkin.

Civilian War Dead Roll of Honour This item, the work of Mr. Brian Pears, is described elsewhere in this issue. Available on microfiche only, cost £1.50 in U.K. (£1.70 overseas) from Mr. K. Dalkin.

Index to Trafalgar Square Records 1839-1856 This valuable record is described on other pages and relates to Sunderland merchant seamen. The index, compiled by Mr. Phil Jeffrey and Mr. Bill Stephenson is on one fiche and there are then filmed copies of the original volumes on 12 fiche. The set of 13 fiche costs £6.00 in the U.K. (£7.00 overseas) from Mr. K. Dalkin.

Monumental Inscriptions New editions are Westoe Cemetery (3 fiche), South Shields - St. Hilda (1 fiche) and South Shields - Holy Trinity, South Shields - St. Simon, West Herrington and St. John's Chapel (in Weardale) (1 fiche). Available from Mr. Dalkin for £1.00 each (£1.30 overseas).

Members may like to note that future 1851 Census Indexes, currently in the 'pipeline', include Gateshead, Houghton-le-Spring and two for the Bishopwearmouth area of Sunderland.

WOULD MEMBERS PLEASE NOTE FURTHER CHANGES IN THE SOCIETY'S SALE ARRANGEMENTS. ALL MICROFICHE -- BOTH MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS AND OTHER ITEMS -- ARE NOW BEING SOLD BY MR. KEITH DALKIN. Please do NOT write to Kath Willans, who has handled M.I. sales previously. Book sales continue to be handled by Christine Davison. We hope this further stream lining of arrangements will assist members.

An application form covering all the above new items, plus other older material available for sale, should be enclosed with this issue. Please use this and not any previously produced forms. Thank you.

THE 'LORD DELAVAL' - AGAIN

In the Autumn 1993 Journal, we mentioned the emigrant ship *Lord Delaval*, which sailed from Berwick on 13th September 1852 for London and on to Port Philip, with some 50 Berwick people on board. We asked for an Australian member to assist in identifying the Berwick people on board. Mrs. Nora Wylie, 19 Puerta Street, Burwood, Victoria 3125, Australia has kindly obtained a copy of the passenger list and sent it to us. The information given does not specify the town of origin, so it is impossible to be certain about the Berwick folk on board. Name, age, profession or occupation, and "whether English, Scotch or Irish" are given for the 186 passengers, all of whom would have paid either £18 for steerage, £25 for 'Intermediate' and £30 to £45 for a Cabin, with "Special Agreement for Families and Individuals in all the Classes", (according to an advertisement in the *Newcastle Courant* on 3rd September 1852).

Space does not permit the publication of full details from the passenger list and we therefore list below the surnames of the people on board. The list is now in the N.D.F.H.S. Library and the Librarian, Mrs. Doreen Tait, will be happy to look up any particular name and supply details on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

English - Adamson, Beeby, Burger, Bourn, Burbridge, Boddle, Bangs, Bird, Bailey, Butner, Bereford, Cott, Cod, Coster, Carruthers, Cox, Colven, Dodds, Dalton, Dales, Ellis, Flett, Flatman, Griffiths, Henry, Hill, Hobbs, Jackson, Kinghorn, Knight, King, Keene, Marcham, Marchant, McLean, Moscrop, Nicolas, Patrick, Pugh, Powell, Phillips, Pennell, Pritchard, Piper, Robens, Romans, Stevenson, Specknell, Shirley, Shrimpton, Sefton, Stanesby, Stevens, Stamp, Teackle, Wheeler, Williams, Way, Wilkins, Wood, Yorke, Young.

Scotch - Allan, Booth, Butement, Batters, Billyeld, Bell, Churcher, Cranston, Donnatt, Elliott, Foster, Gibson, Hood, Hogarth, Hogg, Johnson, Lock ...ll, Morpeth, McKechnie, Oswald, Oliver, Pringle, Patterson, Pickering, Shanks, Scott, Salisbury, Turnbull, Wilson, Weatherly, Whitelaw.

German - Deane, Ruff, Westerburgh.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of
Northumberland and Durham Family History Society
will be held at Pelaw Social Club, Heworth, Gateshead at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday May 3rd 1994.

DON'T BELIEVE IT!

Mr. T.S Fairhurst, 4 Hawthorn Villas, The Green, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 7NT writes:

I was very interested in the article about the *Royal Magazine* 1898 in the Autumn 1993 Journal. I must however draw your attention to an inaccuracy. The under-coxswain who lost his life was not Mark A. Fairburn but one Mark Alfred Fairhurst, a very distant relative of mine. I enclose further details which you may wish to copy to anyone enquiring about him in the form of (a) various newspaper articles (b) a copy of the inscription on his grave. We have a lot of detail about several hundred Fairhurst's of north-east England. Having already supplied details to other N.D.F.H.S. members, including Mrs. Carol Ellis of U.S.A. (whose mother remembers Mark's widow, to whom she was related) and Mr. T.K. Halvorsen of London, we would be happy to try to help anyone else interested in the Fairhurst's.

Thank you, Mr. Fairhurst for the offer. The items to which he refers are now in the N.D.F.H.S. Library. The Editor pleads not guilty to the error of name -- Fairburn it was in the 1898 article! Moral -- don't believe all you read!

Mr. Theo L. Rayner of 1023 Glidden Avenue, Windsor, Ontario, Canada N8S 2N9 writes:

Imagine my surprise to find my mother listed under Birth Certificate 91 and her father listed under Marriage Certificate 68 in the list of Unwanted Certificates in the Autumn Journal! I spent years and had much correspondence with G.R.O. London concerning Marriage Certificate 68, which is in error, even though we understand why it must remain as written. The thought occurred to me that a searcher might next try to get the birth certificate of Joseph Liddell, the groom shown, but he would get nowhere as it too is in error. Fortunately, my grandparents lived in our family home so I was able to resolve the certificates!

Moral, again -- don't believe all you read, even on birth and marriage certificates!

And finally, in the Trafalgar Square, Sunderland records mentioned elsewhere in this issue, there is an application dated 12th September 1853 by Ann Teasdale, aged 72, the widow of the seaman John Teasdale. Apparently, to support the widow's application for admittance to the Aged Seamen's Homes, there was produced a "Copy of Marriage Lines at Jarrow 1803 John Fawcett and Ann Claxton both of this parish were married by Banns 16th October 1803 by Wm. Glover, Curate".

There is a note headed "Error at Time of Marriage -- Ann Claxton (widow) gave in the name of John Teasdale and herself for Marriage, to a woman, this woman by mistake had told her husband Fawcett instead of Teasdale which mistake was not found out until the time of the Parties signing the Books. The Curate requested Teasdale to sign Fawcett the name by which he had been called out".

"Added to the Memorial" is "Ann Teasdale the Memorialist reports that the Bands (sic) were published in the names of John Fawcett and Ann Claxton instead of John Teasdale and Ann Claxton (widow) and that the Curate requested John Teasdale to sign his name John Fawcett as Published. The Register of Baptisms and Certificate herewith are given to prove identity".

Moral -- don't believe all you read, even in parish registers. Or is there perhaps more to this than meets the eye? Can anyone shed further light on it?

ANCESTOR BORN BEFORE 1800

Mr. Michael Parker, 44 Lime Tree Avenue, Bilton, Rugby CV22 7QT, has sent the picture of his great grandfather's great uncle (work that one out!) Thomas Parker, who was the son of Samuel Parker and his wife Mary nee Laybourne. He was born 12th May 1789, two months before the mob stormed the Bastille to set in motion the French Revolution! Born at Fell Close, Healeyfield in what is now a cow shed, he was baptised at Muggleswick one month later. He married Abigail Angus at Lanchester in May 1811, she being a member of a prominent Baptist family. Thomas died at Shieldfield, Newcastle in 1868. He was a sawyer and also a Wesleyan lay preacher at the Prudhoe Street Chapel in Newcastle. A biography of Thomas appeared in the *Methodist Free Church Magazine* in 1869 and part of it is written, in the first person, in a short sketch of his earlier life. The picture appeared in *The History of Free Methodism* in 1902.



FAMILY BIBLES

Mr. J. Blenkin, 10 Maxholm Road, Streetly, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B74 3SU has a large Bible which belonged to a great grandfather John Richings born in Gloucestershire in 1826 and his wife Jane nee Arnott (1830-1892) and children Mary (1849-1886), Charles (1851-1888), Thomas (1853-1897), Ann (1856-1922) and John (b. 1860). From the 1870's, the family lived in Shildon, County Durham. Also the bible of Nicholas Blenkin (1851-1887) and his wife Martha nee Brayton (1851-1909), both from Burgh by Sands near Carlisle, but Nicholas died in Newcastle after which the family including children Mary (born 1877), Margaret (1878), Nicholas (born 1883) and Henry (1886) moved to Shildon.

Mrs. D.M. Burns, 17 Winton Drive, Glasgow G12 0PZ has a Bible of the Twizell family of Hartley, starting with the marriage of James Twizell to Isabella Allison in 1818, which also gives details of the Taylor family of Bedlington, from the marriage of Thomas to Elizabeth Green in 1880. The Elliott family, from a marriage of James in 1822 to Ann Allison are also mentioned.

Mrs. Ivy Bowes, 110 Central Drive, Spennymoor, County Durham DL16 7DP says that her husband had a Bible of Winter of Penshaw -- Annie Winter, daughter of Henry, married George Bowes, son of William, draper, at St. James, Gateshead. The book has been lost. Does anyone know of its whereabouts or of the details from it?

Members are invited to send to the Editor details of any Family Bibles they own.

LEARNINGS FROM A DIXON MARRIAGE

by Paul Milner

Here's a puzzle that, in its solution, highlights the basic processes and resources available to every genealogist. I needed to verify a specific marriage and solve the problems that arose when conflicting information came to light.

Robert and Mary Dixon had six children baptised between November 1805 and June 1820 in Stamfordham parish Northumberland. I needed their marriage date and place. Unfortunately the marriage was not be found in Stamfordham or the surrounding parishes. The I.G.I. also produced no results.

The first clue came in Hodgson's Pedigrees where a Robert Dixon married a Mary Nixon in Haltwhistle on the 29th August 1805. The index to these pedigrees was published in the *N.D.F.H.S. Journal* (Volume 15 Number 4 - Volume 16 Number 3) at the same time that I gained access to microfilm copies of the pedigrees through my local L.D.S. family history centre.

Hodgson is a secondary source so I went to the Haltwhistle parish register to examine the original. I read the register as: Robert Dixon of the Parish of Stamfordham marries Mary Dixon of this parish (Haltwhistle) on the 29th August 1805. Who was correct, Hodgson or myself? Was Mary a Nixon or a Dixon?

What other clues did the marriage register provide? Robert and Mary were married by Licence by consent of the parent (singular). The reason why a couple obtained a marriage licence varied. Common reasons included: not wanting to have their private affairs announced to the parish, especially if they were of the upper social strata in the community; a minor was involved; or the woman was already expecting a child. The witnesses to this marriage are given as Geo. Biggs, Jos. (or Jas.) Dixon and Robert Nixon. Geo. Biggs was easy to understand as his signature occurs on many of the marriage records in the register and he is the parish clerk, later confirmed.

Mary is assumed to be under age because parental consent is required. Because the register says she is from Haltwhistle parish, I made a search of the baptismal register looking for a Mary Dixon, or Mary Nixon. I found both. A Mary Dixon was christened 19th July 1786 and a Mary Nixon was christened 16th July 1785. Since both names were options, I needed to find the marriages of both.

I eliminated Mary Nixon when I found her 7th April 1804 marriage to John Maughan. That left Mary Dixon marrying Robert Dixon.

Mary Dixon's parents were Joseph Dixon and Elizabeth Harley who were married 7th December 1778 by licence in Haltwhistle. I deduced that the witness at Mary's wedding, Jos. Dixon was her father and it was he that had given his consent for Mary to be married.

Problem solved or so I thought.

Conflicting information came from Alan Yarrow, a fellow member of the society to whom I wrote after seeing our common family in the members' interest section. Alan showed Robert Dixon marrying Mary Dixon, the daughter of William Dixon. I was doubly confused as I now believed Robert to be the son of William Dixon. What was the proof for Mary's father being William as opposed to Joseph?

Alan provided me with copies of the marriage allegation and bond. When a marriage licence was obtained by a couple in this time period it generated three documents: first, a marriage licence which was given to the applicant, generally the groom, and presented to the officiating minister but kept by the married couple; second, the allegation which is a sworn statement to the effect that there is no known impediment to the marriage and that it meets the requirements of the laws of the Church of England (the written consent of the parents or guardians was required if either party was a minor); third, the marriage bond which itself consists of two parts, (a) the obligation, or declaration by the bondsmen and the sum in which they are bound, (b) the condition giving the names of the parties and the church where the ceremony is to take place.

The marriage allegation showed that on the 29th August 1805 Robert Dixon of the parish of Stamfordham stated that he was 21 upwards and that he intended to marry Mary Dixon of the parish of Haltwhistle, aged 20. The bottom of the allegation has a signed statement saying that, "Ann Nixon the natural and lawful mother of the said minor and (sic) made oath that she is consenting to the above said intended marriage". The marriage bond states that Robert Dixon is a gentleman of parish of Stamfordham. His bondsman is George Biggs, the parish clerk of Haltwhistle and they are obligated for £200. In this marriage we now see that the groom certainly is part of the upper class, that he is marrying a minor and that she is expecting a child. (Daughter Ann is christened in Stamfordham on 25th November 1805.)

From the marriage allegation and bond, I could connect the name of Nixon to Dixon, but how and why? Monumental inscriptions and local newspapers clarified the story.

The society publishes the Stamfordham M.I.'s transcribed by Philip Thirkell in 1991. This provided a much needed break. The M.I. inside the church provides a positive connection between Robert and Mary Dixon to William Dixon of Ingoe, who died in 1729, aged 60. The inscription shows a William Dixon who dies 1st October 1801, aged 57. This is Mary's father. Robert's father is also William Dixon and he dies 26th January 1810, aged 64 (confirmed from his will).

One of the local newspaper's of the time is the *Newcastle Courant*. The birth, marriage and death notices have been extracted for this time period and are available on microfilm through the local L.D.S. family history centres and now on microfiche from the N.D.F.H.S. Interestingly a run of the original newspapers containing both of the following reports was found in the Newberry Library in Chicago, a long way from the north-east of England. The newspaper provides two reports:

Thursday se'nnight, at Haltwhistle, Mr. Robert Nixon, of Coxwold, to Mrs. Dixon, of the Globe Inn, Glenwhelt. (Marriage Notice -- Saturday 10th November 1804.)

The 29th ult. at Haltwhistle, Mr. Robert Dixon, of Ingoe, to Miss Dixon, of the Globe Inn, Glenwhelt. (Marriage Notice -- Saturday 14th September 1805.)

Apparently Mary Dixon's father William died on 1st October 1801. William's widow, of the Globe Inn in Glenwhelt, then remarried Mr. Robert Nixon of Coxwold on 1st November 1804. Their underage daughter Mary then married Robert Dixon on 29th August 1805. Her now step-father Robert Nixon was a witness at the wedding. The identity of Jos. (or Jas.) Dixon, the witness at the wedding, is unclear at this point in time. He could be the Joseph Dixon who I originally thought to be Mary's father. He could also be one of the many cousins and uncles on both sides of the family.

Robert Dixon and Mary Dixon are second cousins and both descendants of William Dixon of Ingoe who died in 1729.

What can be learned from this process? First, when researching the family tree one needs to check primary sources. Secondary sources should only be used as pointers to the original and to provide supporting collateral material. Second, the obvious is not necessarily correct. Multiple sources should be searched to create an accurate picture of what happened. Third, good research can be done without being in the north-east of England, although being there can help. Fourth, resources can be found in unlikely places outside of England, an important help for those members who cannot get to England. The society itself is now providing access on microfiche to many resources available in the north-east of England. The network of L.D.S. libraries around the world also provides access to much of this material. Local or nearby city libraries should not be overlooked as they may contain some hidden gems. Fifth, the work of the local members who provide us overseas members with resources we can use should be applauded and supported. Last, other members of the society may hold the piece of the puzzle you so much need to take the next step. Only through correspondence with other members will you build a network of contacts for help in finding and linking those missing ancestors.

Dixon is a common surname in the north-east. If you are searching for Dixon ancestors in the Newcastle, Ingoe, Haltwhistle areas, I would love to hear from you. I am willing to share parish, census, probate and M.I. information that has been gathered to sort out and or eliminate many of the Dixon options.

Author's address: 1012 Rene Court, Park Ridge, Illinois 60068, U.S.A.

CENTENARIAN

Death: The 20th ult at Polam Farm near Darlington, John Yarrow at the advanced age of 110 years. He was born at Mason Dinnington in Northumberland at which place he, a few years back, applied for the register of his baptism but the register book up to that period could not be found. He left his native place when a stout lad and became the hired servant of a farmer near North Shields; he remembered perfectly well assisting at the plough when the constables went into the field and demanded the horses from the plough, to convey military etc. in the Scotch Rebellion 1715. He has resided in the township of Darlington upwards of 70 years, many of which he was tenant to the late John Weatherall Esq. of Field House and of late years to George Allan Esq. M.P. of Blackwell Grange. He was able last summer to cut turf in a field as well as to attend to many domestic and rural occupations. In the whole course of his long life he has been used to hard bodily labour, lived very temperately, his diet chiefly consisting of bread, milk and cheese.

Berwick Advertiser, March 5th, 1814.

A LOTTERY AT DUDLEY 1898

Mr. J.R. Emmerson has sent names of ticket holders for the Dudley Excelsior Brass Band Lottery Draw, 17th December 1898:

Will STORY, Annitsford; John DUNN, Burradon; John SCOTT, Burradon; Henry SHIPPIN, Seghill; Thomas STORY, SEGHILL; Henry WOOD, Cramlington; Jos DODDS, Seghill; Jos COATES, Annitsford; Robert POPPTER, Annitsford; James COOK, Burradon; James WALKER, Dudley; John AGAN, Dudley; William MUNROE, George CAPE, Thomas GROUNDY, Thomas HARRISON, Rob ORANGE, William BAXTER, William CONWAY and Lizzie KINGHORN, all Annitsford.

KNOW YOU PARISH - XXXV

KIRKHAUGH

by Dorothy Marshall

Picture Kirkhaugh as an open book with the crease between the pages running from south to north forming the bed of the infant South Tyne River. The pages on either side are dotted with farms and barns and roughly squared by stone walls. Beyond the edges of the pages the fells stretch steeply upwards to meet the horizon; on the west side Whitley Common rises to meet Renwick Fell at Grey Nag, while on the east Ayle Common and Barhaugh Common meet Whitfield Moor at the beautiful secluded Whitfield Lough (Lake).

From Whitley Common the Gilderdale Burn flows down to join the Tyne at right angles, while a few hundred yards upstream Ayle Burn joins the Tyne at the ancient fortified farmhouse of Randalholme. The two burns mark not only the edge of the parish but also the boundary between the counties of Northumberland and Cumberland.

When I picture Kirkhaugh as an open book, neatly divided by the South Tyne, the pages always lie open to the sunshine but there was often stormy weather and snow. In 1947 the snow blew in level with the tops of the dykes, as we call the stone walls. Eventually we packed down a bicycle track at wall-top height running through the hamlet of Ayle and past the school. The school was closed for weeks as there was no coal for the fireplace and no way of transporting the coal to the school. The farmers were milking their cows and pouring the pails of milk down the drain as there were no collections by the milk-wagon. After several weeks a few men took two horses and a sled into Alston to buy flour and other supplies.

The heart of the parish is the Church of the Holy Paraclete lying very close to the Tyne on the east bank, where yellow monkey flowers cluster at the edges of the river and gorse grows on the bank between the river and the wall of the Churchyard. The Holy Paraclete is the Holy Spirit as embodied in the dove. There is no other church in England bearing this dedication. The Church was designed by the rector, Octavius James, without the benefit of an architect in 1849 although it occupies a very ancient site and is mentioned in medieval writings. One guide book (surely not Pevsner?) describes the spire as "ridiculously thin". I prefer to describe it as "elegantly tapered". One wonders how a man of culture and vision such as Octavius James came to be living in a backwater like Kirkhaugh. The 1851 census shows him and his family at Clarghyll Hall about two miles away from the Church but across the Ayle Burn in Cumberland.

Sadly Kirkhaugh lost both her rector and her records in a fire at Clarghyll Hall in 1898. Many of us, descended from Kirkhaugh families, are stuck at a relatively early date as a result of this fire.

On an interior wall of the Church is a simple marble plaque commemorating the sons of the local families who served or died in World War One.

The Churchyard is quiet and secluded. Last time I visited it a ewe was teaching her lambs to squeeze through a gap so she could graze among the tombstones. My relatives lying there spent their lives among sheep and I think they would not begrudge the ewe a few choice mouthfuls of the grass sprouting from their final resting places. There is a story that a farm horse once clomped down the aisle during matins -- I was not there and cannot vouch for the veracity of the tale.

The railway line, opened in 1852, runs parallel to the Tyne on the west side. For several years local people fought successfully against the closure of the line arguing that it was their link with medical treatment, etc. when the roads were blocked with snow. Eventually the people lost the fight and in 1977 the line was closed and later the rails removed. Now a volunteer group has opened a stretch of narrow-gauge line and runs a train from Alston to Gilderdale as a tourist attraction, with plans to extend the run to Kirkhaugh in the near future.

Also parallel to the river and the railway on the west side is the A686 to Brampton. In the corner between the A686 and the Gilderdale Burn lies an ancient Roman Fort named Whitley Castle. The site occupies nine acres and the grass-covered ramparts can be clearly seen. John Wallis, famous Northumbrian historian and author of *"The Natural History of Antiquities of Northumberland"*, was born 3rd December 1714 at Castle Nook, adjacent to Whitley Castle.

Two Bronze Age barrows dating from 1000 B.C. were discovered near Kirkhaugh School. The barrows were excavated in 1935 and the artifacts are now displayed in the museum in Newcastle.

Randalholme is an interesting example of an ancient pele tower. It contained its own well as a water supply for the farmers and their cattle when the Scots laid siege to the building.

Directly up the steep hillside from the Church is Kirkhaugh School, once crowded with the large families of the local farmers and miners, but down to one brother and sister in 1945 and eventually closed in 1949. One reason it lingered so long was that Northumberland did not want to send her children to Cumbrian schools and it would have been a long drive to collect the few of us from the scattered farms around Ayle, Barhaugh and Underbank (by the Church) and take us through Alston, Cumberland, doubling back on the A686 to Knarsdale.

Close to the A686 is the tiny but active Methodist Chapel. One of my memories is leaving the Chapel on a black, dark night after a special concert and supper to walk the two miles to Ayle. A group of us walked down the track under the railway arch, along a narrow path, across a footbridge over the river to the foot of a steep hill near the Church, where we had to strike upwards with no path to guide us. Here a blind man in our party took over - "Mind your feet, there are loose stones here" and "Careful here, it's very steep" and so he led us safely home through the blackness.

At one time there were several small coal mines in the area and a kiln on the Ayle Burn where lime was made to be spread on the acidic fields. There were many small holdings in the area with a few hens, at least one cow, one pig, many sheep and a vegetable garden. Over the years these have been amalgamated into a few large farms and many of the houses where our ancestors raised large families are now mere heaps of stones.

However, at the north-east corner of the parish is a 19th century manor house which has recently been tastefully restored to its original elegance and opened as a visitors' centre. Barhaugh Hall was for many years the home of the Dryden family and boasted a folly and a ghost. "Old Redcap", the ghost, was reputed to have buried a stocking full of gold near the house but no-one has yet been successful in digging it up. "Haugh" in such names as Kirkhaugh and Barhaugh is pronounced "haff" and refers to a piece of flat alluvial land by the side of a river.

The deficiency in the Parish Registers can be overcome, for certain periods only, by using the Bishops Transcripts at Durham, which also feature, in transcribed form, at Newcastle Library. There is also J.V. Harrison's *'Kirkhaugh Wills'*, published in three volumes of the 4th series of *Archaeologia Aeliana*, which helps to "cover the gaps".

Editor's Note: Mrs. Marshall's address is 653 Patricia Avenue, Winnipeg, M.B., Canada.

SUNDERLAND ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

Sunderland Antiquarian Society was formed in November 1899 and since then it has continued to serve the cause of local history in and around Sunderland. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month from September to April at Sunderland Museum, with lectures on a variety of topics and over the years a considerable collection of books, documents, maps, photographs etc. has been acquired. These can be examined by members at the Society's rooms behind the Arts Centre, 17 Grange Terrace, Sunderland, which are open on the first and third Saturday mornings in each month. Membership is open to all -- subscription is £6.00 -- write to Mrs. Vera Stevens, 16 Grizedale Court, Sunderland SR6 8JP.

Since 1902, the Society has published a periodical, at first called *Antiquities of Sunderland* but now titled *Sunderland's History*. Some back numbers are available from Mr. E. Balmer, 127 Nursery Road, Sunderland SR2 7SD, as shown below. Details are given of the principal articles in each which may be of specific interest to family historians, although, of course, any article might potentially be valuable.

Volume 7 (1906)	Early Printing Presses of Sunderland; Potteries of Sunderland and Neighbourhood; Some account of St. George's Square and its people.
Volume 16 (1915)	Paul Jones and his connection with the north-east coast; Non-parochial burial places in Sunderland; Historical sketch of the Jewish Congregation in Sunderland.
Volume 17 (1917)	Wearmouth Worthies.
Volume 18 (1925)	Notes on the Owners of Pallion 1572-1815.
Volume 24 (1973)	Shipbuilding in Sunderland in 1834.
Volume 26 (1976)	Wesleyanism in Sunderland in the late 18th and early 19th centuries.
Volume 27 (1979)	Wesleyanism in Sunderland (Part II); Sunderland Newspapers.

Each of these volumes costs £5.00 plus postage. More recent volumes are available at £3.50 each.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

Doreen Tait

As the Library continues to expand I am now publishing a new list each quarter, i.e. with every Journal. Some items although large are postable so I am adding the weight in grammes to give you an idea of the likely postage cost.

- 1.203 Evenwood and The Barony in 1851 (County Durham).
- 1.204 Upper Gaunless Valley (County Durham) History Exhibition 1987.
- 1.205 Cramlington Miners Strike 1865 (700 gr.) - *A. Robson*.
- 1.206 Weardale, Old Photographs - *June Crosby*.
- 1.207 You must Remember This, Chilton as it was.
- 1.208 Sunderland's History No. 7 - *Sunderland Antiquarian Society*.
- 1.209 Teeside Map Street Plan - *Geographia Ltd*.

- 2.367 Cyclists in Northern Cyclist Btn. October 1914 - *F. Furness*.
- 2.368 Roll of Honour, Whitley Bay 1914-1918 - *F. Pearson*.
- 2.369 Descendants of Joseph Robson of South Middleton. Including Robson Marriages in Bolam - *Dr. J.W. Robson*.
- 2.370 Burrell Record. American Descendants of Cuthbert Burrell (1715-1764).
- 2.371 The Morgan Pedigree - *A. Morgan*.

- 3.207 Marriage Index Houghton-le-Spring, St. Michael, 1837-1907 - *I. Appleyard*.
- 3.153 North-west Durham 1851 Census Index Volume 2 (500 gr.) - *D. Harding*.
- 3.208 Transcript of Marriages. Coniscliffe Parish 1590-1812 - *J.W. Todd*.
- 3.209 Transcript of Marriages, Middleton, St. George 1616-1811 - *J.W. Todd*.
- 3.210 Burial Index, St. Thomas, Stockton-on-Tees 1864-1870 - *M. Johnson*.
- 3.211 Marriage Index, Bedlington 1813-1837 - *G. Bell*.
- 3.212 Marriage Index, Mitford 1813-1837 - *G. Bell*.
- 3.213 Marriage Index, St. Nicholas, Newcastle 1813-1837 - *G. Bell*.
- 3.215 Marriage Index, Tynemouth 1813-1837 - *G. Bell*.
- 3.216 Marriage Index, Wallsend 1813-1837 - *G. Bell*.

- 5.117 Never Been Here Before, P.R.O. Guide, No. 4 - *J. Cox*.
- 5.118 Records Deposited on Long Term Loan (North-East Railway) - *Durham Record Office*.
- 5.119 Parish Registers in North Yorks - *County Record Office*.
- 5.120 The Bedan. Sunderland Bede College Girls School. December 1938.
- 5.121 List of Successful Candidate University of Durham School Certificate Examination 1938/39.

“IF YOU HAVE TEARS, PREPARE TO SHED THEM NOW...”

ELEANOR RICHARDSON, 1825-1905, A LIFE

by Clare Abbott

I am lucky enough to own Eleanor's diary, although for many years I did not know who she was or how she is related to me. It begins "In the year of Our Lord 1798" with the birth of Eleanor's father, my great, great grandfather and ends with the birth of her nephew, my grandfather in 1871.

Eleanor Wight (later known as Ellen) was born at Lumley Forge "in the end House Nearly adjoining the publick House" on December 8th, 1826. The site of this house was beside the path running to the left of the Smith's Arms in Breckon Hill today. She was the first child of Harrop Wight and Eleanor Speed who had been married in September 1825. Harrop was the fourth son of John Wight, Iron Founder who had developed and run Lumley Forge and salmon fishery. Hanah Wight was born in 1828, and the little family then moved to Sunderland. How horrible a place Thomas Street must have seemed to a child used to playing among the trees and the river Wear. Twelve of John Wight's thirteen children grew up, but tragedy awaited Harrop. A son, John, was born and died at three months, followed in three weeks by Hanah and another son, Harrop, who was born and died immediately. The terrible living conditions in Sunderland, described in a recent issue of this Journal, may well have contributed to these deaths.

The birth of Harrop William Wight is noted for 1834, and then the tone of the diary changes - "Harrop Wight Sen. was Shipwreck'd or rather run down by the *Sucess* of Ipswich in the Brig *Alpha* Jany 27, 1835". Not to be put off, Harrop "engaged with Mr. Wm. Phillips to go to Plymouth Feby 5th, 1835". He sailed on February 19th, and settled in Plymouth, working as a clerk in the corn trade. I do not know why he took his family so far from its roots, but he had become a convert to Methodism and soon started his own class in Plymouth, which was a regular bible study group. A daughter, Elizabeth, was born in 1837, her mother dying soon afterwards. No doubt Eleanor did her best to help, but the baby, too, died aged 10 months. Her father remarried in February, 1838, and John Everleigh Wight was born in April, 1839. Dramatically, Harrop Senior had just given out the hymn in the Wesleyan Chapel on Good Friday, 1840, when he had a massive heart attack and died in front of his wife and children. I did not suppose it would be possible to find out which hymn he had been giving out; however, his death was reported in the local newspaper, and there it is -- "Behold the saviour of mankind, Nailed to the shameful tree". Harrop, Eleanor and Elizabeth were all buried in the Chapel's own burial ground, but this received a direct hit in World War II. The remains were taken to the town cemetery after the war, and the duplicate slips with all the names are still in Devon Record Office.

"Eleanor and Harrop Wm. Wight sailed (alone) from Plymouth for Sunderland in June 1840. Ellen went to Spennymoor House with her Aunt Mrs. Issac Laws, then moved to Durham 1843, removed to London 1844, from London to Seaham August 1847". Her brother went to live with their uncle Robert, who was setting up Seaham Ironworks. In 1848, Eleanor married John Richardson, and they started a stationery and watchmaker's shop in Seaham. In 1849, Harrop Wight Richardson was born, followed by John Robert in 1851.

"June 23rd, 1853. The above John Robert Richardson died at quarter past 6 p.m. aged 2 years and 5 months. My lovely little boy was apparently in good health the Day previous but became suddenly Ill on the Morning of that Day. His Disease was Inflammation of the Lungs and congestion of the Brain. His Head was one of great Beauty with all the Organs well developed. He was an astonishingly quick Child and of most Affectionate and amiable Disposition. The Lord hath seen fit to remove Him from this World of Care but under this severe Bereavement I find Strong Consolation arising from this Knowledge that my Darling Child is now Happy that he has reached that Better Country where the Inhabitants no more say They are sick, they Hunger no more, neither Thirst any more, Where there is no more Death nor pain nor crying for the former ... Lord grant that I may meet my Child there with each remaining member of my Family".

I cannot read those words without developing a lump in my throat. Eleanor had no more children. She and John started the *Seaham Weekly News* in 1860, and many details of their lives can be found on its back pages through the years. They sold a huge variety of goods, including sheet music, guns, bedsteads and reading glasses! One day a mad dog entered the shop and was fought off by John using a stool. He was a mason and a Tory supporter in the election riots of 1874, when bricks were thrown through their windows for over an hour. Anyone who thinks Britain is a violent place today should read the *Seaham Weekly News* of the 1870's and 80's. One man was tried for stealing a leg of mutton which was being boiled in the open air. He did not want it to eat, rather to drop on his neighbour's head!

Eleanor's brother, Harrop William Wight, became the first manager of Wood's bank in Seaham, marrying Mary Dewar of Newcastle. They had five children, the first two dying as infants, before he himself died in 1871 of smallpox aged only 37, greatly beloved by all according to his obituary. His gravestone was in St. John's Churchyard but there is no trace of it today.

John Richardson died in 1892, having caught pneumonia following the coffin of an old friend on the long walk up to the new cemetery on a cold April day. Wreaths were sent by the Marquis and Marchioness of Londonderry and the Dowager Marchioness. "He lived esteemed and has departed hence regretted by us all", *Seaham Weekly News*. Harrop Richardson was still living with his parents in 1891. In his younger days he was librarian of the Londonderry Literary Institute and took part in plays, recitations and spelling bees. He worked in the shop as a stationer and printer, and did not marry. This must have been a source of sadness for Eleanor, as she would never have grandchildren. He died in 1893 at the comparatively early aged of 43. I was puzzled by the lack of an obituary in the *Seaham Weekly News*, especially as Eleanor still owned the newspaper. His death was recorded as being due to "hepatic disease" (presumably alcohol-related) and was registered by a "D.G. Smith causing the body to be buried". I wondered if there were echoes of the earlier, much lamented loss in the lonely death of Eleanor's elder son? Poor Eleanor, she had lost everyone she ever loved and lived on for a further 12 years until 1905, when she died after a stroke aged 78. Her funeral procession was "long and imposing, forming a striking testimony to the high and wide esteem in which the deceased lady was held in the town". On the Sunday after her funeral, the vicar made special reference to Eleanor's "consistent holy life and quiet Christian charity" *Seaham Weekly News*. I found her gravestone, in simple reddish marble under a tree in Dawdon cemetery. Harrop and John are buried here, too, and baby John is commemorated though he was interred in St. John's Churchyard.

Eleanor died a wealthy woman, having several houses to leave to various nephews and nieces including my grandfather, Henry Dewar Wight, the youngest child of her brother Harrop. I imagine she would have gladly exchanged all her wealth for some more time with her little son. We read of so many children's deaths in the nineteenth century; babies abandoned, drowned and starved -- it is tempting to think that their parents cannot have minded so very much. There is no doubt that Eleanor was grief-stricken, and I hope that writing the diary helped her a little. Her words speak directly to us down the one hundred and forty years which have passed since she wrote them.

The authoress, Mrs. C. Abbott (nee Wight), of 83 Gidley Way, Horspath, Oxford OX33 1TQ writes:

The quotations in this article are all from the diary of Eleanor Richardson, or from the *Seaham Weekly News*. The title is from "Julius Caesar". I would be very pleased to hear from anyone who has researched into this family, particularly Mary Dewar, and also any descendants of John Everleigh Wight, Eleanor's half brother who followed her to Seaham Harbour in 1847 and had two daughters (Letitia Laura and Mary Tryphena) in Sunderland. My thanks are due to Tom McNee, who has the only known copy of my great grandfather's obituary, and to Lorna Wright, Librarian of Seaham.



A GRAVE QUESTION

A problem with a difference. This headstone commemorates Richard Landreth's wife Annie who died aged 33 in 1889 and their 21 day old daughter Isabella who died in 1886. Richard presumably erected the stone, but where is it? Richard himself (died 25 May 1897 aged 43) is buried in a Landreth family grave at Whitley Bay with his parents, James C. and Isabella Landreth, brother John and sisters Isabella and Jane Walton. Perhaps some member can assist Mr. F. Pearson, 5 Beverley Road, Whitley Bay NE25 8JH with his puzzle.

AMERICA'S FIRST LADY AND THE RODDAMS OF NORTH WEST DURHAM

by Geoff Nicholson

NOTE: The surname of the family in this account has been spelled in different records as Roddam or Rodham. Although both spellings are found at all periods, Roddam would seem to have been the dominant version in the nineteenth century and Rodham in the twentieth. As most of this article refers to a period before the twentieth century the "Roddam" form has been used throughout, apart from direct quotations.

The Church on the Hill

Picture the scene outside Holy Trinity Parish Church, Washington, on Sunday 8th January 1775. Among those arriving for a service would be a young man and his wife who had made their way down Village Lane from the bleak hilly area beyond, known as Black Fell, where Washington parish merged with that of Chester-le-Street. He was Joseph Roddam, and the reason for his visit to church that January morning would be cradled in the arms of his wife, Dorothy.

It was only about a year since Joseph and Dorothy had married at St. Cuthbert's Church in Chester-le-Street and baby Jonathan was their first child. No doubt he must have appeared healthy if his parents dared to take him out across Black Fell in the middle of January. That was something to be thankful for in those days of high infant mortality, as was Dorothy's recovery from the birth. Unfortunately any confidence his parents had in baby Jonathan's continued good health was to be shattered when he died soon after his second birthday. That tragedy was not to be foreseen at the time of his baptism, however, and no doubt Joseph and Dorothy took the health of young Jonathan as a good omen for the future of their family, which was indeed to grow over the next few years until they were proud parents to five children.

Possibly Joseph and Dorothy were not alone. There may well have been other Roddam relations there to celebrate little Jonathan's baptism with them. There were Roddams in the neighbouring parish of Penshaw who, from their similar use of first names were probably related and who might have used the occasion for a family re-union and celebration. Some of Dorothy's family from Chester-le-Street are almost sure to have turned up. They were Bells, a name found profusely all over the north-east and by no means unknown in the Washington area today. Perhaps the little party had walked down the lane, or perhaps, in anticipation of a hard pull back up the mile-long hill, they had hired or borrowed a cart in honour of the occasion. Either way, they are not likely to have neglected the old north-eastern tradition of the Christening Bag, which continued in local mining villages until within the last forty years. This was to make up a "bag" or package of small items which would please a child -- a piece of cake, a bun, some fruit, a coin if one could be afforded and perhaps some small toy. The "Bag" would then be presented to the first child of the opposite sex to the baby whom the Christening party met with on their way to the Church.

As the group of people made their way across Washington Village Green, past the village pond where a witch had once been ducked and up the steps to Holy Trinity Church, they could not fail to notice Washington Old Hall, an essentially seventeenth century Manor House adjacent to the Church. This house, now in the care of the National Trust, is on the site of, and contains fragments of the mediaeval mansion of the Washington family who had been Lords of the Manor many centuries before and who had taken their name from their village, Joseph and Dorothy would have had a good view of the Old Hall from outside the "Church on the Hill", as local people still call the old church's nineteenth-century successor. It was well past its best by Joseph and Dorothy's time; there was no longer a single Lord of the Manor, and the Old Hall was now tenanted by several families of much more humble description. It had, indeed, began its long decline into a multi-occupied slum from which it was only rescued in the middle of this century, through the efforts of local enthusiasts and American well-wishers.

Did Joseph Roddam know anything about the troubles which were beginning in our American Colonies? Possibly so -- it was just over a year since the Boston Tea-Party and good stories like that one travel far and fast. Did he possibly know that it was a Washington descendant, George by name, who was leading the rebel colonists? However unlikely it is that an ordinary working man would have knowledge of such events we must answer "Yes", for it is at least a possibility. It is less likely that he could have predicted that those events in America were the birth pangs of what was to become a great nation and incredible that he could have even thought it possible that his own four-greats granddaughter would one day be the First Lady of that nation. Yet that is so, as shall be shown. First, however, just who were the Roddams?

The Roddams of Northumberland

It used to be the proud claim of the Northumberland family of Roddam of Roddam that they had continuously occupied the same land from pre-conquest days to 1808. Whatever one thinks of that and of their supposed charter of King Athelstan which, so they claimed, granted them the lands of Roddam "*Sae long as muir grows moss and cnout grows hare*", the fact is that they were a very ancient family indeed in the Till valley and Wooler districts of north Northumberland. In the reign of Henry VIII the antiquary Leland speculated that they had once owned a much more extensive estate "*ontyl one of them having to wife one of the Umfraville daughters, killed a man of name and thereby lost the principale of eight hundred markes by yere; so that at this time Roddam or otherwise Rudham, of Northumbrelande is but a man of mene landes*". There could well be some truth in the story, as the Borderlands in which they lived were unruly long after the rest of the country had been civilised. Certainly the claim that they had married into the Norman Baronial Umfraville family, who were related to the Earls of Angus, is not at all unlikely as later generations married daughters of many of the County families of Northumberland -- Grey, Selby, Brandling, Collingwood, Forster, Lawson, Lisle and Swinburne among them.

Roddam is, of course, not far as the crow flies from Kirk Yetholm on the Scottish side of the Border, the end of the Pennine Way and once a noted Gipsy centre. It has been said that ~~a Clinton~~ was once crowned King of the Gipsies there!

most President Clinton's ancestors, c. Blyth,

The last Roddam to possess the old family estate was Captain (later Admiral) Robert Roddam (c.1719-1808). He served the Royal Navy with distinction in the mid-eighteenth century, rising from Midshipman to Captain in the course of the French Wars. When the Peace was declared Captain Roddam retired to live at Roddam, on what was then the property of his elder brother, Edward. Edward died in 1776 however, and Robert succeeded him as owner of the family's lands. When War broke out with those rebellious American Colonies, Captain Roddam was recalled and served in the Mediterranean until in 1778 he received a posting in British waters, as Rear-Admiral of the White. He continued in active service and, working his way up the ranks of Admirals, eventually in 1795 became Senior Admiral of the Red, the highest ranking Admiral in the Royal Navy. He lived to the age of 89 and died in Newcastle in 1808, having lived to see the triumphs of Nelson and his own distant kinsman, Collingwood, at Trafalgar and elsewhere.

Although he was three times married, Admiral Roddam left no children and the ancient estates of his family were inherited by others not named Roddam. His first wife had been a lady nee Lucy Mary Clinton ~~--- a cousin of the Earl of Lincoln, so not likely to have been connected with the Kirk Yetholm gipsy!~~ -- who died in New York, where her father was Governor, after less than two years of marriage.

(true but not relevant)

Was the Washington coal miner a descendant of the Northumberland Roddams? We shall probably never know for sure, as the records which would have provided the details have not been found and are unlikely now to exist, but in all probability many now bearing that name will be descended from some younger son of that family, for whom no landed provision could be made and who had therefore to seek his fortune in trade or elsewhere. The records of the various Newcastle Guilds show apprentices arriving in the town from all over Northumberland in just those circumstances from the mid-seventeenth century onwards and there would be many in other local towns whose arrival went unrecorded. From landed gentry to coal miner would be a big step down the social ladder and is likely to have taken several generations. However, it will be apparent, to anyone who has ever browsed through the late W. Percy Hedley's "*Northumberland Families*" for instance, that families have both risen and fallen in fortune to a greater extent than is often realised. The surname "*Roddam*" or "*Rodham*" is undoubtedly a local place-name and since there is only the one place which fits that name it seems reasonable to assume that all Roddams are descended from an ancestor from that place. This still leaves the possibility, however, that the miner's ancestor was a retainer of the landed family who, when surnames were first being allotted in about the thirteenth century, had already left that immediate area and was therefore known where he was then living as "*the man from Roddam*", that being what distinguished him from all around him.

County Durham Roddams

The surname "*Roddam*" or "*Rodham*" was well established in County Durham from at least Tudor times. It is found in the sixteenth century in several parishes in the north of the county and especially in Durham City itself. The largest concentration in Elizabeth's reign seems to have been in the parish of Durham St. Margaret.

The earliest mention of the name in a County Durham parish register is the marriage in 1541 of a Thomas Roddam to a lady named Eleanor at Durham St. Nicholas, the parish for the Market Place district of Durham City. However, this is only three years after the first instruction to clergy that marriage registers had to be kept, and St. Nicholas is one of the few parishes whose registers have survived from that early period, so there were in all probability many other County Durham Roddams, both before and after this Thomas, whose family details have not been preserved for us. In the next few years several Roddam marriages followed in Durham City, mostly in St. Nicholas' or St. Margaret's parish. At the very least there must have been a family of several brothers and sisters, though possibly their relationship to each other was more distant.

From a study of the I.G.I. it would appear that the name was so widespread in the northern part of the county by Elizabethan times that the first immigrant Roddams must have arrived several generations, or several centuries, before that. Granted that the name probably began to be used as a surname in the modern sense sometime in the thirteenth century, there is a 300-year "window" during which these Roddams could have moved south.

It would be worthwhile to speculate about what it was that drew population in to County Durham at that time in such numbers.

The County Durham coal industry was important long before the sinking of the large coal mines of the nineteenth century, about which we hear so much. In Edward III's time, coal from Winlaton in Ryton parish was being exported in colliers to London to be used in lime-burning operations connected with building work at Windsor Castle. By Tudor times the organisation of the industry had become much more sophisticated and mines existed wherever the seams were easily worked. This was around the western boundary of the coalfield or where geological conditions caused them to outcrop. The availability of river transport was also important, so those parts of Tyneside and Wearside where shallow seams were close to a navigable river were where mining began. The Bishop of Durham's Manors of Ryton, Whickham and Gateshead soon felt the benefit and population would be drawn into them, sometimes from places quite far off. Other coal-related industries were also thriving. To export coal required colliers, which in their turn required men to build them and crews to man them. The availability of cheap fuel was also a great inducement to the iron-working and lead-smelting industries, and helped create a demand for those metals which made their mining viable.

Many of the population who arrived in the northern and eastern parts of County Durham in Tudor times, however, were not pulled in by expanding industry so much as pushed out of their original homes by the Border troubles. Elizabeth's reign in particular was marked by trouble with the "Reivers" as the raiding Borderers were known. These lawless men owed no loyalty to either England or Scotland; they simply exploited the existence of the Border to their own advantage. To live a decent, prosperous, life on the Borders must have become more and more difficult during those times and it is not surprising that many Border surnames first begin to appear elsewhere during the worst of the troubles.

The surname Roddam is found in Weardale from a comparatively early date. The first Roddam baptism at Stanhope church, the parish of which includes most of Weardale, was in 1678. By then Stanhope parish was beginning to be taken over by the lead-mining industry to the exclusion, it sometimes seems, of all else. When lead mining was at its peak the population of Weardale was many times what it is today and some overspill into the neighbouring and expanding coal-mining areas of north-west County Durham did undoubtedly occur. It has been suggested that our Washington coal miner Joseph Roddam's ancestors may have followed that route, but any proof is still lacking.

From Washington County Durham to Washington D.C.

JOSEPH RODDAM (I)

The earliest record of the Joseph Roddam who we met earlier which has yet been found and which can definitely be identified as referring to the name man is his marriage at Chester-le-Street:

Joseph Roddam and Dorothy Bell, both of this Parish, were married in the Church by Banns this 21st day of May in the Year one Thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, by J. Powle, (Curate).

This marriage as solemnized between us:

*Joseph X his mark Roddam
Dorothy X her mark Bell*

In the Presence of us:

*John Bell
John Mallams*

From their ages at death, Joseph would appear to have been aged about 32 when he married, and Dorothy about 26. They next appear at the christening at Washington which has already been mentioned. On that occasion the Clerk wrote in the register:

1775 Jan 8 Jonathan the son of Joseph Roddam of ye Controul

Where and what was the "Controul"? It was probably a tiny place, perhaps a single cottage, among the many small coal mines at that time on the top of the hill which on one side was Birtley Fell (Chester-le-Street parish) and on the other was Black Fell (Washington parish) and some of which was also in the Lamesley Chapelry of Chester-le-Street parish. Probably the name refers to an early set of points, or a signalling system or perhaps to a level crossing -- something which in some way "controlled" the traffic using the waggon-ways which served the pits.

A little more than a year later Joseph was back at Chester-le-Street parish church, where his next son was baptised:

1776 Mch 24 John son of Joseph Rodham, Wright and Dorothy his wife, Birtley Fell

Here we have firm evidence that Joseph was a "wright"; either a waggon wright or a waggonway wright, two jobs which were often combined. A waggonway wright would work both on the surface waggon-ways and on those underground, in the main roadways of the mine. Joseph was hardly unique in undertaking this work: in 1792 a dozen collieries on the River Wear employed between them 100 waggon and waggonway wrights and by 1809 Washington colliery alone employed six wrights and five labourers to serve them (Lewis, M.J.T. "Early Wood Railways", 1975, quoted by Hair, P.E.H. in "The Reason of my Wrighting", 1988, an edited version of the autobiography of Anthony Errington, waggonway wright at nearby Felling colliery from 1778 to about 1825). It was a highly skilled job that Joseph had -- Anthony Errington, mentioned above, was bound apprentice to his father at the age of fourteen in 1792, to learn the job in a proper way.

Tragedy struck next winter, when both Joseph's young children died, and were buried together at Chester-le-Street:

1777 Jan 20 Jonathan and John, sons of Joseph Rodham, Birtley Fell

Joseph and Dorothy remained on Birtley Fell for at least the next four years, during which time they had another three children baptised at Chester-le-Street:

1778 Mch 1 Ann daughter of Joseph Rodham, Wright, and Dorothy his wife, Birtley Fell
1779 Sep 26 Jonathan son of Joseph Roddam, Wright, and Dorothy his wife, Birtley Fell
1781 Oct 21 Dorothy daughter of Joseph Rodham, Wright, and Dorothy his wife, Birtley Fell

Some time between 1781 and 1784, Joseph and Dorothy may have moved from "Birtley Fell" to "Birtley North Side". That was also a part of Birtley Fell so the move, if it did actually take place (the Clerk may just have decided to be more specific about which part of the fell he was writing about) was not a great one. There they had three more children and again all were baptised at Chester-le-Street:

1784 May 13 Joseph and Mary, twins of Joseph Roddam, Joiner, and Dorothy his wife, Birtley North Side
1787 Sep 2 John son of Joseph Roddam, w. wright, and Dorothy, Birtley North Side

This John was to die just after his second birthday, at Northorn (North-horn), 'near a farm and a few houses on the Stanley side of Shield Row (though Stanley was then just the name of a district, and not the large mining town which grew up there towards the end of the nineteenth century). He was buried at Tanfield on 10th September 1789. Sad though it is that John should have died so young, it does at least help us to date Joseph and Dorothy's move from Birtley Fell to Shield Row as being in the period 1787-1789.

Notice that in 1784 Joseph was called a joiner, whereas in 1787 he had gone back to being called a "w. wright". The "w" in "w. wright" could mean "waggon" or "waggonway", or course. It is not necessary to assume he actually changed his occupation; it was just that he was seen as acting in a different capacity by the clerk on the two different occasions. It would appear that all five of these later children survived infancy, as there is no record of any being buried at Chester-le-Street.

Joseph died at Northorn at the age of 80 in 1822 and Dorothy lived on until 1835, when she died at Shield Row aged 87, both "good" ages for the period. Both were buried in the churchyard at Tanfield.

JONATHAN RODDAM (I)

In the next generation it is Jonathan (born 1779) who is of most interest to us. He followed his father into the coal mines, not as far as we can tell as a wright but as an ordinary miner. There seems to have been a mine at Shield Row at this time and no doubt that was where he worked.

Jonathan married Margaret Orange at St. Margaret's Church, Tanfield, on 12th February 1804. He would have been about 24 and Margaret about 20. Margaret had been born in Sunderland, though most County Durham Oranges do seem to have been concentrated in the Tanfield area, so she was probably from a family local to that area. After his marriage Jonathan continued to live at Northorn and it was not long before he and Margaret had a child of their own, Thomas, who was born 18th December 1804. Unfortunately, as so often happened in those days, Margaret seems not to have recovered from the birth, and only two months later she died. It was 7th February 1805, less than a week before what would have been her first wedding anniversary, and she was still only 21. When the funeral was held at Tanfield church two days later, little Thomas was taken along to be baptised at the same time.

Being left with a young baby to look after and having a living to earn at the same time, it became a matter of necessity that Jonathan should marry again, and quickly. No doubt his parents would help out at home, and so would his surviving brother Joseph and his sister Mary. Sister Dorothy had married George Bland at St. Mary-the-Less in the South Bailey in Durham City in 1801 and was busy raising her own family in Durham St. Margaret's parish at the time. Indeed, it seems that Mary was probably the key to a lot of Jonathan's future, for on 25th November 1805, the very day she married James Hepplewhite at Tanfield, Jonathan was in Durham City marrying Ann Parkinson at St. Mary-le-Bow church in the North Bailey, next to the Cathedral. It seems strange that this arrangement must have meant that neither Mary nor Jonathan could have attended each other's wedding, but it would be unwise of us to judge family arrangements of the time through our twentieth-century eyes. As soon as Mary was removed from the domestic scene, Jonathan's new wife would be installed to take over the arrangements where she had left off.

Before leaving Mary Roddam we could perhaps add another of those curious footnotes which make family history so fascinating. As we have seen, she married James Hepplewhite at Tanfield. James' grandfather, William Hepplewhite, (born 1715) had been second cousin to a certain George Hepplewhite, who was born in Ryton parish in 1727 but is not recorded there on any occasion afterwards. The interesting thing about this is that a nation-wide I.G.I.- based process of elimination leaves this as the only George Hepplewhite to be a likely candidate as the great furniture designer, whose origins have never been satisfactorily settled.⁽¹⁾ It is unlikely, however, that Mary knew about this family connection and even less likely that her brother Jonathan and his second wife Ann did.

Ann had been born in the parish of St. Andrew, Bishop Auckland. Possibly she had come from Bishop Auckland to Durham to be "in service" and it is also possible that her employer was one of the church officials or dignitaries who had their large houses in that part of Durham City, known as the "peninsula". The Bishop of Durham's Palace at Bishop Auckland (hence that town's name) provides a convenient link between the two places. Speculating further, perhaps it was while in Durham visiting his other sister, Dorothy, that Jonathan had met Ann.

Jonathan and his new wife settled down to produce several children, half brothers and sisters to Thomas, Jonathan's son by his first wife. The first was Dorothy, born at Northorn on 8th October, and baptised at Tanfield 2nd November 1806. Next came William, born 6th October 1810, by which time Jonathan and Ann had moved to South Moor (just to the south of Stanley and at that time counted as part of Beamish Township). William was baptised on 4th November 1810 and was followed by Joseph (born at South Moor 3rd July, baptised 6th September 1812). After that Jonathan and Ann moved again, this time to Quarry House near Oxhill, on the western side of Stanley. At Quarry House they had a daughter Mary, who was baptised on 23rd October 1814, but then followed another of the child-deaths which dogged every generation at that time. Joseph died and was buried 10th February 1815. Then, after the births of another Joseph (baptised 2nd November 1817) and an Ann, young Mary died. Mary's burial was on 1st June 1819 and again the opportunity was taken to alleviate the sadness of the funeral by having a baptism -- that of Ann -- at the same time. Another son, John (baptised 27th May 1821), was born at Quarry House before the family moved again, this time to Kip Hill, to the north of Stanley and on the other side of the valley of the Houghall Burn to Quarry House. At Kip Hill their final child, Ralph (baptised 21st November 1824), was born. Ralph was therefore Jonathan's ninth child and Ann's eighth, though because of the two deaths he brought the number of children in the family up to only seven.

No record has yet been found of Jonathan's death or burial but Ann died in 1836 (buried at Tanfield 5th October), by which time her address was given as Shield Row, which may indicate that she had gone to live at Northorn, with those of her husband's relatives who were still there.

JOSEPH RODDAM (II)

Joseph, the child who was baptised at Tanfield on 2nd November 1817, was to become the father of the next generation with which we should concern ourselves, although his brothers Thomas, Jonathan, William and Ralph all left descendants in the area. He was a coal miner like his father, and spent his life moving around the pit-villages of the Stanley area. He married Elizabeth Scurfield about 1840 and by the time of the 1841 census was living with her and her mother at Craghead, just to the south of Stanley and in Holmside Township of Lanchester parish. Elizabeth's father had been named Thomas, and her mother was nee Margaret Charlton, daughter of one Fenwick Charlton, a name which indicates a descent from the widespread North Tynedale family of Charlton and also from the Fenwicks, who are found all over Northumberland. Their family, with their dates of baptism at Tanfield, were Margaret (28th September 1842), Jonathan (7th June 1843), Mary Ann (7th March 1846), Thomas (7th July 1848, died aged 1) and Elizabeth (10th July 1850), Dorothy (c.1854) and Isabella (born 2nd November 1859). All but the last two seem to have been born at Craghead and in the cases of Margaret and Jonathan the address can be further localised to Wagtail Cottage.

In 1840, probably just before he was married, Joseph Roddam was involved in a notable hewing match, which was actually the subject of a short article in "*Monthly Chronicle of North Country Lore and Legend*" of May 1887 and a further note in the July issue. Perhaps he was short of money for the wedding or perhaps he just thought he should seize any opportunity to make a little extra by making a wager he thought he could win. The match was at Shield Row Colliery and Joseph and his opponent Robert Whitfield took up positions, with their picks in their hands, back-to-back in a narrow "bord" or workplace running east-west and on a given signal each commenced hewing coal, one working to the north and the other to the south. It was arranged that the match should last for a week (six working days). On the third day Joseph Roddam, who had not been doing so well, came upon what the miners called "open threads", that is very friable coal which almost fell apart as soon as it was touched with the pick. This soon gave him such a lead that Whitfield resigned and Joseph was declared the winner. As Roddam is supposed to have been three "corfs", or baskets of coals, down before his lucky strike, Whitfield's family were rather touchy on the subject of his great win and members of it were quick to point out the true story when the "*Monthly Chronicle*" got it slightly wrong at their first attempt even though it was 47 years later!

Hewing coal was a hard life and Joseph, like most miners, had probably started work at the age of about 10 as a trap-boy, sitting in the dark keeping a door closed and opening it when the putters were coming, graduating eventually to a putter charged with transporting the coal from the face to the shaft bottom, probably with the aid of ponies. Only when the men's strengths were at their maximum would they become hewers and as hewers were paid by results only the fittest did well at it. To have entered into such a competition -- and to have won it as well -- Joseph Roddam must have been a strong man indeed.

When the 1851 census came around Joseph had moved on from Craghead to Kyo, a small pit village not far from Quarry House where he had been born. After that he seems to have moved a few miles north-west, to the South Pontop Colliery in Collierly parish, where he died in 1874.

JONATHAN RODDAM (II)

The only surviving son (born 1843) of the mighty hewer must have been afforded a great deal of respect in the pit villages where he lived and it is not surprising that he became something more than an ordinary pitman. Jonathan became a Colliery Overman, one of the first steps on the management ladder. As the system evolved, the underground "Foreman" in a mine became called a "Deputy", a term which seems to have originally meant "Deputy Overman". A "full" Overman, then, would be something on the level of a Shift Manager, only one step below an Under-Viewer or Assistant Colliery Manager. The Viewer, or Colliery Manager, might have several pits under his control, so the Under-Viewer would be the man in charge of a particular pit. These terms did vary somewhat between collieries.

Jonathan married Elizabeth Simpson Bell, daughter of Thomas Bell and Elizabeth nee Dawson, at Collierly on New Year's Eve 1867. He moved around much the same group of mines as had his father and grandfather before him, and in the 1881 census we find him at 20 Hill Top Cottages, Oxhill, not far from his father's birthplace. His family, with years and places of birth, were Thomas Bell (1868, Greencroft), Elizabeth (1869, Kyo), Margaret (1871, Kyo), Isabella Simpson (1873, Kyo), Joseph (1874, Oxhill), William Robert (1876, Oxhill), Jonathan (1878, Oxhill), Hugh (1879, Oxhill) and Elizabeth (1881, Annfield Plain, born after census day). Of these only the eldest son, Thomas Bell Roddam, had an occupation on census day, and he (aged 12) was a Colliery Labourer. Margaret, Isabella Simpson, Joseph and William Robert were all attending school.

Had Jonathan remained in the Stanley district he might have progressed a little further, but some form of colliery middle-management was the best he could reasonably have hoped for. He had raised himself just far enough above the ordinary miner to realise there were opportunities for a better life elsewhere, but he would have to leave the Durham coalfield to get them. Indeed, the future of the New World across the Atlantic seemed much more inviting than anything in north-west Durham, and so we find him emigrating with all his family 1883, eventually settling in Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

The Roddam family history from the emigration onwards becomes more the concern of Americans than of us but, to be brief, the story leads on from Jonathan through Hugh, his youngest son, who died in Scranton, Pennsylvania in 1965, and his son Hugh Ellsworth Roddam (1911-1993), a Lawyer in Little Rock, Arkansas, whose daughter Hillary, married William ("Bill") Clinton, successively Governor of Arkansas and President of the U.S.A.

The trail from Washington, County Durham to Washington D.C. is complete.

A little mystery

Quite close to the district we have been considering lies Beamish Museum and among the artifacts they have gathered is a milk-jug with "*John and Alice Rodham, Beamish, married November 17th 1828*" on the side. This agrees with the marriage at Tanfield church on that day of John Roddam and Alice Morton. The problem is: what, if any, is the connection between these "milk-jug" Roddams and the family we have been considering? The "milk-jug" family has been traced two generations further back, as well as forwards, with no connection having been found, so the mystery remains.

As we have seen, there have been Roddams in County Durham for at least four and a half centuries, and in Northumberland for as long again before that, so it is not surprising that by the early nineteenth century they had spread out all over the region. Given the importance locally of the coal industry, it is also not surprising to find more than one family of Roddams in the same then-thriving mining district. There are many Roddams mentioned in the parish registers of Tanfield and surrounding parishes who cannot yet be connected with the family we have been concerned with. One day, when the origins of Joseph (I) Roddam with whom we began have been discovered, then more connections may be made.

A Jonathan Roddam who married Elizabeth Lant at Penshaw in 1768 could well be a relative of "our" Joseph (I). They lived at "Wapping", near what is now Burnmoor, but Elizabeth died after only one year of marriage and the later history of that Jonathan is still to be determined.

Acknowledgments and sources

Apart from the usual parish registers and census returns quoted in the text, use has been made of the 1992 edition of the I.G.I.'s for County Durham and Northumberland, Welford's "*Men of Mark Twixt Tyne and Tweed*", Richardson's "*Local Historians' Table Book*" (Volume 3, where there is an illustration of the Arms of Roddam of Roddam), the "*Monthly Chronicle of North-Country Lore and Legend*" (1887), and P.E.H. Hair's edited version of "*The Reason of my Wrioting*" by Anthony Errington (1975). I must also acknowledge the help of Eric Hill of South Humberside, who provided the Hepplewhite connection, of Ron Nubley of Lanchester, of Mr. H. Boggan of Darlington, and of M.P. Bonser of Derwentside District Council, as well as the considerable interest of Andy Guy of Beamish Museum and the facilities of Durham County Record Office.

(1) See "*In Search of George Hepplewhite*", E. Hill, N.D.F.H.S. Journal Winter 1992

TO A WATERY GRAVE

Death: On the 29th ult at Simonburn, Northumberland in her 78th year, Mrs. Mary Kirsop widow who since the month of December 1812 has been tapped for the dropsy no fewer than 192 times, however incredible it may appear, having undergone the operation every fortnight or thereabouts from that period till the week previous to her dissolution. The water drawn from her averaged full 10 quarts at each operation amounting in the whole to 1920 quarts or 480 gallons.

Berwick Advertiser, March 5th, 1820.

SUNDERLAND SEAMEN OF THE 19TH CENTURY

A Valuable Record

Edward Cook was a desperately unlucky fellow in a notoriously dangerous trade. In October 1838, he was a 65 year old with 50 long years of sea service behind him. At Quebec, on board the *Energy*, engaged in shipping coals, some of them fell upon him, breaking two of his ribs.

They put him into a hospital, leaving his "cloathes" at a Lodging House. Three months later his meagre possessions had gone, "burnt with 69 others", we are told. How or why, we do not know. Then he went to a London ship, *Sir William Beasley*, and on his very first day in her, a leg was broken. A Quebec vessel, *Salem*, next engaged him. He was "heaving out" -- he can hardly have been strong enough -- when the gods of seafaring fate conspired again. A broken right arm for Edward was the result.

A schooner (its name we do not know) found room for what must have been by now a mere wreck of a man. Even now, he did not escape unscathed. In what was doubtless a much weakened state, Edward "caught the fever". He at last "came home in the *Mary Lucy*" -- to apply for a well deserved place in the Aged Seamen's Home in his home port of Sunderland in 1839.

Glimpses of the past such as this are what make family history such an absorbing pastime. How many of us know much about what befell our own ancestors in the lengthy vacuum of time between birth, perhaps a marriage to a lady of equal unfamiliarity to us, and finally demise? How did our man live, what conditions did he have to endure, what problems confronted him? Was he reasonably healthy, or ill or perhaps crippled? Was he lucky, or like the unfortunate Edward Cook? How can we paint a few more strokes on the canvas which was the life of a great-great grandfather?

As we all know, adding flesh to the bones of mere dates can be far from easy, but if you have a forebear who was, like Edward Cook, a Merchant Seaman in the port of Sunderland in the early or mid 19th century, you could profit from examining the records of the Home to which Edward returned in 1839. The records of the Trafalgar Square Aged Seamen's Homes are, on every page, crammed with illuminating cameos of some part of the lives of the men and women housed there. It is only quite recently that searchers have been able to examine some of these records on the shelves of Sunderland Library, in a photocopied form. Moreover the Trustees of the Homes have kindly allowed your Society to film them and to prepare a set of microfiche, complete with index, which we can now offer for sale.

Sunderland natives and residents will know of the Trafalgar Square Homes in the east end of the city. They still stand, an oasis of decorum in one of Sunderland's less attractive areas, a full century and a half after they were built for £3000 on the site of an old workhouse garden. There were 104 rooms there, and 60 in neighbouring Assembly Garth, now demolished. Each room, almost in the shadow of the parish church of Holy Trinity, was occupied by a man and his wife and family, or perhaps a widow or widower -- all seamen of the port who had fallen ill or been injured, or were in their old age and homeless after many years in their hazardous calling, or the widows of such men. Over many years, seamen had been obliged to contribute to a "Muster Roll Fund" and it was from this fund that the money came, in 1840, to enable further homes to be added to earlier buildings. To the Trustees of these Homes, the men or their relations made applications, seeking to occupy a room. Details from their applications were copied into large volumes, and it is these which we can now peruse.

In them, you will find details of old men, like Edward Cook, some of whom had first gone to sea in the second half of the 18th century. And of younger men, some only in their 20's or 30's, who had been injured at sea or who had perished in the 1830's, 40's and 50's. The nature and amount of the detail varies -- the item relating to Edward Cook is one of the shorter ones -- but in addition to a man's name you will commonly find his age, the name of his wife and perhaps the date and place of marriage, possibly his own date of birth and sometimes the names and dates of birth of any children. In most cases, there is a summary of his sea career which, in the later part of the period covered, includes an apparently complete list of all the ships in which he had served, since they needed to know the man's Muster Fund contributions in each of them. If the man had been injured, or if the claimant was a woman whose husband had died, there is usually a quite detailed story, certified by a doctor or some similar person, of the accident or injuries he had suffered, or of the manner of his death, giving a vivid picture of the horrific conditions in which these men had worked, often in overloaded or unseaworthy vessels. It is these additional details which add an extra dimension to the records and make them such a rich and fascinating field for family historians, as well as for all interested in the maritime past of the area.

The type of information can best be illustrated by a few examples, by no means untypical ones.

The first few pages, apparently compiled about 1850, list the residents in 13 houses at that time, sometimes merely with a name, age, number of years at sea and year of marriage but sometimes rather more informative -- Mary Burn, aged 60, the widow of William Burn, 37 years at sea, whom she had married in 1821. He was a "sailmaker before going to sea. Bound 1810. Left 1838. Died 1839. Has a daughter born 1828 out of health, lodges here at night".

After the opening pages, the volumes give us details of the claims to be admitted to the Homes and many of these recount graphically the difficulties the men had faced. "May 1839. Adam Robertson, aged 33. Mate of the *John and Mary* and admitted an impatient in the Bristol Infirmary on 3rd December last with fractured ribs and inflamed hands and feet, the effects of exposure on the wreck of the said vessel". "October 1840. 20 year old Jas Valentine, seaman on board the *Susannah* fell from the foreyard across the Bulwarks forward, broke his thigh and fractured his head".

Then there is the young widow, 24 year old Esther Taylor, who had lost her 23 year old husband James "In February 1840 injured his inside whilst loading Timber at Southampton, went from there to Llanelly and he complained much during the passage. Taken to a doctor who said he would not recover. Came to London and put on board the *Dreadnought* and died".

Fifty-six year old William Read of Williamson Terrace, Monkwearmouth, "Went to sea in the years 1803 to 1806 in the *Badger* with Anthony Landers and others to America. In the years 1821 to 1833 was master of the *Galatea* belonging to Mr. Herring and in the year 1833 on passage from St. Petersburg got a severe cold, so that his voice could not be heard for near 2 years, and since that time has continued in an afflicted state. Has been in business as a Butcher until November 1841 since which time has not been able to do anything, but been in the doctor's hands ever since".

There are many cases of men leaving port on a ship of which no more was heard, or was lost with all hands, and the occasional mention of a brave but fatal act, like Matthew Telford "Mate of the *Ann Elliott* on 26th May 1841 drowned at Mirarnichi by slipping his hold after saving a Boy".

We find veterans of the Napoleonic Wars, like John Bryson. Apart from 3 years in prison and 17 on a Man O'War -- perhaps almost a prison too -- he had been at sea constantly from 1791 to 1838.

There are victims of violence, like 39 year old Robert Oliver who in September 1840 "died from the effect of a blow received on the head from a person now in custody for manslaughter with a coble's oar, and survived the assault 22 days lying during that period in a state of insensibility and extreme suffering". His widow Sarah was left with 4 children under 14.

Some claims are wonderfully informative and provide physical descriptions too! Isabella Steel, a widow, of "low figure, black hair, grey eyes, dark complexion", born at Sunderland, the widow of Isaiah Steel who died in April 1853 after 14 years at sea "by virtue of sickness incident to the nature of the service". She had children John George, under 4 and Martha, not yet 2 and there is a copy of a letter to Mr. Thomas Young of Sunderland from the British Consulate at Rio de Janeiro dated May 12th 1853. "I have to acquaint you that Captain Isaiah Steel, the master of the schooner *Seine* arrived at this Port on the 9th ult and reported the loss of the said vessel near Paranaquay. He left his logbook to extend a protest but before it was signed he was seized with Yellow Fever and I regret to say that he fell a victim to this destructive disease. I am glad to say that the deceased met with every kindness and attention during his illness, especially from Mr. Wm. Fox (in whose house he was residing) and from Mr. Ellis the Mate of the *Seine* and that he had the best medical attendance. After his death I took an inventory of the effects and money left at the Fox's house and I enclose herewith statement of the same and as I do not know the address of Captain Steel's widow I transmit to you a Bill for £22-1-0 the amount of money found after his death. I also forward to your address by this conveyance the Steam Packet *Forest* a Box containing the Chronometer, a sextant, a Barometer, a Writing Desk and Silver Watch and chain and a bundle of papers. You will also find the ship's log book in the Box".

Whilst Captain Steel seems to have been well looked after, the same can hardly be said of 45 year old Watson Bertram, 30 years at sea, who carried on work, no doubt out of sheer necessity, despite "falling headforemost into the hold" on 18th November 1839 whilst Master of the *Dove*. This "Has produced an injury to the Brain". Notwithstanding this, "was 6 voyages in the *Dove* in the year 1840 and 4 in the *Lamb* in they year 1841. On the 24th April 1842 had an attack of Paralysis from the aforementioned Cause. Have been 1 Voyage at sea since ... Went to Sea at the age of 13 years".

The claim of Alice Dixon of Low Street in July 1842 sheds light on her bigamist husband "In consequence of my Muster Roll money having been discontinued on account as I am informed of your having received information that I was Married, such was the fact as I believe you are all aware to Thomas Spears who had (unknown to me) been previously married. After ascertaining that fact proceedings were immediately instituted against him, he was committed, tried and convicted of the Bigamy at the last January sessions held at Durham and sentenced to 12 months Hard Labour. Therefore my Marriage is by law null and void and declared illegal".

The detailed notes on injuries or deaths are less common from about 1852, but in that later period we are given complete lists of the ships in which a man served -- sometimes 40 or 50 names, dating back over 50 years in some cases.

For example, Robert Leadbitter, no less than 72 years of age, 5ft. 4ins. tall with hair "grey and balding" had been born at Bishop Auckland, had married Matilda Drew at Monkwearmouth in 1844, had been 52 years at sea, starting as an apprentice in the *Harriot* as long ago as 1794, progressing to Mate on the 119 tons *Redbreast* of Sunderland in 1807 and to Master later that year, being in command of a number of Sunderland vessels right up to 1846.

What percentage of the claims were made by women? I checked the claims for the first two years. In 1839, 47 of 100 claims were made by the fair sex and of 118 claimants in 1840, there were 52 by women, suggesting that between 40% and 50% of all claims would come from widows. There is, however, an occasional case of a claim made by a woman whose husband was still alive -- 60 year old John Newbiggin was in "Mr. Kent's Lunatic Asylum" having been frost bitten on a voyage to Memel and back and "then became imbecile".

I also checked the first 20 male claimants, who ranged from a 22 year old to three 65 year old veterans of the sea. Only three were not described as being injured or ill in some way, and the injuries of the remainder ranged from fractured skulls to palpitations. The place must have been more like a hospital than a Home!

There are just under 2800 applications in all and the index, which includes the wives and children mentioned, has about 4700 names. There is a gap in the records between November 1854 and May 1855 and they end in May 1856.

All in all, a most fruitful source of information, provided of course that you have an ancestor who was a Sunderland seamen of the time. I only wish that I had!

NOTE: A history of the Aged Merchant's Seamen's Homes was printed in 1903 in *Antiquities of Sunderland* Volume IV published by Sunderland Antiquarian Society.

A set of 12 microfiche, plus another fiche containing the index and a copy of the Sunderland Antiquarian Society article, can be obtained from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidan's Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP. The cost is £6 post free in the U.K. and Europe and £7 elsewhere abroad.

We are grateful to the Trustees for granting permission to us to copy their documents and publish the microfiche, and to Sunderland Library for assisting to make this possible. We also wish to acknowledge the efforts of Mr. W.P. Jeffrey and Mr. W.L. Stephenson, who compiled the index. The article from *Antiquities of Sunderland* is reproduced by permission of Sunderland Antiquarian Society.

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MISERLY

Death of A Miser. On Saturday se'nnight at Hallgarth Street, Durham Mr. A. Featonby aged 82. This person who lived the greater part of his life in a state of abject penury, is said to have died worth £20,000! He has not infrequently accepted employment on the turnpike roads, in the breaking of stones etc. and the coat which he wore up to the time of his death was so patched that scarcely a particle of the cloth of which it was originally composed could be discovered among the "shreds and patches" which it exhibited.

Berwick Advertiser, 29th August 1818.

SOME "STRAY" MARRIAGES OF SUNDERLAND SEAMEN

While helping to compile the index to the records of the Aged Seamen's Homes at Assembly Garth and Trafalgar Square, Sunderland -- see the article entitled "Sunderland Seamen - A Valuable Record" on pages 20-22 Mr. W.L. Stephenson extracted details of marriages mentioned where the ceremony is stated to have taken place other than in the parishes of Sunderland, Monkwearmouth and Bishopwearmouth. These are listed below in alphabetical order of bridegrooms:

AYRE, George/ROBINSON, Ann	14 February 1835	St. Hilda, South Shields
BLETON, John/GIBSON, Jane	5 July 1836	St. George East, London
BRODERICK, Hunter/DAVISON, Elizabeth	1 August 1831	Jarrow
BURNIKELL, Richard/NICHOLSON, Elizabeth	17 September 1821	St. Hilda, South Shields
BURTON, Robert/DRYBOROUGH, Isabella	10 August 1812	Leith
BUSK, James/KITCHEN, Hannah	26 April 1816	Chatham, Kent
CARLING, Alexander/DUNN, Barbara	5 October 1834	Gracechurch Street, London
COATES, Stephen/DOWNER, Jane Caroline	2 December 1824	Portsmouth
COTTEE, Robert/GILL, Ruth	10 January 1831	Jarrow
DEATHERS, Thomas/STEGGLE, Mary Ann	14 December 1846	Woolwich
DOVER, Robert/COWARD, Ann	14 August 1843	Southampton
EVENS, John/BROWN, Isabella	20 March 1819	Newington, London
FROST, John/TREDGOLD, Mary	26 February 1817	St. Oswald, Durham
FUNNELL, William/CASS, Ann	1 January 1814	Berwick-on-Tweed
GAINE, Thomas/SHERWOOD, Elizabeth	24 January 1828	Lynn
GUNN, William/ GREY, Mary	2 September 1810	Jarrow
HANDLEY, Richard/THOMPSON, Ann	1 October 1824	Whitburn
HENDERSON, John/BREWSTER, Elizabeth	4 October 1829	Whitechapel, London
HUNTER, John/HOOD, Elizabeth	12 August 1829	London
JACKSON, Robert/RYMER, Mary	14 December 1820	Kilverton, Yorks
JARRITT, Herbert/ANDERSON, Jane	18 March 1816	Scarborough
JOHNSON, Edward/BROWN, Margaret	2 March 1828	North Shields
KIDD, Robert/LOWDEN, Agnes	27 January 1824	St. Andrews, Fife
LEAMAN, Samuel/BROCK, Ann	7 April 1811	Whitby
LIDDLE, Robert/BELL, Ann	20 January 1812	Robin Hood's Bay
METCALF, Jeremiah/WILSON, Jane	10 August 1818	Wallsend
NICHOLS, John George/WILKINSON, Margaret	15 June 1840	Dalton-le-Dale
PARKIN, Thomas/ATON, Isabella	8 April 1822	North Shields
PHALP, William/ROWLANDS (nee BRASS), Jane	10 January 1839	South Shields
POTTER, Thomas/LITTLEFAIR, Hannah	16 February 1814	Durham
POTTS, John Clark/MORRIS, Ann	17 September 1829	Jarrow
PYLE, Henry/GILLEY, Elizabeth	6 January 1824	Shadwell, London
REYNOLDS, William/HIRD, Jane	18 June 1845	Darlington
REYNOLDSON, William/USHER, Mary	20 March 1833	Heworth
ROBERTSON, David/HEMSLEY, Mary Ann	13 October 1841	Jarrow
ROBINSON, Robert/TODD, Mary	21 August 1825	Jarrow
SMITH, John/HUNTER, Mary	1 January 1830	Lerwick, Shetland
SMITH, John/LUNDIN, Isabella	28 August 1820	Stepney, London
SMITH, Joseph/ELLIOTT, Isabella	24 February 1810	Berwick-on-Tweed
SMITH, William/JOB, Margaret	16 June 1822	Swansea
SWINHOE, George/BENNETTS, Julia Hannah	19 March 1849	St. Peter's, Gurnsey
TEASDALE, George/CLAXTON, Ann	16 October 1803	Jarrow
TODD, James/SMITH, Mary Hardy	18 April 1819	North Shields
WEAR, John/BROWN, Alice	21 February 1824	Whitby

LLOYD'S MARINE RECORDS AND GENEALOGY

P. Hull

Many of us will have come across the occupation "Master Mariner" in searches of Census Returns or Street Directories in Genealogical Research. The usual sources for finding out more about such individuals are the Board of Trade (B.T.) records for mariners at the Public Record Office, Kew (see: "*My Ancestor was a Merchant Seaman*" by C.T. and M.J. Watts, Society of Genealogists). However, it may also be possible to get some preliminary or additional information from two sets of Lloyd's records, as it is frequently difficult to get such information for mariners from census returns, as they are seldom at home.

The two sets of Lloyd's records are, firstly *Lloyd's Register* (remodelled 1834), which gives name of vessel, its age, owner and builder of all vessels classified by the society: also, importantly for the present purposes, each entry includes the name of the Master. By referring to this Register, an underwriter could see the condition and fitness of any classified vessel for conveying a particular cargo, or undertaking a particular voyage. This Register is in a number of larger libraries including Newcastle. The second source is *Lloyd's List*. This is in effect a weekly shipping newspaper, and has lists of sightings, sailings, arrivals and "incidents" at various ports for listed vessels. Each year these were indexed by vessel name, and it is this index which should be consulted. The index itself is in the Guildhall Library, London, but microfilm copies exist elsewhere, for example in the National Library of Scotland, in Edinburgh.

The primary interest of those who compiled these records was, of course, the ship itself, rather than members of the crew. Indeed, it is necessary to find out what ship a mariner was on, in order to trace his movements. He could then appear in the ship's crew lists, which have been preserved from 1835 at the P.R.O. and which give age and place of birth (B.T. 98).

Each year in Lloyd's Register, for every vessel we have a listing of the type:

Ship Name, Type, Master, Tons, Where & When Built, Owners, Port Belonging, Destined Voyages, Class.

I transcribed this data for a complete year (1851) for all 11027 vessels, for another purpose. It was then realised that this information might be useful for tracing Masters, and the names of all vessels belonging to Sunderland (623 vessels) were listed. Against the names of these vessels there were, in 1851, the names of 650 Masters-- these entries were then listed alphabetically by name of Master. About half of these names of Masters consist of a surname only, the others of a surname and initial. It must be emphasised that one could search for the name of any Master Mariner active at this time, in this listing. However, to give an example of the use of this list, we can get information about George Hull, who was known to be a Master Mariner from the 1851 Census, and also from 1850 and 1853 Street Directories. We find that he is listed twice in 1851, once as G. Hull, Master of a 100 ton schooner (Sr.) called *Trio* and also of a brigantine (Br.) 125 tons, also called *Trio*. Looking in *Lloyd's Register* for 1850 and 1849, we have the entries: *Trio* (Sr.) Hull master. Also in the Registers for 1852-1855 we have: *Trio* (Br.) Hull master. In both cases the destined voyages are the Baltic. Turning to the index to Lloyd's List, and taking 1849 for example we have destinations for *Trio* (Sr.): Stralsund, Shields, Hamburg, Sunderland, Pillau, London. In 1852 we have for destinations for *Trio* (Br.): Bornholm, Dover, Hamburg, Danzig, London.

Information was then sought from the P.R.O. about George Hull. In the index to Certificates of Competency/Service (B.T. 127) he appears as born Sunderland 1803 certificate 40860 and from this other records can be traced, including information about what appear to be other voyages. Unfortunately, the names of the vessels in this P.R.O. information are not given directly, but as a code number, the key to which is not known (Port Rotation Number). Short of looking through all crew lists for Sunderland registered vessels there appears no systematic way of proceeding further.

While looking at data from *Lloyd's Register* cannot be a substitute for a search in the information in the P.R.O. it could give a start, and indicate if a trip to Kew could be worthwhile. I would be willing to look through the alphabetical listing which I have made of Masters of Sunderland vessels for 1851 for the name of any Master Mariner of interest to readers. Also, if there is any interest, it would be possible to extend the listing to other years. Obviously, a listing of Masters of Sunderland vessels is not necessarily the same as a list of Sunderland born Master Mariners. On the other hand, since the vessels are so small, a significant fraction (about 1 in 10?) of all mariners would be Master Mariners.

None of the vessels listed in 1851 belonging to Sunderland was a steamship. The average tonnage was about 200 tons. In a modern vessel this could give dimensions of about 100 feet x 25 feet. What the dimensions of a wooden sailing ship would be I do not know, but the accommodation always seems very cramped. *Trio* (Sr.) and *Trio* (Br.) were half this, and would present opportunities for skillful navigation.

A SUNDERLAND PETITION OF THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

To His Most Gracious and Serene Highness The Prince Regent.

The Humble Petition of the Distressed Wives, fatherless Children, Orphans, and Aged Weeping Mothers of the Towns of Sunderland, Bishop Wearmouth and Monkwearmouth in the County of Durham.

Sheweth.

Humbly forth Praying in the Name of the Blessed Prince of Peace above to Our most merciful and Gracious Prince Regent On Earth who has Ever bore the estimations and renowns of a Protector to his Country and subjects to whose Supreme Wisdom and goodness we humbly Commit our Distressed Situations, for want of an Exchange of Prisoners and to whose Mercy has Ever been great we humbly wait the result.

Your humble Petitioners further state that thro' a long and cruel War they have been brought to a state of Poverty, Distress and ruin by the Numerous captures made by the Enemy, and the long detention of the Husbands, Fathers, Brothers, Sons and Nephews of the Towns of Sunderland Bishop and Monkwearmouth, amounting to many Hundreds of Brave seamen, which Case has reduced thousands to the utmost pitch of Starvation and Want, the Parish Houses being full of Wives, Widows and Orphans, some craving Charity from Street to Street, tradesmen and others ruin'd by the Heavy Charges coming on in Order to support the poor, Aged Mothers, Wives, Widows and Children become Orphans, who before the War were in Opulence, are now become destitute of a Home only the small pittance of a Parish Allowance, and the Parishes so incumber'd with poor can't sufficiently support them.

Your Humble Petitioners further Sheweth.

That if it should meet his Most Serene Highness's approbation to consider and release His Loyal Subjects now in France who has been some for 8 Years, there would be many Hundreds of Brave Seamen who would venture in His Most Gracious Sovereigns Navy And boldly defend their Sovereign and Country's Cause which would be the Means of restoring Comfort and Tranquility to a County and People who are now in a state of Misery. Should it be the Will of our Most Sacred sovereign to Consider Our Most Miserable case and release our Dear Fathers, Husbands, Brothers and Children from their long Confinement It Ever will be the Duty of them and us poor petitioners to join in Prayers and Thanksgivings, to His most Sacred Sovereignty and all the Royal family that they may Long Live to Reign over their Subjects and humble Petitioners.

Editor's Note: Below this petition are lists of names etc. in four columns. The detailed information has been given below, but for space reasons it has been abbreviated. The four columns are headed (1) Names, (2) What relation, (3) How long confined in France, (4) What family left.

In the "What relation" column (2), the following abbreviations have been used: s - son(s), h - husband, b - brother, f - father.

In the "How long confined in France" column (e), the figure given is in years.

In the "What family left" column (4), the following abbreviations have been used: w - wife, wid - widow, c - child or children, m - mother, sis - sister, and so on.

1	2	3	4	1	2	3	4
Evan Owen	s	7	w 5c	Ann Ridley	h	7	w 1c
Hugh Cock	2s	1	-	Elizabeth Oliver	s	5	wid 1c
Jno Wake	2s	1	-	Sa Scott	h	7	w 2c
Jas Todd	s	2	-	Ann Howe	h	6	w 5c
Hannah Wardropper	h	7	w 5c	Margaret Forbes	h	4	w 2c
Margaret Lontit	h	6	w 3c	Cathrin Johnson	h	6	w 3c
Sarah Wilkinson	b	3	-	Mary Wilson	h & s	8	w 3c
Mary Watson	h	5	w c	Ann Stevinson	h	9(?)	w 1c
Andrew Garson	b	4	-	Mary Tynmouth	h	6(?)	w
Ann Mapletoft	h	5	w	Frances Storey	h	2	w c
Hannah Harling	h	2	w 5c	Isabella Robertson	h	2	w c
Agnes Adamson	h	2	w 5c	Susan Ditchburn	s	3	w 6c
Margaret Curry	h	3	w	Susan Maines	h	3	w 3c

Margaret Lewis	h	4	w 4c	Elizabeth Gill	s	5	m 7c
Eleanor Cathey	h	5	w 2(?) c	Sarah Forster	h	9(?)	w 1c
Eleanor Roxby	b & s	5	wid 2c	Margaret Dunning	h	5	w 2c
Alice Smith	h	8	w 2c	Eleanor Mohudon (?)	s	6	wid 4c
Catherine Jackson	h & s	5	w 4c	Mary Garrat	h	1	w 1c
Ann Trulove	s	7	wid 2c	Sarah Parkin (?)	s	3	wid
Hannah Bainbridge	h	4	w 2c	Elizabeth Melvin	b	1	m
Elizabeth Bainbridge	s	5	wid	Jane Ramsey	h	5	w 2c
Mary Lontit	h	3	-	Ann Blacket	h	5	w 4c
Ann Hodgson	h	3	w 6c	Jane Brainby	h	4	w 2c
Elizabeth Gibbons	s	3	-	Mary Hison	h	5	w 2c
Elizabeth Briggs	h	2	wc	Susannah Mole(?)	h	5	w
Ann Hamilton	h	9	w 3c	Isabella Barkas	s	4	m
Ann Hamilton elder	s	9	-	Mary Kay	h	5	w 4c
Alice Briggs (?)	f	6	-	Margaret Booth	s	9	wid
Hannah Aison (?)	s	7	wid	Ann Beals (?)	b	7	-
Jane Hay	h & s	1	w	Mary Robinson	s	5	m 2c
Mary Cliburn	h	5	w 3c	Sarah Hall	h	3	w 2c
Ann Smith	h & s	7	w 7c	Mary Hutchinson	s	1	m 2c
Barbar Rennison	h	5	w 4c	Mary Paddin	h	4	w 1c
Ann Wood	h	7	w 2c	Thomasin Pickering	h	7	w 5c
Margaret Todd	f	7	2c	Elizabeth Bainbridge	h	4	w2 3c
Elizabeth Todd				Mary Nicholson	b	6	3 sis
Johannah Wilson	h	3	w 2c	Ann Langley	h	8	w
Jane Lancaster	h 2s	7	w 4c	Isabella Jamson	2s	7	wid 3c
Hannah Atchison	s	?	m wid	Lydia Laws	h	5	wid 3c
Mary Turnbull	h	5	w c	Sarah Harrinton	h & s	9	w 2c
Jane Maurice	h	6	w	Mary Cowen	sis	7	wid 4c
Alice Holmes	h	6	w 4c	Ann Smith	h	5	w 3c
Eleanor Wheatley	2s	7	m 2c	Elizabeth Potts	2s	5	m 2c
Ann Buck	1s	2	wid	Margaret Sanders	h	2	w 2c
Elizabeth Thompson	h	4	w 2c				

Hon Sir,

The above are a few names shewing how long their relations have been from them and what large family are left in distress. There is computed to be about 700 men in prisons belonging these Towns and to put down all their friends would take a long time so they thought it would be best just to send a few just to shew what a state the town must be in for want and leaves it much to your Goodness whether you think it would be Proper to shew the above to the Prince or not they humbly leave to your better judgement.

Editor's Note: This petition is in the Public Record Office, Ref: HO 42/121 and we are grateful to Mrs. M. Lavan of London for sending a copy of it.

NOT A TRAVELLING MAN

Death: On Thursday se'nnight in his 73rd year Mr. Leonard Madison of Plaintree House near Beamish Burn in the parish of Tanfield much respected. He never slept but one night from under the roof of Plaintree House which his father and grandfather occupied before him, in all for a period of 170 years. *Berwick Advertiser, 8 August 1818.*

AMERICAN CIVIL WAR VETERANS

The last Journal included an item (page 123) about Civil War veterans buried in our region and asked whether any member could add to the details given.

"Ask, and it shall be given you."

We mentioned Sergeant W.H. Hall, who lies in Harton Cemetery, South Shields. This prompted N.D.F.H.S. member Phil Jeffrey to send a copy of a newspaper cutting which mentioned Sergeant Hall and also a great uncle of Mr. Jeffrey, one James Allen, another Civil War veteran, also buried at Harton. Allen "felt strongly enough about the evils of slavery to interrupt his career as a mariner to serve with the Northern forces in America; he returned to the sea after the war, eventually becoming a ship's master". Sounds an interesting tale!

Following Mr. Jeffrey's response, our intrepid secretary, John Ashburner and Jenny his wife, obtained a photograph showing the Superintendent of Harton Cemetery placing a wreath on William Hall's grave. Then South Shields Library kindly took the trouble to send me a cutting from the *Shields Gazette* of April 12th, 1961, one hundred years to the day since the bombardment of Fort Sumter at Charleston, South Carolina which began the Civil War. This included photographs of the headstones of both Battery Major James Allen (of the 1st New York Light Infantry, died 22nd February 1907) and William H. Hall (of the 12th Illinois Cavalry, died May 1923).

Hall was apparently the son of a Jarrow clergyman and was in business in Memphis, Tennessee when war began. Wounded in his first action, he later had a desk job in Washington. However, his chief claim to fame is that "on April 14th 1865, he was a few steps from the box in Ford's Theatre, Washington, when Lincoln was shot by the half-crazed actor John Wilkes Booth. He was one of the first to break down the door and carry out the fatally wounded President". Thank you, Mr. Jeffrey, and thank you, South Shields Library, for your help.

Just a few weeks ago, Norman Welch of Darlington captivated an audience at a Society meeting with his tale of Alexander Rollo, who carried a lantern at the funeral of Sir John Moore at Corunna in 1809 and is now buried at Tynemouth. Wouldn't it be nice if someone could now produce evidence that William Hall, from the other bank of the Tyne, performed an equally noteworthy act and did indeed carry Lincoln's body? Over to you, our members across the Atlantic!

South Shields Library also sent a copy of a letter which appeared in the *Shields Gazette* of 22nd September 1864. It is from William Bage, of the 14th U.S. Cavalry, to his parents -- "We left camp with 300 men and they were all taken prisoner except 48, that is all that is left of us ... I have had enough of it".

Finally, the article in our last Journal, which also mentioned one Thomas P. Orwin, the American Vice Consul in Newcastle, prompted a letter from our member Mrs. Rona L. Dove, 6 Derby Crescent, Hebburn NE31 2TP, who is the grand-daughter of the Vice-Consul's brother. Orwin was second son of James Orwin and his wife Elizabeth nee Peacock who had named at St. Paul's Church, Jarrow. Thomas, invalided out of the American Army, named Margaret Barclay at Felling, and the couple moved to Birmingham, where he was a Solicitor. His Civil War records and medals are held by his grand-daughter Mrs. Margery Young of 7 Glendor Gardens, Mill Hill, London NW7 3JY, who will be pleased to answer any queries.

Thanks to Mrs. Dove, to Mr. Jeffrey and to South Shields Library for their help -- and for proving (as if proof was necessary!) that a mention in our worthy Journal is very likely to produce a positive response from somewhere!

Your Editor will be happy to supply a copy of this letter to any interested reader -- or to a descendant! Now, can anyone tell us more about William Bage of the Federal Army, and, it seems, of South Shields? Or about a certain Colonel Zorbe, buried at Westoe?

I have the feeling that these stories will run and run!

AN INDEX TO THE CIVILIAN WAR DEAD ROLL OF HONOUR

by Brian Pears

In the Autumn of 1992 I was researching the air-raid of May 1st 1942, the only raid to affect my home village of Rowlands Gill, with the object of writing an account of the raid primarily for schools in and around the village. Although the major concentration of bombs was in the Derwent Valley, bombs fell over a wide area of the north-east, and I systematically tackled each of the affected areas seeking out eye-witnesses and casualties or their relations. One particularly nasty incident had occurred in Holly Avenue, Wallsend, near Swan-Hunters Shipyard, where an entire block of terraced flats had been demolished killing eleven people, six of them from one family, the Andersons. I located a gentleman, Tom Gray, who was closely related to the Andersons and he kindly put me in touch with Andrew Anderson who had survived the bomb despite being buried for 3½ hours - he actually heard the bomb penetrating the roof above him followed by a blinding blue flash. Not surprisingly Mr. Anderson remembers that night as if it were yesterday. Imagine losing six members of your family including both parents and a brother and sister. He was only feet from his mother when the bomb struck and recalls her uttering "Oh my God" as they heard the bomb's ominous whistle turn into a deafening shriek. Of more relevance here, I was also shown a few pages from the *"Civilian War Dead Roll of Honour"* which listed the civilian casualties in Wallsend Borough throughout the war, and gave age, home address, place of death, date of death and a few additional family details such as the name of the deceased's spouse. An introduction explained that the Civilian War Dead Roll of Honour records the names of the more than 60,000 World War Two civilian war dead of the British Commonwealth and Empire and was compiled by the Imperial War Graves Commission.

This was the first time I had come across the Roll of Honour and I immediately made enquiries with the Commonwealth War Graves Commission (2 Marlow Road, Maidenhead, Berkshire, SL6 7DX), as the organisation is now called. The staff were extremely helpful and I was sent a publications list which stated that individual pages of the Roll could be purchased for 55p or, if the page was out of print, photocopies could be supplied at 30p each. In practice, it seems that one can choose between printed pages and photocopies. The only advantage of purchasing printed pages is that it entitles the purchaser to receive the two introductory pages free of charge. I was interested in the whole of the geographic counties of Northumberland and Durham plus Middlesbrough which entailed purchasing some 55 pages (Nos. 179-207 County Durham, 1791-1812 Northumberland, 2263-2266 Middlesbrough) so photocopies were obviously my preference.

The photocopies arrived very quickly and I was able to read the entries for the whole area, all 1399 of them, each representing a family tragedy. Babies, children and indeed whole families wiped out to further the ends of that Nazi madman, and not in some remote corner of the globe. This was on our very doorsteps just 50 years ago. Some individual incidents were on an almost unimaginable scale - 105 killed by one bomb in the basement of Wilkinson's Lemonade Factory in which they were sheltering. Although the entries do not give the causes of death, further research has shown that not all of the casualties were directly killed by enemy action; some were killed while performing war duties. Take the case of 45 year old Charles Rutherford, an auxiliary fireman, who died on December 20th 1939 when his fire appliance hit an army lorry and overturned outside Seaton Burn while en route to a farm fire. Others died from what might now be termed "Friendly Fire"; they were killed by Anti-Aircraft fire, crashing British planes or some other artifact of war such as barrage balloons. The greatest tragedy of this type was undoubtedly the deaths of five children from the Robson family of Cliff House Farm, Togston, near Amble, whose ages ranged from 19 months to 9 years. They were killed when a Stirling Bomber of 75 Squadron, which had been diverted to Acklington, crashed into their home on its approach. On the other hand, some deaths which common sense would suggest should be included, are in fact omitted. In this category we would include the many people particularly old folks, who died of heart attacks or shock during air-raids, particularly during the early raids.

I set about locating all of the deaths listed for May 1st 1942. This was not an easy exercise as there was no alternative to carefully reading every one of the entries, each of which amounted to a short obituary; and there was no standard layout to assist. A further complication was that some entries contained two dates -- the date of injury and the date of death. The order of the entries did not help either; within the counties we first find the County Boroughs in alphabetical order and then the Urban and Rural Districts and Municipal Boroughs, also in alphabetical order. Within each local authority area, the entries are in alphabetical order. Here are a few of the entries for the May 1st 1942 raid:

MAUGHAN, ARTHUR, aged 29; Home Guard. Son of Miles and Isabella Maughan of 14 Queen's Road, High Spenn; husband of Sarah Hannah Maughan, of 9 Parliament Street, Winlaton. 1 May 1942, at Barlow, Blaydon.

CHEESEMAN, JOHN, aged 70; Special Constable. Durham County Constabulary. Husband of Mary L. Cheeseman, of 1 Lesbury Terrace, Chopwell. Injured 1 May 1942, at Scotswood-on-Tyne; died 5 December 1944, at 1 Lesbury Terrace.

DEMPSTER, ARTHUR, age 29. 1 May 1942, at 156 Holly Avenue.

The local authority under which a particular entry is listed is the one in which the death occurred, irrespective of the person's home address or the place where they were injured. On Tyneside, with its proliferation of local authority areas, this is quite relevant because those dying in hospital could very well be listed under a local authority other than the one in which they lived. Thus we find engine driver William Musgrove, who was killed in his home at North Walbottle on May 1st 1942, listed under Newburn Urban District, while his daughter, Dora Irene, injured in the same place and at the same time, is listed under Consett Urban District because she died in Shotley Bridge Hospital. Even worse, the three members of the Dodgson family who were victims of a bomb at Blaydon on September 1st 1941 are all listed in different areas -- Blaydon, Whickham and Newcastle.

As with any index, one has to decide how much information is to be included. In this case I decided that, for each entry, I would include as much as could be squeezed onto a single line of about 85 characters. This amounted to Page Number, Date of Death, Name and Service(s) e.g. Home Guard, Age and Place of Death. Then came the task of actually entering the information onto my word processor, quite a major undertaking, and re-programming it to sort the data into date and alphabetical order.

The eventual result was a couple of indexes, together occupying some 50 pages, and an introduction of about 4 pages. I supplied copies to several local libraries and archives. I should point out that the indexes do not include the details of most interest to genealogists -- names of parents and/or spouse -- so, to obtain this information, it will be necessary to purchase the relevant pages from the Commonwealth War Graves Commission; but the index will indicate which pages are needed.

Of course the Second World War is very recent in genealogical terms, but the oldest victim featured in the indexes, 94 year old Mary Alice Hirst of Alnmouth, was born around 1847, quite a few generations removed from present day researchers. In contrast, the youngest victim was Christina Price of Millfield, Sunderland, aged 11 days! She would just have been celebrating her 50th birthday this year were it not for the 11 parachute mines, 76 high-explosive bombs and around 600 incendiary bombs which flattened large areas of Sunderland. This raid left 114 dead (including 28 in South Shields), and damaged more than 5000 houses. Ironically this, the last bombing by enemy aircraft in the area, caused the highest death toll of the war. There were two further attacks on the area. First, and most surprising was by a V1; yes a "Doodlebug" in the North-East. This landed at Tudhoe, near Spennymoor, County Durham at 6.05 a.m. on Christmas Eve 1944. It landed on the cricket field destroying the pavilion and damaging a Church of England Vicarage, two churches, an orphanage and 390 houses, 22 of them seriously. There were no deaths but 11 people were injured. This V1 was one of 40 air-launched from Heinkel 111 bombers off the coast between Skegness and Mablethorpe; they were aimed at Manchester but many went off course including the Tudhoe "Fly" and one which landed in Northamptonshire. Sadly there were 35 deaths, most of them in Oldham. It is reported that the Royal Observer Corps member who first reported the V1 over Sedgefield was suspected of suffering from an excess of Christmas spirit! The final attack was during the early hours of March 4th 1945 when 70 German night-fighters followed British bombers on their way back from bombing runs to Germany and roamed the skies of Britain for 3½ hours, bombing and machine-gunning at will. This was Operation Gisela, the doomed Nazis' last desperate blow. In this area no bombs fell, but Tynemouth, Easington Colliery and Darlington were all subject to machine-gun and cannon fire. One woman was slightly injured in the North-East but nationally there were 13 killed and 28 injured.

Editor's Note: Mr. Pears has drawn attention to papers in Tyne and Wear Archives which might be of interest to anyone researching air raids -- T 136/133 are Situation Reports by police etc. on raids on Newcastle, whilst similar Sunderland papers are 209/113. Northumberland Record Office NRO 640/39 may also be of interest.

Copies of Mr. Pears' index have been deposited with the Record Offices of Durham, Northumberland and Tyne and Wear, and with the libraries of Durham City, Gateshead, Newcastle, South Tyneside, Northumberland and Sunderland.

Microfiche copies have been prepared by N.D.F.H.S. and can be obtained from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidans Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP for £1.50 post free (£1.70 overseas).

POPULATION TURNOVER IN NEWBOTTLE, COUNTY DURHAM, BETWEEN THE 1881 AND 1891 CENSUS YEARS

by John Hunter

I expect that society members commonly spend a little more time researching a particular village if several generations of one's ancestors lived there. While studying the census returns and Parish registers, the names of unrelated families become recognisable and the appearance of strangers or unusual trades more noticeable as one develops a mental image of village life.

My family has had a long association with Newbottle, a small village adjacent to Houghton-le-Spring in County Durham. Both my parents lived there, as did four generations of Hunter's before them. For a time, the family owned property in Newbottle, including a grocers shop and Post Office which still exists, although now under a different name.

Several years ago I transcribed the entries for all heads of households in Newbottle from the 1881 census with the objective of trying to match families to specific buildings on a street plan. I was eager to repeat the same exercise with the 1891 census in the hope that more details would emerge. Unfortunately, house numeration and even street identification is no better on the 1891 returns than on the previous ones.

While transcribing the 1891 material, however, I began to take note of the frequency of families of Irish origin. This prompted me to alphabetically sort the heads of households, by now entered into a database on computer, and compare them to the population living there 10 years earlier. The brief study indicated not only the count of Irish families, but also a dramatic turnover of residents in the village during the decade. The results can be summarised as two pie charts, shown opposite.

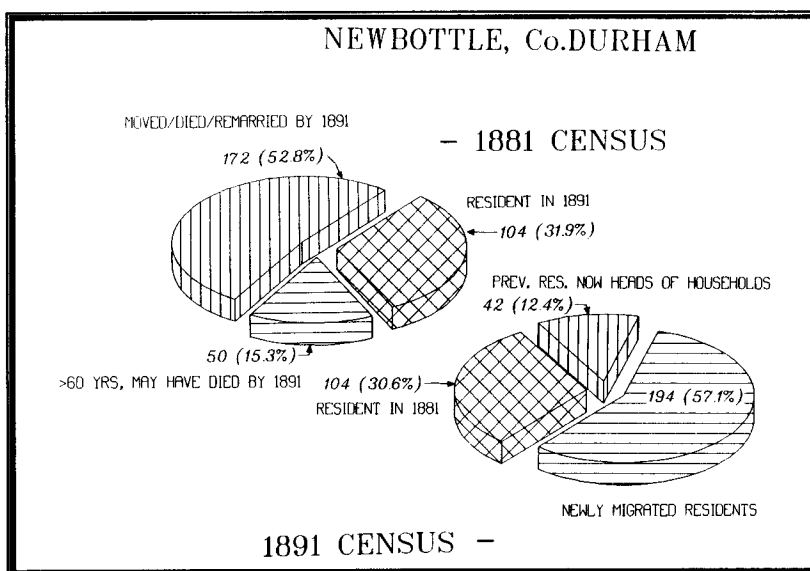
The total number households, or schedules, increased by only 14 from 326 to 340 between the two census years. Of this latter figure, only 104 (31%) were identifiable from 1881. A further 42 individuals (12%) were resident in Newbottle in 1881 and became heads of their own households by the next census. This means that 194 (57%) of the families had migrated into the village during that period.

One can only speculate on the whereabouts of the 69% of the 1881 families not living there 10 years later. A number of heads of households (50 or 15%) were 60 years or older and may have died during that period. This would leave 171 (53%) to have moved, died or remarried.

In the 1891 census I counted a total of 30 families whose heads were born in Ireland, easily dominating all the other households originating from outside Durham and Northumberland. The next closest group were from Yorks (7), followed by Scotland and Lancs with 6 each. Staffs, Somerset and Cornwall all contributed 4 while individuals from several other scattered counties made up the remainder. The farthest migrant came from Greenridge, Pennsylvania, the young son of a Spennymoor man who must have travelled there.

Coal miners formed a large percentage of the Newbottle population, no doubt working in the surrounding collieries. Other prominent artisans were associated with the quarries, potteries, railroads and the foundry. Tradesmen and professionals were more likely to be in the group living there throughout the decade. Finally, the prize for the most unusual occupation goes to Mrs. Margaret F. Stewart, aged 28, a retired envelope gummer.

Editor's Note: Mr. Hunter's address is P.O. Box 1807, Casper, Wyoming 82602, U.S.A.



THE BACK COVER - BROUGH & SONS

The Roll of Honour on the back cover was sent by Mrs. Joy Walker of 1 Garden Terrace, Church Hill, Crook DL15 9DR. It relates to the retail grocery firm, Brough & Sons, which some members may recall. She says the photograph was taken many years ago but she has been unable to find where the memorial was or whether it still exists. Possibly it was in the firm's original Head Office in Oxford Street, Newcastle.

In one of those "amazing coincidences" which seem to occur very regularly in family history circles, within a fortnight of receiving Mrs. Walker's letter, your editor received another letter -- this time from Mr. J.E. Brough, Beechview, Highgate, Lockerbie, Dumfriesshire DG11 1JS. It reads "In January 1919 our family business, Brough & Sons, Wholesale and Cash Grocers (latterly trading as Broughs Ltd.) was sold to the Meadow Dairy Company and in February of that year their employees were presented with cheques as a small token of our appreciation of your faithful service and loyal cooperation while you have been associated with us in business". You will see from the enclosed lists that I have in my possession 40 letters of thanks and that I also list 16 names of those who, probably, tendered their thanks in person.

Brough thank you letter: ARMISTEAD, R.T., 44 Brighton Grove, Newcastle; BELL, N.A. (Oxford Street Warehouse paper); BINKS, J.W., 154 Brinkburn Avenue, Gateshead; BOAG, W.H. (Oxford Street paper); BROWN, George, 7 Addeycombe Terrace, Heaton, Newcastle; CARR, Wilfred (Bacon Warehouse, Oxford Street); CHAMBERS, Rose, 2 Wynnate Crescent, North Road, Wingate, on behalf of her husband; CHARLTON, Mrs. E.H., widow, 102 Northbourne Street, Gateshead; COPELAND, Gertie & Ethel, 37 Clive Street, Newcastle; COOK, J. (Front Street West Stanley branch paper); DALZIEL, Alexander, 28 Wolsley Gardens, Jesmond; DODDS, C. (Ashington branch paper); DORWARD, Joseph, Barmoor Villa, Ryton; ELLIS, H.G., 23 Glenthorn Road, Newcastle; EMBLETON, M. (Broomhill branch paper); FENNING, Alfred (no address on paper); FIDELL, E., Netherleigh, Stanley; FISHBURN, H., 11 Wylam Terrace, Shield Row, County Durham; FLINTOFF, J.W. (Gateshead West St. branch); FLINTOFF, T.W. (Gateshead West St. branch); GILROY, James, D. (Broomhill branch paper); GRAY, J.W. (no address on paper); GRAY, W.S., Cestra House, Chester-le-Street; I'ANSON, Alice, 44 Wordsworth Street, Gateshead, on behalf of her husband; KELL, Louisa, 177 Dunsmuir Grove, Gateshead; MCKINNON, James, 165 Malcolm Street, Heaton; MARSHALL, A. (Crook branch paper); NICHOLSON, Stephen, Station Road, Ushaw Moor, County Durham; PALEY, John, 32 Gainsbro Grove, Newcastle; PETCH, W.H., 96 North Road, Wingate; PIGG, F.E. (Oxford Street paper); RACE, A. (Spennymoor branch paper); RIDLEY, C., 75 Woodbine Road, Gosforth; RIDLEY, J.H., (52405 T/O) Ward E2, Block 1, White Cross Hospital, Warrington; SCOTT, W. (no address); SHILLINGTON, B., 39 Affleck Street, Gateshead; SNAITH, T.P., 19 Holly Avenue, Ryton; SPENCE, A.B., Dilston House, Bedlington Station; STODDART, Chris, 51 Station Road, Dudley Colliery; STRONG, J., 9 Granby Terrace, Newgate.

Other employees who received cheques but from whom no letter of thanks were received: G.H. BELL; W. BELL; G.H. BENJAMIN; C. BROWN; S. BROWN; H.W. COWAN; ? HARKNESS; L. HENDERSON; Geo HILL (Dudley); T. HUNTER; J. METCALF; G. NICHOL; W. OSTELL; ? ROSS; J. SNAITH; S. UNSWORTH.

Mr. Brough adds that he is willing to supply photocopies to any interested Member.

JEMMY DUMPS

Death: At Tweedmouth on Tuesday last, James Robinson, commonly called Jemmy Dumps, well known the streets of Berwick these many years. He was Drum Major at the Battle of Prestonpans in 1746 and was highly offended when told he ran away that day. He gained his livelihood these many years by driving coals and sand and attending to farmers carts on the High Street, while the horses were baiting and the men taking their refreshment. He slept in the same apartment with his asses and has not lain on a bed these 22 years. He was going about in his usual way on Saturday and was taken ill on Monday.

Berwick Advertiser, February 12th, 1814.

NEW MEMBERS

The following new members, whose names do not appear in the Member's Interest column, have joined since the deadline for publication of the last N.D.F.H.S. Journal. They can of course send their interests and queries to Phil Thirkell for inclusion in future Journals at any time, if they want to.

Welcome to all our new members.

5221 Mrs. D. DIXON, 2 Aldborough Close, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS19 7EU. **5222 Mrs. P. GIBSON**, 8 Bruton Avenue, Fawdon, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 2PT. **5223 Mrs. A. MAEERS**, 95 Middleton Avenue, Milton Regis, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 2JE. **5224 Mr. T.R. GILL**, 1 Porter House, Newton Aycliffe, Durham DL5 4DA. **5225 Mr. R. WEAR**, 50 Tattershall, Toothill, Swindon, Wilts SN5 8BX. **5226 Mrs. K.S. PELHAM**, 56 Coppice Road, Poynton, Stockport, Cheshire SK12 1SN. **5227 Mrs. F.M. WALKER**, 45 Noakes Avenue, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex CM2 8EN. **5228 Mr. G.M. HART**, 18 St. Benedicts Close, Aldershot, Hants GU11 3NL. **5230 Mrs. L.D. LEAN**, 2 Baycliffe, Lymm, Cheshire WA13 0QF. **5231 Mrs. P.M. GRUNDY**, 72 Roedean Road, Worthing, W. Sussex BN13 2BU. **5232 Mrs. N. NEASHAM**, 3 Penders Lane, Kirklevington, Yarm, Cleveland TS15 9LZ. **5234 Miss M. WOODARD**, 89 Crawford Village, Upholland, Skelmersdale, Lancashire WN8 9QS. **5235 Mrs. W.E. CRADDOCK**, 15 Corvill Court, Shelley Road, Worthing, W. Sussex BN11 4DF. **5236 Mrs. M. WILLIS**, 8 Allerton Gardens, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE6 5UT. **5237 & 5238 Mrs. J. & Mr. W.J. JENNISON**, 30 The Buntings, Bedford, Bedfordshire MK14 7LA. **5239 & 5240 Mr. M. & Mrs. T.A.A. ALLISON**, 19 Ash Grove, Kirklevington, Yarm, Cleveland TS15 9NQ. **5241 & 5242 Mrs. J. & Mr. E. BULMER**, 8 Bryon Street, Southwick, Sunderland SR5 1HJ. **5243, 5244 & 5245 Mrs. P. & Mr. R.C. BRUCE & Ms. D.M. WATERSTON**, 44 Cheadle Avenue, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear NE28 9QS. **5246 Mr. C.G. TURNBULL**, 6153 Crackleberry Trail, Woodbury, Calgary, Alberta T2S 1K6, Canada. **5248 Mrs. M.M. RITZMAN**, 313 Foreman Avenue, Norman, Oklahoma 73069, U.S.A. **5249 Mr. R. AKENHEAD**, 1119 West Barrow Drive, Chandler, Arizona 85224, U.S.A. **5250 Mr. L.S. McMANUS**, 63 Arthur Street, Ashfield, Sydney 2131, Australia. **5251 Mrs. M. HICKMAN**, 3 Crown Point, Conway, Arkansas 72032, U.S.A. **5252 & 5253 Mr. D. & Mrs. S.J. REAH**, 5 Carew Road, Pinnex Moor, Tiverton, Devon EX16 6BN. **5254 & 5255 Mrs. M.R. & Mr. R.R. PRAT**, 28 Astor Crescent, Ludgershall, Nr. Andover, Hants SP11 9RF. **5257 Mrs. H. WILSON**, 11 Westfield Avenue, West Moinkseaton, Whitley Bay, Tyne & Wear NE25 8NW. **5258 Ms. E. ALLEN**, 18 Linden Road, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 4EY. **5259 Mr. W.L. CAMPBELL**, 71 Whinside, New Ridley Road, Stocksfield, Northumberland NE43 7EJ. **5260 Mr. R.J. KIRKLEY**, 104 Chesterholm, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 7XX. **5261 Mr. H. CROCKOCK**, 23 Amett Way, Rickmansworth, Herts WD3 4DA. **5262 Mr. E. SPOWART**, 57 Lea Way, Huntington, York YO3 9PE. **5263 Mrs. A.E. YOUNG**, West Coldsides Cottage, Mitford, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3QE. **5264 Miss L.E. ALEXANDER**, 19 Rake Lane, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 8EY. **5265 Mr. I.P. PETCH**, 12 Fetcham Court, Kenton Bank Foot, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 2UL. **5266 Mr. A. BIRD**, 3 Beetaloo Street, Geebung, Brisbane, Queensland 4034, Australia. **5267 Mr. J.V. FORSTER**, 49 Thornfield Road, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 5DA. **5268 Mrs. A.E. BICKERS**, 22 Ullswater Drive, Wetherby, West Yorkshire LS22 4YF. **5269 Mrs. M.F. VOISEY**, 687 Gainsborough Avenue, Ottawa, Ontario K2A 2Y9, Canada. **5271 & 5272 Mr. A. & Mrs. M. SUMMERBELL**, 'Heather', Rushetts Road, West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 6EY. **5273 & 5274 Mr. T & Mrs. J. YOUNG**, 6 Rydal Mews, Leadgate, Consett, Durham DH8 6EJ. **5275 Mr. P.R. HETHERINGTON**, 51 John Daniels Way, Churchdown, Gloucester GL3 2QX. **5276 Mr. J. BURDON**, 10 Grace House St. Johns Green, Percy Main, Tyne & Wear NE29 6HE. **5277 Miss K.N. HODGSON**, 29 Gracefield Close, Chapel Park, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE5 1SW. **5278 Miss J. WHITTON**, 'Bellissimo', Main Road, Broughton, Newark, Notts NG22 9JF. **5279 Mrs. M.J. ALLEN**, 141 Springdale Drive, Barrie, Ontario L4M 4Y1, Canada. **5280 Mrs. L.M. SALEEBA**, 10-12 Andrew Crescent, Croydon, Victoria 3136, Australia. **5281 & 5282 Mrs. D.M. SHOVLIN & Ms. C. MELUCCI**, 22 Middlefield, Hatfield, Herts AL10 0EF. **5283 Mr. L.J. HUSBAND**, 60 Vester Gade, 6100 Haderslev, Denmark. **5285 Mrs. S. HODGSON**, 25 Wark Avenue, Shiremoor, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE27 0SU. **5286 Mrs. P. DIXON**, 27 Edlingham Road, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5YS. **5287 Dr. R.W. CARR**, 9900 North West 115 Avenue, Ocala, Florida 34482, U.S.A. **5288 Mrs. M.A. KHARAZ**, Bank House, 260 Manchester Road, Bury, Lancs BL9 9HH. **5289 Mr. A.D. McGREGOR**, 1 Dene Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1QT. **5290 Mr. J. ICETON**, 18 Carmel Road, Stanley, Co. Durham DH9 7RJ. **5291 Mr. A.D. KLOPKE**, 8 Reeds Avenue, Earley, Reading RG6 2SR. **5292 & 5293 Mr. J.T. & Mrs. S.G. TEMPLE**, 71 South Terrace, Wallsend, Tyne & Wear NE28 6QE. **5294 & 5295 Mr. D.I. & Mrs. S.J. JOHNSTON**, 3 The Crest, Seaton Sluice, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 4BL. **5297 Mr. I. REDPATH**, 195 Trewitt Road, Heaton, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE6 5DY. **5298 Mrs. J. McMULLEN**, How Croft, Corby Hill, Carlisle, Cumbria CA4 8QA. **5299 & 5300 Mr. T. & Mrs. P.A. YOUNG**, 2 The Terrace, Hill House Road, Norwich, Norfolk NR1 4BG. **5301 Mrs. J. HEWSON**, 6 Como Court, Mount Waverley, Victoria 3149, Australia. **5302 Miss J. GRAY**, Flat 31 Fauldurn Park, East Craigs, Edinburgh EH12 8YN. **5303 Mrs. R.P. GLADMAN**, Squirrels Lodge, Crossway, Walton-on-Thames, Surrey KT12 3JA. **5304 Mrs. B.M. FIBIGER**, 63 Mercia Drive, Willington, Derby DE65 6DA. **5305 Mrs. G.A. HART**, 9 Highcroft, Middlestone Moor, Spennymoor, Durham DL16 7AL. **5306 Mr. L. SHOULDER**, 1 Hardisty Crescent, Woodhouse Close Estate, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham DL14 6PG. **5307 Mr. R. CUTHBERT**, 78 Primrose Terrace, Jarrow, Tyne & Wear NE32 5EP. **5308 Mrs. M. HANSON**, 2 Eleventh Avenue, Anglesea, Victoria 3230, Australia. **5309 Mr. D. BARCLAY**, 4 Oldstead Gardens, High Barnes, Sunderland SR4 8QL. **5311 Mr. E.C.N. APPLETON**, 147 Carden Avenue, Patcham, Brighton, East Sussex BN1 8NH. **5312 Mrs. V.F.T. ROOT**, 14 Mount Grace Road, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 1RE. **5313 Mr. P.V. FALLON**, 15 The Grove, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 1NE. **5314 Mr. B.S. HUNTER**, 17 Newlands Park, Humberston, Grimsby DN36 4XT. **5315 Mr. M.A. ATKINSON**, Flat 7, 15 Sycamore Road, Barlby, Nr. Selby, North Yorks YO8 7XA. **5316 Mrs. G. DELL**, 9 Severn Grove, Billingham, Cleveland TS22 5BJ. **5317 Mr. K.M. DOYLE**, 21 Red Lion Lane, Overton, Hants RG25 3HH. **5318 Mrs. M.C. DEVONSHIRE**, P.O. Box 79, Park Orchards, Victoria 3114, Australia. **5319 Mr. A. LIDDY**, 21 Numeralla Street, Mooroolbark, Victoria 3138, Australia. **5320 Mr. R. BARRASS**, Vanbrugh House, Manor Road, St. Helen Auckland, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham DL14 9EN. **5321 Rev. Dr. J.R.K. FENWICK**, The Rectory, Rectory Close, Churley, Lancs PR7 1QW. **5322 Capt. J.F. DAGLEAS**, 29 West Meadows Road, Cleadon, Tyne & Wear SR6 7TU. **5323 Mr. R.W. BLACK**, 153 Woodland Park Road, Bournville, Birmingham B30 1SA. **5324 Mr. K. WILLIAMSON**, 15 Green Lane, Cottingham, Hull, N. Humberside HU16 5JJ. **5325 Mrs. T.M. FINN**, 8 Rokeby Drive, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne NE3 3JX. **5326 Ms. D. ALLISON**, 40 Chingford Avenue, Chingford, London E4 6RP. **5327 Mr. F. BRITTON**, 26 Springfield Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 4EH. **5328 Miss E.A. MORALEE**, 9 Sherburn Avenue, Billingham, Cleveland TS23 3PX. **5329 Mr. T.W.J. MANLEY**, 74 Wood End, Kempston Rural, Bedford MK34 9BD. **5330 Mr. G. WALLACE**, 1 Park Terrace, Penrith, Cumbria CA11 8ND. **5331 Mr. G.A. DONNISON**, 154 Brookdale Avenue South, Greasby, Merseyside L49 1SS. **5332 Mr. K.J. McLEOD**, 1 Meadow Park, Bannerdown, Bath, Avon BA1 7PX.

CORRECTIONS

We apologise to Mr. G.J. Mason for incorrectly printing his address in the Winter 1993 Journal. The correct address should have been:

5202 Mr. G.J. MASON, 714-5 Parkway Forest Drive, Willowdale, Ontario M2J 1L2.

We must also apologise to member number **4642** for printing her name in the last Journal's Members Interests as Val Chambers. It should have read **Val Chalmers**.

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 by the 31st March 1994. 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 Jenny Ashburner, Membership Secretary at the address shown on the contents page. Welcome to all our new members.

- 1231 DAVID SUTHREN**, 16 Valley Drive, Padiham, Burnley, Lancashire BB12 8SF.
Seeking information regarding Elizabeth **Sotheran**, born c.1856/57, and died aged 30. Her father's name was Richard and she had a sister Bella born c.1861. The information was obtained from Elizabeth's marriage and death certificates, and census returns which indicate that the family came from Newcastle. No registration of the birth for either sister had been found, nor for the marriage or death of their father.
- 1493 Mrs. ANN BROOKER**, 8 Pentathlon Way, Pittville, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 4SE.
Trying to trace any details, particularly a second marriage, of James **Turner**. He was born c.1805 at Felton or Swarland and in 1851 he was living at Seaton House, Boulmer when he was described as a widower. By 1861, he was living at Pasture House, Howick with his wife Jane. Jane was born 1816 at Angerton in Bolam.
- 1657 Mrs. MARJORIE ROBSON**, Snuff Mill Cottage, Mitford, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3PY.
Researching: Henry **Robson**, born 1826, died Hexham 1914, first Superintendent of Hexham Cemetery. James **Cowen**, first Headmaster of Throckley School, born 1837, son of John Cowen, tailor of Framwellgate, Durham City. Sarah **Park**, daughter of James and Jane, baptised 1863 at Auckland, St. Andrew, Frances **Heppe**, daughter of William, born 1838 at Cambo. Mary **Welton**, daughter of Thomas, stonemason, and Mary, born 1864 Barrasford Fell.
- 2130 KEN ILBERTON**, Whiteshell, P.O., West Hawk Lake, Manitoba R0E 2H0, Canada.
Looking for the date and place of birth, and parents, of William **Elderton**, yeoman, c.1745, supposedly at Hart in County Durham. He married Isable **Dawson** at St. Hilda, South Shields in 1769 aged 24 years. Would also like to contact anyone with Ilderton/Elderton interests, or any of their descendants.
- 2333 Mrs. DORIS GULLAND**, 19 Ladywell Gardens, Corstorphine, Edinburgh EH12 7LQ.
Looking for any information regarding George **Steel**, nurseryman of Cornhill on Tweed c.1893, married to Elizabeth Ann **Turnbull** and Sarah **Hatfield**. Would also like information on his daughters Eleanor (born 1852), Phillias (1853), Isabella (1854) and Margaret (1860). All lived in the Ford area.
- 3067 Mr. R. CHARLTON**, 43 Holme Avenue, New Waltham, Grimsby, South Humberside DN36 4QN.
Seeking information on George **Charlton** who had a son baptised 1788 at Bolam. The son was Francis Charlton. Any information on George please. Also researching **Carr**, **Clint**, **Bell** and **Henderson**.
- 3489 H. BOGGON**, 4 Rosebery Street, Darlington, County Durham DL3 6EU.
Interested in any of the following: **Boggon** (anywhere, anytime), **Eden** (County Durham, pre-1900), **Haddon** (County Durham, after 1840), **Brooksbank**, **Roddam**, **Toole** and **Hayman** (north-east, pre-1900), **Finn** (north-east, 1800-1900) and **Bowerbank** (Darlington, pre-1850).
- 4127 Mrs. WYN CHALKER**, 13 Margerison Crescent, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, West Yorkshire LS29 8QZ.
Researching the **Eltringham** family in Medomsley/Ebchester area and **Tiplady** of Ryton in the 1700's; **Hearst** of Felling from 1850; John **Pattison**, stone mason of Cramlington c.1840, possibly of Haltwhistle before that; **Tully** of Warkworth c.1850, later Newcastle; **Straker** and their farms at Longhirst Brooks (from earliest times to 1800), Climbing Tree, Plessey Hall and Crow Hall, Cramlington -- all in the 1800's. Has a photo of the Newcastle Pipe Band in the 1920's and would be willing to make a copy for anyone researching the band or interest.

- 4375 MAGGIE LAVAN**, 11 Perrers Road, London W6 0EY.
Seeking information on Thomas **Dixon**, corkcutter of Sunderland, who corresponded with John Ruskin, Burne Jones and other 19th century worthies. Ruskin's letters to Dixon are contained in the volume "*Time and Tide*" by Weave and Tyne - twentyfive letters to a working man of Sunderland, published 1867.
- 4439 RICHARD JENNINGS**, 36 Harlequin Lodge, Felling, Gateshead NE10 0HF.
Researching **Jennings** family of Gateshead, haulage contractors and a connection with Newcastle United F.C. What is the family connection to Meadows Island? -- any information about this island pre-1820 wanted. Also seeks birth of James Bell, miller, Windmill Hills, Gateshead pre-1885.
- 4489 Mrs. JOAN LAYBOURN**, 74 Tyne Gardens, Crookhill, Ryton, Tyne and Wear NE40 3DR.
Looking for descendants of Joseph **Elliott**, manager of Watergate Colliery, County Durham when it was owned by Priestman Collieries. He was there in 1933 and was living at Butterknowle. Also any descendants of Harriet **Underwood** (nee **Chapman** or **Chaplin**) in Colchester, Essex. She was only married 18 months when her husband Lionnel died aged 24 years. Did she remarry?
- 4577 JOAN CARR**, 225 Wagner Street, Gravenhurst, Ontario P1P 1C3, Canada.
Seeking information regarding the family of George **Carr**, son of William Francis Carr, druggist, and Jane **Nicholson**. He was born in Mansfield Street in Newcastle 1857 and ran away from home when he was about twelve and ended up in Canada. He had a sister Mary Elizabeth born at the same address in 1855 and another, Alice Ann, born 1859 at Gloucester Row. Any information about which parishes to search and local schools, etc. would be greatly appreciated.
- 4622 Mrs. M.J. NICHOLSON**, 39 Links Road, Cullercoats, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE30 3DY.
Interested in the families of her grandparents of the names **Hunt** and **McCabe**. Grandmother was born in Gateshead c.1866 and after marrying moved to Ashington. They had four sons and later lived in the Chirton area of North Shields.
- 4698 & 4699 Mr. I.P. & Mrs. J.A. PARISH**, 8 Farm Close, Kidlington, Oxfordshire OX5 2BE.
Seeks the marriages of the following: 1) George **Dunn** and Phillis, c.1829, possibly Newcastle. 2) William **Hall**, c.1825, possibly Newcastle. 3) Robert **Henderson** and Eleanor **Harbottle**, c.1844 North Northumberland. 4) Isaac **Hall** and Margaret **Heslop**, c.1785 Allendale area. 5) Robert **Lockie**, c.1830 Newcastle. 6) John **Parnaby** and Jane c.1820 North Yorkshire. 7) Ralph **Stobbs**, c.1735 Allendale area. 8) John **Tindle** and Elizabeth, c.1830 Longbenton.
- 4769 Mrs. B. TWEDDLE**, 36 Main Avenue, Shaws Trailer Park, Knaresborough Road, Harrogate, North Yorkshire HG2 7NL.
Seeks descendants of Henry **Thompson**, coalminer, born 1854 Carlisle, who later moved to Wingate/Consett c.1895. His son John Wilkinson, coalminer, born 1880, and daughters Mary Elizabeth (1876) and Jane (1883) were all born in Aspatria, Cumberland.
- 4770 KATHLEEN J. IRVINE**, c/o Price Waterhouse, Avinguda de Roma 2-4, 08014 Barcelona, Spain.
Researching the **Cowen** family of Witton-le-Wear (1760-1870) and later at Crook and Billy Row, Particularly interested in tracing the death and/or burial of Ralph Cowen between 1881 and 1891 (no trace St. Catherine's indexes of Auckland Registration District). He was a "keeker", presumably a mining job, but what exactly was it? Also trying to trace the baptism of Eveline Cowen, daughter of Elizabeth Ann Cowen, born at Billy Row 1891. Also researching **Garthwaite** and **Dent** families of Darlington c.1800 and **Rickaby/Rickerby** or Piercebridge c.1780 or earlier.
- 4795 Mrs. CLARE ABBOTT**, 83 Gridley Way, Horspath, Oxford OX33 1TQ.
Has anyone managed to put all the **Fairlambs** of Haydon Bridge and Corbridge into families? Two Nicholas Fairlambs were born at Corbridge in 1772 and 1773, but which one married Mary **Wardale**? One possible father Charles, the other John, but first son called William.
- 4800 ARTHUR PARKER**, 5 Kilvinton Drive, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 0BD.
An accident occurred at Gosforth Colliery on 14th June 1848. Two men, including John **Dees**, were killed when an explosion caused them to fall 25 fathoms. There is a short report of the inquest in the *Newcastle Guardian*, but are there any other records which could give more detail?
- 4854 Mr. K. PURVIS**, 5 Aspen Drive, Barrow in Furness, Cumbria LA13 0RL.
Seeks information about: 1) Mary **Purvis**, born Gateshead c.1796, wife of Joseph Purvis, born Throple/Throphill 1803. They were living in Gateshead at the time of the 1841, 1851 and 1861 census. 2) The birth of Robert Purvis, son of the a Mary and Joseph Purvis, at Swarland c.1829. 3) Robert Purvis who married Isabel **Bowman** at Bothal in 1777.
- 4873 JOY CAMPBELL**, P.O. Box 2, Burrum Heads, 4659 Queensland, Australia.
Any information regarding Joseph **Campbell** and Isabella **Peterson**'s marriage and their children Joseph, born 1821, Alexander, 1839, and Isabella Alice, 1833. The 1851 Census shows them living at Bill Street, North Shields. Alexander and his father were mariners. Alexander moved to Australia.
- 4934 NIGEL PROUD**, 5 Church Close, Shepley, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD8 8HD.
Researching the **Jowcey/Joicey** family of Newgate Street, Newcastle c.1837. Joseph (widower), son of Joseph Jowcey, married Mary **Nichol**, daughter of Robert Nichol at St. John's, Newcastle 1837. The family later appear at High/Low Highlaws, Espley, near Morpeth where Barbara Joice was born in 1841. Has anyone came across James **Proud**, illegitimate son of Sarah Proud? James was born at Benfieldside 1847 and married Barbara at Earsdon in 1869. Any information would be appreciated.

- 5023 Mr. W.S. MINTO**, 33 Caistor Road, Laceby, Grimsby, South Humberside DN37 7HZ.
Researching John Clarke **Minto**, believed to have lived in St. Thomas' Place, Newcastle, who married Hannah **Chandler** c.1858-60.
- 5026 Mr. L.J. STOREY**, 75 Acacia Drive, Leegomery, Telford TF1 4XJ.
Researching Robert Henry **Storey** of Vine Street, Wallsend, shipwright, who married Rachel **Belcher** and had twelve daughters and one son, Robert, born 1903. Any information would be gratefully acknowledged and postage refunded.
- 5027 Mr. D.T. HANN**, 12 Spooners Drive, St. Albans, Hertfordshire AL2 2HL.
The name of **Hann** was prolific in the 1700 and the 1800's around the north-east, and in Durham in particular. Seeking any information about Hann families. Is anyone researching the Hann name? Have numerous family trees that need linking prior to the 1850's.
- 5075 Mrs. J. SEYMOUR**, 87 Shire Road, Corby, Northamptonshire NN17 2JS.
Would welcome any information regarding the **Rutherford** family known to have been living in the Warksburn, Simonburn and Falstone areas.
- 5172 Mrs. KAREN BLOOM**, 10 Coopers Close, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 1BU.
Researching **Wackentry** of Alnwick and **Cuthbertson** of Rennington, South Shields and Bantugh -- both in the 18th/19th centuries; **Ramsay** of Alnwick and Wooler, **Lawson** of Alnwick, **Dunn** of Rennington and Seaton Terrace, and **Turnbull** of the Barrington/Lowick areas -- all in the 19th century. Any information would be appreciated.
- 5081 Mrs. GILLIAN BARNETT**, 15 Ross Street, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7TW.
Jeremiah **Berry** born Ireland c.1835. First trace in Cleator Moor, Cumberland in 1881 Census, occupation railway messenger. Service history sought, possibly Cleator and Workington Rly. or Whitehaven, Cleator and Egremont Rly. He married Wilmot **Wedlock/Whitlock**, born Devon c.1843. No trace of either births or marriage as yet (Roman Catholic). Also any information on Martha **Hall** married William **Moore** and moved from Stoke on Trent to Cold Heseldon/Murton, County Durham in the later half of the 1800's.
- 5188 Miss L.J. PADGET**, 11 Norwich Way, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 3SP.
Would value any information on the following: 1) William **Hornby**, born Stockton 1838, and his wife Elizabeth **Richmond**. He was a master painter in Darlington and one time Chief Ranger in the Order of Foresters. 2) Henry **Eades** and wife Elizabeth **Charlton** who lived at Stub House Lodge, Whorlton where Henry was a gardener. Their son Christopher was born 1855 at Spennymoor, married Elizabeth **Kitching** in 1876 and moved to St. John's Wood, Middlesex. Does anyone know anything about Stub House or its owners? Does the house and lodge still exist? Other interests in County Durham include **Atkinson** (Consett) and **Dixon** (Pittington); and in Yorkshire, **Fairlamb** (Malton and Salton), **Flintoff** (Salton), **Walker** (Salton?), **Cartwright** (Southbank) and **Padget** and **Munden** (Hull).
- 5196 DAVID CATHERINE**, Baydon Post Office & Store, Ermin Street, Baydon, Wiltshire SN8 2JP.
Any information or references to the name **Catherine** and variants for a one name study. Have any of your family married into the Catherine name? Alice **Hopper** m.1855 Houghton, Esther Louisa **Edwards** m.1851, Rosannah **Garget** m.1820 Durham St. Margaret all did, or has one of your males stolen one of our females! Information exchanged plus large data on Catherine's. Also require information on the Catherine's at Stannington through the 1700's.
- 5216 Mrs. H. BULMER**, 17 Rosaville Crescent, Allesley, Coventry CV5 9BP.
Researching the following: 1) **Byers** of Seaham Harbour and Sunderland pre-1846; marriage of Sarah Byers to Anthony **Wilson** at Dalton-le-Dale 1846. 2) **Cotton** of Sunderland pre-1847, particularly birth and death dates of John Cotton, tailor, who married Margaret Wilson at Bishopwearmouth 1847. 3) Alice **Cuthbertson** of Sunderland married William **Hollingshead** at Bishopwearmouth 1851. 4) **Gibson** and **Riley** of Stockton or Thornaby; marriage of William Gibson to Lydia Riley at Thornaby in 1848. 5) **Innes**, **Jameson** and **Swinhoe/Swinney** of Sunderland. 6) Marriage of James **McDermot** to Susan **Richardson** at Bishopwearmouth 1845. 7) Sarah **Moralee** married John Wilson at Sunderland 1814. 8) Margaret **Oliver** and Thomas Wilson married 1827 at Sunderland. 9) **Robinson** of Sunderland, particularly Edward, a block and mast maker, born 1846, married Sarah Jane Wilson 1868; parents were William Robinson and Hannah Greig; earlier antecedents sought. 10) Agnes **Rowlands** and James **Reed** who married Sunderland 1853. 11) **Simm** of Sunderland pre-1820.
- 5218 RONALDA WASHINGTON**, R.R #2, Washington Road, Dawson Creek, British Columbia V1G 4E8, Canada.
Researching the **Edmison** family of Northumberland, in particular that of Thomas Edmison and Isabel Pringle who married at Ford in 1805 and lived at Sprouston just across the Scottish border in Roxburghshire until they emigrated to Canada in 1839/40.
- 5229 Mrs. PAT HANCOCKS**, 309 Holyhead Road, Coundon, Coventry CV5 8JQ.
Interests include: 1) **Riley**. Samuel arrived in Jarrow c.1898. Family of 13 all in the workhouse. Later traced Sarah to Stonehouse Farm, Dipton and Mary Ann to Washington. 2) **Devitt**. Lived Ashington/Morpeth - 12 children - Julia, John, Bridie, Maggie, Billy, Alice, Jimmy, Lizzie and Beatrice. Maggie married a **Bray** and they had 10 children. Emigrated to U.S. with Bridie and Billy in 1920's. Jimmy lived in Ashington, Lizzie in Nottingham. Beatrice married Edward Green. 3) **Green**. Originally from London, arrived Newcastle c.1887 with 7 children. Jack, Francis, Doris and their mother Maggie emigrated to U.S. Arthur married Julia Devit and Edward to Beatrice Green. Edward was killed in France in 1915 with 7th N.F. and Beatrice remarried to Thomas **Lightley** c.1919.

- 5233 Mr. H.A. BARROW**, 'Struan', Carlyle Place, Ecclefechan, Lockerbie DG11 3DQ.
Researching the **Innerd** family, particularly Robert living at Green Lane, Harton, South Shields from where his daughter Margaret married Edward **Heron** in 1881. Also James **Scorfield**, born North Shields c.1804, later shown on the 1851 Census as living at Castle Garth (Spencer's Tenements) trading as a shoemaker. Details required of his wife Mary.
- 5247 DENNIS WOOD-SAMMAN**, 441 Crescent Boulevard, S.W., Calgary, Alberta T2S 1K6, Canada.
Would like help in tracing the ancestry of George **Wood**, born Rothbury 1797, and his wife Mary, born 1807, daughter of John **Gibb**, born 1779. They emigrated to Canada in 1835 and settled in Downie, Ontario, with two brothers-in-law and his father-in-law, John **Gibb**.
- 5256 Mr. R.S. CAMPBELL**, 33 Heybrook Avenue, North Shields, Tyne & Wear NE29 9HG.
Researching (Robert) Peter **Campbell**, died 1919 aged 67 when he was living on Scotswood Road, Newcastle. He was a ships rivetter and his father Charles was a farrier. He married Hannah **Woodcock**, previously **Craven** in 1895; he was a widower and she a widow. Seeking previous marriages and places of birth. Also Craven family, living at Killingworth Colliery at the time of the 1851 Census. Seeking them on the 1861 Census.
- 5270 Mrs. N.E. MUNROE**, 91 Avondale Road, Greenmeadows, Napier 4001, New Zealand.
Seeking any information on the following: 1) Andrew **Wood** and his wife Ann (**Young?**), occupation 1802 blacksmith of Thornton, children Isabell, Thomas, George b.1797 Horncliffe Boat House, Marjory, Andrew, Ann and James. 2) Ann/Agnes Wood (Strangeways) daughter of John **Strangeways** married George Wood, blacksmith and later farmer of Woodside, buried Lowick 1865. Where and when was she born? What was her mother's name? 3) John Young, butcher and farmer 1823-1896 and Isabella **Wade** 1826-1907, b.Bowsden Farm, Lowick; children Thomas, William, George, Elizabeth and Catherine 1858-1940, unmarried, buried Lowick. Elizabeth b.1856 married Robert Edward Wood.
- 5284 STANLEY RILEY**, 83 Carrwood, Hale Barns, Altrincham, Cheshire WA15 0ET.
Robert Dixon **Pender**, born 1836 Alnwick, son of Robert Pender and Jane nee **Wallace** married 1834 Felton. Robert Pender could be the first son (baptism not found) of Robert Pender and Dorothy **Riddell**. Robert of Morpeth and Dorothy of Felton were married at Felton 1799, and their second son George was baptised at Felton 1802. Robert was a labourer of Birdhope Craig, Elsdon and Dorothy was a native of Framlington. Does anyone know anything of this family?
- 5296 STEPHEN HUSH**, 25 Whitehead Close, Wilmington, Dartford, Kent DA2 7PR.
Researching the family name **Hush** and would appreciate any information, especially with regard to Robert Hush, husbandman, married Margaret **Laidler** (or **Laidley**) 1840 at Heddon-on-the-Wall. Also any information on his father Thomas, also a husbandman, possibly married to an Isobel or Isabella **Anderson**; the I.G.I. has two possibilities. Would like to hear from anyone with Hush connections.
- 5310 Mrs. H. EASON**, 14 Cottesmore Drive, Loughborough, Leicestershire LE11 2RL.
Local family interests include: **Porter**, **Laidler**, **Anderson**, **Henry**, **Smith**, **Smithson** and **Hewitt** (pre-1900) and **Wiseman**, **Moat** and **Joblin** (pre-1800).
- 5339 GED PARKER**, Leaholme, Glebe Crescent, Washington, Tyne and Wear NE38 7AW.
Seeks information: 1) William **Posgate**, born Broomhill c.1856, married Isabella Robson, born West Cramlington c.1859. 2) Henry **Mart**, born Carlisle c.1849, married Elizabeth **Mackelvaney**, born Carlisle c.1849. 3) Mary **Laing**, born North Shields c.1830, daughter of John and Mary, married 1854 to John **Hindess** (born Bristol?). 4) James **Corbet**, born North Shields c.1833, married Susannah **Arkley**, daughter of William Arkley (drowned at Tynemouth in 1842) and Susannah.

HELP OFFERED

- 1493 Mrs. ANN BROOKER**, 8 Pentathlon Way, Pittville, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL50 4SE.
Would be happy to do some research in Gloucestershire Record Office in exchange for research in Northumberland or Durham Record Offices.
- 3478 JOHN LEE**, 'Tynedale', 5 Oakwood Close, Hatton, Derby DE65 5QN.
Willing to provide transcripts of entries in the 1891 Census for the Byker Sub-District of Newcastle in return for a contribution of a few postage stamps or I.R.C.'s. The index covers the surnames in the Byker, Heaton, Jesmond, St. Anthony's and part of All Saints areas. Where a specific address cannot be given, please try to provide a few 'clues' such as forenames, ages, children's names, etc.

WHY DID HE WAIT 16 YEARS?

Mrs. Doreen Tait sends another example of incorrect information in records. The Marriage Register for St. Alban's, Heworth records a marriage of Thomas Cowell to Elizabeth Ellen Bygate on 17th August 1907. At the end of the Register is a note by the Vicar "In entry 404 Col 2 the man's signature for "Cowell" read "Ramsden", corrected on 18th August 1923 by me, George McLean, Vicar in the presence of Thomas Ramsden and Elizabeth Ellen Ramsden, Witnesses."

Does anyone know the story behind this?

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS

N.D.F.H.S.

*Meetings at Pelaw Social Club, Heworth,
Gateshead at 7.15 p.m.*

Tuesday, March 1 Arthur Appleton - Mary Ann Cotton.
Tuesday, April 5 A Brack - Scottish Records - Recent Developments.
Tuesday, May 3 Annual General Meeting.
Tuesday, June 7 Speaker to be arranged.

South Tyneside Group

*Meetings at Black Prince Hotel, The Nook,
Prince Edward Road, South Shields at 8.00 p.m.*

Wednesday, March 23 Speaker to be arranged.
Wednesday, April 27 R.A.J. Potts, of Tyne & Wear Archives Service
 - Sources Required for an Imaginary Biography.
Wednesday, May 25 Miss. J. Gill, Durham County Archivist
 - Various Sources at Durham Record Office.
Wednesday, June 22 Mrs. A. Stephenson - A Talk on Whitburn Village illustrated with slides.
Wednesday, July 27 G. Taylor - Keelmen of the Tyne.

South East Northumberland Group

*Meetings at Blyth Cricket Club, Plessey Road,
Blyth at 7.30 p.m.*

Tuesday, March 15 N. Brooks - Old Shields.
Tuesday, April 19 G. Coates - Aspects of Northumberland.
Tuesday, May 17 Speaker to be arranged.
Tuesday, June 21 Annual General Meeting and Quiz.

Durham Group

*Meetings at Fyndoune Community College,
Findon Hill, Sacriston at 7.30 p.m.*

Monday, March 21 J.R. Hicken - Surnames of the Border Marches During Tudor Times.
Monday, April 18 N. Welch - I am Back to 1837. What Next?
Monday, May 16 D.H. Jones - Repairing Durham Castle.
Monday, June 20 Annual General Meeting and Members Night.

Sunderland Group

*Meetings at Monkwearmouth Conservative Club, North Bridge Street,
Sunderland at 7.30 p.m.*

Thursday, March 10 J. Bryce - History of Sunderland Fire Brigade.
Thursday, April 14 Annual General Meeting, and Ann Herrington and Margaret Soden.
 - Silksworth on Slides.
Thursday, May 12 Speaker to be arranged.

London Group

*Meetings at Society of Genealogists, 14 Charterhouse Buildings,
Goswell Road, London.*

Saturday, March 26 One Day Conference - see page 1.
Saturday 9 July (2.00 pm) J. Almond - History of the Border Country.

Members are welcome to attend the meetings of any of the Local Groups.

INFORMATION about local Groups can be obtained from Group secretaries as below:

South Tyneside Mr. W.E. Butterley, 51 Ashley Road, South Shields NE34 0PD.

S.E. Northumberland Mrs J. Strother, 1 The Coppice, Seaton Sluice, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear NE26 4HP.

Durham Mr. J.T. Perkins, 1 Glebeside, Witton Gilbert, Durham DH7 6SD.

Sunderland Mr. C. Trotter, 6 Dene House Road, Seaham, County Durham SR7 7BE.

London Mrs. W. Bennett, 16 Grayshott Laurels, Lindford, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 0QB.

Northumberland and Durham Family History Society was founded in 1975 and is a registered charity. Membership is open to all - current UK subscription is £10. The Journal is published four times a year. Correspondence and contributions are welcomed by the Editor.

Roll of Honour

FOR KING AND COUNTRY

Employees of MESSRS BROUGH & SONS who have joined His Majesty's Forces from August 1914 until March 1917.

Offices & Warehouses Oxford St. Newcastle	Rogerson J J Scott Tc	McCulloch J Neal J	Scott J Stalker G	Ushaw Moor Branch	Spennymoor Branch	Shearer J
Atchison A	Sutton J	Raulis J	Vincent J	Burridge J	Bennett B	Wilson S
Carr Tc	Stobart A	Schoray W	Wistreich J	Barras H	Cassano D	Whitton J
Dickson J	Waller W	Dilling A		Campbell J	Gill J J	Wynn D
Woods W Tc	Whitaker J	Wilson Tc	Crawcrook Branch	Danson A	James J	Dudley Branch
Dickson J	Blackett Street Newcastle Branch		Banks J	Wickins W	Kelly S	Box S
Duck J	Bell D	West Stanley Branch	Callender R	Hindley J S	Scott W	Ging A S
Graham R J	Graham A	Allen J	Blacken G	Tolson W	Wingate Branch	March S J
Holmes J	Hendry H S	Blackburn R	Faulstich A	Jenkins A	Armstrong J	Sturt A S
Henderson H	Henderson C	Bell Tc	Larker A	Lamson A	Basson R	Ashington Branch
Henderson C	Henderson C	Brown W	Larkin J	Lee R	Bell W	Dalgleish
Jackson G R	Martin J	Carter S	Shaw A	Montgomery S	Cartwright R	Lane R
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Phillips R W	West J	Jester S	Watson R	Thornhill D	Danson A H	Whitfield J
Richards J	Heaton Branch	Jackson H	Chester-le-Street Branch	Long S S	Edkott W	Bedlington Branch
Stoddart S	Jalms J	Gilroy J	Alderson R	Lichner J	Guth A	Gargett S
Swain J J	Harper Tc	Hindley S	Clark A W	Smallwood H	Gargett S	McLaughlin S
New Bridge Street Newcastle Branch	Harman B	Harman A	Hoppe J W	Stephenson W	McLaughlin S	Lambert J
Anderson S	Jackson J	Hutchinson H	Letter R	White W	Lambert J	Strong J
Chandler S	Gosforth Branch	Hutton J	Long H S	Wain R	Strong J	Darwin W
Daly J	Armsworth J	Hutchins A	Spence R W	Crook Branch	Vigne R	Vigne R
Dash Tc	Barnfather W G	Leather R	Sanderson R A	Adlam A	Seaham Harbour Branch	Wallace W
Dunbrake W	Barnfather W G	Lumley G	Wray J A	Bidmead A	Bowen R	Broomhill Branch
Ellison S	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Walker G W	Campbell S	Bell J	Julian G
Gillies S	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Watson H	Dodd A	Chamber S	Kell R
Hendell W	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Washington Branch	Jackson J	Danson J M	Heslop H
Hindley S	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Armstrong J	King G	Gilmore J	Leah G
Osell W	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Ipson A	Leigh J	Gardner J	Lewis J
Richard A	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Lane R	Robinson W	Gardner J	Leeson W
Robinson J	Barnfather W G	McMahon W	Smith W	Scott H	Rockwell S	
Robinson W	Barnfather W G	McMahon W				
Row J S	Barnfather W G	McMahon W				

☐ Killed in Action whilst on duty ☐ Died on Active Service