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of the  
NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM  
FAMILY HISTORY  
Society

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

## EDITORIAL

It is an unfortunate fact that the time necessary to type and print the Journal is such that its contents must be prepared some six to eight weeks before the date of issue. The effect of the Christmas and New Year holiday periods is that the January Journal must be written by early November. For those not familiar with North-Eastern customs it should be pointed out that whereas the English have their main seasonal celebrations at Christmas and the Scots tend to keep theirs for New Year - "Hogmanay" - the Geordies, being geographically between the two, have hit on the happy compromise of celebrating both, and the effects of this can last well into January.

It is because of this time lag that it is not possible to report in this issue the result of the Extraordinary General Meeting held on December 9th except to say that at the time of writing the Committee are confident that by the time you read this the Society will have a new Chairman in Fr. W. Vincent Smith (although Fr. Smith has indicated a wish to stand down at the next AGM).

We are fortunate in having in this issue an article on Methodist records, written for us by Mr. G.E. Milburn, Editor and co-Secretary of the North-East branch of the Wesley Historical Society. This article, with those on Presbyterian and Catholic sources (by Don Mason and Fr. W. Vincent Smith respectively) in Volume One of the Journal, completes a trio of items on the three main non-C-of-E denominations in our area.

Our apologies to all members who were confused by the mention of Gateshead Public Library as a repository for many Northumberland MI lists (see Vol. 2, No. 1, p. 9). For 'GPL' please read 'SOG' (Society of Genealogists). Since the publication of this list, many Northumberland MI lists have been deposited at Gateshead, so it is not entirely incorrect. Additions to the Northumberland list, consequent on members' field work during 1976, include Earsdon and Horton (Mr & Mrs Spense), Morpeth (Mr Jewitt) and Longbenton and Hawick (Mr Bunting). Copies of these will appear in the usual places in due course. Mr Bunting tells us that volunteers are still needed to continue this work, especially in Ponteland and north Northumberland - winter need not be entirely a close season for MI copying. Please contact Mr Bunting if you can help.

Our newer members may care to note that articles for the Journal, whether short or long, are always welcomed by the Editor. One of the reasons for the Society's existence is to enable us to share in, and profit by, each other's experiences in genealogical research. The best way in which you can bring your own observations to the attention of other members is by writing about them in the Journal.

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## SECRETARY'S JOTTINGS

I must first of all say thank you on behalf of the Society to all those kind people, both here and abroad, who have helped to cut our costs by sending donations of cash or stamps or both. Space does not permit me to mention names, but your help and generosity are appreciated.

Now some news items. Parish Registers deposited in Northumberland Record Office since the list was published in the January 1976 Journal are those for Newcastle St. John (from 1587), Shilbottle (from 1723), Stamfordham (from 1662), the post-1812 registers of Morpeth and post-1837 registers from the Newcastle parishes of St. Jude, St. Barnabas and St. Anthony. The Record Office is microfilming the registers it holds and when this process is completed the original volumes will no longer be available for public search.

Although this will be an inconvenience for searchers it is an understandable move to prevent excessive wear and tear on what are, after all, unique documents.

Do you fancy a genealogical weekend? The Federation of Family History Societies, in conjunction with local societies, has arranged a conference at Owens Park, Manchester University, on 26/27 March 1977. There will be a Day school and an optional dinner on the Saturday and the AGM of the Federation on the Sunday. Accommodation is available in the University but it is hoped that visitors might be able to stay with local genealogists. Full details from Mrs P.M. Litton, 34 Bramley Road, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire.

Mr M. Culling, 11 Lisburn Lane, Liverpool, is compiling an index of pre-1837 marriages in Liverpool, and of Liverpoolians marrying elsewhere. If you find any of the latter, please send a note of the details to him. Mr Culling will refund your postage and (for a SAE this time) will answer queries.

We are pleased to be able to report the establishment of a new society to cover one of our neighbouring counties - the Cumbria Family History Society. The society covers the modern county of Cumbria which, before the recent boundary changes, formed the old counties of Cumberland, Westmorland and the Furness area of Lancashire. Cumberland and Northumberland have both been border areas in the past, and both have this reflected in their history. The Tyne gap has been the main route for communication between these two areas, though Weardale and Teesdale should perhaps be viewed as arrows pointing from County Durham straight at Cumberland. Part of Cumbria (the Alston area in particular) has been included in Durham Diocese and in the nineteenth century many mining families transferred between the two counties. Many of our members, therefore, will have interests which span both areas and may find membership of both societies useful. Details of membership may be obtained from Mrs M.M. Russell, "Ulpha", 32 Granada Road, Denton, Manchester, M34 2LJ.

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#### WAIFS AND STRAYS

We are indebted to Mr K. Seiles, Isle of Wight group organiser of the Hampshire Genealogical Society, for these wanderers from our area.

1812 Oct 21 John Jacob GANDY and Arabella WILSON of Staindrop married,  
St. Mary's, Carisbrook, IOW.

1871 Census: Albert St., West Cowes, Isle of Wight:

Jane	BABBIDGE	Head	M	29	Mariner's wife, born Hartlepool, Durham
Ada J.	do	dau	U	4	Scholar Sunderland, Durham
Martha J.	do	dau	U	2	Cowes, Isle of Wight
Walter J.	do	son	U	5mo	Cowes, Isle of Wight

The following have recently appeared in "Suffolk Roots" (the Suffolk Society's Journal), extracted by Mr H.D.W. Lees from Lowestoft burials.

1815 Sep 25 William BULL, s of Thomas & Elizabeth. From a ship in the roads. Parish of St. Nicholas Newcastle upon Tyne. Marginal note: Thomas BULL a sergeant in the 2nd Regt of Coldstream Guards.

1834 Oct 1 Henry HAWKINS, husband of Anne, Newcastle upon Tyne, aged 50.

1847 Feb 15 Robert SMITH, brought ashore from a vessel in the roads, killed by a fall from the masthead. Aged 26, of Shields.

1851 May 26 Robert POTTS, husband of Catherine, Captain, brought on shore at Lowestoft, of North Shields, aged 42.

## METHODIST RECORDS AND THE GENEALOGIST

G.E. Milburn

Most readers of this journal will know far more of the technicalities of genealogy than I do, and so I will not venture too far into those fields. The emphasis of this article will be rather on the peculiar structure of Methodism and on some of the chief types of Methodist archives and where they are likely to be found, in the hope that this will be of general service to the researcher who is faced with the task of working among Methodist records.

Whenever the terms 'Methodist' and 'Methodism' are used in a historical sense (especially up to the year 1932) it is important to be aware of the complexity of the movement to which they refer. Methodism during the course of the nineteenth century was fragmented into a good many different groupings, all owing broad allegiance to John Wesley's doctrines and ideals but differing quite considerably in their internal organisation and ethos. The original "connexion" (to use Wesley's word to describe the national network of Methodist societies) was that of the Wesleyan Methodists, dating obviously from the eighteenth century. As the Wesleyans prospered, their outlook became more settled and less adventurous, and after Wesley's death (1791) they suffered a continuing series of secessions or off-shoots of groups which yearned for a freer and more revivalistic mode of work. The major new groups with their dates of origin were the Methodist New Connexion (1797), the Primitive Methodists (1810/12), the Bible Christians (1815) and the United Methodist Free Churches (1857). The last of these was the result of the coming together of two earlier secessions from Wesleyanism, the Wesleyan Association (1835/6) and the Wesleyan Reformers (c.1850). All these groups were represented in the north east, even the Bible Christians. This is on the face of things surprising since the Bible Christians were primarily based in Cornwall and Devon, but the reason was quite simple - migration of workers from those counties to the north eastern coal and iron industries. A yet further group is that of the Independent Methodists. These originated from c.1800 but in the north east their churches date mainly from the last quarter of the nineteenth century and were largely the consequence of a secession from Primitive Methodism. The Independent Methodists were (and are) exceptional in having no professional ministry, and in fact were often known as Lay Churches. Moreover they have retained their separateness from mainstream Methodism to this day. All the other principal groups are now reunited as the result of two major reconciliations in 1907 (when the New Connexion, the Bible Christians and the U.M.F.C. came together to form the United Methodist Church) and in 1932 (when the Methodist Church as it exists today was formed out of a union of the Primitive, Wesleyan and United Methodist bodies). Those who wish to extend their knowledge of Methodism will find Rupert Davies' Pelican book on the subject an authoritative guide though even this account loses its way slightly at one point in the story of the secessions.

This is a very brief account of what were a complicated series of developments. One principal fact which emerges, and which the researcher into Methodist history has to remember, is that in every town, and in many villages, there was a diversity of Methodist Chapels belonging to several different Methodist groups, served by a different set of ministers and lay preachers, organised into distinct systems locally and nationally, and generating their own chapel, circuit, district and national records. Methodists indeed were in more senses than one, a "peculiar people". And the prospect of finding one's way through the maze of the different groups can be daunting, and indeed make one long for the relative simplicity of the parish registers! But with a little determination and a good deal

of observant study one can soon make sense of the apparent confusion, and acquire a pleasant sense of achievement at mastering the mysteries which lie behind all the initials - W.M., M.N.C., P.M. and so forth. A car journey offers a good opportunity to practise chapel-spotting, and to note the types and dates of the buildings one sees.

Let us turn from Methodist history and organisation to Methodist records. In common with the other non-conformist bodies Methodism was affected by legislation relating to registration, and for the purposes of this article it is assumed that the broad story of this is known to the reader. The great divide is of course the year 1837 when civil registration began. With regard to registers dating from earlier than that date, many Methodist societies responded to the Registrar General's request to surrender them to him. In fact 856 volumes of registers from local congregations were submitted, in addition to three registers of the births and baptisms of over 10,000 children kept by the Wesleyan Methodists at their "Metropolitan Registry" in London.

Some of these early baptismal registers which were deposited are now available on microfilm at north eastern record offices. The following list may be of value in locating them:

Tyne Wear Record Office (for Newcastle)

Brunswick W.M.	1787 - 1837
New Road W.M.	1833 - 1837
Salem M.N.C.	1798 - 1837
Silver St. P.M.	1824 - 1837

Northumberland Record Office

Newcastle	the registers listed above plus Hood Street M.N.C. 1792 - 1837
Alnwick	W.M. 1787 - 1837
Berwick	W.M. 1796 - 1837 P.M. 1824 - 1825, 1829 - 1837
Hexham	W.M. 1797 - 1836 P.M. 1824 - 1837
North Shields	Howard Street W.M. 1805 - 1837 Union Street P.M. 1823 - 1837
Wallsend	Carrville W.M. 1803 - 1837

Some pre-1837 registers were never deposited and several can be found in our regional record offices. For example:

Durham County Record Office

Barnard Castle P.M.	1831 - 1872
West Hartlepool P.M.	1834 - 1925
Stockton Paradise Row P.M.	1834 - 1949
Ireshopeburn W.M.	1813 - 1837

Northumberland Record Office

Allenheads W.M.	1834 - 1927
North Shields W.M.	1808 - 1910

One point to be borne in mind with regard to Methodist registrations is that owing to Methodism's ambiguous relationship with the established church it was not at all uncommon for Methodists to be baptised and married in the parish church even when they were not obliged to do so. This does not mean that a duplicate entry may not also be found on the chapel register.

Methodist marriage registers will never be earlier than 1837 and most are dated later than the Marriage Act of 1898. Methodist funeral registers

are uncommon though they do occur where the chapel had its own graveyard. This was the case at several chapels in the Pennine dales for instance at Gunnerside in Swaledale, and at High House and Keenley in the dales of Allen. (A very interesting account of customs relating to baptism, marriages and funerals at Gunnerside may be read in Margaret Batty's Gunnerside Chapel and Gunnerside Folk.)

Methodist registers (we are thinking now principally of those since 1837) may, if they exist at all, turn up in a number of places but the official policy is to encourage their deposit in the relevant county record office. This policy has been pursued with varying success but we are fortunate in the north east in having a very rich collection of Methodist Archives at the Durham County Record Office, with important collections also at the Northumberland, and Tyne and Wear Offices, as well as at Gateshead Central Library. I have full lists of baptismal registers at all these offices (kindly supplied by the archivists in each case) but they are too lengthy to append to this article. I will offer information on them if requested, though a direct approach to the offices or library concerned is recommended.

If the registers have not been deposited they will (hopefully) be in the circuit safe which may be either in the manse of the Superintendent minister or the vestry of the principal chapel in the circuit. This, however, is by no means assured, and (if they have escaped destruction) may turn up in all kinds of unexpected places. Most Methodist researchers have stories of archives being discovered in attics, ancient chests of drawers, disused cupboards and lofts, and so forth. It is always worth persisting (courteously) in your quest. Even the Superintendent minister of a circuit may not be aware of what his predecessors have stowed away in the recesses of the manse.

So far the emphasis has been on registers, but genealogical information may be gleaned from a variety of other sources. It is always worth hunting out the jubilee and centenary brochures for the chapels in which you are interested, as they often contain biographical information. Membership lists also can be of considerable interest. Some interesting early lists can be found in the Record Offices, as, for example, the following, which are at Durham:

Barnard Castle (Dales Circuit) W.M.	1791 - 1796, 1800 - 1810, 1813
Darlington W.M.	1800 - 1828
North Shields W.M.	1811 - 1873
South Shields P.M.	1832 - 1841
Sunderland Sans Street W.M.	1782 - 1791, 1796 - 1836

A peculiarly Methodist source of information is the circuit preaching plan, usually issued quarterly. Each plan contains the names (and often the addresses) of the ministers and all the lay preachers in the circuit, and other officials may be given as well. They also list the chapels or other places of worship in the circuit and this can be very helpful if one is wanting to know which chapels were functioning at a particular date. Record Offices often have a number of plans but early ones can be rare. The Society of Cirplanologists (a name surely coined with tongue in cheek) exists with the very laudable intention of locating and preserving plans and making their whereabouts known. It publishes a regular bulletin and has also issued several registers of surviving plans. The Secretary's name and address are: Mr E.A. Rose, B.A., 26 Roe Cross Green, Mottram, Hyde, Cheshire.

Other Chapel and circuit records such as leaders' meeting minutes, local preachers' minutes, trust deeds, etc., can be useful in tracing

individuals though one would need to have a pretty good idea where to look before one started. Many such records are deposited in the Record Offices.

For serious researchers the national Methodist archives offer rich hunting grounds. These archives were until very recently housed in London but are in process of being moved into the care of the John Rylands Library, Deansgate, Manchester. This is a splendid library with full facilities for the proper care of the Methodist collection. At the time of writing I cannot say exactly when the archives will once again be available for public use but the John Rylands librarian will be able to answer that question. There is no space here to describe the contents of the national Methodist archive collection but the following items will give some idea of what is available with particular reference to genealogy:

1. Periodicals of all the major branches of Methodism, e.g., Wesleyan magazines from 1778, Primitive Methodist magazines from 1818, etc., etc. These were usually issued monthly and contain a good deal of biographical information mainly in the form of obituaries. An index to all obituaries in the Wesleyan Magazine to 1839 was published in the Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society, Vol. 7, and a typed index to all obituaries and biographies in the P.M. magazine has been prepared by Mr William Leary. A full set of ministerial obituaries is also available in the archives.
2. Newspapers - Methodism sprouted a number of denominational journals and extensive sets are preserved in the archives. For example, 'The Watchman' 1835-1863, 'The P.M. Leader' 1869-1932, 'The Methodist Recorder' 1861 to present, etc.
3. Reference lists of ministers and circuits in which they served - very useful in view of the Methodist custom of itinerant ministers, moving on every two or three years.
4. Much manuscript material including diaries and journals and letters. Some local minutes found their way to the national archives but are to be returned to the relevant County Record Office.
5. A full set of the Proceedings of the Wesley Historical Society which is published three times a year and which dates from 1893. The General Secretary of the W.H.S. is the Rev. Thomas Shaw, The Manse, 39 Fair Street, St. Columb Major, Cornwall. The W.H.S. has a number of regional branches which also publish bulletins; the north eastern branch for instance (of which I am Editor and co-Secretary, address: 8 Ashbrooke Mount, Sunderland) issues a bulletin twice a year.

In conclusion may I say firstly that I will attempt to deal with any queries which may arise from what is written here though I am aware of my lack of expertise in the field of family history. Secondly, let me recommend a most useful publication by Wesley F. Swift (revised by T. Shaw) entitled How to Write a local history of Methodism, published in 1964 by Alfred A. Taberner, Ltd., Bankhead, Broxton, Chester, at 25 pence. It is worth several times as much and is a splendid guide on matters of interest to the genealogist as well as to those who are studying Methodism in a broader way.

MATERIAL OF INTEREST TO GENEALOGISTS IN THE COLLECTION  
OF SUNDERLAND PUBLIC LIBRARIES

D. J. Johnston, B.A., A.L.A., Director of Libraries

1. THE CORDER MANUSCRIPTS, 36 vols., compiled by James W. Corder in the first half of this century:-

- Vol. 1 Friends' pedigrees and other Quaker notes
- Vol. 2 Sunderland Parish Churches, cess and rate books, 1732-1816
- Vols. 3 & 4 Wear Shipbuilders (wooden ships only)
- Vol. 5 Pedigrees of Monkwearmouth families
- Vols. 6-19 Sunderland Pedigrees and family records
- Vols. 20-27 Parish and other registers
- Vols. 28-35 Sunderland topography
- Vol. 36 Sundry papers

The Register volumes contain the following:-

Bishopwearmouth (St. Michael)

<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1567-1812	1567-1753	1567-1812
1813-1921 (incomplete)	1754-1812 (Banns only)	1813-1902 (incomplete)
	1754-1812 (Banns for those married elsewhere)	
	1813-1924 (incomplete)	

Sunderland (Holy Trinity)

<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1719-1837	1719-1839	1719-1812
1836-1862 (incomplete)		

Monkwearmouth (St. Peter)

<u>Births</u>	<u>Marriages</u>	<u>Deaths</u>
1691-1853 (not chronological)	1700-1812 (incomplete)	1683-1706
		1768-1770
		1771-1830

Maling's Rigg /Presbyterian/ Chapel: Baptisms, 1777-1879

Robinson Lane /Scotch Presbyterian/ Chapel: Baptisms, 1727-1825

St. George's Chapel /Villiers Street/: Baptisms, 1825-1917

Friends' Register (incomplete):

Births, 1660-1802      Marriages, 1661-1771      Deaths, 1657-1814

Sundry Registers:

Local entries abstracted from: Castle Eden; St. Nicholas, Newcastle; St. Nicholas, Durham; St. Margaret's, Durham; St. Mary, South Bailey, Durham; St. Mary le Bow, Durham; Bishop Middleham; Dalton-le-Dale; Seaham; Whitburn.

Some of Corder's work is copied from H.M. Wood's transcript.

2. LOCAL PEDIGREES by Herbert Maxwell Wood, manuscript, 4 vols.

3. DURHAM MARRIAGE BONDS, typescript, 13 vols., 1590-1815.

#### 4. OTHER CHURCH MATERIAL

Complete set of Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society publications

Dinsdale Parish Church, registers 1556-1813. Published (1903).

Durham Cathedral, registers 1609-1896. Published (1897).

Chapel of Esh, registers 1567-1812. Published (1896).

Elwick Hall Parish, register 1592-1742. Privately produced (1972).

Gainford Parish. Published (1889-90):

Births, 1560-1784

Marriages, 1569-1761

Deaths, 1569-1784

All Saints Parish, Lanchester, register, 1560-1603, published (1909).

St. Cuthbert's Parish, Satley, registers, 1560-1812, published (1914).

Whickham registers, baptisms 1576-1756, published (1909).

Unitarian Free Church (microfilm):

Births, 1879-1954

Marriages, 1879-1965

Deaths, 1879-1964

St. Paul's, Ryhope:

List of the tombstones in the old churchyard, taken before their removal in January 1976.

#### 5. ELECTION MATERIAL

##### Poll Books

Sunderland: 1832, 1837, 1841, 1857.

Durham City: 1761, 1800, 1802, 1813, 1830, 1831, 1832, 1837, 1843, 1847, 1852.

Durham County: 1790, 1820, 1837 (South Division), 1841 (North Division)

##### Electoral Rolls

Bishopwearmouth Ward, 1850-51.

Bishopwearmouth Township, 1857-58.

Bishopwearmouth, List of Jurors, 1858.

Monkwearmouth Ward, 1842-43, 1844-45, 1845-46, 1846-47.

Monkwearmouth Township, 1862, 1863.

Monkwearmouth Shore Township, 1842, 1843, 1856-59, 1863, 1864.

Borough of Sunderland, 1841-42, 1842-43, 1849-50, 1850-51, 1853-54,

1855-56, 1856-57, 1858-59, 1862, 1864-65, 1866-67, 1868-69, 1870,

1873, 1874, 1876-77, 1885-86, 1891-92, 1895 to 1914-15, 1918-19,

1920, 1922-25, 1928, 1930, 1932-35, 1937, 1949 to date.

Borough of Durham, 1858-59, 1863-64.

Durham County, 1832-33.

Durham County, North Division, Sunderland 1835; Monkwearmouth Shore

1842-43, 1855-56, 1856-57, 1857-58, 1863; Bishopwearmouth 1846, 1857,

1858, 1860; North Division, 1868-69 and Poll 1868.

#### 6. LOCAL BIOGRAPHIES

##### Card Index

A collection of biographies and other volumes dealing with people and families of local interest, including: F. Watson, "The Backhouse Family of Darlington", (typescript, c1962); Keith Lovet Watson, "The Hewetsons of Ravenstonedale" (limited circulation, 1965); T.E. Watson, "History and Pedigree of the Family of Lewen of Durham" (1918); Isobel Mordey, "Mordey in Sunderland" (typescript, 1969); W.T.W. Potts, "History of the Potts Family of Sunderland" (1970); Hew Shannon Stevenson, "The Stevenson Family, A Record of the Descendants of James Stevenson, Burgess of Paisley in 1753" (privately published, 1965, includes family of James Stevenson of South Shields, 1786-1866).

## 7. LOCAL DIRECTORIES

1793, 1820-22, 1827-28, 1828, 1834, 1844, 1847, 1850, 1853, 1854, 1856, 1857-58, 1858, 1859-60, 1861-62, 1865, 1866-67, 1867-68, 1871-72, 1873, 1873-74, 1877-78, 1879-80, 1881-82, 1883-84, 1885-86, 1886, 1887-88, 1889-90, 1890, 1893-94, 1894, 1895-96, 1899-1900, 1901-02, 1905-06, 1909-10, 1910, 1911-12, 1913-14, 1914, 1915-16, 1918, 1921, 1923, 1925, 1927, 1929, 1931, 1933, 1935, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1952-53, 1961, 1963, 1971 (trades only).

## 8. LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

Complete files of the Sunderland Herald (1831-81), Sunderland Echo (Dec. 1873 to date) and Sunderland Daily Post (1876-1906), and files of some other 19th century Sunderland newspapers.

## 9. CENSUS MICROFILMS

- 1841: Sunderland Central Area plus Fulwell, Whitburn, Cleadon, Southwick, Hylton, Usworth, Biddick, Barmston, Washington, Ford, Silksworth, Tunstall, Ryhope, Burdon, Houghton, Newbottle.
- 1851: Central Area plus Fulwell, Southwick, North Hylton, Ford, Ryhope, Tunstall.
- 1861: As 1851.
- 1871: Central Area plus Fulwell, Whitburn, East and West Boldon, Southwick, Barmston, North and South Hylton, Offerton, Silksworth, Tunstall, Ryhope, Seaham.

N.B.- Certain original parish registers which have been kept in Sunderland Library in the past are now in the care of the local County Record Offices.

## IRREGULAR BORDER MARRIAGES

### "Hermit"

A few months ago, bulldozers moved in to demolish an old stone building on the A1 road between Berwick and Edinburgh, just on the Scottish side of the border. Its ruined state gave no clue to its history and now there is nothing left of the Tollhouse at Lamberton. In its heyday over a century ago, it was a wellknown centre for Irregular Marriages. There, as at Coldstream, Paxton and elsewhere, many thousands of English couples were wed, taking advantage of the more liberal Scottish matrimonial laws. The eastern Border centres are not as famous as Gretna in the west, but they are nevertheless of interest and importance to family historians, particularly those with links with north Northumberland.

Following Lord Hardwicke's Marriage Act in 1754, it was illegal for anyone except Jews and Quakers to marry in England, other than at a Church of England place of worship after publication of banns or granting of a licence. Transportation for 14 years to one of the King's Plantations in America was the penalty for transgression. English law did, however, recognise a marriage contracted under the law of another country and many English couples used this loophole and chose to wed in Scotland, where three forms of marriage were recognised. The first, the regular marriage, required prior proclamation in the church or churches of the parties and a ceremony before a minister of the Established Church. A preference for a Presbyterian form of service, debarred to them in their own land after

1754, would seem to be the main reason for the large number of regular marriages between English couples which occur in Scottish Parish Registers. The second form was a clandestine marriage, being one celebrated before a minister but without proper proclamation or banns. One of the most famous was the marriage of John Scott, later Lord Eldon, to Miss (Bessy) Surtees in November 1772, after an elopement to Blackshiels, a record of which appears in the Registers of the Episcopal Church at Haddington. The couple in fact went through a second ceremony at St. Nicholas, Newcastle, in January 1773, but the first marriage would be valid at law, since the Scottish system in fact required nothing more than a declaration by the parties, before witnesses, that they were man and wife. This was the third form of marriage - the irregular form - the most common type being the simple "marriage by consent". It was this type of marriage which gave Gretna, Lamberton and Coldstream their claims to fame. Marriages by consent required no prior notice, could take place at any time of day or night, in a house or street or indeed anywhere at all, and did not require the presence of a clergyman.

To English couples, especially those in the north, a journey into Scotland enabled them to take advantage of the Scottish "marriage by consent" and a trade developed at places just over the Border. For a fee, a "priest" would perform a so-called marriage ceremony. These "priests" held no official position and their presence was in no way necessary except to act as a witness. "No doubt, English runaway couples would have found them useful. They would have known from experience how to set about the business of a marriage and what was required for the constitution of a valid union, while the average English pair of lovers would have been at a loss what to do without their help. It is possible too that some of the more ignorant people who sought their aid really believed they possessed some priestly function."<sup>1</sup>

Some of the "priests" visited fairs and markets seeking customers whilst others made their services known by advertising. W. Ness of Berwick declared himself willing to "celebrate marriages at the various stations on the Border from Lamberton Toll on the east to Gretna Green on the west in a manner which must give general satisfaction .... the most honourable secrecy when required will be maintained."<sup>2</sup> whilst Andrew Lyon stated that he could be found "at his residence ... any time his services may be required by any person visiting the Hymeneal Shrine on the Scottish Borders".<sup>3</sup>

Local legends abound. A Newcastle tradesman and his bride were only half wed! The chimney in the room being used for the ceremony was smoking badly, and the "priest" coughed so much that the groom became impatient. He threw down his fee and left with his bride for the open air, with only half of the ceremony completed. He lived happy ever after!<sup>2</sup>

Some of the "priests" gave certificates, when required, and others kept a form of register. An example of a certificate is that given by Joseph Atkinson in October 1830: "This is to certify that James Dryden and Mary Ewart, both in Tweedmouth, County of Durham, was this day married by me, before these witnesses - John Dryden, Wm Forster."<sup>4</sup> There was no official record and it was easy, and often convenient, to repudiate such a marriage if the witness, often the "priest" himself, could not be found, whilst children of the union might have difficulty in proving their legitimacy if the need arose. It seems, however, that "one of the most usual modes of preserving a record of such marriages was for parties who had contracted them to go before a justice of the peace to declare their offence, and having been subjected to the small fine inflicted under the law, to obtain a certificate of their conviction."<sup>5</sup>



Lamberton Toll Bar

Whilst romantic episodes did occur, equally often the truth was sordid. The Minister of Coldstream, writing in 1834, described the "priests" as "persons of the lowest and most worthless character" and certainly they did not always keep out of trouble. It was an offence for a layman to celebrate a marriage although the witnessing of a mutual consent did not amount to celebration unless there was some assumption of the function of a minister, but no doubt the "priests" went very near to breaking the law. In 1812 at Jedburgh, Andrew Rutherford and James Angus were indicted for celebrating clandestine marriages. Angus pleaded that he considered himself to be merely a witness, but the pair were found guilty and banished from Scotland for life. A rather more severe punishment awaited Joseph Atkinson. In 1843, William Brown and Catherine Cossar went to Lamberton "in urgent haste and fearful of pursuit" to seek out the priest, Atkinson. Failing to find him, they returned to Berwick and located him in the Old Hen and Chickens. He refused to "marry" them there, but after having been plied with drink, he yielded and recorded the "marriage" as having taken place at Lamberton. No Scots law was involved, since the affair occurred on English soil, and at Northumberland Assizes in August 1843, Mr Justice Cresswell commented on the "enormity of the offence" and sentenced Atkinson to transportation. An interesting sidelight on the case is that the "groom", William Brown, had been tried at an earlier assize and found guilty of bigamy, principally on Atkinson's evidence!

The brides and grooms were themselves not always above reproach. In 1812, a Berwick woman married for the third time while two other husbands were still alive.<sup>6</sup> She wed the last two within nine weeks, before the same "priest". In one town, one man had five wives, all alive, whilst others had four, three or two. Marriages often took place between drunken couples who, at hiring days, "finished the days carouse by a marriage which generally only lasted that term. When the next hiring day came around, either the man wanted another woman, or the woman wanted another man."

It is hardly surprising that there were moves to change the situation. In 1855, Lord Brougham (himself irregularly wed at Coldstream) introduced

a Marriage Bill into Parliament which required one of the parties to have lived in Scotland for at least 21 days. This greatly reduced the number of marriages, but it did not stamp them out and no doubt the priests would do little or nothing to check the residence of their clients if they saw the prospect of a fee. Post-1855 registers of these marriages sometimes show the alleged residence qualification: "Sept 17 1872 Robert Corbett of Warkworth, Northumberland, coal miner, 3 weeks resident of Eyemouth in Scotland, and Barbara Jane Rutherford of Warkworth aforesaid."<sup>2</sup> It might reasonably be surmised that the stated residence qualification would often be false.

The last marriages performed by the "priests" at the Border centres seem to have taken place in the 1890s but it was not until 1939 that the "marriage by consent" was abolished in Scotland.

How many of these marriages took place? The Vicar of Berwick said in 1812 that "on a moderate calculation" from sixty to one hundred couples went to Lamberton Toll from his parish each year,<sup>6</sup> and another source quotes 1474 marriages at the eastern Border centres between 1844 and 1847,<sup>2</sup> mostly at Lamberton Toll. In the House of Lords in 1856, Sir James Graham talked of one thousand marriages taking place in the previous year on the Gretna side and "at least as many more on the Berwick and Coldstream side." Whilst figures quoted during the Commons debate on Brougham's Bill gave 1091 marriages between English couples in 18 Scottish Border parishes in 1850, with 1093 in 1851 and 1110 in 1852.<sup>7</sup> Between 1854 and 1885 Andrew Lyon performed 482 marriages at Paxton Toll, Mordington Toll, Union Bridge Toll and Starch House Toll, as well as Lamberton, whilst the records of another "priest" included 540 between 1883 and 1889, well after the passing of the 1855 Act.<sup>2</sup> Not only the priests profited, apparently - a Berwick jeweller recollected that on market holidays his firm would sell from 12 to 18 wedding rings in a morning for use at Lamberton Toll!<sup>8</sup>

Clearly, then, there were many thousands of marriages, and no doubt many "problems" of genealogists would be solved if registers were available. Some entries will be found in the Scottish Parish Registers, usually when the couple sought forgiveness of their "sin". Thus, the Yetholm Register records that the irregular marriage of John Hope and Jean Brack, both in the parish of Kirknewton, was confirmed by the Kirk Session of Yetholm on 14 May 1820. Unfortunately, however, few of the priests' registers seem to have survived for long, and fewer still seem to remain today. In 1934, for example, a Berwick solicitor, now dead, held two small note books but it seems likely that they will now have vanished. The only Lamberton Registers available for public search are those held in photocopy form by the Registrar-General, Scotland, which include marriages between 1834 and 1843. Alexander Steven's book "The Story of Lamberton Toll", published in 1933, is, however, useful here, as he gives details of about seventy marriages from the registers of various priests. [A list of these marriages has been deposited with the Secretary of our Society, who can supply copies for 15p. in stamps (two International Reply Coupons from overseas members).- Ed.] Steven's book is the only one which deals specifically with the eastern Border centres, although Gretna marriages have been the subject of several works. It is a great pity that the eastern centres, and their registers, have been so neglected. The local genealogist will be fortunate indeed if his problems can be solved from the scanty evidence which remains of a once flourishing industry.

#### References

1. Transactions, Dumfries & Galloway Natural History Society, vol. XIV.
2. Alexander Steven, "Story of Lamberton Toll".
3. Berwickshire Naturalists Club 1857.

4. Photocopy, Northumberland Record Office, ZMD 29/4.
5. Lord Advocate, House of Commons, 9 May 1855.
6. Rev. J. Barnes, "Observations on Clandestine or Irregular Marriages", 1812.
7. Mr Headlam, Newcastle M.P., in House of Commons, 9 May 1855.
8. P.A. Graham, Highways and Byways in Northumbria, 1920.

## INDEX TO DURHAM MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

A.G.S. Bunting

A good deal of work has already been done in County Durham. Some of the earliest work is elusive; one finds notebooks in the Black Gate, jottings in Gateshead Library, rarely-used microfilms in Northumberland County Record Office, and I am sure that there is still more to be unearthed. This index must therefore be regarded as interim, and it may be a long time before a fully coherent picture can be formed. I should like to urge members interested in copying M.I.s to press on with the good work, and not to wait in the hope of someone's previous work turning up. However, there is always the danger that a modern copy may never be 'married' to older work lying hidden in an obscure bookshelf. The main priority is, as always, to make sure that the inscriptions are safely copied before weather and 'landscapers' take their toll, but I hope one day to be able to combine old and new work together.

The 'old' work consists mainly of notebooks compiled by J. Fawcett, now to be found in the Black Gate (Library of the Society of Antiquaries, Newcastle), and some of which are on microfilm at Northumberland Record Office. The microfilm notes are mainly culled from printed sources such as Surtees' "History of Durham", but there are a few, relating particularly to Edmundbyers and Witton Gilbert, which Fawcett must have copied himself. A bound volume of notes at the Black Gate dated 1831 contains over three hundred inscriptions from a number of Durham parishes, notably Sedgefield, Haughton and Long Newton, together with several North Riding parishes. There is also a notebook of 1832 by T. Bell at Darlington Library.

The contents are listed in a similar way to the Northumberland Index (Vol. II, No. 1, p. 9). Repositories are as follows:

DPL = Darlington Public Library  
 DRO = Durham Record Office  
 GPL = Gateshead Public Library  
 NCL = Newcastle Central Reference Library  
 NRO = Northumberland Record Office, Melton Park  
 SPL = Sunderland Public Library  
 SOG = Society of Genealogists, London  
 TWBO = Tyne and Wear Record Office

My thanks to the staff of these various libraries for their help.

<u>Localities</u>	<u>Contents</u>	<u>Repositories</u>	<u>Notes</u>
Billingham - see Haverton Hill			
Bishopwearmouth	Churchyard	SOG	H.R. Leighton, 1961
Boldon	67/1753-1851	DRO, NCL, SOG	G. Nicholson, 1976
Chester-le-Street	649/1689-1928	NCL, SOG	J. Madsen, 1946
Darlington, St.Cuthbert	568 M.I.s	DPL	H. Masterman, 1911
"	107 M.I.s	DPL	1971 typs.
Dinsdale	13/1721-1822	DPL	Bell MSS

Durham

Cathedral	126/earliest-1927, in Church, chapter house and cloister	GPL, NCL	H. Surtees & J. Wall, printed 1932
Cathedral	?complete	NCL, NRO, SOG, etc.	C.M. Carlton, printed 1880
St. Mary-le-Bow	?complete	NCL, NRO, SOG, etc.	"
St. Mary-the-Less	?complete	NCL, NRO, SOG, etc.	"
St. Oswald	?complete	NCL, NRO, SOG, etc.	"
<u>N.B.</u> The above four are in C.M. Carlton's "Monumental Inscriptions of Durham City", available in large public libraries throughout the area.			
Eaglescliffe	565/1611-1974	SOG	P.R. Joiner, 1975
Edmundbyers	37 M.I.s ?complete	NRO	Microfilm 749
Elton	92/1692-1974	DRO, SOG	P.R. Joiner, 1976
Gateshead, St. Edmund	132/1801-1971	GPL	L. Hamilton, MSS, 1973
"	10/1827-1864 I	GPL	Final page of St. Mary's
" St. John	128/1834-1972	GPL	Copied from photo- graphs taken when yard was cleared Copied 1856
" St. Mary	433/1659-1853	GPL, NRO	
<u>N.B.</u> At Gateshead Library there are two typescript copies of the above and one MSS copy that includes some photos of gravestones.			
Haughton-le-Skerne	103/1740-1831	DPL	Bell MSS
Haverton Hill (Billing- ham parish)	423/1867-1973	DRO, SOG	P.R. Joiner, 1976
High Usworth	5/1833-1851	DRO, SPL, NCL, SOG	G. Nicholson, 1975
Hurworth	94/1719-1832	DPL	Bell MSS
Long Newton	191/1718-1975	DRO, SOG	P.R. Joiner, 1976
Middleton St. George	18/1717-1831	DPL	Bell MSS
Muggleswick	complete	NCL	Durham History Soc.
Penshaw	63/1773-1851	DRO, SPL, NCL, SOG	G. Nicholson, 1976
Ryhope St. Paul	33/1822-1879	SPL, DRO	Stones removed from old part of yard
Ryton	542/1621-1971	DRO, GPL, NCL, SOG	G. Nicholson
Sadberge	27/1751-1829	DPL	Bell MSS
Satley			Durham History Soc.
Seaham - one known copy at Salt Lake City - details not yet received.			
Shildon	20/1834-1851 I	DRO, NCL, SOG	See Vol. 1, No. 4, pp. 102-3
Southwick	Inside church	SOG	H.R. Leighton, 1961
Stanhope St. Thomas - there is an incomplete MSS list at NCL (which could not be found last time I requested it!)			
Sunderland, Holy Trinity	1841-1857	DRO, TWRO	Alphabetical index
"	?	DRO, TWRO	
Tanfield	1624-1970	SOG	MSS by R.J. Bowker
Usworth, High - see High Usworth			
Washington	89/1729-1851	DRO, SPL, NCL, SOG	G. Nicholson & A. Readdie, 1976
Weardale, St. John	254/1713-1907	GPL	
Witton Gilbert	20/1739-1908 I	NRO	Microfilm 748, 749

Note: The following church-yards in Co. Durham have also been covered  
although their records have yet to be made available: Auckland St. Andrew  
(to 1837) and Bishop Middleham (by Bishop Middleham Local History Society).

## MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

- 2 Mrs M. HEY, 20 Archery Rise, Neville's Cross, Durham.  
Families of interest are Grange (Middlesbrough - seeks origin of William who married Ann Elizabeth Mallorie and lived in Kent St., 1875-82); Mallorie (Harewood, Dunkeswick, Kirkby Overblow, all near Leeds, Yorks); Wardle (Eccup and Harwood, both near Leeds; interested particularly in Eccup Nonconformist Chapel); Brownlees (seeks Scottish origin of three brothers who settled in Fernisky, Co. Antrim, in the late 18th century and also marriages in Ulster of William Brownlees/Isabella Kinnaird and Benjamin Brownlees/Rachel Hill); Gillespie and Adams (both Ulster).
- 227 Mr R.J.D. SHAW, 477 Boronia Rd, Wantirna South, Victoria 3152, Australia.  
Seeks the baptism of Peter Shaw who was aged 22 in 1877, when he married Jane Amelia Ward in Newcastle. There is no relevant entry in St. Catherine's House indexes so Peter (son of William, a farm labourer) may well have been born in Scotland. Jane Amelia Ward was born in 1854, the daughter of Henry Ward and Isabella Reay of Newcastle. Other interests are Hewitt and Revell, both Kent.
- 252 Mrs A. JOHNSON, 157 Pearl St S, Apt 200, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada.  
Ancestors of particular interest are: Thomas Rippon (son of Robt and Ann Lowden, born Cassop Hill 1843), James Holmes (1830-1863, married at St. Giles, Durham, 1846, Jane, daughter of Wallace Vickers), and John Gowland (son of John, born c1851 and married in 1875 Elizabeth Welford. Elizabeth was born c1855 and died at Middlestone Moor in 1928; she was perhaps the daughter of George Welford and Mary Ann Wade).
- 280 Mrs E.J. HOWE, 56 Coach Rd, Brotton, Saltburn, Cleveland, TS12 2RP.  
Interested in Haslam (Derbyshire, Shropshire, Anglesey); Howe (Flint, Wirral, Chester); Ward (Weardale); Jacques (Seaton Delaval area); and Telford (S. Tyne area).
- 281 Mr K. RICHMOND, 1 Mitre Place, Castle Cary, Somerset, BA7 7EP.  
Tracing Richmond families of Hope House and Redworth (both par. Heighington, 15th - 19th centuries), of Corby and Highhead Castles and Catterlen Hall (all Cumbria, 12th - 18th centuries) and of S. Durham/N. Yorks (the Cowtons, Croft, Eryholme, Gilling West, Hurworth, Middleton Tyas, Sedbury, Darlington and Richmond, 17th to 19th centuries). Also interested in Cuthbert, Eryholme, Hutchinson (Framwellgate), Prieman, Steward and Trotter (all S. Durham/N. Yorks, 16th - 19th centuries. Particularly wants the birth of George Richmond c1763).
- 282 Mrs N. WYLIE, 19 Puerta St, Burwood 3125, Victoria, Australia.  
Seeking information on the Swan family. Edward, William and Thomas Swan emigrated from Sunderland to Melbourne in 1852/53. They were sons of William Swan and Frances Harrison. Edward Swan had married, at Bishopwearmouth in 1838, Isabella (b1817), daughter of Forster (Foster) Smith and Jane Nichols. Other families of interest are Craig (Fenwick, Paisley, Scotland), Lowe/Low (Pittenweem, Elie, Fife) and Nichols (Thornton, Yorks).
- 283 Mrs J. LAMBERT, 141 Brodie Ave, Liverpool, L18 4RG.  
Interested in the following families from Ryton (17th and 18th centuries): Bootland, Hodgson, Hunter, Oliver, Simpson & Young. Other N. Durham families from the same period are Barnes, Blackett, Elliott, Hull/Hall, Leighton, Lonsdale, Mason, Newton, Southern, Wallace, Wharton and Whitfield.
- 284 Miss C.H. McRAE, 28 Aroona Rd, N. Caulfield, Melbourne 3161, Victoria, Australia.  
Miss McRae is a Councillor of the Genealogy Society of Victoria and Vice-President of the Australian Branch of the Heraldry Society. Her main Northumbrian interest is in 18th & 19th century Riddleys. Other interests are Riddleys from Lancs and the W. Indies and Yates and Hadwen, both Lancs.

- 286 Mrs V. KETCHAM, 705, 9th Av S, Port Alberti, BC, Canada, V9Y 2N3.  
Requires details of Ralph Fetherstonhaugh of Heathery Cleugh, Stanhope parish. Ralph's son, Cuthbert, emigrated to Phillipstown in 1651 and died aged 72 in 1693. Another interest is in Sir Timothy Fetherstonhaugh, said to have been "involved" with the Earl of Derby and to have been executed.
- 287 Mr D. le P. WEBB, "Bell Place", Bell Lane, Syresham, Brockley, Northants. Anxious to trace the ancestors of Ralph Robson, weaver, born c1780, whose son Andrew was born in the Alnwick area. Andrew became a schoolmaster in Shilbottle and later relieving officer at Alnmouth. Would also appreciate information on the formation and history of Alnwick Auction Mart, with which his grandfather, Thomas Robson (1840-81), was concerned. Seeking information also on Swan of Woodhorn (1750) and, later, of Lesbury.
- 288 Mr A. RIGG, 21 Waldrige Road, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham. Tracing the families of Pigg (Co. Durham, 18th & 19th centuries) and Fuller (Hartlepool, 19th century).
- 290 Mr G. KELLY, 1524 Lewisham Drive, Mississauga, Ontario L5J 3R5, Canada. Trying to locate a little-known book on the history of Co. Durham by a Mr Askew, schoolmaster of Spennymoor around 1920. Can any member help?
- 291 Mr J.R. HORSMAN, 1 Buttermere Close, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham, DH2 3DN. Interests are: (1) the family of Thomas Washington, owner of estates in Virginia, Nevis and St. Kitts, whose wife Mary died in Gateshead in 1774 and whose daughters, Mary, Sarah and Hannah, married William Pitcairn, John Stewart and Edward Smirk in Newcastle in 1779/80; (2) Addison of Newburn and Gateshead c1800 (a Washington Addison was at Bickhill cross-roads, Chester County, Tennessee in 1884) and (3) Horsman and Tiffany of the West Riding of Yorks c1785. Mr Horsman is willing to supply information from his extensive Horsman collection.
- 292 Mr C.J. TITLER, 10 Jordan's Close, Boxgrove Park, Guildford, Surrey. There are three groups of families named Titler - in London, Cheshire and Northumberland; they would appear to be unconnected but Mr Titler is interested in all references to the name. The Northumbrian family had Scottish origins and many were shoemakers. Specifically, Mr Titler is interested in the baptism of John Titler c1822 and the marriage and baptism of his father, William. Another interest is in the Umfraville, Norman Barons of Prudhoe and Earls of Angus, and Mr Titler has compiled an extensive pedigree of this family, from which he is descended. This pedigree is now in the Society's library. Other local interests are Soulsby and Redhead.
- 293 Mrs C.M. COCKWILL, 4 Box Ridge Avenue, Purley, Surrey, CR2 3AP. Family interests are chiefly in Stanhope parish, Weardale, and relate to the Westgarth family. Another interest is in Sandersons from the parishes to the east of Alnwick (i.e. Howick, Longhoughton and Lesbury).
- 294 Mr L. COLLING, 35 Rosebury Avenue, Leigh, Lancs, WN7 4JZ. Families of interest are Colling (Great Stainton c1700) and Nicholson (Grindon c1700). A particular interest is in Charles and Robert Colling, the famous breeders of shorthorn cattle.
- 295 Miss R.H. HORNSEY, 145 Summit Ave, Summit, New Jersey, 07901, USA. Miss Hornsey is interested in Hudson from the Felton and Whittingham areas of Northumberland and in Appleby from Warkworth. She tells us that she had almost given up on Hudson, when the family was re-located in the Longframlington Presbyterian Registers. Naturally, local Presbyterian Registers are now a special interest.
- 296 Dr D.W. BURDON, 186 Rosemary Hill Rd, Sutton Coldfield, W.Midlands B74 4HP. Searching for the baptism of Forster Burdon c1755 and Surtees Burdon after 1759, and for any Forster/Burdon marriages. Another search is for the baptism of George Claughan c1802 at Eighton Banks, south

- of Gateshead. George's mother Ann died in 1844 aged 89, the widow of Joseph Claughan. This name also occurs as Claugham, Clapham, Claffam, Claffan and Clephen.
- 298 Mrs C. WILLIAMS, "Dyffryn", Stockton Rd, Easington, Co. Durham, SR8 3AZ. Major interest is in Caisley of Newcastle and Northumberland in the 19th century, and in finding details of the baptism of Joseph Caisley and his marriage in Byker Parish Church to Mary (?Ellen) Brown - the relevant certificate seems to be missing.
- 299 Mr W. COWAN, 100 Westernmoor, Blackfell 2, Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE37 1LT. Interested in Cowan of Sunderland, Berwick and the Borders in the 19th century.
- 300 Mrs E. DABBS, 20 Prospect Terr, New Brancepeth, Durham, DH7 7EJ. Mrs Dabbs' main interest is in the family of Trodden of York and Leeds in the 19th century and earlier.
- 301 Mr I. DODD, "Brierley", 37 Croft Park, Menston, Ilkley, W.Yorks, LS29 6LY. Families of interest are Dodd (Sunderland, Seaham from 1840, previously Westmorland); Coulthard (Teesdale, Aycliffe, Easington, from 1840s); Scott, Major (both Sunderland); Brown (Easington, Sunderland); Morrel (Bishop Middleham); Walker (Aycliffe); Oyston (Hart); Hunter (Easington, Gateshead); Barras, Davison (Both Easington); Watson (West Moor).
- 302 Mrs J.M. TONKS, 17 Pennhurst Ave, Wolverhampton, W. Midlands, WV4 4BG. Interested in tracing the ancestors of her father, John Emerson Clennell, who is believed to have lived at Bishop Auckland, though born at St. John's Chapel. There are possible family connections with Hunstanworth and with the Coquetdale Clennells. Mrs Tonks is therefore interested in Clennell and Fenwick-Clennell of Clennell in the parish of Alwinton.
- 303 Mr E.K. URWIN, 54 Rivermead Road, Denton, Manchester, M34 1PG. Interested in all references to Urwin/Irwin/Orwin throughout Northumberland and Durham, and has reasonably complete extracts of references to this name from many local parish registers (to 1812).
- 304 Mr J. SCOTT, 7 Ottershaw Park, Chertsey, Surrey, KT16 0QG. Seeking the marriage details, possibly from early 1870s, of Wm Hurton and Susannah Mitchell. Their eldest child was born c1874/5 and in 1887 the couple lived at Ferryhill. Also seeking the birth record of Robert Scott (c1846-1919), a gamekeeper at Castle Eden. On his marriage in 1878 (to Jane Day) he was resident at Hartlepool. Another search from the same family is for the birth record of Henry (c1880-1947), son of the above Robert. The Scotts appear to have been Primitive Methodists, centred on the Trimdon and Quarrington Hill areas and Mr Scott is naturally interested in the history of the development of these areas.
- 306 Mrs N.E.L. EVANS, 18 Seacroft Rd, Cleethorpes, S. Humberside, DN35 0AZ. Interested in the ancestors of Richard Embleton, who died at Stannington in 1763. Richard's son, John, (1719-1792) married Elizabeth Hodgson in 1743.
- 307 Mrs J.R. SMITH, "Wentworth", Chinnor Rd, Bledlow Ridge, High Wycombe, Bucks, HP14 4AW. Interested in Stephen Smith, mariner, born in Nova Scotia but married in Newcastle in 1867 and settled in N. Shields. Stephen's father was Silas Smith, a blacksmith and possibly a Catholic. Information on any Silas Smith of the period would be welcome. Other families of interest are Black (Tyneside and Cumberland); Walker (Yorks and USA); Hammond (Yorks); Milmore/Milmo and Jeffrey (Tyneside); Richardson (Newcastle); Hornsby and Hall (Northumberland); McCauley (Scotland).
- 308 Mr J.D. NEAT, "Linden", Kensington Ave, Thorner, Leeds, LS14 3EH. We welcome to our Society the son of our late Chairman, whose interests, in addition to those of his father, include Beresford and Holton, both 19th century Sunderland families.

- 309 Mrs N.B. FRAY, 6 Kelso Close, Sompting, Lancing, Sussex, BN15 0DZ.  
Seeking information about the ancestors of her great-grandparents, Robert and Ann Chalmers Pattison, who were living in Quarryburn, Hunwick (near Bishop Auckland) in 1874. Robert was a miner.
- 310 Mr P.H. LINDSAY, 5 Quatre Bras, Hexham, Northumberland.  
Main families of interest are Cook (founders of Washington Iron Works); Nicholson (Wear File Works, Sunderland); Hudson (builders, Sunderland); Dunn (Pelton Fell); Richardson (Stella Gill).
- 311 Mr W.F. BROUGH, Elkton, Florida 32033, USA.  
Interested in Brough (Tyneside) and Embleton (all Northumberland and Durham). Special queries are for the identity of Thomas Brough who married Mary Embleton at Long Benton in 1813 (both "of this parish"). When the first child of this marriage was baptised Thomas was described as of Redhouse. Later, his occupation was given as "miller" (?or miner) and Mr Brough suspects he may have originated from Morpeth. Another family of interest is Blakey of Co. Durham.
- 312 Miss M.A. THOMAS, 17 Silksworth Lane, Sunderland, Tyne & Wear, SR3 1LW.
- 313 Mr W. NEIL, 70 Atbara Rd, Teddington, Middlesex, TW11 9PD.  
A special interest is in the very rare name of Grecian, a name possibly of some great antiquity. William Grecian, a surgeon in Sunderland, 1828-46, was involved in the 1831 cholera outbreak. A related Grecian birth has been found in Sunderland in 1775 but nothing is known before that date. Also interested in tracing John and Margaret Rand, whose children were baptised at Bishop Middleham from 1791, and Mary Ann Forster, daughter of John (an "Agent" in local directories), whose birthplace is given in the 1881 Census as Sunderland. Another interest is Kirkley (esp. Anthony) of Wolsingham in the 1700-1750 period. Other Wolsingham interests are Lancelot Dobison (1st child born 1717) and Jane Deighton (married Wm Dobinson at Wolsingham in 1747 but apparently not born there). Mr Neil has access to all the major searching centres in London and is willing to do searches for members.
- 314 Mrs E.J. READ, "Leyton Lea", 326 Church Road, Templestowe, 3106 Victoria, Australia.
- 315 Mr J. BUDDLE, 60 Church Street, Amble, Northumberland.  
Mr Buddle's ancestors have been located in Coquetdale and traced to John, son of Walter, who was born in 1709. A John Buddle received a licence in 1701 to have a Presbyterian meeting in his house at Netherton and in 1662 William Buddell of Alwinton was a signatory to a letter to the Bishop of Durham offering to pay the wages of a "cleric" as they had not had one there for four years!
- 316 Mr H.A.A. WHILE, MBE, 18 Matham Rd, E. Molesey, Surrey, KT8 0SU.  
Families of interest are Armstrong (Gunnerton, Chollerton, Wark, Hexham and Westoe); Anderson (S. Shields, Westoe); Forster (Capheaton); Moore (S. Shields, Westoe, Harton); Naylor (Bridge-north, Salop); While (Worcs and S. Wales); and Sewell (Teesside and Durham).
- 317 Miss A. DOUGLAS, 29 Bewick Court, John Dobson St, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- 318 Mrs E.A. BARLOW, Banks Road, Matamata, New Zealand.  
Mrs Barlow's widespread ancestry includes families from Baden-Baden, Isle of Man, Isle of Wight, Scotland, New York and San Antonio, Texas (American members please note - these last two are Feisst and Russi). Local interests include William Forster who married Isabella Anderson at Stamfordham in 1813, Robson, Oliver and Glenwright (all Stamfordham); Glenwright (Melkridge); Lee, Spark, McMillan, Wallas and Martin (Allendale); Ord (Haydon and Hexham, esp. the baptism of Robson Ord c1780s).
- 319 Miss L. BATEMAN, c/o 154 Roundhill Ave, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 3PY.

- 320 Mr N.L. ROMANIUK, 8 Gosforth Terr, S. Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE31RT.  
Interested in Tiplady, Laverick, Willis and McGuinness throughout Northumberland and Durham. A special interest is in Polish and Russian records from the East Polish/Russian border (all periods).
- 321 Mrs C.P. BLENKARN, 7 Bridge Ct, Yarm on Tees, Cleveland.  
Tracing Dixon (Bishop Auckland); Oughton (all Durham); Hunt (Durham City, Blyth and Newcastle); Bell and Sunter (Yorkshire Dales); Walton (Bishop Auckland and Durham City). Is seeking the death c1895 of John Hunt, probably in Bishop Auckland, and also the marriages of Hannah Dixon, first to a Walton and then to John Hunt. Hannah was born in New Coundon in 1850 and was still there in 1861, but not in 1871. A son, John, was born of the first union and a daughter, Eleanora, of the second.
- 322 Mrs A. POWER, 94 Marsden Rd, South Shields, Tyne & Wear.  
Mrs Power is the Patron Services Librarian at the Sunderland Stake Centre of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. That is, it is Mrs Power who will be concerned with helping the public with their problems when the Church's Branch Genealogical Library opens soon (N.B. this is being written in October! - Ed.) Families of personal interest are Fettis (Whittingham); Bennion (Burslem, Staffs); Mantey (Prussia); Barwise (Carlisle); Power (Chorlton cum Medlock); Hampson (Burslem); Summers (?Hazlerigg); Hope (Belford); and Lawson (Whittingalees, Aikton, ?Cumberland).
- 323 Mr P. LOCKEY, MRIC, 31 Fleet St, Bishop Auckland, Co. Durham, DL14 6HW.  
Mr Lockey's queries relate to Lockey (S.W. Durham/N. Yorks); Longstaff (traced to 1588 by connection to an existing pedigree); Dunn (requires birth of Joseph, son of Joseph, who was married at Monkwearmouth in 1855); Jacques and Snaith (William Jacques, Innkeeper, of Knaresborough, married Jane Snaith in the 1830s); Hughe; Wheatley and Gibbon (forebears of Joseph Wheatley and Elizabeth Gibbon who married at St. Helen's Auckland in 1811); Wiggan/Whickem (mother of Hannah, daughter of John - Hannah married Joseph Dunn, 1855); Henderson (1st cousin of her husband, a Longstaff, whom she married in 1824); Ditchburn (George, born Sowerby, Yorks, c1800); and Wilson (Hannah, of Fulford, Yorks, who married John Lockey at Heighington in 1812).
- 324 Mr P.J. CRAGGS, 9 Manor Gardens, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE7 7XP.  
Interested in Craggs of Satley, Co. Durham, 18th & 19th centuries.
- 325 Mrs J.R. MOAT, 38 Heatherslaw Rd, Fenham, Newcastle upon Tyne.
- 326 Mr K. RICHMOND, PO Box 287, Armidale 2350, NSW, Australia.  
Families of interest are Richmond and Turner throughout Durham and Northumberland in the 19th century and before. Is also interested in Monumental Inscriptions and seafaring records.
- 327 Mrs G. ANDERSON, PO Box 47406, Ponsonby, Auckland, New Zealand.  
Interested in Darnton (Richmond, Yorks, Teeside, Staindrop and Darlington); Matchem (Shincliffe); Heron/Herring (Stockton, Darlington); Smith (Auckland St. Andrew); Jones (Kinnerton, Flints); Peters; Cuffe; Spearpoint; Whorlton, Marshall and Johnson (Stockton).
- 328 Mr I. HENDERSON, 16 Cresswell Av, Seaton Sluice, Tyne & Wear, NE26 4HH.  
Surnames of interest are Henderson (Blyth and N. Shields) and Fawcett (Blyth and Tanfield) in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 329 Miss M.R. EMBLETON, 533 East Sixth South, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102, USA.  
Miss Embleton's great-great-grandfather, John Embleton, was a master mariner who died at 21 Hedworth St, Sunderland, in 1866, aged 66. Unfortunately there were two master mariners of that name in Sunderland at the time, and this has caused complications. John's first son (by his wife, Jane Herdman), Jacob, was another master mariner and was lost at sea in 1866; the second son, John Blyth Embleton, was a tailor, of 57 Tatham St, Sunderland. Miss Embleton has offered to help members in United States research.

- 330 Miss J. LARMOUR, 14 Row Hill, Addlestone, Weybridge, Surrey, KT15 1DC.  
 331 Mrs D. STOCKLEY, 14 Fraser Close, Daventry, Northants.  
 332 Miss E. PHAROAH, 38 Western Way, Axwell Park, Blaydon, NE21 5NS.  
 333/334 Mr M.F. & Mrs B.F.E. McCONNELL, The Old House, Front St, Tynemouth, Tyne & Wear, NE30 4BX.  
 Families of interest are Brack (Sunderland and Teeside) and Martin (Teeside), both in the 18th and 19th centuries.  
 335 Miss Y. LAMBORD, 54 Millfield Ave, Denton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE3 4SY.  
 The family of Lambord, or Lambert, originated in Lincolnshire and Miss Lambord is particularly anxious to find the birthplace of Robert Lambord in 1824. A local family of interest is Lightfoot of Northumberland in the 18th and 19th centuries.  
 336 Mr N. BANKS, c/o 3AW Broadcasting Station, Lonsdale St, Melbourne, Australia.  
 337 Mrs A.M. STOREY, 820 Burnhamthorpe Rd, Apt 1007, Etobicoke, Ontario, Canada, M9C 4W2.  
 338 Capt A.J. COULTHARD, Colescote, Piddletrenthide, Dorchester, Dorset.  
 339 Mr A.A. BRACK, 17 Lockharton Gardens, Edinburgh, EH14 1AU.  
 340 NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE POLYTECHNIC LIBRARY, Ellison Place, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 8ST.  
 341 Miss L. POULTON, 159 Kenilworth Walk, Sulgrave, Washington, Tyne & Wear.  
 342 Mrs J.B. SMITH, 17 Staward Ave, Seaton Delaval, Tyne & Wear, NE25 0JG.  
 343 Mr C. GRAY, Richmond House, Coppoquin, Co. Waterford, Eire.  
 344 LONDON GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, 64/68 Exhibition Road, London, SW7 2PA.  
 345 Mrs V. CORNO, 11 Fleetway, Thorpe, Egham, Surrey.  
 346 Mr N.C. BEATTIE, 112 Cecil Road, Hale, Altrincham, Cheshire, WA15 9NU.  
 347 GUILDHALL LIBRARY, London, EC2P 2EJ.  
 348 Mr R. SCURFIELD, Seven Latches, Park Road, Stoke Poges, Bucks.  
 349 Mr SPENSE, 3 Holly Rd, N. Shields, Tyne & Wear.  
 350 Mrs THUBRON, Whitburn House, Whitburn, Tyne & Wear.

#### Changes of Address

- 7 Mr A.H. PERRY, 21 Nottingham Rd, Melton Mowbray, Leics, LE13 ONP.  
 51 Mr N. BILTON, 3 Mill Lane, Newcastle upon Tyne 4.  
 69 Mrs E. SINCLAIR, 106 - 1351 Martin St, White Rock, BC, Canada, V4B 3W6.  
 95 Mr P. BENNETT, c/o Customers' Mail, Commercial Bank of Australia Ltd., 12 Old Jewry, London EC2.  
 187 Mr H.J. ASH, 4 Valeside, Durham, DH1 4RF.  
 205 Mrs J.E. CROOKS, "Dunromin", 17 Searells Rd, Merrivale, Christchurch 5, NZ.  
 208 Mrs D. SMAILS, 9 Conifer Drive, Tilehurst, Reading, Berks, RG3 6YU.

#### SECOND TIME AROUND

- 9 Mr R.W. CROMARTY, 40 Portland Rd, E. Grinstead, Sussex, RH19 4EA.  
 Interested in the parentage of John Tait (1834-1901), a blacksmith, whose father was probably another John Tait, blacksmith, of Etal, Ford or Beal and whose mother was Margaret Anderson of Edinburgh. Also Jennet Cornwall Nicholson (1837-1876) of Newcastle, whose father, a stonemason and builder with a yard on the site of the Forth Goods Yard, Newcastle, is said to have emigrated to Australia on the death of his wife.  
 13 Mr P.M. BROUGH, 17 Ashurst Rd, Sutton Coldfield, B76 8JH.  
 Mr Brough has added to his list of interests (published in Vol. 1, no. 1) those of Brough of Durham (17th & 18th centuries) and Moody of Birmingham (18th century); and his parishes of interest now include Bishopwearmouth, Easington, Hawthorn and Kelloe. He wishes to delete from his list Pearce of Birmingham.

- 20 Mr W. VEITCH, "Haydon", 39 Ivinston Rd, Darwin, Lincs, BB3 0EN.  
New families of interest are Baty/Batey (Haltwhistle and Allendale); Martin (Allendale and Whitfield pre-1800); Forster/Foster (Wall, Simonburn and Kirkwhelpington); Parker (Hexham pre-1800); Middleton (Warden pre-1800); Lowther (Whitehaven and Egremont).
- 69 Mrs E. SINCLAIR, 106 1351 Martin St, White Rock, BC, Canada, V4B 3W6.  
Interested in contacting anyone having Northumbrian Buckham ancestors from the 18th century. Mrs Sinclair's ancestor, Michael Buckham, married Dorothy Farbridge in Slaley in 1780.
- 85 Mrs E.D. COSTIGAN, 122 N. Percival St, Olympia, Washington 98502, USA.  
Wishes to correspond with descendants of Wait families, esp. of John Wait who was born at Ayton, Berwickshire, in 1794 and died in North Shields in 1867. One daughter, Ann, married R.L. Morton, a grocer, and another daughter, Elizabeth, married Benjamin Morton, brother of R.L. As both had large families, there could well be many "Wait" Mortons around.
- 86 Mr E.J. HERBERT, 13 Dumblane St, N. Balwyn, Victoria 3104, Australia.  
Mr Herbert's previously recorded interests can be expanded to read: Herbert and Wandless/Wanles (Kirknewton, Wooler, Alwinton); Shiel (Morebattle and Scottish Borders); Burn (Alwinton). All these are 18th and 19th century Presbyterian families and Mr Herbert is interested in Border Presbyterianism in general.
- 97 Mr G.E. CHARLTON, 35 Harcourt Parade, Rosebery, NSW 2018, Australia.  
Wishes to hear from descendants or relatives of his great-grandparents, Joseph Charlton and Hannah Seymour. Mr Charlton's grandfather was born to this couple at Sunderland in 1823. Also seeks relatives of William Alder, pilot, of Sunderland, and of his wife, Hannah Nixon.
- 109 Mr A.T. JOBSON, 27 Illawarra St, Williamstown 3016, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.  
Interested in Pioneer settlers from the Border Counties in all states of Australia. Mr Jobson's own families are Jobson (Newburn); Brown, Hamilton and Noble (Wetheral, Cumberland); Brown and Dixon (Corbridge).
- 111 Mr R.P.H.L. THOMAS, 31 Broadwater Down, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.  
Particular interests are in the Thomas families of Northumberland and Durham and any reference to these families would be welcomed. Mr Thomas has data going back to the 1660s (Sunderland area), but there are gaps, particularly around Tynemouth, S. Shields, Bishopwearmouth, Monkwearmouth and Sunderland around 1745. These are all the more frustrating as they relate to Mr Thomas' direct ancestry. Mr Thomas will correspond and exchange information with anyone interested in these families, which were principally connected with the sea - directly as ship owners and masters and indirectly as suppliers to vessels, being hecklers (flax dressers), butchers, sailmakers, etc. Other names of interest between 1750 and 1850, from the same area, are Taylor, Bunting and Hogg. For Hogg, in particular, Mr Thomas has information back to the 16th century.
- 121 Mr P.R. JOINER, "Greystones", The Spital, Yarm, Cleveland, TS15 9EX.  
Mr Joiner's interests have expanded to include: Blackett (Ryton and Whickham); Liddell (Lanchester/Stamfordham); Sherria/y/ies (Sunderland); Newton (Heworth, Newburn and Gosforth); Stephenson (Hexham, Richmond and Reeth); Jobling, Clark and Stewart (all Monkwearmouth); Carr and Coulson (Gateshead); Sponsford (Bishopwearmouth); Swind(a)le (Allendale); Thompson (Heworth); Foster (Whickham); Horsley (Gosforth); Smith (Kirkheaton); Thoughburn (Lanchester). Specific problems are as follows: (1) Which Thomas Blackett was the father of Robert (bap 1779)? There is a choice of four at Whickham alone. (2) Marriage of John Liddell and Mary Thoughburn(e). Catholics, their children were baptised at Lanchester but they themselves were both buried at Stamfordham.

(3) Birth of John Sherris c1806. He married and lived in the Sunderland area, but in the censuses he gives his birthplace as St. Mary's, Scilly Isles! The birth has been sought for, but not found, in the Scillys. (4) The birth of John Stephenson, c1785. In 1851 he was of High Coniscliffe and claimed to have been born in Reeth, N. Yorks, but his baptism has not been found. Other interests out of our area (in S.W. Herts) are Joiner, North, Archer, Allen, Coker, Butterfield, Hawkins, Budd, Finch, Child and Hooker.

- 176 Miss I. PARFITT, SS No 1, Kimberley, BC, Canada, V1A 2Y3.  
Wishes to locate descendants of Walter Francis Montague Douglas Scott Riddell (1834-1876), a banker son of the Border poet Henry Scott Riddell. He married Agnes, daughter of the Rev. Dr Arnot of the High Church, Edinburgh, and they had children: Eliza and Helen, born in Hong Kong 1867-8, and Henry, Agnes, Francis, David Arnot and Walter Scott born in London 1872-75. In 1875 Walter lived at 62 St. John's Park, Highgate Hill, London. Another of Miss Parfitt's aims is to contact anyone sharing her surname.
- 179 Mr W.W. MURRAY, 209 Palomino Drive, Oakdale, Pennsylvania 15071, USA.  
Seeks information on the ancestry of William Murray, stonemason, born c1842, and Elizabeth Gray, born Glasgow c1851. They had five children - George, William, Jack, Fred and Pauline. George was born at Coxlodge, Northumberland, in 1869 and the family emigrated to Pittsburgh in 1880 or 1881.
- 191 Mrs M. GIBSON, 34 Wagonwheel Rd, Sudbury, Massachusetts 01776, USA.  
We must correct some errors which strayed into Mrs Gibson's list of interests published in Vol. 1, No. 4. Families in which she is interested include Drysdale (Willington, Wallsend and Scotland), Oxen (Wallsend/Stannington), Sanderson (Chirton/Ulgham), Craggs (Kirk Merrington), Lee (Hartley Panns/Earsdon) and Robson (Earsdon).
- 205 Mrs J.E. CROOKS, "Dunromin", 17 Searells Rd, Merrivale, Christchurch 5, NZ.  
Now interested in Marley (Sunderland/N. Yorks); Brady (Mary, born N. Ireland, married Richard Marley in 1860s in Yorkshire); Crooks (Lanark); Guthrie (Perths); Todd and Cochrane (Ayrshire). A special interest is in pottery made by Marleys of Sunderland, such as Marley jugs and Marley horses.
- 251 Mr W.E. WALLACE, 16 Turners Way, Kirkhill, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 2YE.  
Is trying to reconstruct the Wallace family history for that family from just over the Scottish border, hence it is mainly only "stray" members who turn up in Northumberland. Mr Wallace's great-grandfather, Thomas (1843-1887), was a shepherd of Kelso (born Whiteburn, S. Dean, Roxburghs). Information is required on Thomas' parents, William Wallace, farmer, and Mary (?Isabella) Mien. A cousin of Thomas emigrated to New Zealand and there married in 1890 at Kiakoura. Some of their descendants are believed to be named Tapp, some are still Wallaces. As Mr Wallace has now lost touch with this branch of his family, he would be delighted if any of our NZ members could help him re-establish contact.
- 263 Mrs V.M. FOREMAN, 13 Briardene, Lanchester, Durham, DH7 0QD.  
Mrs Foreman who, as a beginner, would welcome some help and advice on how to expand her knowledge of the "technicalities of genealogy", wishes to point out that her interests as reported in the last issue are simply her local interests. She has interests in Norfolk, esp. in John Andrews (wife's name unknown), who died in 1858 aged 35, in the Shernbourn Docking Primitive Methodist Circuit, Norfolk. He is thought to have been a local P.M. preacher. Another Norfolk interest is in William Thornton (1831-97), who may have come from Fakingham and possibly worked on the Sandringham Estate. William married, 1852, Caroline Bird (1834-98).
- 277 Miss M.O. REVELEY, 7 Thompson Avenue, Victoria Park, Cardiff.  
Add to previously published list: Revely and Parish, both Vancouver Island, 19th and 20th centuries.

## OUR LIBRARY

Books from the library may be borrowed on application to the librarian, Dr M.E. Wilson, 18 Craggside, Witton Gilbert, Durham, DH7 6RZ. Please remember to include return postage when applying by post. As there is a waiting list for some of the more popular items, especially the Members' Directories of other societies, it would be greatly appreciated if borrowers would return books promptly. Anyone still in possession of books borrowed from Mr Neat should return these immediately.

In addition to the items listed below, the Society has recently received a most generous gift from Mrs Neat of many books and Journals, formerly in the library of her late husband. We are very grateful for these, which should prove of great value to members. A detailed list of these items will be published in the next Journal; for the present we can mention that they include several "genealogical text books" which beginners should find useful, several years issues of the Genealogist's Magazine and many items connected with the local history of County Durham.

### 1. JOURNALS OF OTHER REGIONAL FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETIES

The library includes Journals published by the following regional Family History Societies. In most cases these have been received under the exchange scheme operated by the Federation of Family History Societies, and the issues we have are from the end of 1975 to date. Full details of our holdings of any particular Society's Journal may be had from Dr Wilson (stamps for return postage, please).

Birmingham and Midland	Leicester University
Bristol and Avon	Manchester and Lancashire
Cornwall	East Midlands (now Nottinghamshire)
Cheshire	Norwich and Norfolk
North Cheshire	Somerset and Dorset
Essex	Suffolk
Hampshire	West Surrey Borders
Kent	Yorkshire
Rossendale (Lancashire)	New Zealand Society of Genealogists
Leicester	

### 2. SOCIETY DIRECTORIES OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

In each case we have the latest edition, with any supplements which have been issued.

Birmingham and Midland	Manchester and Lancashire
North Cheshire	Yorkshire

### 3. ONE NAME SOCIETIES

Again, exact details of our holdings may be obtained from Dr Wilson, but the following Societies are represented.

Dalton	Higginbottom	Swinerton
Filby	I'Anson	Thirkill/Thirkeld
Grubb	Palgrave	Walcot
Harrington	Rose	

### 4. MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS

The nomenclature is that of Mr Bunting's lists. All these lists are from the historic County of Durham.

Boldon	20/1834-1851	Shildon	20/1834-1851
Penshaw	63/1773-1851	High Usworth	5/1840-1851
Old Ryhope Cemetery	33/1824-1879	Washington	89/1729-1851
Ryton	542/1621-1971		

## 5. MISCELLANEOUS PAPERS, ARTICLES, ETC.

- 13th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences.  
List of participants.
- Board for Certification of Genealogists (USA). Roster of persons certified as of 12th annual meeting.
- Catholic Record Society, Annual Report, 1975/76
- E.P. Fitler, "Notes on the Conyers family of County Durham, England, and the descendants of John, Walter and James Conyers of Leeds, County York, and Philadelphia", Pennsylvania Genealogical Magazine.
- C.J. Glazebrook, Schedule of Deeds and Writings relating to the manors of Rixton and Glazebrook. Glazebrook Record Society Publication No. 6.
- Haddington Episcopal Church, East Lothian, Photocopy of transcript of registers, 1763-1793 (includes about fifty marriages of people from Durham and Northumberland, from all stations in life).
- Hammersmith, London Borough of, Description and explanation of Coat of Arms.
- P.N. Skelton, Historical notes on the manors of Filby, Norfolk. Filby Assn. Society of Genealogists, Northern Group, Newsletter, August 1976.
- A.P. Strother, The Strother Family.
- C.J. Titler, De Umfraville, Barons of Prudhoe, Earls of Angus (pedigree), 38 pp., 1976.
- K.L. Watson, ... of ships and shoes and sailor men ... (tracing Hewson/Hewitson naval ancestors in the late 18th/early 19th centuries), 19 pp., 1975.

## REVIEW - "NORTHUMBRIANA"

"Northumbriana" is a non-profit-making venture of Morpeth Northumbrian Gathering Committee, produced to further its, and kindred bodies', aims and so to preserve something of the character of Northumbrians and Northumberland. The 40-page quarterly publication contains articles on many different aspects of Northumbrian life and culture, with some emphasis on dialect literature and verse. The seventh issue, which is to hand at the time of writing, includes detailed articles on the Northumbrian Coble (small fishing boat), on Otterstone Lee Farm (N. Tynedale) and on Tritlington Old Hall (connected with Ogles, Middletons, Threlkelds and Sadlers) and shorter items on Corn Dollies, Naturalists Northumberland and Milestones, among others.

There is a long-term project to "review the state of the Northumbrian language", the results of which are being published in series form. The dialect items may be rather daunting to those unfamiliar with local speech, but they serve as a reminder that our ancestors are unlikely to have spoken the standard BBC version of the Queen's English and that modern communications are causing a "watering-down" of dialects throughout the country, and not only in Northumbria. With a little care and practice even those from south of the Tees may glean from these items some idea of how their ancestors spoke. Certainly no other medium can be so appropriate for creating the atmosphere of the Northumbria of the ordinary man, past and present.

"Northumbriana" may be obtained by sending 25p. plus  $\frac{1}{2}$ p. packing plus second class postage for 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  oz (71g) to Mr R. Bibby, Westgate House, Dogger Bank, Morpeth, Northumberland, NE61 1RF. The current UK Inland postage rate is 9p.

## THE SEPTEMBER MEETING

### THE USE OF PARISH REGISTERS TO RESOLVE GENETICAL PROBLEMS

Dr D.F. Roberts

Dr Roberts began by explaining that everyone has 46 chromosomes which contain the genes which decide inherited characteristics. These chromosomes form 23 pairs with one of each pair being inherited from each parent.

Dr Roberts then went on to show how the information contained in parish registers and other types of record is of relevance in many problems of modern genetics, and he illustrated their use in three types of problem.

#### 1. Genetic Problems and the Individual

One of the most important and rapidly growing branches of preventive medicine is genetic advisory work. To genetic clinics of the National Health Service in Britain are referred patients who are concerned at the occurrence of genetic disease in their family, and who want to know the risks that a future child will be affected. To give such risks it is necessary to establish the mode of inheritance since some disorders depend on the combination of one gene from each parent, while others come from only one gene from the dominant parent. In many cases searches of the records are of assistance, for example where couples know little about their own family trees. Such searches may identify consanguinity, and thus suggest recessive inheritance, for consanguineous unions are particularly liable to produce offspring with recessive defects. In other cases they allow relationship between affected individuals to be traced, and thus establish that a disorder has a positive family history.

#### 2. The Genetics of Populations

Human populations can be characterised by their gene frequencies, and evolution is merely a change in gene frequency in a population over a period of time. Much is known about the genetic differences that exist among human populations, but the reasons for these differences are rarely understood. In Britain there is appreciable genetic variability between regional populations,\* and there is a wealth of historical information in parish records which can help to explain the genetic pattern.

Constancy of the genetic constitution of a population can be indicated by an analysis of surnames - continuity of names indicating genetic continuity. Such an analysis of surnames occurring in the four Coquetdale parishes of Alwinton, Rothbury, Felton and Warkworth in the period from the late 17th to the early 19th century suggests considerable genetic continuity, with 40% of surnames being the same at the end of the period as at the beginning. Local genetic variation also can be demonstrated by the changing incidence of surnames; in the Coquet parishes the further one moves from the parish of interest, the smaller the proportion of its names that appear.

It is also important where incoming genes come from since similarity is more likely if they come from nearby. This rate of gene flow can be estimated from the marriage pattern, and the marriage registers for the four Coquetdale parishes studied show a very high percentage (over two-thirds throughout the 18th century) of intra-parochial marriages and therefore a low rate of inflow of genes from outside. Indeed, not only did marriage tend to be within the parish, but the majority also occurred within the same community within the parish. Where a marriage occurred with a partner from outside the parish, the partner most frequently came from an adjacent parish. In 18th century Rothbury, for example, out of 1470 marriages, both partners were indigenous in 79% and one partner came from an adjacent parish in 12%.

As regards the genetic structure of a population, the amount of inbreeding can be estimated directly by family reconstruction, which is very laborious, or indirectly from the method of isonymy, that is by using the number of marriages between persons of the same surname to calculate the probability of inbreeding. The Coquet parishes show trends in inbreeding levels with time which are in the same direction as would be expected from historical records. In Warkworth there is an increase in isonymous marriages showing a more static population after the castle there ceased to be the favourite Percy seat, while in Rothbury the number of such marriages fell during the 18th century as the parish became less isolated. A fairly static trend in Felton agrees with the lack of historical events affecting that parish.

The dynamics of gene frequency change may also be examined by applying relevant data from parish registers to the several models of genetic evolution that have been established. When this is done it appears that random variation in gene frequency is unlikely to have played any important role in the evolution of the Northumbrian populations and that any pre-existing differences in gene frequency between parts of Northumberland are likely to have been largely retained. The differences in gene frequencies observed today therefore may be reasonably interpreted as the residue of genetic differences between the populations of earlier times.

### 3. Research into Genetic Influences

The extent of inbreeding can be measured not only in a community, but also for individuals. When this is done for a sufficient number it is possible to compare these with the biological characters of the individuals. Such a comparison shows a strong association between mental capacity and inbreeding, with a tendency towards lower mental capacity where inbreeding is extensive. An interesting example of such a comparison is the highly inbred population evacuated to this country from Tristan da Cunha some years ago.

### 4. Conclusion

The paper was not intended to be comprehensive, but to show how various are the items of information relevant to genetic problems that can be extracted from parish registers, the variety of methods by which it can be extracted, and the variety of problems to which it is relevant.

### 5. Discussion

In the discussion which followed Dr Roberts' absorbing paper, he suggested that the type of information which family researchers could record which might be useful in the field of genetic research was longevity (one study suggests a low positive tendency towards a hereditary tendency to longevity, but this requires confirmation); changes in the reproductive span; and, for persons alive now as a possible basis for future research, the occurrence of diseases (changes in medical terminology make this difficult for earlier generations), blood groups and physical characteristics such as red hair.

Dr Roberts also emphasized the usefulness of genetic advice and its potential to reduce certain dominant disorders and such sex-linked diseases as haemophilia, which are increasing at present because children born with these diseases are now surviving in much larger numbers to pass them on to their children.

\* D.F. Roberts, "The origins of genetic variation in Britain" in D.F. Roberts & E. Sutherland, eds., Genetic Variation in Britain (Taylor & Francis, London, 1973).

A full version of this paper will be published in the Proceedings of the 13th International Congress of Genealogical and Heraldic Sciences, held in London in 1976.

## THE OCTOBER MEETING

### SCOTTISH RECORDS

D.C. Cargill, F.S.G., F.S.A.Scot.

Mr Cargill, who is Honorary Treasurer of the Scottish Genealogy Society, began his survey of Scottish genealogical sources by calling attention to some important differences between Scotland and England. Firstly, parish registers. Those that survive are mostly Church of Scotland registers, together with those of some other churches which have been amalgamated with the Church of Scotland. An Act passed in 1854 called in all Church of Scotland registers up to 1819 to be held in New Register House, Edinburgh. Most registers came in, but not all, and twenty years later this Act was extended to cover later registers. The Scottish Record Office, old Register House, has now made arrangements with the Roman Catholic Church to photocopy their registers. The registers of many other churches have simply vanished.

Church of Scotland registers are primarily registers of baptisms, not births, and baptism was sometimes delayed for some time. One point to be aware of in using them is that baptisms are sometimes entered in groups, with the next entry beginning immediately after the one before it, not on a new line. The marriage records are of proclamations or contracts of marriage, and proclamation of a marriage does not mean that it took place. This may be indicated, but not necessarily. Burial registers sometimes give the date of death. The earliest register is that for Erroll, Perthshire, which begins in 1553; most parish registers date from 1616, but not always - there are, for example, no registers for the Island of Skye earlier than 1800. Where registers are extant there may be gaps in them for ten or twenty years, although the next minister sometimes tried to fill up such gaps. The baptism of a younger child sometimes led to a record being made of earlier children not previously entered. In 1854 an opportunity was given to parents to register children not previously recorded and hundreds of late entries can be found then, so, if an entry is not found where expected, it is worth looking either for later children, or in 1854.

Registration began in Scotland on 1 January 1855 - not 1 July 1837 as in England. One consolation for this late start is that more detailed information was demanded. Registration of deaths included the names of parents, including the maiden surname of the mother, and whether they were then alive; marriages generally include both parents' names and the mother's maiden surname, not just the father's name. For the first year of the registration of deaths very full details of the person and his family were required, but this was found to be too involved and was given up. One point to bear in mind is that the Act establishing registration in Scotland made the facilities available, rather than compulsory, and matters were not tightened up until 1875. In particular there was a failure to register births.

These registers, like the parish registers, are housed in New Register House. The system is, however, slightly different from St. Catherine's House, London. The researcher pays a search fee, either daily or weekly, on first arrival and can then use the reading room. He can consult the indexes to the registers of births, marriages and deaths, which are annual, not quarterly, and having found the entry he is seeking, fills in a consultation slip. A messenger will then bring the required volume of the actual register and he can look up the details for himself, instead of having to pay for a certificate and wait several days to receive it. A certificate can, however, be supplied if required.

One important difference between Scotland and England is in relation to the census returns. Here Scotland has a definite advantage - the returns are available up to and including 1891. This is because they used to be available after 70 years instead of 100. Unfortunately, Scotland has now come into line with England. The information in the returns is the same as in England and they are also in New Register House. It is intended to microfilm both the parish registers and the enumerators' returns during the next six or eight years, after which the originals will be withdrawn from everyday use. This is regrettable, as many of the registers are beautifully bound volumes which will have to be broken up to be microfilmed.

Another useful source to be found in New Register House is records of tombstone inscriptions. Much work has been done on these by Mr & Mrs J.F. Mitchell of the Scottish Genealogy Society, which has published several volumes, and from which copies of those in print can be bought. Areas covered are West Lothian, East and West Stirlingshire, Clackmannan, Kinross, North and South Perthshire, East and West Fife, Renfrewshire, Dunbartonshire (all by Mr & Mrs Mitchell and published by the Scottish Genealogy Society), Dumfriesshire (by Mr George Gilchrist, published), Berwickshire, Peebles and parts of other counties, mostly in south and central Scotland. There is a copy of the Berwickshire inscriptions in both Newcastle Central Library and the Northumberland County Record Office.

Two types of records with which English researchers will be unfamiliar are the Commissariat records and the Service of Heirs. Commissariat records go back to the sixteenth century and consist of inventories of a deceased person's estate, his debts, will (if any), and the appointment of an executor by the Commissary Clerk, who either confirmed the appointment of an executor under the will (executor nominate), or appointed one (executor dative). These records are either in the Scottish Record Office or with the local Sheriff Court. The Service of Heirs relates to the system of dealing with heritable property - a jury of people who knew the deceased and his relatives was called on to declare the deceased's true heir. These records are in the Scottish Record Office.

Other items in the Scottish Record Office are the Hearth Tax returns; the 1696 Poll Tax returns; the Register of Deeds, which covers much useful information such as the registration of wills, marriage contracts, etc., and is indexed from 1820; and the Register of Sasines, recording the transfer of property, which begins in 1616 and is indexed for both persons and places from 1781. A new guide to the Scottish Record Office is currently in course of preparation.

West Register House, Charlotte Square, probably has little to offer the family researcher. It houses, among other things, Court of Session records, railway and canal records, and maps and plans.

Scottish guilds have generally retained their own records but some have been printed, for example, the Scottish Record Society's volumes relating to Edinburgh apprentices.

Kirk Session records can include everything from baptisms to discipline cases and roof repairs, but going through them is often the only way to find information.

As regards military records, Mr Thorburn, Edinburgh Castle, has information in his library about officers, but not men. The 1851 census can, however, be helpful about ordinary soldiers - the Royal Artillery at Leith Fort and the Highlanders at Edinburgh Castle included many Irishmen and the census lists the parish of birth in Ireland, not just 'Ireland', and in one case the civilian occupation of the men. There is no comprehensive register of the marriages of men in English regiments to Scottish girls but Mr Cargill is building up an index of these.

P.J.S.

## ODD BORDERERS

More cross-border baptisms from the period 1837-1855. This list is in continuation of that for Norham (1837-1841) published in the last issue.

1842	March 19	James White	s George & Grace Anne SMITH	Ladykirk	Farmer
	July 26	Harriet Nicholson	d Wm & Harriet DODDS	Foulden	Farmer
	Oct. 15	Stephen Monaghan	s Stephen Walter & Emily UNDERHILL	Deans Dunse	Supt. of Police
1843	Feb. 12	David	s George & Mary HENDERSON	Thornton Mains, nr. Dunbar	Labourer
	Nov. 8	John	s George & Grace Ann SMITH	New Ladykirk	Farmer
1844	March 4	Jonathan Middleton	s Charles & Mary SALISBURY	Eyemouth	Gentleman
1845	Aug. 6	Robert Nicholson	s George & Grace Anne SMITH	Ladykirk	Farmer
	Aug. 24	Margaret Emily	d Stephen Walter & Emily UNDERHILL	Dunse	Supt. of Police
	Dec. 30	William	s William & Harriet DODDS	Foulden Deans	Farmer
1846	June 14	Mary	d Robert & Margaret BLITHE	Yetholm	Basket Maker
1847	Feb. 11	Mary Wood	d William & Mary SMITH	Whitsome Leet-side	Farmer
	July 15	Mary White	d George & Grace Anne SMITH	New Ladykirk	Farmer
	Sept. 26	Isabella	d Thomas & Isabella ALDER	Whitsome	Hind
1848	May 19	Aaron Young	s William & Mary SMITH	Whitsome Leetside	Farmer
	July 15	Catherine Gad (adult)	d Samuel & Sarah FIRMAN	Hawick	-

## FUTURE PROGRAMME

### Thursday, January 20th

Member's evening - it is hoped that particular attention will be paid at this meeting to the problems of the beginners amongst us, so if you are still a bit "lost off", bring your problems along. Remember, a problem shared is a problem halved!

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

### Thursday, February 17th

Mr E. Hollerton of the North Tyneside library service will speak on "A North Tyneside Family".

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

### Thursday, March 17th

Visit to the Sunderland Genealogical Branch Library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Meet at the Sunderland Stake Centre (church), Queen Alexandra Road, Sunderland, 7.15 p.m.

### Wednesday, April 20th

"One man's look at Genealogy", a talk by Lt.Col. I.S. Swinnerton, TD, JP, FSG, Chairman of the Federation of Family History Societies, President of the Birmingham & Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry and Chairman of the Swinnerton Society.

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

The May Meeting will be held, as usual, at the Newcastle YMCA and will include the second Annual General Meeting of the Society. Full details will appear in the next (April) issue of the Journal.