

THE JOURNAL OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND & DURHAM FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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

EDITORIAL

We will soon have our own premises!

The recent Annual General Meeting endorsed the decision of your Committee to lease premises at Bolbec Hall, Westgate Road, Newcastle. The accommodation comprises about half of the second floor — 1,388 square feet — reached either by stairs or a lift. There are two good sized rooms, another room which is subdivided into smaller spaces which can be used as offices, a "tea room" and toilets.

The premises chosen have many advantages. Members visiting from a distance will be pleased to note that Bolbec Hall is only a couple of minutes walk from Newcastle Central Railway Station. Turn right out of the station portico, walk down Neville Street, past the Royal Station Hotel and across Orchard Street. You will then be in the lower part of Westgate Road. Pass the railings which mark where a section of what was thought to be the remains of part of Hadrian's Wall was discovered in the 1930's and the main entrance to Bolbec Hall faces you across a paved area which is also the access to the classical building occupied by the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle upon Tyne, the "Lit and Phil". The Lit and Phil own Bolbec Hall and as they have a magnificent library of their own and have a great interest in matters relating to local history we are hopeful of having a fruitful relationship with them.

We will be moving our considerable (and ever-growing) Library there and installing microfilm and microfiche readers etc. We hope the premises will be well used. This is a major departure for your Society; what becomes of it depends entirely on what you, the members (especially those living locally) make of it. The cost is substantial but affordable if it is a success. We will need volunteers to man the place — teams of two people to go on a rota. Initially we plan to open two or three times a week. We will of course have to have rules — no smoking, no food except in designated areas, no excessive noise, no borrowing of books etc. The Library borrowing service will remain postal only.

As I write, we have not yet signed the lease. There is a lot to be done before we open, but we hope to start operations in the Autumn. More details later.

Many Family History Societies have their own premises. They all seem to be successful. Northumberland and Durham Family History Society, we hope, will follow that trend!

Other decisions taken at the Annual General Meeting included one to keep the subscription for the year commencing on 1st November 1995 unchanged, i.e. £10 for U.K. members and a little more for overseas ones. From 1st November, the 50% joining fee, which has been seen as a disincentive to join, will be abolished.

There were two motions concerning changes to the Constitution:-

"Subject to the approval of the Charity Commissioners, the following words shall be inserted into the Constitution:- The Society shall have the power to form a Private Limited Company and to acquire shares in that Company. The Society shall also have power to make loans to that Company." This move is primarily for tax reasons, especially V.A.T. and the possibility is that the company, when formed, will take over book and microfiche sales and will covenant its profits to its parent, the Society itself.

The second motion was that *"Subject to the approval of the Charity Commissioners, the following words shall be inserted into the Constitution:- A Trustee for the time being, being a solicitor or any other person employed in any profession shall be entitled to charge and be paid all usual professional or other charges for work done by him or her or by his or her firm and to be instructed by his or her fellow Trustees so as to act in that capacity on behalf of the Charity"*.

UNWANTED CERTIFICATES

Here is a further list of "unwanted" certificates, sent in by members. Anyone interested in obtaining further information about particular certificates should apply to Mrs. K. Willans, 9 The Ridge Way, Kenton, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 4LP. Full details will be supplied in return for on 19p. stamp per certificate and a stamped addressed envelope (overseas enquirers please enclose two International Reply Coupon's or two 41p. stamps, plus one 19p. stamp per certificate). A complete list of over 300 certificates can be obtained upon receipt of one 19p. stamp, plus a self addressed envelope (three International Reply Coupon's or three 41p. stamps overseas), from Mrs. Willans. Please send your unwanted certificates (those obtained in error) to Mrs. Willans at the above address.

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

157	HALL, Barbara	10th May 1850	Corbridge, Northumberland
158	SPENCE, Mary Jane	12th September 1879	Aycliffe, Durham
159	HODGES, Florence Ann (?)	18th February 1884	Croydon, Surrey
160	DODSWORTH, Sarah Ann	20th October 1847	Haydon Bridge, Northumberland

161	HETHERINGTON, John	31st January 1847	Haydon, Northumberland
162	LAMB, John	1st December 1842	Tynemouth, Northumberland
163	BARNES, George	6th August 1854	Bishopwearmouth, County Durham
164	BARNES, George	19th March 1855	Gateshead, County Durham
165	BARNES, George	17th September 1856	Newcastle
166	BARNES, William	18th October 1862	Walker, Northumberland
167	SNAITH, Mary Ann	26th May 1856	Heworth, County Durham
168	DUNN, William Gibson	22nd August 1880	Holywell, Earsdon, Northumberland
171	ROSS <i>male - no forename</i>	9th November 1852	Roddam, Wooler, Northumberland
172	ROSS, John Thomas	5th February 1870	Bedlington, Northumberland
169	ROSS, Margaret	3rd December 1837	Calder, Wooler, Northumberland
170	ROSS, Robert	4th July 1843	Lowick, Northumberland
173	WEATHERBURN, Peter	17th May 1875	Holy Island, Northumberland
174	BELL, John	7th June 1889	Gateshead, County Durham
175	HENZELL, Arthur Cecil	17th March 1902	Kirkwhelpington, Northumberland
176	HENZELL, Arthur Richard	21st September 1863	Newcastle
177	HUMPHREY, Catherine	20th January 1887	Gateshead, County Durham

DEATH CERTIFICATES

98	SCOTT, Septimus	15th October 1936	Monkseaton, Northumberland
99	WOOD, William	18th November 1910	Tynemouth, Northumberland
100	WOOD, Margaret Ann	25th March 1901	Longbenton, Northumberland
101	ROSS, Dorothy	31st December 1852	Roddam, Wooler, Northumberland
102	STOBART, Mary	30th January 1867	Newcastle
103	ROSS, Meggie Louisa	16th November 1915	Amble, Northumberland
104	WEATHERBURN, William	9th January 1935	Wooler, Northumberland

MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

105	BIRD, Anthony	DAVIS, Hannah	6th April 1863	Earsdon, Northumberland
106	JONES, William	LAVERICK, Alice	6th April 1856	Sunderland, Co. Durham
107	JONES, Alfred	WADEY (?) Julia Ann	12th July 1857	Brighton, Sussex
108	JONES, William	BURNETT, Mary Ann	19th January 1857	Southwick, County Durham
109	JONES, Alfred	HALSEY, Kate Elizabeth	29th November 1859	Chichester, Sussex
110	HETHERINGTON, Robert	ROBINSON, Elizabeth	26th July 1841	Newcastle upon Tyne
111	VARTY, Matthew	HUTCHINSON, Elizabeth	1st June 1841	Allendale, Northumberland
112	SHIELD, John	WRIGHT, Sarah	3rd July 1841	Allendale, Northumberland
113	JOHNSON, Jacob	STOKOE, Hannah	24th June 1854	Hexham, Northumberland
114	BROWN, Thomas	VARTY, Jane	27th August 1861	Allendale, Northumberland
115	CHARLTON, William	HUTCHINSON, Mary	24th September 1861	Allendale, Northumberland
115	WAID, John	ROSS, Rachel	2nd June 1860	Glendale, Northumberland
116	BELL, John	HUMPHREY, Catherine	12th January 1910	Gateshead, County Durham

CONFERENCES

There is a Family History Day at Bishop Auckland Town Hall on Saturday 24th June from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

Cleveland Family History Society has a One Day Conference at University College, Stockton-on-Tees on Saturday 21st October. Advance booking is essential — send a self addressed envelope to Mrs. C. McLee, 3 The Green, Kirklevington, Yarm, Cleveland TS14 9NW.

In 1996, we are aware of the following "local" events:-

- (a) Family History Fair at York Race Course on Saturday and Sunday 29th and 30th June 1996. To be included on the mailing list, send a self addressed envelope to Mr. A. Sampson, 1 Oxbang Close, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 4ND.
- (b) Borders Family History Society will be hosting the 7th Annual Conference of the Scottish Association of Family History Societies at the Tait Hall, Kelso on Saturday 14th September 1996.
- (c) Our own Society — Northumberland and Durham Family History Society, is celebrating its 21st birthday with a Weekend Conference, provisionally at Collingwood College, Durham from 20th to 22nd September 1996. Make a note in your Diary! More details later.

ANCESTORS BORN BEFORE 1800

This portrait, by an unknown artist, is of John Laws, who was baptised at Heddon-on-the-Wall on 23rd April 1756. His family were farmers on the East Heddon estate of Sir Matthew White Ridley for many years, but John served a seven year apprenticeship with the engraver Thomas Bewick, before setting up as a silver engraver on his own account. He married Isabella Gilhespy in 1813 and had four sons. For more details of John's life, see *N.D.F.H.S. Journal*, Volume 4, No. 2, January 1979.



The portrait was sent by Mr. A.S. Angus, River View, Mitford, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3PR, who is John Laws' great great grandson.

FROM THE JOURNALS OF OUR NEIGHBOURS

Journals of Family History Societies in areas adjacent to Durham and Northumberland often contain items of potential interest to N.D.F.H.S. members. Here we give details from recent Journals published by Cumbria Family History Society and Borders Family History Society. You can borrow the relevant issue from Mrs. K. Willans (address on contents page).

BORDERS FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

October 1994 edition - Reverend John Baird 1799-1861, Minister of Yetholm; The Turnbells of Cleuchead, Burnfoot and East Middle - Story of Hawick family which emigrated to Australia; From Coldstream to Canada - Galbraith emigration to North America; Flowers of the Forest - List of Borderers (mainly nobility) who fell at Battle of Flodden 1513; Know Your Parish - Peebles.

February 1995 edition - Border influence on the Dark Continent - Lives of Mungo Park (explorer), Thomas Pringle (anti-slavery pioneer), John Leyden (poet and orientalist), John Ainslie (surveyor and engraver); Recording the Jardines - One Name Study; Grantshouse and the Turner Family; Family History in the Gladstanes Bible 17th/18th century Bible; William Lorain - Borders Schoolmaster; The Dimma and Dickson Families of the Borders Region; A Hogart Family Tree (17th-19th century Borders family).

CUMBRIA FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

November 1994 edition - Huntingtons from the Eden Valley; Redwing Congregational Chapel, Garrigill - Funeral sermons preached at 57 named funerals 1764-1800; Jenkinsons of Loweswater; Dr. John Grindall Brayton 1842-1892; An Ordinary Armstrong Girl? - Ann Armstrong married French prisoner of war at Brampton 1761 and died Bayonne 1810; Wrens of North Lakeland.

February 1995 edition - Serious explosion at the Admiralty - Edwin Newcome Swainson, victim of first ever letter bomb, 1885; Dixon Ground by any Other Name - Hawkshead; Family News sent from west Cumberland to Chicago 1885-1893 - letters to William and Elizabeth Moffat in Chicago from Elizabeth Campbell, James and Kate Johnston; Thomas Gawthrop 1709-1780; East of Carlisle - John Thompson born Bedlington 1716 and his descendants, including Pears family, blacksmiths; Reverend William Betham - Genealogist.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The letter in the last Journal from a "fully paid-up member", who sat opposite a lady on a commuter train who was reading *Cockney Ancestor*, published by the East of London Family History Society, has brought forth two replies from members of that Society who are also N.D.F.H.S. members.

Mrs. G. Morris, 56 Armond Road, Witham, Essex CM8 2HA, writes:-

Was I on the 17.10 train to Witham? I wear a suit to work, not to do research, and a fruitless day in research leaves me running fingers and pencils through my hair. Look close and you'll see me reading the *Cockney Ancestor*, Essex Family History Society, and Northumberland and Durham Family History Society, also that of Hereford and Berkshire. Disreputable

maybe, antisocial, no — next time say “hello”, please — or maybe not, because I’m proud to be a Cockney. At least my ancestors didn’t rape and pillage!

Mrs. Pamela Cottle, Jeffrey's Orchard, Alton Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight PO40 9TP, who signs herself as “fully paid-up member, number 5613, alias 57 varieties” , writes:-

In reply to the letter in the Spring Journal, no, I was not the woman on the 17.10 train, but (dare I confess this?), I too am a member of the dreaded East of London Family History Society. Alas my pure Viking stock is no more. My great grandmother Jane Kidd left Newcastle and married Charles Yexley in Bethnal Green. His mother came from Lancashire. Their son married a girl whose families came from Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Kent, Middlesex, Surrey, Sussex and possibly Yorkshire. On my father’s side, I have many Cockney ancestors. Then add Brecknockshire, Glamorgan, Monmouthshire, Pembrokeshire, Norfolk and Northern Ireland and a little French blood for good measure and you reach my grand daughter — a true 57 Variety. I am also “a fully paid-up member”. Am I allowed to remain so after these startling revelations?

I was greatly amused by the letter in the Spring Journal and your comments. I enjoy reading all the Journals from the Societies to which I belong and would hate them to be identical in format. Surely the green indicates the family tree is alive and thriving with new spring growth. Thank you for an enjoyable and informative Journal.

Editor’s Note:- Apologies to Mrs. Morris (who says she “saw red!”) if our correspondent’s letter offended her. Apologies, too, to the East of London Family History Society — no criticism of their magazine, or of the Cockney lifeblood of their Society, was intended. I shall have to be more careful what I print!

Miss J.C.E. Mitchell, 45 The Moorlands, Gilesgate, Durham, writes:-

First I want to say how very much I enjoy the Journals of the Northumberland and Durham Family History Society. They are consistently interesting and informative. There is however, an article in the Spring Journal which I find worrying. Entitled “Shot at Dawn”, it gives names and numbers of soldiers in local regiments who were shot for such offences as “desertion” in World War I, the names being taken from a book published in 1989.

I am a little concerned because there could be relatives still alive, even children and grandchildren of these men, unaware of the true nature of their deaths. While there is today much greater understanding of these cases which were labelled “shell shock”, in some circumstances much distress could be caused to surviving relatives.

This is in no sense a criticism, but rather I am questioning the limits of Family History Research. Is there a case for “leaving well alone?”

Editor’s Note:- I take your point. What do our readers think? Also thank you Miss Mitchell, for your kind remarks about this Journal.

Mal Chappell, 10 Sturgeon Way, Stanton, Bury, St. Edmonds, Suffolk IP3 2ED, writes:-

I am in my final year of an OU Degree, following a Course in Family and Community History and I need to complete a research project on a life-cycle study and working under a tight time schedule.

This study involves tracing families through each Census (1841-1891) to monitor their position in the household, occupation, place of birth etc. I need at least 20 households altogether. I already have two or three of my own, namely Appleby and Lumley. Can any N.D.F.H.S. members help with my research please?

NEW N.D.F.H.S. PUBLICATIONS

As usual, the Society has a few new publications to help with your researches.

Index to 1851 Census of Northumberland, Volume 18 — This covers folios 1-250 of P.R.O. piece number HO 107/2420 — the Belford and Bamburgh area, including the Farne Islands off the Northumberland coast and part of Ellingham (Ellingham, Preston and Chathill). Arranged alphabetically, it gives names, ages, occupations, relationships to heads of households and places of birth. Thanks to Mary Graham and to Fred and Moira Furness for their work on this volume, which is available in book form and also on microfiche (three fiche).

Index to 1851 Census of Northumberland, Volume 19 and 20 — Volume 19 covers folios 243-436, and Volume 20 folios 440 to 605 of P.R.O. piece number HO 107/2421, Berwick-upon-Tweed. Volume 19 covers part of Berwick itself, and other areas of the town are included in Volume 20, which also covers Spittal, Ord and Scremerston in Tweedmouth parish. Each volume gives names, ages, occupations, relationships to heads of households and places of birth. The Society is grateful to Miss E. Ward, Mrs. M. Graham, Mr. N. Gray and Mr. C. Wanless for their efforts. Available in both book form and as microfiche (two fiche each volume).

Index to 1851 Census of County Durham, Volume 9 — P.R.O. piece number HO 107/2403 covers areas in the Registration District of Gateshead, sub-districts of Whickham and Winlaton including Blaydon, Chopwell, Crawcrook, Greenside, Ryton, Spen, Swalwell, Whickham and Winlaton. The names are arranged alphabetically by family groups, giving ages and folio numbers to enable further information to be located. Please note that occupations, relationships and places of birth are not included. Mr. L. Baker, who compiled this work, has now indexed the 1851 Census for the whole of Newcastle and Gateshead — a monumental task and the Society is greatly indebted to him. This latest index is available in book form and as microfiche (two fiche).

Index to 1871 Census of Newcastle, St. Andrew's — This is produced in microfiche only, as a set of eight fiche comprising seven separate indexes, one for each of the P.R.O. piece numbers RG 10/5083 to 5089. They mainly cover St. Andrew's parish, in the city centre, including such familiar streets as New Bridge Street, Northumberland Street, Grey Street and Market Street, but some parts of Fenham and Benwell are also included. Like the two earlier sets of fiche in this series, covering Newcastle Westgate and Newcastle Elswick, these 1871 indexes are the work of Mr. J. Nieurzyla and include approximately 23,000 names, together with address, age occupation, relationship and place of birth for each name.

Books can be ordered from Miss C. Yellowley, 8 Eskdale Road, South Bents, Whitburn, Sunderland SR6 8AN. The fiche can be ordered from Mr. K. Dalkin, 12 St. Aidan's Crescent, Crossgate Moor, Durham DH1 4AP. Please use the order form enclosed.

TRACING MARRIAGES IN DURHAM AND NORTHUMBERLAND A BEGINNERS GUIDE - PART I - AFTER 1837

by Magnus Carter

Q. My grandparents, James Brown and Amelia Carruthers, were married about 1900 - I believe in Newcastle. How can I confirm this and obtain more details?

A. You will probably need a copy of the marriage certificate. You seem uncertain of the exact year and place of the marriage, so you will need to consult the indexes of Civil Registration. There are three series of indexes - one for births, one for deaths and one for marriages. They run from 1st July 1837 (the commencement date for Civil Registration in England and Wales) and are held at St. Catherine's House, Aldwych, London.

Q. So I will have to go to London to look at them?

A. No! A number of libraries all over the country now have copies of the indexes, as do Family History Centres of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons). Locally, there are copies, on either microfilm or microfiche, at Newcastle Central Library (on Floor C) and at South Shields Library. There is a set at Northumberland Records Centre at Morpeth (the set formerly held at Northumberland County Library). The Family History Centres at Sunderland and Billingham also have copies. Note that not all of these repositories have complete sets from 1837 to the present time.

Q. How do I use the indexes?

A. There is a separate index for each of the four quarters of each year since 1837 - the quarters ended 31st March, 30th June, 30th September and 31st December. They are alphabetical by surname. If your grandparents married in, say May 1900, you will need to search the index for the June 1900 quarter for either Brown, James or Carruthers, Amelia. What you should get from the index is a reference, something like "Brown James, Newcastle 10b 334". This is a reference to the relevant volume of marriage certificates held at St. Catherine's House.

Q. There are lots of James Browns in that quarter, even with a Newcastle reference. How do I know which one relates to my grandfather?

A. You don't, at this stage. You have to "match" the index reference for James Brown with an identical one for Amelia Carruthers. When you find the same reference against both names, you will know you have the right one. It is best to start with the least common of the two names - Amelia Carruthers in this case. Since you think your marriage was in 1900, start with the March 1900 marriage index. Is there an Amelia Carruthers shown with a Newcastle reference? If so, jot it down and then see if you can find a James Brown with the same reference. If you fail to find a "matching pair", move on to the June, September and December indexes and then to adjoining years, say 1899 and 1901, until you have a "match".

Q. Maybe it wasn't a Newcastle marriage, so presumably I try to find a matching pair from somewhere else in the region, or anywhere in the country?

A. Yes, and remember the custom was, and still is, to marry in the bride's home area.

Q. Right, so I've found a matching reference, which doesn't tell me much. What now?

A. You will have to get a copy of the marriage certificate from St. Catherine's House, either by post or in person, or via a friend or one of the numerous agencies which advertise in magazines like "Family Tree". It is cheaper to make a personal application than by post. Agents usually charge less if you can quote the references than if they have to do the index searching for you, so do your homework locally if you can.

Q. Can't I just go to the local Registrar of Births, Marriages and Deaths and buy a certificate from him? Can't I simply look at the certificate in his office without buying one, as they seem expensive?

A. Sorry, but the Registrar will not let you look at a certificate. You must buy one. Moreover, the reference you have found in the index is a St. Catherine's House reference and the references used in local Registry Offices are not the same. You see, the Registrar has a separate set of records for each church or chapel. Unless you could tell him at which Church the marriage took place - which you probably don't know at this stage - the Registrar would have to search all the indexes he has. In a city like Newcastle, this would be a big task.

Q. Can't I save myself the cost of buying a marriage certificate somehow and obtain details of the marriage in some other way?

A. Perhaps! You could try local newspapers for the quarter in which the wedding took place, but this is a hit and miss method. The marriage may not be in the paper and even if it is, it is unlikely that there will be as much information as you could get on a marriage certificate. It is also possible that the local County Record Office at Morpeth, Durham or at Blandford House in Newcastle may have the relevant marriage register in its care. If so, you will be able to consult it, probably on microfilm and note down the details you want. You will of course need to know the name of the church, which may be simple enough in a small country village or town, but could prove a problem in a large city.

Q. So, do the Record Offices have all the registers for their area?

A. No. Some registers will still be in use at the church or chapel, but it is very likely that all the registers for the period which interests you, around the turn of the century, will have been deposited. Don't forget Nonconformist registers. For instance, Tyne and Wear Archives have a good selection of Methodist marriage registers from all over Tyneside.

Q. Will the register in the local Record Office be the same as that at St. Catherine's House?

A. In principle, yes.

Q. What about weddings earlier or later than 1900? Do I use the same procedure?

A. Yes, but from the March 1912 quarter, the task is simpler as the indexes state the name of the spouse.

Q. What information will the certificate tell me?

A. The date of marriage, the names and surnames of bride and groom, their ages, their condition (bachelor, spinster, widow etc.), the rank or profession of each, their residence at the time of marriage, the name and surname of the father of each spouse and his occupation and the place at which the marriage was performed and by whom. There will also be the signatures of each spouse and of two witnesses.

Q. Can I rely on the details shown? Are there any pitfalls to be aware of?

A. There are always snags. You should never rely absolutely on any information you see in print, even on an "official" document like a marriage certificate. The information on it is what the spouses said at the time, which isn't necessarily true! For instance, ages might be wrong. My grandmother was 30 when she married, but her marriage certificate shows her as only 26! Often too, the age information is simply "of full age", which is not a great deal of help. Even names can be wrong, or at least unexpected. Granny was Isabella on her marriage certificate and I always thought that was indeed her name - but she was registered at birth as Violet!

Q. Any other points to watch?

A. If the father is shown as "deceased", it will usually be conclusive that this is the case, but the absence of "deceased" does not necessarily mean he was still alive on the wedding day. Remember that addresses may be temporary ones, perhaps "arranged" to comply with the need to have a 21 day residence period in a particular place. Obviously, also, the "occupation" shown may be a temporary one.

Q. So names, ages, addresses, occupations may be wrong. I suppose the date and place of marriage must be right?

A. The date will be right, unless there is a clerical error. Place - probably correct. Be warned - Some years ago, I bought a certificate from St. Catherine's House. The place of marriage was shown as "Horham" instead of "Norham". Obviously, the clerk who wrote out the certificate for me knew little about Northumbrian geography! Nowadays, St. Catherine's House normally uses a photocopying process which ought to eliminate this kind of error.

Q. What about "condition", bachelor, widow etc.?

A. Provided each spouse told the truth, this will be correct. Forgive me for being cynical, but what would your ancestor have told the registrar if his new bride was not aware that he had been married before? Or if he was a bigamist?

Q. What if I can't find the marriage at all in the indexes?

A. Remember that perhaps your ancestor could not read or write and also that he may have come from a different part of the country and spoke with an accent which was strange to the Vicar or Registrar. So the official would write down what he thought he heard. It is little wonder that all sorts of spelling varieties appear, so the first rule is to check for possible varieties of the surname, especially in the early years of Civil registration. Cruthers for Carruthers, or even Crowther or Crowthers. Then re-check all possible years or periods again, just to make sure.

Q. And if I still can't find them?

A. There are several possibilities. Maybe they married in Scotland, in Ireland or abroad. Or maybe they weren't married at all despite what you thought! It is also possible, especially with north Northumbrians, that they had an "irregular marriage".

Q. Tell me more.

A. Scottish Civil Registration began on 1st January 1855 and marriage certificates are obtainable from New Register House, Edinburgh. They are more informative than English ones. If it was a marriage in Scotland before 1855, you will need to look at the Old Parish Registers (OPR's), which are also in Edinburgh, but each county has now been indexed and the indexes can be seen at Mormon Family History Centres. In Ireland, Civil Registration began in 1864.

Q. What is this about "Irregular Marriages"?

A. This is a particular problem if your ancestors lived in north Northumberland. Scottish law allowed a marriage to take place with much less formality than in England. Until 1st January 1857, a couple could marry in Scotland by simply declaring to each other that they were man and wife. Usually a witness would be present, but there were no residence qualifications necessary. It was not until 1857 that residence in Scotland for 21 days was a legal requirement and marriage "by consent" was not finally abolished until 1940. You will have heard of Gretna Green. The marriages there were "irregular".

Q. Yes, but weren't they concerned with runaway heiresses and similar people?

A. There were some like this, but they were a very small minority. By far the majority were ordinary folk who lived near the Scottish border and who could avoid the expense and "red tape" of a Church or Register Office marriage very simply, and without any prior notice, by simply crossing into Scotland and declaring their marriage there.

Q. But Gretna Green is in the west country. What has this got to do with Northumbrians?

A. There were quite a few marriages of people from the Hexham area and the west of the county at Gretna but many north Northumbrians used other well established "marriage centres" at spots just over the border, in Berwickshire - Lamberton Toll, Paxton Toll, Coldstream for example. In fact, anywhere in Scotland would have done just as well, but these spots were right on the border line and a number of "priests" - who weren't really priests at all - could be found there who would perform a ceremony for a fee. All they really did was act as a witness, but this could be vital if the need arose later to prove that a wedding had taken place. These "priests" were merely opportunists seeking to make a bob or two!

Q. Is this really a serious problem for a researcher? Were there many of these marriages?

A. It is certainly a problem if you have north Northumbrian ancestors, especially if they married in 1856 or earlier. There were many thousands of such marriages. Perhaps even the majority of the poorer classes married in this way. Certainly most of my north Northumbrian ancestors must have done as I can't find marriages for several of them! Not many records of these marriages were kept at the time and fewer still survive today.

Q. Weren't these marriages notified to the Registrar in the normal way?

A. I'm afraid not. Sometimes, however a couple would have a "Toll Wedding" and follow it, some days or weeks later, with a ceremony in a Church of England church in their home parish. The later wedding will of course be registered. But don't bank on it! Good hunting!

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WOOD'S PEDIGREES IN NEWCASTLE LIBRARY

Newcastle Central Library is the home for much of the transcription and index work of Herbert Maxwell Wood. The many volumes of his transcripts of the parish registers of Northumberland and Durham will be familiar to local family historians. Less well known, perhaps because they are not on open shelves, is the collection of pedigrees of local families compiled by Wood.

Doug Smith, writing in the last issue of this Journal about the similar series of Wood's Pedigrees covering Wearside families and held at Sunderland Library, described them as "sketchy notes, lines of probable connections coupled with newspaper accounts of marriages, obituaries and wills". The pedigrees at Newcastle are usually on one or more foolscap sheets, in Wood's own hand and kept in separate envelopes for each family. There are just over 200 of them covering families from all over the counties of Durham and Northumberland. A sample relating to the Chipchase family, is illustrated.

Wood's Pedigrees are in the Local Studies section of Newcastle Library and if you ask for them you should specify the particular family you want. Newcastle Library is willing to provide photocopies for anyone unable to visit in person. Write to Local Studies Librarian, Newcastle Central Library, Princess Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1DX. The cost for this service is £2.50 including postage in the U.K. Overseas members should add a further 50p., making £3 in all, to cover the extra postage. Cheques should be payable to "City of Newcastle upon Tyne" and overseas members should note that the Library will accept ONLY STERLING cheques or money orders, or alternatively seven International Reply Coupons should be sent. You should allow 21 days for delivery in the U.K. and rather longer abroad.

The list below is taken from *Newcastle Record Series*, Volume IX (1930). Unfortunately this does not specify the particular area involved. You may find, therefore, that a pedigree for a name which interests you may not relate to the particular family you are researching. Be warned that most pedigrees relate to gentry or other well known local families and "the common people" may well not be included.

Newcastle Library has other collections of pedigrees, in particular those compiled by John Crawford Hodgson and newer members of the Society may like to know that a complete list of Hodgson's pedigrees was published in the Journals for Winter 1990, Spring, Summer and Autumn 1991. Copies of any of these Journals can be obtained price 50p. each from Miss C. Yellowley (address on contents page).

Abbs, Adams, Alexander, Allgood, Angus, Anstey, Appleby, Archer, Attwood, Aynsley, Bacon, Bagley, Bainbridge, Baker, Barber, Barwick, Bates, Bayles, Beckles, Beckwith, Bell, Blake, Bolam, Bouteflower, Bowes, Bramwell, Brass, Brockett, Browell, Brunton, Bulmer, Burne, Burrell, Byne, Call, Carnes, Carr, Carrington, Cartwright, Chambers, Chilton, Chipchase, Christopher, Clarke, Clennell, Collier, Colling, Collingwood, Compton, Conyers, Cooke, Crawhall, Crofton, Crosby, Crown, Cruddas, Cumby, Curry, Dagnia, Dalston, Darnell, Davison, Dawson, Dean, Debord, Denton, Dixon, Dodd, Dodds, Dodsworth, Eade, Easton, Eldon, Ewbank, Fairless, Fell, Fenwick, Ferens, Forster, Fox, Gallilee, Gowland, Grace, Granger, Greensword, Greenwell, Gregson, Griffith, Grey, Haggie, Harrison, Haswell, Head, Headlam, Henderson, Hendry, Hick, Hodgson, Hopper, Horsley, Howard, Hubbersty, Hubbock, Humble, Hume, Hutchinson, Ingleby, James, Jepson, Johnson, Joicey, Kirkley, Lamb, Lambert, Langstaffe, Leighton, Liddell, Lloyd, Loraine, Love, Lowe, Lowther, Lowthian, Loyzelure, Maddison, March, Marsden, Marshall, Maxwell *Earl of Nithsdale*, Maynard, Mewburn, Milburn, Milburne, Miller, Mills, Mitford, Moon, Moore, Mowbray, Muschamp, Nash, Nelson, Newhouse, Nicholson, Ocheltrie, Ogle, Orde, Palmer, Patrick, Peach, Pearson, Peele, Pepper, Perkins, Philipson, Porteus, Proctor/Procter, Punshon, Raimes/Raymes, Rayne, Richardson, Ridley, Robinson, Robson, Routh, Russell, Scott, Scurfield, Seddon, Selby, Shafto, Shields, Shuttleworth, Simcoe, Smales, Smoult, Spearman, Stafford, Stobart, Stote, Straker, Surtees, Tatham, Taylor, Thirkeld, Thompson, Trotter, Tulley, Turnbull, Twizell, Umfreville, Vardy, Wade, Waite, Wallis, Watson, Waugh, Weames, Westgarth, White, Whitfield, Wilde, Wilkinson, Wilson, Wood, Wooler, Wright, Yapp, Yeall.

§ There were two Richardsons, both Butchers, William & Robert, resident at this time in St Oswald's parish & both happen to have Elizabeth baptised. The former has the baptism 1700 & 1685. The latter (The entry has "William" named "Robert" written over) Elizabeth bapt 30 Jan 1693/4. The Elizabeth below might have been at this, but probably the latter from the date of her marriage with Robert perhaps were brothers: both have other children bapt - the former several

[- dates from St Oswald's unless otherwise stated]



THE "CHIPCHASE" PEDIGREE IN WOOD'S PEDIGREES

This particular family is from Durham City -
the abbreviations "St. Osw." and "St. Nich." relate to the Durham Parishes of St. Oswald and St. Nicholas.

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MY GREAT AUNT MARY

by Bill Stephenson

I first met Mary on the back of a tombstone in Westoe Cemetery, South Shields. Not that she was my Great Aunt then, only a first cousin four times removed.

She appeared in an inscription in memory of her husband, Thomas Stephenson, pilot, who was drowned by the foundering of his coble on November 24th 1890, aged 57.

Now I knew Thomas - he was the first cousin of my great great grandfather - and I knew that his wife was Martha Eleanor, nee Newbegin and that she had died in 1884. I hadn't known that he had married again, but it wasn't difficult to find that his second wife was Mary Mitchell, widow, the daughter of David Young, pilot and that they had married on April 7th 1886.

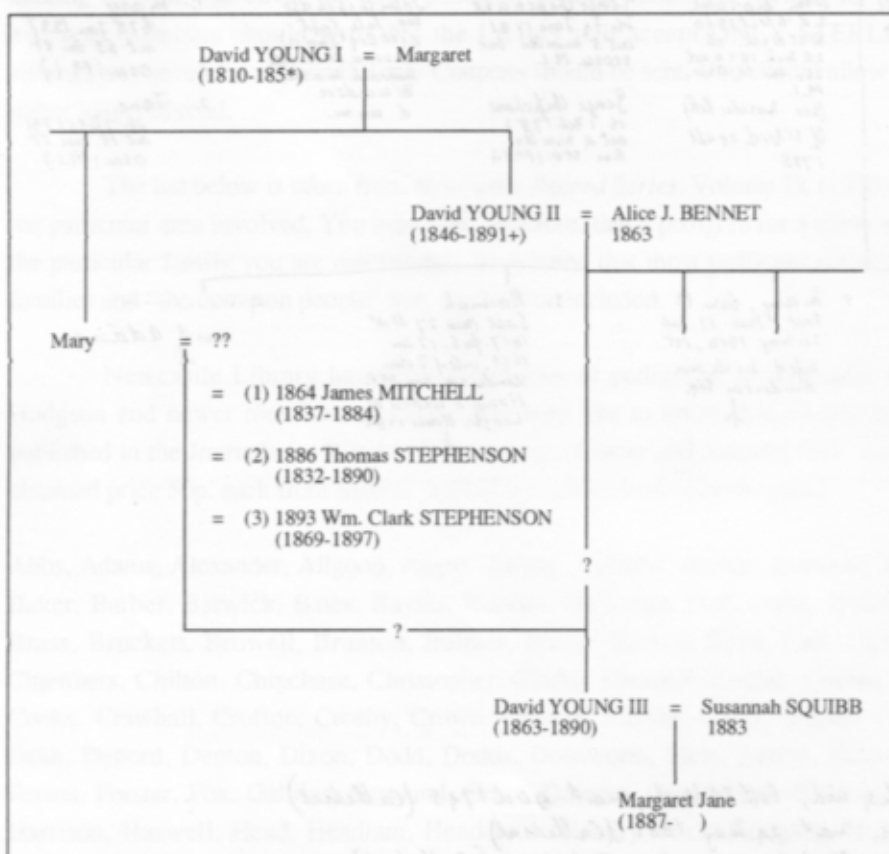
I had not known how Thomas had died or when. In a manner typical of so many of the pilots, he had just disappeared; no body, no burial, no death certificate; and not being a registered seaman, not even appearing among those officially lost at sea. Occasionally such disappearances are noted in the local paper, but one cannot search there without a clue as to where to start. I did find the report eventually, but only with foreknowledge and it seems that the tragedy occurred just outside the harbour in full view of the shore, where onlookers did not appreciate that there was a problem until it was too late. Thomas was drowned together with his assistant and a pilot colleague.

The inscription on the front of the gravestone is so eroded that only the names Martha Eleanor and James Stephenson (Thomas's father) are recognisable (and even then only if you already know of the family relationship). So it

was a very reasonable place to put a memorial and one to which the family would be amenable. After all, you can't go writing on the backs of people's tombs without asking, can you?

Elsewhere in the cemetery is another very eroded tombstone in memory of Captain James Mitchell, who died on 2nd June 1884. Now it just so happens that Captain James Mitchell was Mary's first husband and on the back of that tombstone are two more memorials, the first to David Young, grandson of David Young, who was drowned by the foundering of his coble on November 24th 1890 (that sounded familiar), and the second to William Clark Stephenson, who died on April 13th 1897, aged 28, and who also happened to be one of my grandfather's elder brothers.

This was clearly a stone originally commissioned by Mary in memory of her first husband, but what occasioned the two inscriptions on the back?



According to the newspaper report, David Young was assistant to Thomas Stephenson and died in the same boat; he was almost certainly related to Thomas's wife Mary whose father was a David Young, but why was he described on the memorial as "grandson of David Young" and who was his father?

David Young was born on 12th September 1863 and registered as the son of David Young, Sea Pilot and his wife Alice Jane, formerly Bennett. The birth was registered nearly six weeks later, on 20th October.

Now David and Alice were quite young (no pun intended). A quick glance at the census shows that both of them were four years old in 1851, so they were 16 or 17 in 1863. Not only that, but the marriage took place on 11th October 1863, between the birth and the registration of the baby David. The couple must have married in a hurry immediately after the birth. The declared ages at marriage were both 19, but we don't have to pay too much attention to details like that; they are

too frequently wrong anyway, either by accident or design.

David, the declared father, turned out to be Mary's younger brother, so the baby David was her nephew; why then was the young David described, 28 years later, as the grandson, rather than the son of David Young? Did Mary know otherwise? The memorial was clearly commissioned by her, being on the back of her first husband's tombstone.

The only rational explanation can be that the baby David was Mary's illegitimate son who was adopted by her young brother David and his new wife Alice. Any other suggestions introduce more anomalies than they explain. The couple probably even married early deliberately to adopt the child.

The following year Mary married James Mitchell, mariner. They had no children. Twenty years later in 1884, James died of heart failure, and two years after that, Mary married Thomas Stephenson, pilot, possibly with a view to having her "nephew" trained by him to be a pilot. Young David did train as a pilot (although he never qualified) and in 1883 married Susannah Squibb. They had a daughter Margaret Jane.

It was in November 1890 that Thomas and David were working together in the same boat when disaster overtook them and they both drowned. At a stroke Mary lost her second husband and the son who may not even have known that she was his mother.

Three years later Mary married William Clark Stephenson. He was a first cousin (twice removed) of her former husband, a shipwright (and incidentally my great uncle), but at 24, a man young enough to be her son. Whether she married him as a son substitute, we will probably never know. What we do know is that four years later, having absented himself from work one day because he felt unwell, he quite unexpectedly committed suicide by cutting his throat when his wife was out of the house; the local paper gives lurid details of the "shocking circumstances" of the "Suicide at Tyne Dock". His memorial is one line on the back of the tombstone below that of David Young. He is almost certainly buried elsewhere in unconsecrated ground.

Mary did not marry again, but survived another 23 years. Her death was notified by her "niece" Margaret Jane who probably did not even know that Mary was actually her grandmother.

Editor's Note: Have you any ideas on why "grandson" should appear on the stone? Do you agree with the author's conclusion that the baby David - David III - was Mary's illegitimate son? Drop me a line with your thoughts.

Mr. Stephenson's address is 18 Fishbourne Road, Chichester, West Sussex PO19 3HX.

FAMILY BIBLES

Mrs. M.A. Woodhead, 12 Church Street, Edwinstowe, Nottingham NG21 9QA has a Bible "purchased by William Turnbull, Hexham on 28th day of April 1883" which includes details of Joseph (1809 - 1876), son of Mary Turnbull — born Hexham, but not in the Parish registers there — and his wife Elizabeth nee Newton (1812-1872) and their children Mary (1830), William (1832), Sarah (1834), Thomas (1840) and Susannah (1842). The Bible has passed down the female line, and names change with each generation. Space does not allow full details to be printed, but the names Hastings, Etherington, Haugh, Cowan and Woodhead appear. Mrs. Woodhead seeks contact with any Hastings descendants.

A page is missing from a Bible owned by Ms C. Arkle, 157a Norwood Road, Herne Hill, London SE24 9AF. Names mentioned are Heppell, Thompson, Hutchinson, possibly from Newcastle, Blyth and Tynemouth. Does anyone have the missing pages?

STUDENTS AT DARLINGTON TRAINING COLLEGE 1889-1890 FROM A STUDENT'S PRIVATE AUTOGRAPH ALBUM

BROWN, Jennie - 20 York Street, Newcastle upon Tyne. **DIXON**, I. (female) - Station, Willington, County Durham.
GLADWALL, Lizzie - 17 Granville Street, Gateshead. **HARBOTTLE**, Maggie - East Cramlington, Northumberland.
JOHNSON, Mary - Marine Approach, South Shields. **McRAE**, Edith J. - 16 Western Hill, Durham Road, Sunderland.
SINCLAIR, Maggie - 75 Herrington Street, Sunderland. **STATHAM**, Sarah - 43 Wool Market, Berwick on Tweed.
STEEL, Evelyn - 12 Princess Street, Sunderland. **STOBBS**, Hannah I. - 14 Stanley Street West, North Shields.
TAYLOR, Mary Jane - 18 Eldon Street, South Shields. **TULLOCH**, A. (female) - 30 Palmerston Street, South Shields.
WHITFIELD, ? (F.) - Ellison Place, Newcastle on Tyne.

STEPHEN COULSON — A CHARACTER REDISCOVERED AFTER 300 YEARS

by Geoff Nicholson

Most people's interest in family history begins, naturally enough, with that of their own family and may eventually extend to other families only if they are really keen. In this respect my own background is rather unusual as I first became interested in the local history of the area where I lived and only later, as I realised that history was made by people, all of whom belonged to families, that I became interested in family history. It had become evident that in rural areas not only could the families of the major landowners have lived there for centuries, but those of their labourers could also have their roots deep in the local soil.

Local history first became real for me when I was quite young, an aunt went to live at an old farm called Stephen's Hall, about a mile from where I lived in Ryton - a convenient distance across fields for a small boy to go to play. As I grew older I became more and more fascinated by the old building, with its built-up old doors and windows with strange Latin mottos and ancient dates above their lintels. I moved to a Grammar School where we were actually taught Latin, so the mottos began to have meaning and the desire grew to know more about who put them there and why.

Naturally, I first turned to local history books, but was disappointed to find the farm was hardly mentioned. The only scrap of information I could glean related to what looked like a shield, but was actually heart-shaped and placed between four carved scrolls bearing the whole of the "Non nobis" motto (Non nobis domine, non nobis sed nomini tuo, da gloriam - Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but to thy name, give Glory). This "heart" carried only the initials "S.C." and the date 1635. A local history told me, without giving any proof, or quoting any sources, that these were the initials of "Stephen Coulson, who lived in the Hall in 1635". This set me off on a quest which took many years to complete, if indeed it really has yet been completed, and which involved searching many manuscripts and printed books for any scrap of information about Stephen Coulson or Stephen's Hall farm. As always in an investigation such as this, the information came in bits and pieces from all periods mixed up and had to be sorted into chronological order before a coherent story could emerge. Persistence paid off in the end however, and eventually I had a linked account of the building and the people for whom it was home from before Stephen Coulson's day to the present. This was published as "Stephen's Hall and its occupants" in Bulletin 19 of Durham County Local History Society in July 1976 and a fuller account has been deposited in Newcastle Central Reference Library.

It is not my intention now to repeat all of this detail, but rather to recount as much as I know about Stephen Coulson himself, all obtained, remember, from sources available to anyone with sufficient interest to check them out. I had no special qualifications or experience at the time and this was my first attempt at original research. Putting everything together, then, this was the story which emerged.

Stephen Coulson's birth or baptism details have not been found, so his parentage is still unknown. The local history referred to earlier (*"History of the Parish of Ryton"* by W. Bourn, 1896), suggested he may have been related to the Surtees family who actually owned the land at a later time, but although the Surtees' did have Coulson connections it seems unlikely that they were Stephen's people as he had probably been born no later than 1600 in Wolsingham, in Weardale. I say this because when he came to make his will, Coulson left money to the poor of Wolsingham parish - always a useful guide as to where someone has had strong connections. There was a Coulson family of yeoman in Wolsingham at the time, but the disappearance of Wolsingham Parish Registers for the relevant period creates problems in finding their details. Note, however, the dedication of Wolsingham Parish Church - to St. Mary and St. Stephen!

The Lord of the Manor of Ryton was the Bishop of Durham and in the Bishop's papers, now preserved in Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections, are records of Stephen Coulson taking small pieces of land in the area in 1631 and subsequent years. The picture which emerges is of a successful yeoman farmer gradually enlarging his farm, the bulk of which was probably rented from the Hedworth family, who owned the land on which Stephen's Hall was built. Hedworth's land was unusual for the area in that it was freehold, whereas most of Ryton was copyhold land, held from the Bishop by an arrangement in some ways similar to a modern Leasehold. It can probably be identified with a plot of freehold land held by one John Stepyng as long ago as 1382 (Hatfield's Survey, published by the Surtees Society).

Stephen was able to further enlarge his farm in 1638, when Ryton Moor was enclosed and the land divided up between those with interests in it. His share was 15 of the 589 acres then allotted, but later that year he received a further 64 acres. Apparently the legal process had been long drawn out and reference was made in the division deed to the people who had commenced the proceedings 14 years before, i.e. in 1624. Stephen Coulson had been among them, so he had had interests in land in the area from at least that date. I picture him as having arrived in Ryton as tenant of Hedworths as a young man and by 1635 to have been in a position to embellish his house - the old Elizabethan mansion of the Hedworths - with the "Non nobis" motto, indicative of a man of flamboyant character, perhaps such as would have become a Cavalier in support of his King in the Civil War of the 1640's, were he not probably regarded as an old man by then.

His growing prosperity led Stephen to become a member of the Company of Hostmen in Newcastle some time between 1636 and 1645. The Hostmen were a group of merchants who were the only people with whom non-Newcastle people were allowed to do business. They came to completely dominate the trade in coal, among other things, and to control

the affairs of the City as a whole. By Stephen's day, membership was beginning to be desirable for social as well as business reasons but, referring again to his Will, among his most treasured possessions seem to have been a "Great Compass" and a "Perspective Glass" (telescope), both of which seem to indicate a seafaring connection, so it may well have been that he was an active Hostman, engaged in the coal shipping trade.

How can the two sides of Stephen's career, as a Ryton yeoman and as a participant in the Newcastle coal trade, be reconciled? Perhaps the answer lies in the presence of coal, not only under his own land, which does not seem to have been particularly heavily mined at that time, but further west. Two of the major wooden waggon ways of the area were to pass within a few yards of Stephen's house in the later years of the 17th century, as well as the "Lead road", down which the products of the Pennine lead-fields were carried on pack horses. Coal would certainly be passing his door, or even crossing his land, in his own time in large quantities, whether in "Wains" or on pack horses. It is quite possible that Stephen had a hand in organising the carriage of coal, perhaps even extending to the shipping of it down the coast to London or to foreign parts.

In February 1641, all able bodied men aged 18 and over were required to assent to a declaration known as the Protestation. Parliament had ordered this to be done everywhere in England, so that everyone would declare themselves loyal subjects of the King and prepared to uphold the Protestant religion. From Ryton parish 621 men took the Protestation and 20 Catholic "Recusants" were reported for refusing. Stephen conformed on the first of the two days allowed for the purpose, so there can be no question of his being a Roman Catholic, as has been suggested by some, who have been prejudiced by the choice of Latin for his mottoes.

I don't suppose the storms of the Civil War would have been allowed to spoil the festivities late in 1646, when Stephen's daughter - his only child, as far as I can tell - was married in Ryton Holy Cross Church to Edward Hall, a merchant and Freeman of Newcastle. What a pity the Rector, Dr. William James, was not there to officiate - he was very high church and would have loved the sort of show which Stephen would have put on, but he had fled when the Scottish Covenanters forced their way over the Tyne at the Battle of Newburn, just a couple of miles away, in 1640 and had fled again when the Scots returned to occupy Newcastle and Parliament sequestered his living in 1644, so it was probably left to the Curate, Robert Cooper, who stuck doggedly to his post through thick and thin (he could probably afford little else!), to take the ceremony.

The Civil War did leave Stephen in deep trouble, however. He was reported to Parliament for being a "delinquent" (i.e. a Royalist), in 1650, by Henry Goodyear of Auckland, Captain-Lieutenant to Sir Arthur Hazelrigg, the Parliamentary Governor of Newcastle. His name appears in 1652 on a list of delinquents whose estates had been sequestered (i.e. their income confiscated) and who had not yet paid a fine to get their discharge.

This sort of thing would not depress such a character as Stephen Coulson, however. Above one of the old doorways at Stephen's Hall is inscribed "Omnia bona domini MDCLII" (All good things - or all goods - to the Lord, 1652). In the circumstances this was an act of almost reckless defiance and it may be significant that this doorway was tucked away inside a courtyard at his house, where passing Parliamentarians would not see it. By the next year there was perhaps hope of getting his discharge, for it was then that he put "Dum spiro spero" (Whilst I breath I hope) on a large arch high above the "Non nobis". If so, then probably his wishes were fulfilled soon after, for highest of all is "Laus Deo, 1653" (Praise God, 1653), surely put there as a mark of his great relief at finally being free of the inconvenience of sequestration.

Sadly, Stephen's daughter became a widow when her husband died in January 1657-1658 and Stephen himself died in May 1660 and was buried, as he had wished, in Ryton Churchyard. He had made a Will, however, in March of that year, leaving land at Ryton and Wolsingham to his grandson and namesake Stephen Hall and to his three grand daughters, all of whom were under age. Their education was to be provided for - there were Grammar Schools at both Wolsingham and Newcastle, so presumably they went to one of these - and they were to come into their inheritances when they reached 21. Attached to the Will is an Inventory of all Stephen's possessions, made shortly after his death and which describes his house and furniture room by room, making fascinating reading. The rooms mentioned by name are the Parlour, the Dining Room, the Parlour chamber, the Buttery chamber, the Milk-house chamber, the Cellars, the Brew-house, the Kitchen chamber, the High Gallery, the Milk house, the Kitchen and "a little room adjoining the house". Besides furniture and other household articles Stephen had £3 worth of books at his main house and £2-10s. worth at a house he had at Wolsingham. At his main house there was also "one watch, two copper plates with an index and one pocket dial", worth in all £2.

I hope this shows how much can be learnt about someone who had been so obscure as to apparently have left only his initials behind for posterity, but of whose life and character it has been possible to deduce a lot by no more than persistent searching out of references in easily accessible material. Much of my knowledge of Stephen Coulson has come from the publications of the Surtees Society, available in all local Reference Libraries, especially those dealing with the Protestation Returns, the Newcastle Hostmen's Company and the Records of the (Parliamentarian) Committee for Compounding with Delinquent Royalists. Local Wills and Inventories for the period, where they exist, are mainly to be found in Durham University Library, Archives and Special Collections, at 5 The College, Durham.

STRANGERS IN THE PITS — CORNISH MINERS IN NORTHUMBERLAND

by Tom Manners

When I first ventured into Ashington in 1955, seeking a job, I encountered one of the local Councillors, who had been allocated to help assess my fitness to serve this important mining centre. I had been working for some years in Manchester, and I was looking forward to returning to my native North-East.

The only question the Councillor asked me was "Where do you come from?" to which I replied "Bishop Auckland", hoping that this might be a recommendation for getting a job back in my own region. "Oh! You're a foreigner" was his response. I immediately realised that I must have been born on the wrong side of the Tyne in the eyes of the Ashington Establishment.

I have since grown to like the Ashington people, but my experience has given me cause to sympathise with those people in the past who came to Northumberland from distant parts to try to eke out an existence in the Northumberland coal mines.

One such, 75 years before me, was Chester Armstrong. He was fortified with a border surname. His father was a lead miner at Nenthead, high up in the Pennines in Cumberland. Armstrong's father suffered with his chest. His lungs were being eroded by the chemicals used to separate the silver from the lead in the lead ore. He knew from the experience of the men around him that he would not have ten more years to live unless he changed his occupation, so he moved in 1881 to Ashington, where the Carl Pit had just been sunk and he changed to coal mining. Young Chester Armstrong did not expect to start work so young but he was drafted in for economic reasons. He had to run the gauntlet of abuse from local boys because even though he came from only 40 miles away his Cumberland dialect picked him out as a stranger.

In the 18th and 19th centuries the miners were nearly all local men. They had gone into mining rather than suffer the deprivations of a farmworker's existence. The change was gradual and in the 1750s we read of small landowners, running small land sale coal mines, and pulling the men out of the mine at harvest time and putting them to work in the fields for the duration of the harvest. Later the collieries became bigger, jobs more specialised, and miners were engaged on an annual contract.

Mining was always dangerous, but in the mid 19th century mines became deeper and more dangerous. Danger brings camaraderie; hewers worked in pairs (with their "marrow"), so that men had to rely on each other. Some men worked in family groups, so this was not a situation where strangers could be very welcome. After all, could you rely on a stranger? Or a foreigner?

In the early 19th century disputes increased between miners and the owners and their agents the viewers, leading to strikes in many cases. The annual contracts were often oppressive in the extreme. There was frequent rejection of tubs of coal by the viewers because the stone content was too high. But not only did this mean not getting payment for the tub, but also the owners would impose a fine which at the end of the day left the miner without a living wage to take home. Most of the poor separation of stone was not wilful, but rather that it was almost impossible to distinguish black stone from coal in the poorly lit conditions of the mine. This culminated in the great strike of 1844.

Withdrawal of labour by the miners inevitably led to sporadic employment of blackleg labour as there were plenty of starving people about in those days to fill the void. This, however, led to increased suspicion of strangers, who were quite likely to be blacklegs, or men brought in by the management to break a strike.

One of the most dramatic conflicts between local miners and immigrants was in December 1865 when the owners of the Cramlington pit successfully broke a strike which had been going on there for over 20 weeks by recruiting miners in Cornwall and Devon and bringing them up to Cramlington by the trainload together with their wives and children.

On 5th December 1865 a special train of 11 carriages arrived at Cramlington with 278 men, many with their wives and children. They had left Bristol in the early hours of the morning and arrived in Newcastle at 10.30 p.m. A few minutes later the train left Newcastle and arrived in Cramlington soon after 11.00 p.m. They were given accommodation in Double Row and High Pit, from whence strikers had been ejected, but next day when they met local miners they learnt about the strike and the Union men offered the Cornishmen cash to return South. About 85 took the train to Newcastle from Seaton Delaval and where cheered by the local miners, but few could afford to return home and some went to the Durham pits. In any case there were no prospects for them in Cornwall.

Three weeks later a second train arrived at Cramlington with 125 men, 111 women and 244 children, many of them the wives and children of the miners in the first trainload. This made a complement of 295 miners, sufficient to run the colliery almost entirely with strangers, most of whom were new to coal mining. Many thought the experiment would not work, but most Cornishmen learnt the job quickly and ended up with a career in coal mining.

This migration was a historic one for several reasons. Firstly, it became possible only because the railway network had recently been completed, so that large numbers of miners and their whole families could be moved quickly, from one

end of the country to the other. Secondly, it was caused by the collapse of tin prices, leading to wholesale closure of Cornish tin mines, coinciding with strikes in the coal mines. Thirdly, the Cornishmen did not know they were going to be strike breakers until they got to Cramlington, by which time they had "burnt their boats".

However, although they suffered years of prejudice and sometimes violence the Cornishmen were eventually assimilated like the Scots and Irish before them; and the sons of Cornishmen whose dialect had been unintelligible learnt to speak in broad Northumbrian. Some even came to use the Northumberland burr, the uvular "R" sound which is unique to this part of the country.

All English counties have their own special preponderance of certain surnames or types of surnames, and Cornwall being out on a limb, and containing a people whose language was of Brythonic origin seems to have many unique names, which are quite different from those indigenous in Northumberland. As a result it is still possible to identify the descendants of the Cornish miners by their surnames at the present day if only in the male line of descent.

By extracting all early Parish Registers up to about 1812 or in some cases a little later, the I.G.I. gives a cross section of surnames existing before that date in each County, when the population was relatively static, and it is noticeable that none of the common North East names such as Thompson, Robinson, Harrison, Robson, and other patronymics were to be found amongst the Cornish miners.

Cornwall and Devon, on the other hand have their own very common names. For instance Bennet is so common that it requires 200 pages of the I.G.I. to hold the nearly 9000 entries under that name, whereas in Northumberland there are only 14 pages of Bennets. Even more numerous in Cornwall were people by the name of Martin, Phillips and Harris. In Northumberland, Harrison was 14 times as common as Harris, whereas in Cornwall, Harris was 100 times as common as Harrison. Hence if you are called Bennet, Harris or Martin, born in Northumberland today you have a good chance of being of Cornish ancestry, even though those names did pre-exist in Northumberland.

Cornwall also had a very wide variety of unusual names, many of which were not found anywhere in Northumberland prior to 1851, but which are now found in small numbers. The most easily accessible source of information about name distributions at the present day is the telephone directory, and it gives a very good cross-section of names, because the majority of people today are on the phone. Obviously a few rare names could be missed, but the following is a list of Cornish miners names which were not found in Northumberland before 1812, but which are represented by a handful of names (1 to 10) in the present day phone books in Northumberland, Tyneside or Durham, indicating that some descendants of Cornish immigrants have remained here:-

ALLSOPP, ANGWAN, BAGWELL, BARKWILL, BARTLETT, BICKLE, BOLT, BLIGHT, BRAUND, BRAY, CANN, CADDY, CARRON, CARLYON, CATTON, COOMBES, CUDLIP, CUNDY, DABB, DANIEL, DAYMONT, EKES, ENDEAN, EXWORTHY, FUGE, GOLDSWORTHY, HALMAN, HENWOOD, JURY, LAMPHEE, LANGMAN, LOADEN, LOCKYER, MEDLAR, MILLET, MUTTON, NANCARROW, NANKIVELL, OPIE, OXFORD, PASCOE, POMROY, PIKE, PILLOW, PRIDEAUX, PROUT, REDDECLIFFE, REPPER, RICKARD, SCOBELL, SECOMBE, SELICK, SHEARS, SIMMS, SPEAR, SPRY, STATTON, SYMONS, TRAVENA, TREFRY, TRUSCOT, WANNCOTT, WARRICK, WEDLAKE, WHITFORD, WITHERIDGE, WITHING, WOOLCOCK.

There are some surnames which, although they have for long been present in the North East, are very much commoner in the South West, and that being so, considerable numbers of people with these names arrived in 1865 and the early 1870s, adding to the local population. Examples are:-

BENNY, HARRY, HANCOCK, KEAST, KNIGHT, NICHOLLS, POLLARD, ROWE, SNELL and WELLINGTON as well as BENNET, MARTIN, PHILLIPS and HARRIS, mentioned previously.

A small minority of miners' surnames which are found nationally, (e.g. Chapman) have not been listed. There are, of course, many other rare and interesting Cornish and Devonshire names, many of which may have been brought to the North-East more recently, but this study has of necessity been limited to the names of the first miners coming to Cramlington.

The North-East coalfield was not alone in receiving Cornish miners. In 1867 the *Glasgow Herald* reported that over a thousand Cornish miners had lately removed to Scotland, and mostly settled in North Lanarkshire. Others settled in Burnley, and Dalton in Furness¹. A similar story could presumably be told there, about an infusion of new names to the district.

Reference (1) - "The Cornish Miner", by A.K. Hamilton Jenkin.

Editor's Note: The address of the author, Dr. T. Manners is 6 The Crescent, Loansdean, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 2DQ. He has extracted names of several hundred Cornishmen and their families from the 1871 Census and would be willing to consult this list to assist any members having problems finding Cornish ancestors in Northumberland.

As Dr. Manners indicates, Cornishmen also worked in the County Durham mines and a list of those employed at Wingate Grange Colliery in 1866 appeared in Volume 9, Number 1 (Spring 1984) of this Journal. I have also been told of a new book, *Durham Colliers and West Country Methodists*, 251 pages, costs £8 plus £1.50 postage and packing from Mr. C. Short, The Manse, 212 Sutton Park Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 6LD. This is stated to be "the story of west-country migrants to the north-eastern coalfields in the last quarter of the 19th century, including strike breaking in Northumberland, and of the missions planted among them by the west-country based Bible Christian branch of Methodism. The main centre was Murton in County Durham".

THE FINDING OF OXENLAW

by Margaret Greenslade

This, I suppose, is a story of my great-grandmother, Mary Hetherington nee Byers, and I think she typifies our early settlers in Australia who came to the far end of the earth in those early days in the hope that their children might have a better life.

I had always known that my grandparents had originally come from England in the latter part of the last century and settled in Newcastle, New South Wales, but it wasn't until long after anyone who could have given me any family history had passed on, that I seriously started wondering where my roots were, and why the unexplained "Selby" was my father's second name. As a small child I could remember my father telling me that he and his mother used to visit "Grandma" and catch a ferry across Newcastle harbour when they went to see her, and his memory was that she always wore a long white apron — not a lot on which to base a search for family history.

My father's birth certificate provided a few clues, and more puzzles, but it did tell me that grandfather, Thomas William Hetherington, was born at Oxenlaw, Durham, and grandmother, Mary Elizabeth Shearer, at Iveston, Durham. A diligent search of the I.G.I. finally revealed the name Selby running like a thread through generations of my grandmother's family, and how I thanked that first Eleanor Selby who, in 1798, named her first son George Selby Shearer, and each succeeding generation had a "Selby" in the name of at least one son until my father, William Selby Hetherington, five generations later.

Grandfather Thomas was a more difficult proposition. I couldn't find Oxenlaw on any maps, old or new, or a marriage certificate prior to his approximate birth date, so in desperation I contacted a genealogist in Northumberland who proved to be a real treasure. Firstly, he wrote to say he had located Oxenlaw, a farm property not now inhabited, but still standing, and the next good news was Thomas' birth to Mary Byers, but no father named when she registered him three months later, in February, 1861 at Stanhope. Dennis set to work and traced Mary, the seventh child in a family of 14 children born to one John Byers, a grocer and tea merchant living in the Stanhope area. So we were getting closer. In 1863 the marriage of Caleb Hetherington and Mary Byers was recorded in Lanchester, and the subsequent births of Joshua, Isaac, Elizabeth, Esther and Mary Jane.

The next glimpse of Mary that I had was when the family of Caleb, Mary and children Joshua, 21, Isaac, 19 and Mary Jane, 14, arrived in Sydney, Australia on board the "*Aberdeen*" in 1885. Thomas William Hetherington and Mary Shearer married in October, 1885 in the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Lanchester and presumably the two older girls, Elizabeth and Esther chose to stay in England too. Sadly Caleb died the same year, 1885, so Mary would have been widowed very shortly after their arrival in a strange land, and the newly wed Mary, was, I believe a very reluctant prospective migrant and it took much persuasion on Thomas' part to get her to agree to make the big move. However, they eventually arrived on the "*Port Pirie*" in 1887 and my father, their first child, was born a matter of weeks later.

To date I have not been able to find a record of the death of Mary (Byers) but Thomas and Mary and, by then, their first four children, moved to Western Australia where he set up a tailoring business in suburban Subiaco, became a town councillor, and generally played quite a part in a growing town.

So the pieces of the family jigsaw were coming together, and in May 1994 my husband and I finally embarked on our long anticipated trip to England and to Durham/Northumberland.

Dennis, my genealogical friend, volunteered to take us around the areas my grandparents had known, and at last, on a windy Saturday afternoon, we pulled up in front of a long low series of farm buildings set on a hillside, and surrounded by a stone fence, and Dennis was able to say "Well, what do you think of that, that's Oxenlaw". The emotion was almost too much, here was the spot I had wondered about for so long. I thought of great-grandmother Mary Byers all those years ago, on her own, isolated from her big family of brothers and sisters, giving birth in a little two roomed farm cottage and I wondered whether she was fearful of what the future held, though I suspect she was a pretty courageous soul to have left the known lifestyle of England at 50 years of age and ventured to a far away country probably seeking a better future for her family. I stood daydreaming, hardly believing that at last there was the place where Grandfather Thomas first saw light of day, a mixture of stone buildings, partially rendered at some recent stage to prevent the stone wall from deterioration, part brick cow shed, part barn, some slate roof and some cement sheeting and one section a two storey loft. I pushed the gate open and walked in to peer through the cottage window at the living room with a fireplace at one end and a scullery at the other, and felt that at last I had come full circle, the wheel had turned right round and had brought me back to the beginning again - 133 years later.

Note: Oxenlaw is a pair of farm cottages and a cow byre, today deserted, but otherwise much as it was in 1860 when Thomas William Byers was born. Oxenlaw is in the middle of nowhere between Waskerley and the A68.

Mrs. Greenslade's address is 20 Boronia Street, Surrey Hills 3127, Victoria, Australia.

BYGONE NEWCASTLE

The city of Newcastle upon Tyne consists of many communities, each with its own identity and unique history. Areas that are now linked together as suburbs were once separate villages. The *Bygone* series of pictorial booklets published by Newcastle City Libraries uses old photographs to portray the past that has given each area its distinct character. The illustrations are fully captioned and prefaced by short historical introductions. Each volume contains approximately 21 black and white photographs. The books are 210mm x 147mm and approximately 24 pages long.

Bygones are available on the following areas:- Heaton, Jesmond, High Heaton, Fenham, Westerhope, Gosforth, Byker, Newburn, Benwell, Scotswood, Bell's Close and Lemington and Elswick price £1.25. *Bygone* Walker, Kenton, Walbottle, Benwell Revisited, Westgate Road, Spital Tongues, Fawdon and Coxlodge, Throckley and Blucher and North Walbottle are priced £1.50 each. Add postage in each case.

Newcastle's Changing Map is a large format paperback with 92 pages and 111 maps and diagrams. It is edited by M. Barke and R.J. Buswell. With contributions from geographers, architects, planners and social historians. The book describes with accuracy and attention to detail the growth and development of the city of pre-history to the present day. It is a complete revision, with much additional material, of the 1980 *Historical Atlas of Newcastle upon Tyne*. The price is £8.99.

Books are available at Newcastle Central Library and branches, from major bookshops, or by post from Newcastle Central Library, Princess Square, Newcastle upon Tyne NE99 1DX. Cheques payable to City of Newcastle upon Tyne. A free catalogue is available by writing, or by telephoning (0191) 261 0691, extension 232.

THE FRENCH CONNECTION

by James Blackwood Weatherill

When I first started out on the trail of the Lepines I did not know what I would uncover. It was, at first, hard going to get information. My mother did not know her father's date of birth. I found it out the hard way by obtaining certificates and the like only to find that it was listed in the family Bible along with others.

During the 16th century, Northern France where my ancestors came from was under the control and occupation of Philip of Spain and it formed at that time The Spanish Netherlands. At that time too the area was in turmoil with fighting over religion. After one act of rebellion by Walloon Protestants the rebels were scattered in all directions. Those who did not get away were killed on the spot or captured and executed later, including Antoine de Lespierre (Lepine), a young bachelor and fruit seller from La Gorgue (my ancestors came from the same place), Jehan le Plat from Bondués, Hugh and Jacques de le Dicque, and Fleurus Fremaut from Wasquehal, were all hanged in Lille on 10th April 1568.

En de Arms of Notre Seigneur 1572 is to be found in the records of the Walloon Church in Canterbury to which seven Huguenots of high extraction fled leaving their homes and lands to seek shelter and refuge in a Protestant country. The head was Jacques D'Embraime who fled from the town of Embraime in the Hautes-Alpes. Monsieur De Lafour, de Gyt, de Laesseaux, Beaufort le Grande and Jehan de Lespine (which became Anglicized to Lepine) all made their escape and travelled to Rouen. On 12th August 1572, they crossed the Channel in an open boat which made landfall at Rye in Sussex. Subsequently they crossed the County and settled in the city of Canterbury. They became members of the Walloon church in that City. My ancestor Jehan de Lespine was a master silk weaver who attended the Walloon church in the crypt or undercroft of the Cathedral.

In the local studies section of Sunderland Library I found that my grandfather John Henry Lepine was born on 1st March 1849, and baptised at Holy Trinity, Sunderland, on 21st March 1849. He married twice, first on 1st January 1873 to Sarah Webster by whom he had four daughters and one son. The second marriage was to my grandmother Lavinia Softley on 28th September 1900 at Holy Trinity, Southwick. My mother was born 7th August 1901 and was called Lilian Lepine. Her brother, my uncle, John Softley Lepine was born in 1903.

My great grandfather George Henry Lepine was listed on the 1851 census as being a mariner and born in Deal, but on the 1861 census he is described as a mate born in Dover. I wrote to the Guildhall Library in the City of London and with their help I found that George Henry Lepine was a Master Mariner, and that a ship *The Auckland* of which he was in command sank in the North Sea whilst en route to Hamburg from Sunderland with a cargo of coal. *The Auckland* was a sailing ship described as a brig. I was also sent a list of other ships on which he sailed, his service number and that he was born in Dover in 1816.

I then wrote to the National Maritime Museum and was able to obtain a copy of his masters certificate together with a list of the early ships on which he sailed from the time of his apprenticeship in 1830. At the time of his marriage in Sunderland in 1842 to Margaret Ramsey, his father's name was given as John, a joiner by trade. When I found his baptism it was at All Saints, Canterbury in early 1817 and his father my 2 x great grandfather was cabinet maker and upholster.

George Henry Lepine's Mate's Certificate

BORN: Dover, 20th December 1816
(16th September 1816 on Master Mariner claim for certification of service)

SEAMAN'S TICKET: No. 111,307
(BT 113/56 P.R.O. Kew)

CAPACITY: Mate

HEIGHT: 5' 8½"

COMPLEXION: Fair

HAIR: Brown

EYES: Grey

MARKS: None

Went to sea first as an apprentice in 1830 and has not served in the Royal Navy or foreign services.

When he is unemployed he resides in Sunderland where his ticket was issued 6th January 1845.

MASTER MARINER'S CERTIFICATE: No. 71,754, issued 12th August 1856.

A few years ago I visited The Society of Genealogists in London and found a Lepine pedigree, which was related to my family and had been compiled about 1850. It is believed to have been used as evidence in a High Court action regarding a Lepine fortune. One of the last names on the tree was my 2 x great grandfather John Petman Lepine. It took a long time to copy out and even more verifying and checking; adding to it and correcting some errors. Through the Kent Family History Society I have been able to buy parish records on microfiche which have been a great help. I have also visited Canterbury and found further information in the Cathedral Archives. I have also obtained copies of wills from the K.A.O. in Maidstone and from Somerset House.

My 3 x great great grandfather Samuel was one of the last silk weavers in Canterbury. He was also Sheriff of Canterbury in 1796. My ancestors in the main line are Daniel 1687-1754/1755; Jean 1632-1710; Jean 1593/1594-1655; Jacques 1570-1601; and Jehan 1549-1630; all of whom were master silk weavers.

The Family were prominent in the Walloon Church and I was able to study their records as they have been published by the Huguenot Society, at University College London, WC1 I borrowed these through the inter library loan service.

One Lepine, Richard Ernest, the grandson of a great uncle George, who was a brother of my grandfather John Henry and a second cousin to me went to India and in 1924, married at Mayurbhanj in the State of Orissa, Jessie Huggins, a Eurasian from a wealthy and influential family. Her father was Chief of Police to the Maharajah of Mayurbhanj until his death in about 1929. Richard Ernest Lepine and family returned to the U.K. by 1928 where one of their children was born in Sunderland the same year. Two of their other children Kenneth and John Edwin were born in Cawnpore, India. Of the other children Jean Adel and Marion Evonne were born in Sunderland, two in Brentford, Middlesex, and two in London.

Another Lepine story concerns a fortune left by Edward Lepine whose wife was Mary Jane Eccles. They were married at St. Martin's in the Fields, Westminster, on 8th November 1761. They had two daughters, Holland Ann who died without issue in 1786 and had married Robert Montague (a Rear Admiral of the Blue); and Maria who died on 30th April 1798, at Bishops Hatfield. When her father died on 17th November 1788 he left his estate to Maria, when she died her estate was said to be worth £64,290. Maria, who suffered from a mental illness, was left under the guardianship of Lord and Lady Howe, and the estate fell into their hands. After they had declared that there were no known relatives, the estate went to their daughters despite efforts on behalf of Lepine relatives to have this rectified. A final attempt was made in the Chancery Division of the High Court in 1927 before Mr. Justice Ronner who found that the claim by ten persons to the fortune left in 1798 by Maria Lepine was barred by the Statute of Limitations. When the poor woman died insane the actual sum of the estate at that stage was quoted as £200,000.

By an order of 1845, the Board of Trade authorised a system of voluntary examination of competency for men intending to become masters or mates of foreign going British merchant ships. The system was made compulsory by the Mercantile Marine Act 1850 and extended to masters and mates of home trade vessels by the Merchant Shipping Act 1854. A masters' or mates' certificate of competency was issued to each man who passed the examination. Men considered by the examiners to have sufficient experience as a master or mate without formal examination were eligible for certificates of service.

The Lloyds Captains Registers in the Guildhall Library (Aldermanbury, London EC2 2EJ), give details of the careers of captains and mates of merchant ships who held masters' certificates (but not of mates who held mates certificates only) and who were active between 1869 and 1947. Details of the earlier careers of masters certificate holders who were still active in 1869 are also given; these details go back to 1851 or the date of obtaining the certificate, whichever is the later.

The National Maritime Museum, Park Row, Greenwich, London SE10 9NF holds the original applications for, and copies of, certificates of all classes issued before about 1900. The applications give details of applicants' earlier maritime careers. The certificate number, which can be found in indexes at the Public Record Office, Kew (and in the case of certificates issued to masters, in the Lloyds Captains Registers at the Guildhall Library) is needed before the application and copy certificate can be produced.

Editor's Note: The address of the author is 6 Wetherby Road, Grangetown, Sunderland SR2 9SW. This article first appeared in Kent Family History Society Journal, Volume 17, Number 4 (September 1993) and it is reproduced here by permission of Kent Family History Society.

STOWAWAY TO CANADA

by Joan Carr

Have you ever had an ancestor who sailed from home at an early age and was never heard from again? My husband's grandfather did just that!

George Carr left Newcastle upon Tyne when he was ten years old. We have conflicting stories about how he came to Canada and into the Muskoka District of Ontario. George arrived in Muskoka in the fall of 1869 a boy of 12, slight of stature for his age, but strong willed and adventuresome.

The Muskoka District was named after Indian Chief Mesqua Ukee, meaning clear skies. It covers an area of 1,585 square miles and in 1869 would have had a white population of approximately 4,000. The area lies on the Precambrian shield and in the mid 1800's was heavily forested with white pine and enough deciduous trees, scattered throughout, that in the autumn when George arrived the forests were ablaze with colour; a backdrop for the granite cliffs and clear water lakes and rivers which abound here.

The district was just opening up to the white settlers in the mid 1800's — there were no roads to speak of and the government was just starting to survey the area. A boom to the early settlers was the abundant fishing and hunting. Hardy, industrious and ingenious people they struggled to clear their land, build their homes from the logs, and cultivate crops amidst the rocks and stumps. Winter proved to be one of the greatest hardships, with heavy snowfalls and temperatures dipping to minus 30-40 below Fahrenheit. Spring was always welcomed with warm sunshine. The spring rains combined with the winter runoff swelled the rivers to capacity helping the loggers float the logs, which were their main industry, to the mills. Summer was great, with warm temperatures and moderate rainfall.

The settlers first came here for free land grants to farm. A man of 18 years or older could settle 100 to 200 acres, depending on how much water and rock were on his first 100 acres. He could buy an additional 100 acres for 50 cents per acre. Unfortunately after the trees were felled the soil deteriorated quickly so that there were few pockets of fertile soil left in the hollows of granite for farming.

George spent his first winter with an Indian family in a small community the Indians named Obogawanung; the settlers called it Indian Village and it was later named Port Carling. This is where two of our larger lakes are joined by the Indian River with a rapids, which are now controlled by two sets of locks for navigation purposes. In the early years and as late as 1915-1920, navigation was the easiest way to travel in the area, as the roads they had were hazardous.

In the spring he went to live with a family, who were early settlers also. The woman of the house taught him to bake and he made his living at this trade for several years, baking in the general store. In due course, George married Isabella James, a daughter of early settlers of Irish, Welsh decent. His father-in-law gave the young couple 100 acres for a farm. George managed to grow a good market garden for a number of years, selling his produce to local stores. He also sold to local tourists, by row boat, who had now found our beautiful lakes and clear air. Tourism has now developed into our main industry.

George also did odd jobs building, painting, filling ice houses and shovelling snow off cottage roofs to supplement their income. They were well respected for their hard work and struggle through nature's adversities. George and Isabella raised a large family of five sons and three daughters, two sons dying before maturity. They both lived into their early nineties and left many grandchildren in the area.

Why did George leave home at ten years of age? Why did he never contact home again?

To some extent George could read and write, but nevertheless he told his Canadian family very little about his English background. A few years ago we came across his birth certificate in some old papers and from that he was born 30th April 1857 at 38 Mansfield Street, Westgate, Newcastle upon Tyne. His father William Francis Carr was a druggist/chemist, his mother was Jane Nicholson Carr. He had at least two sisters, Alice Ann who was two years his elder and Mary Elizabeth who was two years his junior. We would be very thrilled at having contact with any descendants of his English family.

Editor's Note: The address of the author is 225 Wagner Street, Gravenhurst, ON, Canada PIP 1C3.

RECORDS OF COMMISSIONED OFFICERS OF THE BRITISH ARMY

by Captain Erik A. Gray

This article relates to the records of commissioned officers of regular line regiments, not to those of the militias. It is necessarily concerned with pre-1914 records (at the Public Record Office [PRO], Kew) because personal documents of officers who served during the First World War and later are not yet open to public inspection. They are in the custody of the Ministry of Defence CS(RM)2b at Bourne Avenue, Hayes, Middlesex UB3 1RF; and, where the officer is deceased, may only be accessed on application by his next-of-kin or certain categories of descendant.

As readers of some of my past pieces may have gathered, subject to certain exceptions, it is normally necessary to know the title of a soldier's regiment before his records and details of his travels may be traced. However, this general rule applies only to men who served in the ranks, not to officers, whose cases must be researched by a different route.

The history of the British Army as a regular or standing army dates from 1660. It was then that King Charles II returned to the English throne after his exile in France and Flanders, having fled there after the defeat of the royalists by Oliver Cromwell's parliamentary army at the Battle of Worcester in 1651. Before the restoration of the monarchy, armies were raised by English kings as and when required. Each was disbanded as soon as a war or campaign was over. This article is not concerned with their officers, of whom only fleeting traces, if any, may exist in public records.

The names and sometimes brief details of officers who were granted commissions in the British Army between 1661 and 1727 may be found in Charles Dalton's published works entitled *"English Army Lists and Commission Registers, 1661-1714"* and *"George I's Army, 1714-1727"*. Additionally, there exist at the P.R.O. some manuscript lists of officers granted commissions between 1702 and 1752. However, any information that may be extracted from these early sources or from Dalton's books is generally limited, because the Horse Guards, as the old War Office was known, had no centralised or properly organised method of keeping personal details of officers until 1793.

Printed Army Lists have been published annually since 1754 and are indexed from 1766 onwards. Arranged by regiment, they not only yield names, but also give the dates of an officer's commission, promotions, retirement, resignation, dismissal or placement on half-pay. Later Lists often provide an approximate date of death. Alongside the official version are *"Hart's Army Lists"*. These useful references were compiled and published annually by Lieutenant-General H.G. Hart between 1839-1881. Unlike the official counterpart, their entries often include interesting details of officers' war and campaign services.

There are also a few other published works relating to artillery, engineer and medical officers. Respectively, these are Kane's *"List of Officers of the Royal Regiment of Artillery, 1716 - June 1914"* and *"Roll of Officers of the Corps of Royal Engineers, 1660-1898"* and the *"List of Commissioned Medical Officers of Army, 1660-1960"*.

Until 1870 commissions and promotions within the officer ranks were normally obtained by purchase from the Sovereign, to whom applications were made through the Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C). Where the Army Lists show that an officer obtained his commission between 1793 and 1870, therefore, a collection of documents known as the C-in-C's Memoranda (P.R.O. class WO 31) may be employed to discover whether personal information exists about the applicant. The memoranda is arranged by date of commission, promotion, transfer, sale of commission, etc. It is therefore easily accessed by reference to the various dates relevant to an officer's career as shown in the Army Lists.

The documents within the collection consist of small packets of correspondence relating to individual officers. These may range from a petition to the C-in-C from a young man seeking to purchase a commission, or from a parent or guardian on his behalf, to a submission to the Sovereign, in respect of an appointment, promotion or resignation. Some petitioners' requests can be exceedingly valuable for family history purposes. Many yield interesting family details, while others are not very informative, save perhaps for providing the address of the person making the application.

Documents relating to commissions granted without purchase may also be found in the collection. It was not unusual, for example, for a sergeant to be granted a commission in recognition of an act of gallantry or as a reward for long and meritorious service. Surviving memoranda may therefore provide details of the sergeant's regiment and a summary of service in the ranks, thus enabling fuller details of his travels to be traced.

No particulars of officers' services were kept until 1809-1810, when the Horse Guards called for returns of service. These documents, written by officers themselves, are arranged by alphabetical order of surnames in the class WO 25. Although only providing details of military career, some are valuable historically, because they contain eyewitness accounts of actions or descriptions of personal combat with the enemy.

In 1828 similar returns were required from retired and half-pay officers; and in 1829 from serving officers. These

are much more detailed than their predecessors. Apart from particulars of military service, they normally show an officer's age at first commission, the date of marriage and of children's births. Although such information was not invited, some officers included the names of wives and children.

The returns may also be expected to show where an officer had been resident during the preceding five years. Later ones made to the Horse Guards in 1847 and 1870-72 also exist. More recent records of service, maintained by regimental record offices as opposed to the Horse Guards, may be found in WO 76. In fact, this class also contains a few records dating from 1764.

By arrangement with the Horse Guards, officers who wished to retire from active duty either sold their commissions, thereby recouping their capital investment, or were placed on the half-pay list of their own or some other regiment. In theory, if not in practice, half-pay was a retaining fee against the possibility of recall for future service. In some instances, retired full pay was granted to a few officers who had rendered some exceptional service.

Of the two types of retirement, placement on half-pay was by far the more common. The year in which a man became a half-pay officer may normally be determined by reference to the Army Lists. Both retired full pay and half-pay was paid by the Paymaster General's Department, whose ledgers should always be consulted when attempting to establish the specific date of an officer's death. The class PMG 3 relates to payments of retired full pay, and PMG 4 to half-pay; but there are also registers, too numerous fully to describe here, relating to officers' pensions, half-pay and pensions for wounds. These may be found mainly in WO 4, WO 23, WO 24 and WO 25, as well as in other classes.

The following specimen case illustrates how research of an officer may be tackled in the principal classes, and illustrates the sorts of information that may be available. Family legend and facts relating to John Falconer MacKenzie were that he was serving as a commissioned officer with the 31st (Huntingdonshire) Regiment of Foot on Malta, where his son, Charles Ross MacKenzie was born on 14th January 1810. However, the regimental entries in the Army List failed to yield John Falconer MacKenzie; but they did list a John Taylor MacKenzie. Among other findings, the Army Lists revealed that he had been commissioned as an Ensign (i.e. 2nd Lieutenant of Infantry) on 6th September 1804, promoted to Lieutenant in 1805 and to Captain in 1819 on transfer to the 7th Royal Veteran Battalion. It was concluded that, as is so often the case, family legend had become confused; and that on the balance of probability John Falconer MacKenzie and John Taylor MacKenzie were one and the same.

Unfortunately, the C-in-C's Memoranda for 6th September 1804 (WO 31/166) failed to throw up the hoped-for packet of papers relating to the grant to John Taylor MacKenzie of his ensign's commission. Had they survived they might have provided the details that he submitted about his date and place of birth, education, parentage and general background.

As the Army Lists of the 1820-1830 period testified that he was then in receipt of half-pay, and was alive in 1828-29, when returns of service were called for, the next step was to see whether he existed. An index to some parts of the class WO 25 showed that it had survived.

John Taylor MacKenzie's return (WO 25/766) was a valuable find. It confirmed that he was the person whose descendants had held the mistaken belief that his middle name had been Falconer. Among much service information, and the fact that he had married at Messina, Sicily, on 18th February 1807, it showed that his eldest child, Charles Ross MacKenzie, had been born on 14th January 1810, while two other named children had been born in August 1815 and January 1818, respectively. By pressing research further it would have been possible to discover where his regiment was garrisoned on those dates and to establish where each child could have been born.

The return also evidenced that MacKenzie had married for a second time at Titchfield, Hampshire, on 3rd December 1821. From this union a daughter had been born in September 1826. Unfortunately, neither the names of MacKenzie's first or second wife, nor the places of birth of his children were recorded. It is possible, however, that one or both marriages and some or all of the children's births may be recorded in the indexes to the "Army Returns" of births, baptisms, marriages and deaths at the Registrar General's Office at St. Catherine's House in central London. Unfortunately, also, was the fact that the returns had not invited officers to state their dates and places of birth. Nevertheless, they had been asked to enter age at first commission, and MacKenzie's return stated that he had been 24 in 1804, pointing to his birth c.1780.

The next and final task on the military side of the exercise was to examine the Paymaster General's ledgers relating to pension payments. One for the financial year 1845-1846 (PMG 3/48) included an endorsement that MacKenzie had died on or about 30th October 1844. His address was given as Stonehouse, Plymouth. The ledger named three attorneys and stated that Letters of Administration sworn on 16th November 1844 had been granted to his widow, Selina.

Against a background of so little being known about MacKenzie at the outset, the results demonstrate not only what may be extracted from old War Office records, but also open the way for further research within several other archive collections.

THE PATCHWORK QUILT AND A CORNISH LINK

by Barbara Kennedy

When my grandmother, Ann Braund, died in Newcastle in 1900, she left a few personal effects which she had obviously treasured. The family had been on the point of emigrating to Canada: the house was sold, everything was arranged, when Ann, busy with the task of washing all the household linen, caught a cold which turned to pneumonia and proved fatal. Plans to leave England were cancelled; another house was bought in Newcastle; grandfather re-married and my father became a choirboy at St. Nicholas Cathedral and thus obtained a place at Allan's Endowed School (Dame Allan's now). Ann's treasures are in my keeping now and include her Bible presented to her by the Lead Co. (Middleton in Teesdale) on her "passing a satisfactory examination and quitting the Newbiggin Sabbath School in 1878", and a large patchwork quilt.

The quilt is made of pink and blue sprigged muslin squares set on the cross in a geometric design interspaced with plain cream squares each hand-embroidered in a flowing design of flowers and leaves: this is all hand-quilted onto a padded backing. It is well-worn now, but in the centre, very clear, in tiny dark blue cross stitch is embroidered "Mary Coatsworth aged 15 1819". No one in the family knew who Mary was so when I retired and had more time for my family history I decided to find out how she was related to me. It has taken me over six years, but has been most interesting.

Ann Dickinson married William Henry Braund at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel at Blyth in July 1888. He was then a Post Office Sorting Clerk living in Phillip Street, Newcastle and she was living in Shank House, Cramlington. According to his birth certificate, William was born in Cornwall. His father, John, was a Devon man who moved to work in the Calstock copper mines when there was little agricultural work in Devon. In the early 1870's he followed his brothers to Cramlington where they had become coal miners, moving north with the large influx of "Southerners" used unwittingly to break the strikes in the mines in the 1860's. William followed his father down the mine but soon obtained work with the Post Office. Teaching in Cramlington at the time of the 1881 census was Robert Dickinson and I can only presume that his young sister, Ann, came to stay or even house-keep for him and thus met her future husband.

Ann was born in Newbiggin, County Durham in 1863. Her mother and twin sister died soon after the birth and her father, a lead miner, must have died soon after as in the 1871 census Ann and her two brothers are living with their uncle, Joseph Dickinson. The 1861 census showed that her mother came from Stanhope and the birth certificate gave the maiden name as Fleming. I eventually obtained the marriage certificate - Thomas Dickinson married Abigail Fleming at Middleton in Teesdale in June 1854; her father, Jacob, was also a lead miner.

In the I.G.I. for Durham, I had already found a Mary Coatsworth, baptised at Stanhope in January 1805, whose parents were Joseph and Abigail: this looked very promising.

I tried to find the marriage from the Stanhope registers via the Durham Records Office, but I must have been a year out! However, my plea for help on joining the Northumberland and Durham Family History Society was answered immediately and I had the marriage of Jacob Fleming to Mary Coatsworth - 26th May 1825. Mary is my great great grandmother.

Editor's Note: Mrs. Kennedy's address is 9 Maundeville Crescent, Christ Church, Dorset BH23 2EW.

A NATIVE AMERICAN ON TYNESIDE

Mrs. C. Abbott has drawn attention to an inscription included in a list of tombstones at Newcastle's Westgate Cemetery.

The Grave of Corsair, infant son of Shon-ta-Yiga and Okee-We-Me, North American Indians of the Ioway tribe, who died at Dundee, 8th of two month 1845, aged eight months. The remains were interred at Newcastle by desire of the afflicted parents.

Does anyone know "the story behind the stone"?

19TH CENTURY PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS AND THEIR USE IN FAMILY HISTORY

by George Bell

What are parliamentary papers? One glib answer would be:- Any paper, published or unpublished, which affects public opinion, parliamentary procedure, and the statutes of the realm. But this is far too wide ranging. We could, literally, go back to the time of James I and include the book of Common Prayer, not to mention the Bible — which provided sufficient evidence for one famous cleric (I forget his name) to date the creation and compile the only pedigrees worth recording; the rest being academic, of course! A more liberal interpretation would include fiction — which brings me to Charles Dickens.

Hark at Thomas Gradgrind, Coketown industrialist and benefactor of the local school; a man with "a rule and a pair of scales in his pocket . . . ready to weigh and measure any parcel of human nature, and tell you exactly what it comes to". To the exclusion of all the liberal arts, this is how Dickens had Gradgrind lecture his schoolmaster in the opening paragraph of *Hard Times*:-

NOW, what I want is Facts. Teach these boys and girls nothing but Facts. Facts alone are wanted in life. Plant nothing else, and root out everything else. You can only form the minds of reasoning animals upon Facts; nothing else will ever be of any service to them. This is the principle on which I bring up my own children, and this is the principle on which I bring up these children. Stick to the Facts, sir!

The prospective member for Coketown achieved his ambition. He took his seat on the national cinder heap and joined his Honorary friends in throwing facts around like dust, each as blind as the other to the really important issues of the day.

What Dickens was tilting at was the proliferation of parliamentary papers on finance and trade demanded by M.P.'s representing the property-owning classes, whilst the problems of the majority of the population received scant attention. I'll put this into perspective a little later. Meanwhile, to terminate this laboured introduction, I'll pose the question again:- What are parliamentary papers?

TYPES OF PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS

Broadly speaking, the term "parliamentary papers" embraces all officially published documents which concern Parliament and its work. A narrower and more precise definition includes only those papers ordered to be published. At the end of each Parliamentary session these papers were bound together in a series of volumes popularly known as "blue books". Parliamentary papers, therefore, do not include papers relating to the day to day business of Parliament; the agenda, the order papers, the votes and proceedings, the debates (Hansard), and The Journal of the House. They do include papers which give Parliament information for consideration, and these fall into four groups:-

BILLS

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES AND ROYAL COMMISSIONS

RETURNS

ACT PAPERS

The Bills are of no interest to genealogists and family historians — unless, of course, you want to follow-up a private member's bill in a divorce case (another theme of *Hard Times*). I should point out, however, that private member's bill are not included among the parliamentary papers as so narrowly defined. The Reports, Returns, and Act Papers, however, are of great interest, and I draw freely from *Ford's Guide to Parliamentary Papers* for a brief description of each group.

REPORTS OF SELECT COMMITTEES AND ROYAL COMMISSIONS

"As the name implies", says Ford, "select committees are not committees of the whole House, but consist of members of the House of Commons (or the House of Lords) chosen as representative of the parties and shades of opinion of the House. A Joint Select Committee consists of members of both houses".

They usually comprised a dozen or so members and were appointed each parliamentary session to deal with a particular issue arising during the course of that session. However, if the session terminated before the business of the committee was completed, the House could order the proceedings and evidence to be published for the record, but, of course, no report could be published unless the committee sought re-appointment next session to complete its business.

Select Committees were composed entirely of Members of Parliament. Royal Commissions, on the other hand, were composed of people considered by the Minister, as the representative of the Crown, "to be experts in the subject to be investigated, or of experience in public affairs generally", and may or may not have included Members of Parliament.

Royal Commissions had several advantages over Select Committees:- They did not have to suspend their inquiries during a Parliamentary recess, they were unaffected by a change of Government, they could travel overseas to gather evidence if necessary, and there was no deadline by which they had to produce a report. Their deliberations could sometimes take years to complete, in which case you can expect to come across a series of reports and evidence spanning a number of years. Some of them, the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, for example, have become permanent institutions.

RETURNS

I'll quote Ford directly here, because he illustrates the origins of the most important government departments and the quaint language used by parliament to solicit returns:-

"Return" is a term used inside the House for those papers Parliament requires from the departments in the course of its work. When calling for these papers the House uses an historical formula which it faithfully observes. Papers other than those on financial matters required from those departments which grew out of the Royal Household, e.g. the Treasury and the Home Office, are called for "By Humble Address to the Crown". But when information is wanted from those departments created by statute . . . it is called for "By Order of the House". This method of extracting information was used considerably in the nineteenth century, both as a means of pressure to get information from ministers, particularly on foreign affairs, and for obtaining reports from what in fact were departmental committees.

ACT PAPERS

These are quite simply statutory reports, usually annual, of government agencies established by Act of Parliament. Nowadays they tend to be financial reports and accounts; but this was not always the case with Act Papers published during nineteenth century. Some of them are extraordinarily detailed.

A PHYSICAL PERSPECTIVE

Before moving on to show you some examples of the family history content of the parliamentary papers, let me give you a physical description of what we are looking at, and illustrate the point that Dickens had to make in *Hard Times*.

Altogether, between 1801 and 1900, Parliament sat for 106 sessions. These sittings generated almost 79,000 parliamentary papers which are bound in over 6,000 volumes. (That's an average of 740 parliamentary papers each session!) Individual papers range in size from as little as two or three pages to multiple volumes. The volumes themselves range in size from several hundred, to well over a thousand pages. The papers cover almost every subject then known to humanity, and almost every country on this earth.

In his book, *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900*, Peter Cockton provides a table of "Comparison between numbers of Parliamentary Papers produced pre- and post-Reform Bills", the details of which are:-

<i>Period</i>	<i>Papers</i>	<i>Increase</i>
1801-1833	14,951	
1834-1867	28,800	93%
1868-1900	35,025	22%
1801-1900	78,776	

Hard Times was published in 1854:- Dickens was a witness to the trend. The 93% increase in the number of parliamentary papers published between 1834 and 1867, compared to the previous period, was an alarming fact. But during the same period, 1834 to 1867, only 14% of the papers published were actual reports. Now when I think of those papers dealing with emigration, transportation, the colonies, trade and industry, and whatever else, I don't wonder that Dickens felt indignant about the lack of attention given to domestic affairs! However, taken as a whole, as Peter Cockton says:- "The nineteenth century parliamentary papers are the most important, the most detailed and the most accessible primary printed source for the history of that century". There is something in them for you!

THE MINING INTEREST

As the theme of our Winter 1994 Journal was mining, I thought it would be appropriate to develop that theme a little. The Leifchild Report of 1842, was adequately covered in the Spring 1991 issue of our Journal, so I'll mention instead a series of Reports by the Commissioner Appointed to inquire into the operation of the act passed almost immediately following publication of the Leifchild Report. The Act in question (5 and 6 Vict., c.99) is entitled "An Act to prohibit the employment of women and girls in mines and collieries, to regulate the employment of boys, and to make other provisions relating to persons working therein".

Not all of these reports, which cover the period 1844 to 1855, deal with the north-east. The first to do so is that of 1846. It dwells on the reasons behind the miners strike of 1844, explaining how some striking miners ended up out of work having to seek employment elsewhere, and speaks of measures in hand to "improve" the next generation of miners. One viewer at the Earl of Durham's collieries is quoted:-

At Newbottle, a school-house was built, in 1840, for 100 children. There is now an average attendance of 75 boys and girls. There was a school of the old kind there before. We now pay the master, who was educated at Edinburgh, £40 per annum, with house and coals and garden. Other children at Newbottle go to the national school at Haughton-le-Spring, and there are private schools besides . . .

Elsewhere we are told of the Gosforth colliers that, "not more than one-sixth of the whole (are) given to change; the rest having remained on the spot for years and generations". As you can see, even if the mining community that your ancestor may have lived in is not mentioned specifically, the general remarks contained in the body of the report will help you to add substance to the history of your family.

The appendices of these papers are also useful. The 1846 report names the representatives of all the collieries in Northumberland and Durham. They also give average earnings of hewers both before and after the strike; and there are statistical tables of literacy. The appendix of the 1845 report, which covers Scotland, Lancashire, and the West Riding of Yorkshire, goes so far as to name several hundred boys employed in the collieries of the Low Moor Iron Company, Bradford, stating their age, the age at which they first went down the pit, together with five columns of Yes/No answers to questions concerning literacy.

Our attention was drawn in the Winter 1994 *Journal* to the reports of the local Mining Inspectors, Dunn, Atkinson, and Southern. These list details of all fatal accidents at collieries in Northumberland, Durham, and Cumberland. But I wonder if people realise that the victims were not just employees of the pit owners. Examples are rare; but these reports do include deaths of old women killed on waggonways whilst gathering coal, and the deaths of infants accidentally killed whilst playing around the pit head.

These are two good examples of Act Reports. I've referred you to the Leifchild Report. We need to look at Returns; and for this I found a particularly good example among the papers relating to Trinity House at Deptford.

A RETURN of the Number of Persons who have been admitted to the OUT-PENSION LIST of the CORPORATION of TRINITY HOUSE of Deptford Strond, at each of Three Quarterly Appropriations, ending 4th February 1836; setting forth the Names of the Persons so admitted, their Residences, the Allowance granted to each, and the Ground on which they have been respectively preferred to other Petitioners (being in continuation of the Return made to the Honourable The House of Commons on 10th July 1835).

Editor's Note: Only the list for August and November 1835 is printed below, for space reasons.

<i>Name</i>	<i>Address</i>	<i>Rate</i>	<i>Age</i>	<i>Ground of Preference</i>
AUGUST 1835				
John Parker	Sunderland	4s 6d	74	
John Sewill	South Shields	42 6d	71	
John Telford	Sunderland	6s	70	Totally disabled.
Thomas Banks	North Shields	6s	60	Severely paralysed.
Thomas Cook	South Shields	6s	69	Defective sight.
William Terry	Sunderland	4s	48	Right elbow broken, and right hip broken.
Robert Wilson	North Shields	3s	53	Severely paralysed.
Robert Hasland	Sunderland	4s	69	Totally blind.
John Rippon	Sunderland	4s 6d	64	Lost use of right arm, and doubly ruptured.
John Ross	North Shields	4s 6d	75	
Isabella Nurse	South Shields	3s	80	
Mary Brittain	Sunderland	4s 6d	78	
Elizabeth Dixon	South Shields	6s	73	
Elizabeth Detchon	Blyth	6s	70	
Mary Potts	North Shields	4s 6d	62	Disabled by a disease of the skin.
Janet Randall	South Shields	4s 6d	77	
Sarah Youens	South Shields	6s	70	
Ann Tongs	Sunderland	6s	70	
Mary Currey	Gateshead	4s		For each child. For five young children.
Jane Boyd	South Blyth	4s		For each child.
Jane Short	South Shields	4s		For each child.
Ann Gillespie	South Shields	4s		For each child. For four young children, and pregnant.
Ann Hush	North Shields	4s		For each child. For four young children.
Hannah Matthias	Bishopwearmouth	4s		For each child.
NOVEMBER 1835				
Alexander Baharic	Sunderland	6s	87	
William Mearns	Sunderland	4s 6d	85	

Name	Address	Rate	Age	Ground of Preference
Robert Potts	Shields	4s	80	
Alexander Ross	Shields	3s	80	
Henry Allen	Tynemouth	3s 6d	79	
John Mason	Shields	4s 6d	78	
Richard Bell	Sunderland	3s	74	
Robert Stuart	Shields	6s	74	
John Carr	Sunderland	6s	73	
William Wray	Howden Dock	4s	72	Ruptured
Thomas Taylor	Shields	4s 6d	71	
James Jappy	Shields	4s 6d	71	
Robert Smith	Shields	3s 6d	71	
Robert Smith	Sunderland	6s	70	13 years registered.
William Ranson	Sunderland	3s	69	Thigh and knees broken.
Peter Robinson	Sunderland	6s	69	Nearly blind.
Thomas Straker	Shields	4s 6d	68	Haemorrhage from the bowels.
William Payne	Shields	6s	62	Dropical.
John Johnson	Shields	3s	45	Paralytic.
Henry M. Wilkinson	Sunderland	4s	44	Severely paralysed.
Mary Atkinson	Sunderland	4s 6d	80	Blind.
Jane Wrath	Shields	3s	79	

LOCAL HOLIDAYS AND ACCESSIBILITY OF PARLIAMENTARY PAPERS

The 19th century Parliamentary Papers for Great Britain were published on microfiche by Chadwick-Healey between 1983 and 1988, and were sold to major University libraries throughout the world. However, they were recently made available generally through the British Library's Inter-Library-Loan network. For anyone interested (and wealthy enough to afford it), the set of fiche 1801 to 1900 amounts to 46,196, and costs £40,000. Individual fiche can be purchased from the publisher (Chadwick-Healey Ltd., Cambridge Place, Cambridge CB2 1NR) for £7 per fiche.

There is a one volume guide, and a five volume index, to the Chadwick-Healey series of papers:-

House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900 — Guide to the Chadwick-Healey microfiche edition, Peter Cockton, Chadwick-Healey, 1991. ISBN 0-85964-100-7.

Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900, Peter Cockton, Chadwick-Healey, 1988. ISBN 0-85964-133-3.

The subject catalogue is essential for identifying individual fiche for consultation locally. Major libraries in the region have been requested to purchase these volumes, now that the full set of fiche is so freely available.

For a general introduction to the subject of parliamentary papers see:-

A Guide to Parliamentary Papers:- What they are; How to find them; How to use them, P. Ford and G. Ford, Irish University Press, third edition, 1972. ISBN 0-7165-1418-4.

This guide was published to complement the Irish University Press "1,000 Series", which are reprints of the major parliamentary papers of the 19th century, arranged and bound by subject. The University of Northumbria at Newcastle has an incomplete set of the IUP 1,000 Series. It may be incomplete, but there are several hundred volumes, and they are well worth exploring.

Original copies of many papers covering the industries of the north-east, and other local topics, may be found in Newcastle Central Library, which published a guide to its holdings in 1915 (later editions are known). Yet although the best guide to holdings to be found in the city, it is by no means comprehensive, as it does not include the large collection of original papers (and IUP reprints) held by the University of Northumbria. (A full set of the Chadwick-Healey microfiche edition of British Parliamentary Papers will be found at the University of Northumbria; but it is difficult for non-students to obtain a readers' ticket.)

I have no information on the holdings of Parliamentary Papers at the University of Durham; or of any holdings in regional libraries. However, I don't doubt that Parliamentary Papers of local interest will be found in the major libraries of both Northumberland and Durham.

Editor's Note:- Thanks to Mrs. Linda Kelly of the University of Northumbria at Newcastle for assistance in preparing this paper.

DON'T FORGET YOURSELF

by M. Furness

Before dashing to trace your family back to the 1600's, stop a moment and think about your own life. In the future your great grandchildren will know much more about you if they can read your memories. After all the world has changed and you are the only one who knows what you did and saw and how you felt.

Your neighbours, what were they like? What about your house? Warm in front of the fire and freezing in the bedrooms? We had a tin bath just like the ones in Beamish Museum. It was lovely and warm in front of the fire and I can remember dashing to the outside toilet one winter night, slipping on the ice, grabbing the drainpipe and bringing it down with a clatter. Remember washing day? Hanging clothes on the line in the back lane and taking them in again so the coalman's wagon could pass? Coalmen were not popular on Mondays! Oh and the pleasure of owning our first electric washer and stoking our first central heating boiler.

What was your school like? If it is still there take a photograph before it is pulled down. What about your friends and the teachers? Do you remember swapping cigarette cards, playing marbles and hopscotch? Were you in a school team? Did you win a prize for good attendance or did you play hookey? I can remember doing national dances during the Empire Day celebrations and my friend was Britannia. We sang patriotic songs.

What about memories of being in the forces during the war or were you evacuated? My husband collected shrapnel and one day stood in the street and watched a German plane fly past. Do you have memories of the bombing or stories about the shelters. Remember gas masks? I had a Mickey Mouse one. Nearly every street had a Victory party or Coronation party. Have you a photo of yours?

How did you spend your pocket money? Remember dances with huge dance floors and bands. The cinema gave better value in those days with a cartoon, travelogue, news and B Film as well as the main feature with fish and chips for ninepence on the way home. I used to enjoy the Saturday morning children's G.B. Club at the cinema too when I was younger. My favourite sweet was Fry's Chocolate Cream. What was yours and is it still made now? Did you buy Victory V's and Winter Warmers because they weren't on the sweet rations.

I'm sure you can remember your favourite outfit. Remember how stiletto heels which got stuck between the paving stones, circular skirts with net petticoats underneath and straight skirts that split as you tried to get on the bus? Did you have drainpipe trousers and a teddy boy suit? Get out those old photographs and have a laugh and please put the names on the back so you can be recognised later. Even my daughter's memories of getting the first Beatles' record, wearing Bay City Roller tartan jeans and falling off platform heels the first time they were in fashion, are history to our grandchildren now!

Well has that got you talking? Jot down those notes now and start writing. Have I done mine? No, like you, I'm doing it tomorrow. Tomorrow may be too late!

REMOVAL ORDERS

BROADY, William and wife Sarah removed from Heckington to North Shields, 1755. William aged 36+, born North Shields. From Kesteven Quarter sessions, Lincolnshire.

COULSON (COLSTON?), William and children, Sarah, Mathew, Joseph, Martha and George. Removal order from Gateshead to Shepton Mallett, 1773. From Somerset Record Office.

MACARTIE, Isabella. Removal to Newcastle upon Tyne 1750. From Somerset Record Office ref Q/FA 23.

MEMBERS INTERESTS AND QUERIES

Items for this column should be sent to Phil Thirkell, 100 Stuart Court, Kingston Park, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 2SG. If you wish to have your interests or any queries published in the Summer 1995 Journal, send a paragraph outlining your areas of research, problems etc., to Phil Thirkell at the above address by 30th June. Please include your membership number with any correspondence and print names to avoid errors. Try to be brief, as, the shorter the items, the more we can print. Please note that it is hoped that, as a matter of courtesy, members will acknowledge any communication they receive as a result of their entry in this column.

Any inaccuracies in the address shown in these columns should be notified at once to Jenny Ashburner, Membership Secretary at the address shown on the contents page.

Welcome to all our new members. All members should note that there is no restriction on the number of entries you can have in this very popular feature — if your interests have been published in the past, why not try again with updated information?

- 0691 J. TURNBULL**, 5 St. George Court, Wardley Park Estate, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear NE10 8ED.
Seeking information on Bewly **Carr** who married Jane **Anderson** in London 1776. They had at least one child, Henry, who married Magdalen **Brown** (born Tanfield) in London 1852; he was a widower and died c.1858. Also Frances Ann Carr who married John **Milne** in Sunderland 1872. Seeking information on Thomas **Dickinson** whose daughter Jane married Joseph **Pearson** in Gateshead 1858. It is believed that both families may have originated from Alston. Trying to trace the birth of John Robert **Turnbull**, stated to have been born Gateshead on 1891 Census (aged nine) and parents William Turnbull (age 47, born Gateshead) and Mary Ann (age 47, born Dorchester). Also interested in **Crosby** of Sunderland, **Graham** of Bedale, Yorks and **Fletcher** of Stokesley and Guisborough, Yorks.
- 1521 Mr. D. OYSTON**, 36 Hazel Cottage, Hook, Hants RG27 9RH.
Was John **Oyston**, baptised 1764 Auckland, St. Helen, the man who married at Evenwood in 1807 and died there on 23rd October 1849? A copy of signature of John Oyston on a will dated 1806 and on the marriage register in 1807, do not appear to be the same, but do we have any handwriting experts in our membership?
- 1836 A.C. SHOLES**, Lindisfarne, Wakerley Road, Harringworth, Northants NN17 3AH.
Help needed with advice on how to proceed in tracing the birth/baptism and parents of great grandfather Alexander **McGowan**. It is known that he married Jane **Halliday** of Cockburnspath, Berwickshire in 1821. They must have moved to Felling at sometime as grandfather James was born there in 1846.
- 1994 Mrs. P. BULLEN**, 31 Herne Bay Road, Sturry, Canterbury, Kent CT2 0NJ.
William Edwin **Avery** was born 1878 in Sunderland, son of William Avery and Margaret Park **Todd**. Can anyone help with any information on William and Margaret? Were there any other children? Were there any other Avery's in, or around, the Sunderland area?
- 2130 KEN ILBERTON**, Whiteshell P.O., West Hawk Lake, Manitoba R0E 2H0, Canada.
Can anyone help to trace my three times great grandfather William **Elderton (Ilberton)** who married Isable **Dawson** at St. Hilda's, South Shields 1769? The marriage bond states that he was 24 years old and a yeoman of Hart. I would be grateful for any information.
- 2157 SHEILA HUMPHREYS**, 59 George Lane, Hayes, Bromley, Kent BR2 7LG.
Searching for any information about Daniel **Smith**, born mid 1800's (wife Jane; children - William, Daniel, Frank, Eliza, Lily and Ada Blanche). Daniel was supposedly killed/murdered while working on the railway at Ardrossan, Scotland before 1903. Lived at Consett, Cumberland, Westmorland and Ardrossan.
- 2385 CLARE PILKINGTON**, 7 Ladysteps, Scotby, Carlisle CA4 8DD.
Can anyone help with information about the Master Mariner's Home at North Shields? It was built in 1837 and still stands, but enquiries of North Tyneside Borough Council, Trinity House and Tyne and Wear Archives have failed to locate any records or information. My three times great grandfather William **Walton** died there in 1856 and his wife Esther nee **Alexander** in 1852. William was born in North Shields c.1770-1775 and I need help in finding his baptism and his marriage (c.1803 possibly in London).
- 2639 Mrs. EILEEN PERKINS**, 2 Glebeside, Witton Gilbert, Durham DH7 6SD.
Looking for the marriage of my four times great grandparents William and Mary **Walker**. They had the following children baptised or buried at Hamsterley:- Henry bpt.1771, Margaret bpt.1774, Mary bur.1776, John bpt.1778, Pattison bpt.1782, Ruth bpt.1784, bur.1797. Mary was buried at Hamsterley 1816, aged 73 years and William in 1830 aged 90. It is likely that William was the son of John and Margaret Walker baptised at Bowes 1740.
- 2676 Mrs. DOROTHY HARBON**, 7 Newby Close, Peterborough PE3 9PU.
Seeking information on Constance **Richardson**, born 1890 at Garibaldi Terrace, South Shields, illegitimate daughter of Arthur Connor Richardson, general merchant and shipbroker of St. Mary's Place, Newcastle and Emma **Morton**, an actress. In the 1891 Census she was in the household of John and Dorothy **Long** in Janet

Street, Byker. She was described as a visitor and not a relation; Dorothy may have been a childminder. Was Constance the child that was taken to South America?

- 3327 **Mrs. VIVIEN HESTER**, 130 Badshot Park, Badshot Lea, Farnham, Surrey GU9 9NF.
Is anyone researching John **Walton**, silversmith of Newcastle? He was born in Westmorland in 1781 and I have his death certificate dated 1868 and other items of interest to his family. He lived in Westgate, Newcastle.
- 3944 **ANN CRICHTON HARRIS**, 295 Indian Road, Toronto, Ontario M6R 2X5, Canada.
Edward Oscar Ord **Christopherson** married Aimee Gertrude Theresa **Richter** in 1898 and they had two girls, born in Whitley Bay. He left for Rhodesia 1901/1902 on one of his grandfather Denton's boats, divorced and remarried, probably in Rhodesia. Does anyone have a link with Kitwe, Zambia? She also abandoned the children in 1901 and has never been heard of since. She was reputed to be a lady's companion. St. Catherine's House indexes have drawn a blank.
- 4262 **Mrs. DOREEN THWAITES** (nee **Charlton**), 6 Kinloch Drive, Heaton, Bolton BL1 4LZ.
Is searching for the parents of her great grandmother Jane Ann Stout, born in 1850 at Toft Hill or Etherley, County Durham. Father may be called **Stout** or **Million**. Can anyone help?
- 4344 **Mrs. OLIVE M. DICKINSON**, 72 Raumanga Heights Drive, Whangarei, New Zealand.
Please help me find information regarding William **Green** who died 1925, aged 65 and lived at Grey Street, Newcastle. He was a joiner who had worked on the *Mauretania* and was the second husband of Elizabeth Jane **Tweddle**. He may have had a hyphenated name such as Conyningham-Green, dropping the first part after a family quarrel. Who were his parents? Elizabeth's first husband was Peter **Keers** whom she married at Killingworth in 1882. He died three years later at Coxlodge. Were there any children from that marriage?
- 4526 **Mr. MARTIN F. SLATER**, "Barrios", 2 Bridge Road, New Arlesford, Hants SO24 9HW.
James **Slater**, master of the brig *Canning* was driven ashore on the island of Osel, now called Saaremaa, prior to 8th June 1849. He was a resident of South Shields at the time. Would this loss have been reported locally? James was born at Walls, Shetland 1808 and married Margaret nee **Fatkin** at Bishopwearmouth 1842. She was the daughter of Thomas **Fatkin**, mariner, born 1788 and Elizabeth Ann **Morphew**, born on the high seas c.1783. James' ship, *Canning*, was built at Sunderland by William **Wilkinson**. Any leads on the above would be appreciated.
- 4639 **Mrs. OLIVE KIRBY**, 16 Bolton Close, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5PH.
Have searched for, but not found the marriage of Anthony **Skelton** and his wife Jane. Their first child is believed to have been William, born 1727 at Monk Hesledon and eight more children were baptised at St. Oswald's, Durham 1730 to 1749. Anthony may have been the youngest son of George **Skelton** and Hannah Story who married at Ovingham in 1688. They had six children:- Mary 1689, John 1695, Catherine 1698 (married John Ramsey of Corbridge in 1722), Robert 1700, George 1702 and Anthony 1704. Can anyone provide any information regarding this family, in particular the marriage of Anthony and Jane **Skelton**?
- 4873 **JOY CAMPBELL**, P.O. Box 2, Burrum Heads, Queensland 4659, Australia.
Seeking Joseph **Campbell** and his family. He was born Liverpool 1793 and married Isabella **Peterson**. She died of cholera in 1849 and was buried at Tynemouth. He died 1858 and was buried in Preston Cemetery. They had two known children:- 1) Isabel Alice, born 1833, North Shields, who married 1856 to John George McKeller **Hutchison**, a mariner. 2) Alexander Peterson Campbell, a mariner born 1839 who later moved to Australia.
- 4947 **Mrs. LESLEY RUSSELL**, 52 Bearton Road, Hitchen, Hertfordshire SG5 1UF.
Researching the family of George **Wood**, yeoman of Berwick upon Tweed, born prior to 1680. His son George became a freeman of the town in 1724 followed by his son George (burgess) in 1748 and grandson Andrew (cooper) in 1774. Andrew married Eleonora and freeman sons were John (butcher, Edinburgh); George (ship carpenter) who married Ann **Forster**, born 1788, daughter of John and Elizabeth; and Andrew (butcher) who married Jemima Hall and several sons and grandsons who became butchers and farmers. Any information would be appreciated about the Wood family and their wives.
- 4972 **Mr. T. CHILTON**, Mayfield, Tame Bridge, Stokesley, Cleveland TS9 5LF.
Information sought on the **Richardson**, **Dodds**, **Purvis**, **Moffit**, **Jobson** and **Croudace/Cruddis** families. Particularly looking for information regarding:- 1) John **Dodds**, grocer of Harbottle, born c.1790. Seeking marriage to Sarah **Purvis** of Alnwick and births/baptisms of children. Also the parents of John and Sarah. 2) James **Purvis Dodds**, born 1810 and Ann **Moffit**, in Alnwick 1841 Census and had a daughter Elizabeth Sarah **Dodds** 1837. 3) Robert **Richardson**, born 1839, Alnwick. Parents George **Richardson** and Elizabeth **Jobson**, married 1824. Who were George and Elizabeth's parents? 4) George **Crudis** married Mary **Dodds** 1809, Edlingham. Children - Margaret born 1818, Andrew 1820, both at Snitter and Mary Ann 1822 at Ryehill. Were there any other children? 5) Andrew **Croudace** died 1899 at Gateshead aged 63. Informant was son Robert of Victoria Street, Gateshead. Who was Andrew's wife and were there any other children?
- 5060 **Mrs. L. FRY**, 4 Coronation Cottages, Routs Way, Rownhams, Southampton, Hants SO16 8JG.
Researching the **Blann/Blan/Bland** family of Wallsend. The children of Matthew and Ann **Blann** were baptised at Wallsend:- Eleanor (1782), Alice (1784), Matthew (1788) and Mary (1791). Were they Matthew **Bland** and Ann **Hindmarsh** who married 1778 at Earsdon? What became of the family?

- 5215 **Mrs. JAN THOMAS**, 39 Main Street, Swanland, East Yorkshire HU14 3QP.
Main families of interest are:- **Arkless** (anywhere); **Briggs** (Tanfield); **Smithson** (Houghton, Murton and Sunderland) and **Elliott** (Fenham and Hawthorn). Thomas Elliott, born Fenham 1801 married Mary Ann **Hazlehurst** at Gateshead 1823. They raised a large family in the Hawthorn and Easington area. Any information on the family would be gratefully received. Also interested in the **Wood** family of Tanfield, especially Ralph Wood who was one of the masons who built the Causey Arch 1726/1727.
- 5218 **RONALDA WASHINGTON**, RR#2 Washington Rd., Dawson Creek, British Columbia V1G 4E8, Canada.
Researching the **Edmison** family in Northumberland and would appreciate any information.
- 5243 **Mrs. PAM BRUCE**, 44 Cheadle Avenue, Hadrian Park, Wallsend, Newcastle upon Tyne NE28 9QS.
Would like to hear from anyone researching the surname **Waterston** and its variants. Also, descendants of John **Watterson**, born c.1782 and Margaret **Harc(k)us**, Presbyterians from Morpeth, Edward Waterston, born 1811, married 1833 Morpeth to Mary Ann **Summers**, born Chevington. Also any descendants of John **Quin**, born County Down, Northern Ireland c.1799 and residing Alnwick 1871. Also John **Smith** born c.1837, married Elizabeth **Hindmarch**, both born at Wark and Joseph **Robson**, a rat-catcher of Gateshead, born c.1814.
- 5244 **BOB BRUCE**, 44 Cheadle Avenue, Hadrian Park, Wallsend, Newcastle upon Tyne NE28 9QS.
Would like to hear from descendants of, or anyone researching the surname **Miller** of the Blue Quarries area of Gateshead c.1800. Also looking for the marriage of Mary **Barras** of Carr Hill, Gateshead to Thomas Miller c.1900 and descendants of Charles William **Walker** of Park Road, Gateshead, c.1891.
- 5246 **CLIFF TURNBULL**, 6153 Ceackleberry Trail, Woodbury, Minnesota 55125, U.S.A.
Interested in finding descendants of Peter **Turnbull** (b.1821 Gateshead), son of Matthew Turnbull (b.1793, possibly in Newcastle/Gateshead area). Peter's son, also Peter, emigrated to the United States in 1870. Family tradition says that old Peter or his ancestors were Scots. Would gladly refund any costs in tracing descendants to visit during a trip to the area next year.
- 5249 **Mr. W.L. CAMPBELL**, 71 Whinside, New Ridley Road, Stocksfield, Northumberland.
I have Alicia **Campbell**, aged 42 on the 1861 Census at Sunderland, but unable to find her on any other census. Has anyone seen her? Also found an Alicia Campbell, aged eight on the 1891 Census. Has anyone come across this forename in Ireland which was her birth place?
- 5270 **Mrs. N.E. MUNRO**, 91 Avondale Road, Greenmeadows, Napier, New Zealand.
Seeking information on the following:- 1) John **Young**, b.1822 Heaton, Cornhill, d.1896, son of Thomas and Catherine (nee **Fish**) and Isabella, his wife, b.1826 Bowsden, Lowick d.1907, daughter of William and Elizabeth **Wade**. John farmed at Bowsden and was buried at Lowick. 2) Ann/Agnes, daughter of John **Strangeways** married George **Wood** (blacksmith and farmer), b.1797 Horncliffe Boat House, Norham; farmed Woodside, buried Lowick. Eighteen fifty one Census gives Ann aged 52 years, born Flodden, 1861 Census aged 63 years born Ford. She died at Woodside 1865 and buried Lowick aged 77 years. Known children:- Ann 1817, Andrew 1821, Margaret 1823, John, Thomas 1830, Ann 1832, Jane 1834, George 1836, Isabella 1839, Marion 1845 and Robert Edward 1847. The family were non-conformists. Where and when was she born? What was her mother's name? Were there two wives called Ann?
- 5302 **JACKIE GRAY**, The Lodge, 52a Oxbridge Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 4JF.
Would like to hear from anyone with information about the following:- 1) **Shearer** connections with Spennymoor, Shincliffe, Bowburn, Hett and Houghton-le-Spring areas. Would particularly like to find the marriage of Robert Shearer and Jane Ann **Armstrong** in 1880's. 2) **Batey** connections with Spennymoor, Leadgate and Lanchester areas, particularly the baptism of William Batey, c.1811. 3) **Binks** of Witton-le-Wear, Bildershaw, Barton (Yorkshire), and Stapleton (Yorkshire). 4) **Gray** of Hamsterley, Brancepeth and Stanhope. Would like further information connecting Chillingham Greys to land at Newlandside, Stanhope in 14th century. 5) **Gulliver** of Durham City and South Shields. 6) **Pratt** of Garmondsway Moor, Egglestone. 7) **De(a)nham** of Durham City.
- 5327 **Mr. FRED BRITTON**, 26 Springfield Avenue, Stockton-on-Tees, Cleveland TS18 4EH.
Can anyone help in locating the family of William **Smith**, Clerk to the County Court at Stockton, who died at Stockton in 1936. He had three sons, Bertram Weight, Percy Robertson and Sydney William. In 1936, the latter was living at St. Cuthbert's Terrace, Blackhill. The father, William, was Secretary, and then Treasurer, of Ropner Park Bowling Club from 1895 to the early 1930's. The Club celebrates its centenary this year.
- 5378 **Mr. MARTIN JAMES DANIEL**, 602 Colinet Street, Coquitlam, British Columbia V3J 4W9, Canada.
Seeking help with the **Lowther** family of Dudley Colliery, Tynemouth. Robert (father John) married Jane **Bell** (father Benjamin) at Kelloe in County Durham, 1844. At some point they came to Weetslade with their family William (born Braeside? Durham), Benjamin (Cramlington), Robert H. (Cramlington) and Georgina (Seghill). Also looking for information about:- 1) Andrew **Jacques** who married Sarah **Rumney** at Earsdon 1866, who moved to Tanfield in 1880's; grand daughter Virelandren Jacques born 1884. 2) The family of John George Paxton **Jack** (father John Paxton Jack), who married Elizabeth **Fatkin** (father William Fatkin).

- 5384 Dr. JANE CAVELL**, 25A Corn Street, Whitney, Oxon OX8 7DB.
Seeking the marriage of William **Carter**, coachman, and Mary **Forster** c.1834. Two children, Elizabeth (1834) and John (1841), were baptised at Holy Trinity, Sunderland, but where was William junior (1836) baptised? Was there another son Thomas? In 1841 Mary was living at Flag Lane, Sunderland. Where was her husband? Where was the family in 1851? Still trying to confirm a reputed link between these Carters and the **Merriman** family of Cleadon/Whitburn. Also seeking the marriage of bottle maker Thomas **Brown** and Elizabeth **Dixon**. Their eldest known child Thomas Dixon Brown was born Bishopwearmouth 1830, but they are thought to have originated from Howden Panns. New leads are also sought on:- 1) Robert **Johnson**, coal trimmer of Rothbury, and Mary **Oliver** of Corsenside, and 2) John **Small**, born c.1778, and his wife Sarah **Young**; they married Monkwearmouth, but all their children were baptised in Sunderland. Finally, any Northumberland/Durham instances of the East Anglian names **Newrick**, **Butterflint** and **Frostick**.
- 5411 Mrs. MARGARET LEE**, 11 Ribble Court, Garrard Gardens, Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands B73 6DL.
Searching for parents/siblings or any information regarding George **Gardner** (father William), married Ethel **Pye** in 1905 when he was about 40. His address was Meadowfield and he worked at the coke ovens until he died in 1912. Nothing is known about him before 1905, but it was said that he had been to sea (fishing, Royal Navy or merchant?). Also researching Ethel's father Henry **Pye** who founded the firm of Henry **Pye & Sons**, building contractors, and had property in Meadowfield and Gilesgate. Would be pleased to receive any information about this building firm which was still operating in the late 1930's.
- 5430 Mrs. G. SCOTT**, 5 Hildyard Close, Hedon, Hull, North Humberside HU12 8PE.
Looking for information about William **Harding**, born 1851 Gainsborough. The family lived in Hull, but Bill as he was known, moved to North or South Shields. His daughter Lily came from South Shields and used to visit Hull with her children in the 1920's and 1930's. I have a number of photographs, some by J. **Permain** of North Shields. Even some details of the photographer would be appreciated. Also looking for information about Sarah Ann **Johnson** born c.1847. She came to Tyneside as a little girl from Norfolk with her father Robert, a stone mason, and brother Charles. She lived in South Shields when she married in 1872, but have been able to find any of her family on the Census.
- 5446 Ms J. McCULLEY ELLIS**, Halifax House, Halifax Place, Nottingham NG1 1QN.
Researching the **Ellis** family who moved from Devon to Wheatley Hill (later New Silksworth) in the 1860's. Also **Dixon** of Winlaton and New Herrington; **Miller** of New Herrington and Silksworth; **Elford** of Devon and Cramlington.
- 5493 COLLEN ARKLE**, 157A Norwood Road, Herne Hill, London SE24 9AF.
Unable to find the baptisms of:- 1) Margaret **Heppell/Hepple**, daughter of William **Hepple** and Mary **Darling** c.1820. Areas suggested by the Census, and searched, include Earsdon and Woodhorn. 2) John **Heppell** c.1816, son of Hutchinson **Heppell** and Ann **Simpson**. Newcastle given place of birth on the Census.
- 5506 Mrs. S. WHITE**, "Dhekelia", 115 Cove Road, Cove, Farnborough, Hants GU14 0HF.
Researching Henry **Robinson**, born c.1830, a machinist who had a sewing machine shop in Darlington. He married Mary **Hopper** c.1871 and they had two known children:- Thomas Edward, born 1872, and Elizabeth who married John **Pocklington**. The family of Thomas Edward later moved from Darlington to Newcastle. Also looking for the parents of Elizabeth **Pinkney**, born 1764, who married Mark **Armstrong** in 1785; the parents of Elizabeth **Peart** who married John **Armstrong** junior in 1741; and the parents of Ann **Nicholson** who married John **Armstrong** senior in 1722. The above marriages were all recorded at Middleton in Teesdale.
- 5575 Mrs. RUTH JENNINGS**, 3 St. George's Road, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 2HG. Tel: (01434) 600428.
Seeks information about Lawrence **Turner**, mariner and customs house officer, late 18th century Newcastle, and his son Lawrence (b.1774) apprenticed to Captain **Shadforth** 1792-1799. The family's Yorkshire background is known, but what happened to Lawrence junior, William (born c.1769), Mary, Agatha, Sarah and Christiana (born c.1781), who was in Sedgfield in 1802? Also seeking anecdotes or recollections of Reverend L.L. **Barclay**, vicar of Birtley (Durham) 1913-1930's. He was diocesan inspector of schools 1903-1914 and before that curate at Pelton.
Also researching history of Hexham School Board, first elected 1874. If you have ancestors who were active in public life in the town. I would appreciate biographical information and would tell you what I know — teachers, gentry, tradesmen, professions etc. (Catholics had a special interest). Working with 1871 and 1881 Censuses, trade directories and newspapers and will move forward in due course to 1902. Please telephone or write.
- 5634 Mrs. P. WILMOT**, 14 Culland Grove Court, 114 Aldermans Hill, Palmer Green, London N13 4PT.
Would welcome any help in finding the birth/baptism of the following children of Archibald and Ann **McDonald**:- Alexandra (1841, Bishop Auckland), Mary Ann (1843, Bishop Auckland), John (1847, Byker), Robert (1849, Byker), Elizabeth (1857, Byker) and Margaret (1860, Byker).
- 5640 Mrs. M. BELL**, 343 Kenton Road, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 3XG.
Looking for information regarding the family of William **Bell**, place of birth unknown, gardener at Low Park End, Simonburn in 1913, son of William **Bell**, a blacksmith. Also **Nixon** of Simonburn, **Upperton** of Middlehaugh and **Whitfield** and **Dixon** of Mickley Square. Other families being researched include:- **Hornsby**

of Wark and Slaley; **Brown** of Haltwhistle; **Rochester** of Rothbury, Edlingham and Eglingham; **Guthrie** and **Redpath** of Felling.

- 5645 Mrs. HELEN PEARSON**, The Chapel Manor, Browney, Durham DH7 8HU.
Interests:- **Ward** (Fallowfield); **Ingram** (Shotley); **Herbert/Harbert/Harbutt**, etc. (Durham City); **Pike** (Durham); **Charlton** (Lanchester); **McDonald** (Teesdale, Auckland, Barnard Castle); **Scott** (Teesdale); **Forster** (Oakenshaw, Horden, Norton, Cleasby); **Binks** (Gainford) and **Dawson/Dowson** (Sandsend, North Yorkshire). Desperate to find a 1891 Census entry for the family of Ralph McDonald, his wife Elizabeth and children. They were at Henknowle Farm, Bishop Auckland as farm workers in 1885, but no record found before or after.
- 5646 GLENYS RAMSAY**, 35 Rickleton Village, Centre, Washington Town, Tyne and Wear NE38 9ET.
Would appreciate help in tracing four times great grandfather Thomas **Ramsay(ey)**, born Stamfordham, died between 1842 and 1857, married Ryton 1809 (as Ramshaw) to Ann **Wilson**. Have traced two children:- Ann, born 1810 and John, born 1813. Would like to know where and when he died and date of birth, and whether there were any other children. John ended up in Sunderland as a mariner in 1842. Other family interests are:- **Hunter**, **Ingham**, **Taylor**, **Dodds**, **Goodswen**, **Barkhouse** and **Ryal(l)**.
- 5664 NORMAN CLARKE TULIP**, 10 Sandy Hill Av., Ballyskeagh, Dunmurry, Belfast BT17 9LT, N. Ireland.
Would like to hear from anyone with information about his **Tulip** family. Grandfather was John Tulip (1838-1902), born South Shields, married Elizabeth **Swann** (1843-1906) at St. Anne's, Newcastle, 1866. John and Elizabeth had issue:- Elizabeth (1866), John (1868), William Swann (1872), Maria (1874), Isobel (1876), Mary (1878), Matthew (1881) and Dorothy (1887). John and his father John, who died in 1871, were wherryman.
- 5669 MARGARET E. NORMAN**, 130 Oak Road, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 3RF.
Interests include:- **Addison** and **Linsley** (1800, South Shields); **Eden**, **Norman** and **Metcalf** (anywhere); **Fairbridge** (1750 Bishopton); **Longstaff**, **Ord** and **Wardell** (1850, South Shields); **Nevin** (1800, Jarrow); **Ord** (1800, Aycliffe). A place of birth on a Census is given as San Hills, County Durham. Does anyone have any ideas where this place might be?
- 5675 Mrs. GAIL PETERSON**, 6216-92B Avenue, Edmonton, Alberta T6B 0V9, Canada.
Local interests:- Joseph and Ephraim **Bell** and Joseph **Young** of Wooler; Margaret Young of Thornington and Wooler; William **Murray** of Warkworth; and Margaret Murray of Warkworth and Wooler. Would welcome any general information about Wooler which is her main area of interest.
- 5693 DONALD CARLIN HEWISON**, 18 Lismore Grove, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9AW.
Currently researching the following local families:- **Hewison** (all dates, all areas); **Curley** (Sunderland); **Wright** (Ferryhill) and **Gibson** (Tynemouth). Also, **Carlin** and **Cantrill** (Derbyshire); **Johnson** (Bedworth, Warwickshire); **Marriott** (Pinxton, Nottinghamshire and Eagle Hall, Lincolnshire); **Day** and **Renshaw** (Nottinghamshire), **Payne** (Gloucestershire) and **Reader** and **Thacker** (Burton-on-Trent).
- 5699 WILLIAM RICHARDSON**, 10 Walsingham Way, Billericay, Essex CM12 0YE.
Particularly interested in his **Boggon** family connection. Grandfather was George Boggon **Richardson** born in Tynemouth 1859. Great grandfather was Isaac Williams Richardson, who married Susannah Boggon at Tynemouth in 1857. The marriage certificate gives the fathers as William George Richardson, a mariner, and George Boggon, a miner.
- 5707 G.W. WINTER**, 15 Victoria House, Church Street, Leeds LS5 3EF.
Interests:- Richard and Ann **Metcalf** or **Mecker** and their two children Mary and Christopher (born 1839, Hetton-le-Hole). Also **Glendinning** and **Wright** families of Bishopwearmouth, and **Winter** anywhere in County Durham. Also **Bambrough**, with Jarrow connections, and **Davy**, particularly Emma Davy, born 1858. North Shields, daughter of James Davy and Emma Chapel.
- 5709 Mr. J. VANDEPEEAR**, 18 Cherry Tree Avenue, New Earswick, York YO3 4AR.
Would welcome any help with the following:- 1) The **Anderson** family at Murton Colliery in the 19th century. 2) William George Washington Anderson, living at Murton Colliery in 1902, believed born in County Durham c.1850-1860. 3) **Sandercock/Sandy**, late 1800's in Houghton/Easington/Murton area. Believed to be from Cornwall. 4) **Dawson** and **Blanchard** from the same area, who are linked with the Anderson family. 5) Alfred **Watson**, tinsmith, or Harriet **Pyegill**, both in the Darlington area c.1880. Would also like to receive any references to the name **Vandeppear** or variants.
- 5710 Mr. KENNETH IAN STOUT**, 10 Metcalf Crescent, Murton, Seaham, County Durham SR7 9HG.
Seeking information of John **Stout**, native of Darlington, and Mary **Wylam**, native of Harraton, who were married at Chester-le-Street in 1800. Also, Robert **Maddison**, born c.1801 at Byers Garth, and his wife Elizabeth nee **Coulson**, both Pittington c.1807, and William **Talbot** and his wife Sarah nee **Clark** who were married at St. Nicholas, Durham 1811.
- 5712 Mrs. MARGARET G. BERRY**, 5 Coastal Road, Hest Bank, Lancaster LA2 6HB.
Interests:- **Bolton** and **Frost** (Newcastle pre-1800); **Merryne/Merein** (anywhere, any time); **Moor(e)** (Bothal pre-1800); **Cutter** (Mitford, 1800's); **Bell** (Tynemouth and Ponteland 1800's).

- 5718 **Mrs. E. KNAPPER**, 103 Station Road, Easington Colliery, Peterlee, County Durham SR8 3SP.
Interested in:- **Mellow and Welch** (Trimdon); **Blair and Welch** (Ushaw Moor and Spennymoor); **Allison, Galley, Coombes and Naylor** (West Hartlepool); **Knapper** (Durham and Staffordshire); **Warrilow** (Bearpark and Staffordshire); and **Warlow** (Bearpark and Durham).
- 5748 **Mr. DAVID I. HALSEY**, 19 Avondale Road, Haydock, Lancashire WA11 0HJ.
Researching the **Jordon/Jordan** families, which moved from Bywell, St. Peter (1742) to Ovingham, Ovington and Heddon-on-the-Wall (1860's). Also interested in the parish clerks of Ovingham, particularly William Jordon 1840-1850's. Can anyone help with information of the whereabouts of a grave register or plan (as opposed to a burial register) for the old, closed part of Heddon churchyard?
- 5749 **BARBARA DELANEY**, 17 Grafton Street, Greystanes 2145, Sydney, Australia.
Grandmother Ethel Lythgoe **Morrison**, born 1899 Durham, married George Hopper and they emigrated to Australia in 1922. She was the daughter of Mary Hannah **Lythgoe** and John Morrison, and grand daughter of John Morrison and Frances Collins. Mary Hannah and John (junior) were born in 1875 and married in 1895. Grandmother told me she had three brothers, one called Tom, and a sister Elizabeth and the family lived in Success Row, Newbottle in the 1920's. Would like to hear from anyone with information about the Lythgoe or Morrison families.
- 5750 **Mr. J.H. TURNBULL**, 59 Whittaker Lane, Prestwich, Manchester M25 1ET.
Any information on the following would be welcome:- 1) William **Turnbull**, a mariner born 1789/1790 in Berwick, who sailed on the revenue cruiser "*Mermaid*" from 1825 to 1845. He died 1859. Also his wife Jane. The family lived in Marygate, Berwick 1850-1860. Their third son David, born 1832, married Margaret **Wilkie**. 2) Nichol **Wilkie** of the Royal Artillery married Margaret **Purves** in Eyemouth, Scotland 1804. They had a son Thomas, born 1805 also in Eyemouth. Thomas moved to Berwick and married Isabella **Brotherton**, born 1810, and lived at Wallace Green and the Parade in Berwick between 1841 and 1861. Margaret **Wilkie**, their second child, married David **Turnbull**.
- 5758 **Mrs. IRENE QUEEN**, 5 Pinegarth, Ponteland, Northumberland NE20 9LF.
Seeking the descendants of these children of Thomas **Nelson**, coal miner of Ashington, and his first wife Esther Ann **Marsh**:- born in Yorkshire — Martha (1882), Thomas (1883), Harriet (1889), and born at South Pontop, Durham — John (1890), Elizabeth (1892) and Ellen (1893).
- 5723 **JAN BEARDSALL** (nee **Henderson**), Elowen House, Trewassick, Newquay, Cornwall TR8 4JR.
Researching Adam **Henderson**, born 1855, Seaham Street, Newcastle, father Joseph, mother Ann **Stewart/Steward**. Also, James **Jeffrey**, born c.1862, Newcastle and married Mary Ann **Young**, born c.1866, in 1887. Any information gratefully received.
- 5729 **Mr. JIM JENNESON**, P.O. Box 59, Echunga, South Australia 5153, Australia.
Local research interests include **Bowes** of Durham, **Lawes** of Gateshead, **Matsen** of Heighington, **Percival** of Newburn and **Symons** of Washington.
- 5730 **DEREK WELLS**, The Mount, Commonsides, Crowle, South Humberside DN17 4EY.
Seeking information of Michael Forster who was killed by an engine at Derwenthaugh in September 1873 at the age of 77 years. Also researching **Burn**, **Bainbridge** and **Gillender** of Whickham, **Forster** of Whickham and **Swalwell**, **Elliott** of Greatham and **White** and **Hughes** of Seaham.
- 5738 **JANET STEEL**, 19 Golden Ridge, Freshwater, Isle of Wight.
Particularly interested in John **Steel**, a Gateshead engineer and early builder of steam locomotives. He came from Colliery Dykes (now Dipton) where his father was a brakesman at Pontop Colliery. Family tradition indicates a link, but none has yet been established with grandfather John Andrew **Steel**, born Gateshead 1883, to John and Sarah **Steel**. Would like to hear from anyone with information about John **Steel**, Colliery Dykes or the Pontop Colliery. Also anything about Nicholas **Young**, a brother-in-law of John **Steel**, who was killed in an accident at Fawdon Colliery; or Samuel **Short** (of Short Bros. Engineering), who was a cousin of grandfather John Andrew **Steel**.
- 5746 **Mrs. F.M. WRIGHT**, 106 London Road, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY2 6PP.
Searching for a family of **Rodenhurst** who were in the Newcastle area from about 1880, possibly Thomas Harry and Walter Vincent who were two of a large family from the Welsh borderlands and born in the 1850's. There was a daughter who married Norman M. **Thompson** in early 1916. Also interested in the name **Whitfield** of the Whitfield area of Northumberland before 1500.
- 5759 **ROBERT W. STOREY**, "Tamarisk", Henwood, Wootton, Boars Hill, Oxford OX1 5JX.
Seeking information on the family of Edward **Storey**, born Ulpham, Haltwhistle in 1840, married Jane **Aynesley** at Matfen c.1864. Particularly interested in information on the children:- Mary Ann, Robert, Mark, Jane, Margaret Elizabeth, Catherine and Sarah, all born at Matfen 1865-1885. The family moved to Billy Row, Crook c.1890, living at Temperance Terrace, Billy Row and then at Whitelea from 1894. Also seeking information on Robert **Chance** who married Rosanna **McDonald** c.1884-1885 in the Tyneside area, possibly Gateshead. Their first two children were born on Tyneside — Elizabeth 1885 and Janet 1887 — before moving to Darlington.

- 5760 **Mrs. W. COUSANS**, 28 Endsleigh Drive, Acklam, Middlesbrough, Cleveland TS5 4RG.
Any information please regarding:- **Cairns** of Norham; **Stewarts** of Learmouth/Norham; **Grant** of Northumberland especially Berwick and Tweedmouth; **Pearce** of Berwick/Tweedmouth and Bath, Somerset, especially Jane born c.1841 and her father Nathaniel, a baptist minister; **Renwick** of Alnwick and Berwick; **Fawcett** of Sockburn; **Clemmet** of Cornforth/Stockton and **Elgie** of Stockton. Also looking for the marriage details for Robert and Eleanor Grant c.1816 and raised a family in Berwick. Any details regarding David Grant, born Berwick 1863, died Middlesbrough 1931. He was a compositor/printer for the *Newcastle Evening Chronicle* in 1890's and *Middlesbrough Evening Gazette* in 1900's. He may have worked for a Kelso newspaper in 1880's.
- 5763 **R.A. ROWNTREE**, 5 Oaktree Close, Tarporley, Cheshire CW6 0TZ.
Seeking information on Robert **Rowntree**, born c.1821 Sunderland, shipwright, married Anne(?) c.1842 Sunderland. Had sons Thomas, born c.1843 and Robert Palem, born c.1845, both at Sunderland. Nothing seems to be recorded at St. Catherine's House or in the L.G.I., and struggling to find them in the Census returns. Does anyone have any ideas as to the origin of the name Palem?
- 5769 **Mrs. S.L. PAGE**, 284 Nacton Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9JH.
Family names include:- **Reed**, **Watson**, **Rogerson**, **Suddes**, **Raine**, **Walker**, **Gelson**, **Burn**, **Robson**, **Rennison**, **Dixon**, **Taylor**, **Pile** and **Forster**.
- 5779 **Mrs. B. KIRKHAM**, P.O. Box 50, Lucindale, South Australia 5272, Australia.
Seeking information on Michael **Taylor**, born 1834-1836 Durham, married 1855 to Esther **Luke** at Seaham. Their fathers were given as Michael Taylor and Robert Luke, both miners. Children:- Robert, Sarah Jane (1856) and Michael (1859). The family migrated to Australia c.1864. Any information on Taylor and Luke families would be appreciated. Other interests are:- **Mitchell**, **Dure** of Devon and Cornwall, and **Hilliard**, **Lambourn** of London.
- 5787 **Ms C.A. COYNE**, 184 Whitley Road, Eastbourne, East Sussex BN22 8LE.
Interests:- **Coyne** and **Laffey** of Galway, Eire pre-1920; **Hodgson** and **Dickinson** of South Shields pre-1930; **Owens** of Durham pre-1860 and Blyth pre-1950; **Wilson** of South Shields pre-1920 and Darlington pre-1880; **Monastere/Monestene** of Darlington pre-1870. William Wilson married Rosanna Monastere in 1866 and later became an undertaker in South Shields. Interested in any information about this firm.
- 5789 **Mrs. C.M. TAYLOR**, 117 Littlefield Lane, Grimsby DN34 4PN.
Seeking information on Isabella **Lincoln**, born 1877 at Seaham Harbour, daughter of Andrew Archie Lincoln and Margaret **Butler**. Also, her husband William Dale **Swan** and his brothers John Robert Swan and Edward Swan. Would also welcome any references to the name **McCrone**.
- 5794 **Mr. MIKE HUTCHINSON**, 27 Ironside Street, Weston, A.C.T. 2611, Australia.
Interested in the forebears or descent of George **Parkinson**, b.1856, m.1883 at St. Cuthbert's, Durham to Alice **Sharp**, b.1859, daughter of James Sharp and Ann **Dixon** of Tow Law; John **Askew**, b.1840 m.Crook 1867 to Dorothy **Winskill**; William Robert **Hutchinson**, m.Ellen **Surtees**, c.1865 — son David James Hutchinson, b.Newcastle 1865, m.Harriet **Gibson** at St. Andrew's, Newcastle 1887; Frances Waggett **Turnbull**, b.1855, m.St. Mary's, Gateshead 1876 to Elizabeth **Montgomery**; Richard **Fort**, b.Willington/Brancepeth c.1855, son of Richard Fort and Mary **Shaw**, b.Framwellgate, c.1824; Anthony **Mavin**, b.1875 Warkworth m.Morpeth 1899 to Hannah **Hemsted**.
- 5798 **ALAN GRETTON**, Nathan House, Dunham on Trent, Newark, Nottinghamshire NG22 0UG.
Interested in the **Coulson** family of Lamesley, Durham and Spennymoor and would particularly like to hear from any descendants of William (1791-1865) his son William (1816-1894), Francis Coulson J.P. (1849-1918), Captain William Hall Coulson (born 1886) and William Denholm Coulson (born 1914). Information on Matthew Coulson and the Tudhoe Iron Works would also be appreciated.
- 5799 **Mrs. D. GRANT** (nee **Todner**), 17 Hillside Road, Bulleen, Victoria 3105, Australia.
Researching Ralph **Todner**, born 1738 Mitford. He married Mary **Dunn** in 1758 at Longframlington. Trying to prove a move to Chester-le-Street in the 1760's, then to North Biddick, Washington in the 1770's where a Ralph **Toddler**, waterman died in 1780. Were they the same person? Have any settlement certificates survived for these parishes?
- 5811 **JILL LABRON**, 1 Eshott Village, Felton, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 9EW.
Interests:- **Labron/Laybron/Layburn/Laybourne**, especially the origins of Robert Labron, farmer, who married Ann **Speddin(g)** in 1815 at Haughton-le-Skerne. They later lived at Brusselton, Norton Fine and Woodend farms near West Auckland and had nine known children. Also **Eggleston(e)**, especially any families with John and Eliot/Elliott as recurring forenames, possibly derived from the marriage of John **Eggleston** to Elizabeth **Elliott** at Edmondbyers in 1763. Also researching Alexander **Bell**, Henry **Carter**, Hannah **Hall**, Dorothy **Kellett**, Eleanor **Maughan**, Samuel **Ridings**, William **Robson** and Christopher **Stoker**.

- 5823** **MICHAEL FORSTER**, 31 Mount Street, Dorking, Surrey RH4 3HX.
Interested in the following surnames:- **Forster**, **Kaye** and **Tiffin** from Sandyford, Gosforth, Jesmond and Newcastle. Also **Dawson**, **Dodds**, **Weddle** and **Waugh** from Gateshead, Pelton Fell, Waldrige Fell, Sacriston and Ouston. George Dawson, born Spittal 1839, was a bronze mixer and brass moulder at Parsons and later at Vickers Armstrong. Does anyone have access to the company records of this time? His son John Connell Dawson, born 1882 was a footballer with Heaton Rovers and trainer with Walker Celtic. Have any team sheets survived from this era? Also interested in Matthew Robson Dodds, born 1869, who was publican of the Cricketers Arms in Prince Consort Road. Does anyone have any information regarding Andrew **Haig** and his children Mary Ann, Caleb, Jacob and Jane?
- 5826** **RICHARD GLEDHILL STONEBANKS**, 15 Hocombe Wd. Rd., Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh, Hants SO53 3PN.
Is six years into a one-name study of **Stonebank(s)** families. There are two main branches dating back to the 1500's. The northern branch was in Lancashire about that time and migrated east via Haltwhistle/Whitfield to Longbenton, Newcastle, North and South Shields, and also from the early 1800's into the mining area of Evenwood/Etherley/St. Helen's, etc. In the south the family migrated east from Buckinghamshire to Bedford and London. The link between the two groups has yet to be determined, but may be from Huguenot descent. Any help would be much appreciated and enquiries are welcome.
- 5856** **Mrs. M.C. CAIRNS**, 9 Shap Grove, Carlisle, Cumbria CA2 5QR.
Researching:- 1) **Proudfoot** family of south west Durham, particularly Crook, Stanhope and Auckland areas. 2) **Earl/Earle** family, gardeners at Lumley Castle, Chester-le-Street in 1800's. Any information would be appreciated.
- 5861** **Mr. F. UNDERWOOD**, 18 Highgate Road, Hylton Road, Sunderland SR4 8BY.
Help required in the research of my great grandparents Robert **Johnson**, mariner, and wife Margaret late **Beavan**, formerly **Agg**, who were the parents of Susannah Tullock Johnson, born 1874 at Tynemouth. It is believed that Robert sailed as mate, and later captain, and was thought to have been drowned off the coast of South America. Any information would be gratefully appreciated.
- 5862** **GEOFF FYNES**, 8 Alcotts Green, Sandhurst, Gloucester GL2 9PE.
Seeking information about any **Fynes**, **Fines** or **Finnes** families of the mining villages of south east Northumberland during the 19th century. Earliest ancestor found was Thomas Fines (Finnes), born c.1796, living at North Shields in 1837 and moved to Seaton Delaval c.1845. Also seeking information on William Finnes, married Sarah **Pryer** and lived South Shields c.1880; daughter Sarah baptised South Shields 1802. Interested in any information on Ann Fynes (1894) who married John **Sword**. Would also like to know more about the early life of Richard Fynes, who was associated with the founding of the miners union in Northumberland.
- 5864** **Mrs. V. GEHRMENN**, 7 Centenary Drive North, Middlemount, Queensland 4746, Australia.
Would like to find out more about the families of her grandparents who emigrated to Australia in the 1920's. Richard **Hodgson** was born in Newcastle 1906, son of Richard Roney Hodgson and Hannah **Hastings**. Winifred **Wordingham** was born at Tynemouth 1905, daughter of William James Molton Wordingham and Mary Anne **Johnston**. Would like to hear from anyone who knows of these families.
- 5865** **IAN de WINTER**, Patenga, Kingsmuir Drive, Peebles, Tweeddale EH45 9AA.
Any information please on:- George Rowan **Tait**, marine engineer, married Agnes **Heslop** at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Stockton in 1892. Especially interested in George before his marriage.
- 5880** **Mr. R. FARNSWORTH**, Freeland, Alnwick, Northumberland NE66 2PR.
Would welcome any information about the history of his house "Freelands" and the families who have lived in it:- **Dodds/Skelly** (1837-1868); **Paynter** (1868-1918) and **Metcalf** (1922-1986). Before 1837, when the house was built, the site was occupied by the **Crozier** family, father of the founder of "Dirty Dicks" chemist shop is Newcastle and operated a market garden and nursery.
- 5883** **Mr. ANTHONY JOHN BRYSON**, 39 Ravenswood Hill, Coleshill, Birmingham B46 1BN.
Interested in the family of Robert **Murray** of Clayton Street, Jarrow, prior to 1866. He was a millwright, as was his father Isaac. Robert Murray, widower, married Frances **Anderson**, formerly Newburn, widower, in Newcastle 1866. Any information would be greatly appreciated.
- 5887** **JOYCE E. BROWN**, 1032 23rd Street, West Des Moines, Iowa 50266, U.S.A.
Looking for information/descendants of John and Hannah (Roxby) **Nevills**, both born c.1822 at Rainton. She died 1888 and he in 1894 at Easington and buried at Murton. They were living at Seaham Harbour in 1861.
- 5898** **Mrs. J.M. NUGENT**, 44 Clarke Street, Ripley, Queensland 4306, Australia.
Would appreciate any information regarding **Mason** families of the Felling/Gateshead area. Charles Mason was born Felling 1889, son of Charles Surtees Mason, born c.1868, and Isabella **Patterson**, born 1865 at Tweedmouth, daughter of John Patterson and Mary **Hattle**. Trying to establish details of Charles Surtees Mason's parentage; all that is known is that his father was called John. Charles had sisters and a brother called Emma, Mary and John.

HELP OFFERED

- 4800** **ARTHUR PARKER**, 5 Kilvinton Drive, Enfield, Middlesex EN2 OBD.
Is working on a one name study of the name Dees. As well as welcoming any information regarding the name, he would be happy to try to help anyone who thinks they may have a Dee connection.
- 5215** **Mrs. JAN THOMAS**, 39 Main Street, Swanland, East Yorkshire HU14 3QP.
Currently living near Hull and would be happy to help any members researching in this area.
- 5446** **Ms J. McCULLEY ELLIS**, Halifax House, Halifax Place, Nottingham NG1 1QN.
Would be pleased to do some research in the Nottingham archives in exchange for help in the north east, particularly Sunderland and Darlington.

NEW MEMBERS

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

Welcome to all our new members.

- 5732 Mrs. E. QUITTENDEN**, 7 Portsdown Street, Salisbury, Queensland 4107, Australia. **5733 Mrs. P. WALDEN**, 75 Hamilton Row, Waterhouses, Durham DH7 9AV. **5734 Mrs. S. THOMAS**, 59 Robert Street, Manselton, Swansea, West Glamorgan SA5 9NB. **5735 Ms P. ROUNTREE**, 7 Roland Road, Wallsend, Tyne and Wear NE28 6QB. **5736 Mrs. D.B. MAXWELL**, 8 Hilton Road, Cliffe Woods, Rochester, Kent ME3 8LA. **5737 Mr. J.W. TURNER**, Flat 132, William Goodenough House, Mecklenburgh Square, London WC1N 2AN. **5739 Mrs. R.A. TRAVIS**, "Emerson", 7A Cyprus Grove, Haxby, York YO3 3ZS. **5740 Mrs. P.M. CLARKE**, 158 Reynolds Street, Latchford, Warrington, Cheshire WA4 1UA. **5741 & 5742 Mrs. J. & Mrs. D. BANTOFT**, 21 Lady Edith's Park, Newby, Scarborough, North Yorkshire YO12 5PB. **5743 & 5744 Mrs. E. & Mr. C.G. BURNETT**, 221 Ganstead Lane, Ganstead East, Bilton, Kingston upon Hull, East Yorkshire HU11 4BG. **5745 Miss J. McGRANAGHAN**, 14 Etherstone Avenue, Newcastle upon Tyne NE7 7JX. **5747 Mrs. M.B. HELLEINER**, 834 Marlborough Avenue, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 3G6, Canada. **5751 Miss C.A. O'LEARY**, 191C Carlingford Road, London N15 3ET. **5752 & 5753 Mrs. J.M. & MR. J.C. HARVEY**, 6A Kings Gardens, Kings Norton, Birmingham B30 1DX. **5754 Mr. A.S. KEITH**, Bayfield, Culmstock Road, Hemycok, near Cullompton, Devon EX15 3RT. **5755 & 5756 Mrs. B. & Mr. E. HAYLES**, 19 Melrose Close, Dumpling Hall, Newcastle upon Tyne NE15 7SU. **5757 Mrs. F. HUTCHINSON**, 17 Addycombe Close, Rothbury, Morpeth, Northumberland NE65 7QF. **5761 Mrs. O. TENNANT**, 32 Featherstone Road, Newton Hall, Durham DH1 5YW. **5762 Mrs. J. RENTON**, "Tawneys", 27 Lodge Road, Locks Heath, Hampshire SO31 6QY. **5764 Miss T. CARR**, 12 Gloucester Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 6PX. **5765 Mr. A. SCOTT**, 29 Meadowfield Park, Ponteland, Newcastle upon Tyne NE20 9XF. **5766 & 5767 Mrs. A. ROBERTSON & Ms H. TAWARI**, 48 Westoe Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE33 3EL. **5768 Mrs. J. REDHEAD**, 84 Bury Road, Newton Aycliffe, County Durham DL5 5DL. **5770 Mrs. A. PAGE**, 284 Nacton Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP3 9JH. **5771 Mr. B.D.R. CONNELL**, 53 Westview Street, Scarborough, West Australia 6019, Australia. **5772 Mrs. G. HUMPHREYS**, "Bellcoln", Low Westwood, Newcastle upon Tyne NE17 7PP. **5773 Mr. K.G. PERRIMAN**, 15 Southfield Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE34 6HJ. **5774 Mr. G. WALKER**, 31 Easby Close, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL14 0RX. **5775 Mrs. R.M. JENNINGS**, 3 St. George's Road, Hexham, Northumberland NE46 2HG. **5776 & 5777 Captain C.P. & Mrs. C. MOORE** 9 Horsley Hill Road, South Shields, Tyne and Wear NE33 3ET. **5778 Mr. C.H. BRUMWELL**, 10 Hill Top Lane, West Ardsley, Wakefield, West Yorkshire WF3 1HT. **5780 Mrs. J. STOCK**, 13 Candelo Street, Candelo, New South Wales 2550, Australia. **5781 & 5782 Mrs. E. & Mr. D. NATTRASS**, 400-302 Twickenham Court, Raleigh, North Carolina, 27613, U.S.A. **5783 Mrs. J. WATSON**, "Holmwood", Woodlands Park, North Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE13 6PG. **5784 & 5785 Mr. B. & Mrs. C. FELL**, 11 Coast Road, Redcar, Cleveland TS10 3NJ. **5786 Mrs. K.C. HALL**, 2 Ashwood Terrace, Greenside, Ryton, Tyne and Wear NE40 4AY. **5788 Mrs. I. EDMONDS**, Thorntree House, Beamish Burn, Stanley, County Durham DH9 0RN. **5790 Mrs. M.B. WEST**, Ivy Mount, Welland Road, Hanley Swan, Worcester WR8 0DE. **5791 Lt. Col. (retired) M.A. FLETCHER**, P.O. Box 81, Bungendore, New South Wales 2621, Australia. **5792 Mr. T.D. McREADY**, 42 Beckwith Road, East Herrington, Sunderland SR3 3NE. **5793 Mrs. M.J. WOOD**, 306 Ferndale Road, Swindon, Wiltshire SN2 1HL. **5795 Mr. W.A. GIBSON**, 56 Paddock Mead, Harlow, Essex CM18 7RR. **5796 Mrs. J.L. SAVIDGE**, 46 The Chase, Tonbridge, Kent TN10 3HB. **5797 Ms E.M. FRASER**, 40 Stanton Road, Marden Estate, North Shields, Tyne and Wear NE30 3PQ. **5800 Ms K.M. ROLPH**, 3 Atherton Drive, Chilton Moor, Houghton-le-Spring, Tyne and Wear DH4 6TA. **5801 Mr. B.W. STONES**, 111 Southleigh Road, Beeston, Leeds LS11 5XG. **5802 & 5803 Mrs. J. & Miss C.A. WILSON**, 28 Woody Close, Delves Lane, Consett, County Durham DH8 7HN. **5804 Mrs. L.M. MORRIS**, 15 Knowle Close, Great Sutton, South Wirral, Cheshire L66 4RB. **5804 Mrs. M.M. GOULD**, 46 West Vale, Little Neston, South Wirral, Cheshire L64 9SF. **5806 Mrs. M.A. SILVER**, 12 Marlborough Buildings, Bath, Avon BA1 2LX. **5807 & 5808 Mr. T. & Mrs. H. WRIGHT**, Rossendale, Bridle Path, East Boldon, Tyne and Wear NE36 0PA. **5809 Mrs. D.J. STEVENS**, 3 Upper Pines, Woodmansterne, Banstead, Surrey SM7 3PU. **5810 Mr. W.L. PEACOCK**, 25 De Mowbray Way, Morpeth, Northumberland NE61 3RE. **5812 Miss M.J. SAYERS**, 79 Durham Road, Blackhill, Consett, County Durham DH8 8RR. **5813 Mrs. J. PENNINGTON**, 33 Stag Green Avenue, Hatfield, Hertfordshire AL9 5EB. **5814 Miss J. WADE**, 16 Railway Street, Annfield Plain, Stanley, County Durham DL9 7SS. **5815 & 5816 Mr. G. & Mrs. B. RICHARDSON**, 2 Cathedral View, Byers Green, Spennymoor, County Durham DL16 7QG. **5817 Mrs. M.E. EVANS**, 22 Buttermere Drive, Dalton, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire HD5 9EN. **5818 Mr. W.R. EAGLE**, 11 Mustang Lane, Sequim, WA 98382, U.S.A.