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FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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EDITORIAL

One thing about addressing oneself to over six hundred enthusiasts is that no appeal for help is likely to go unheeded. The response to the request for suitable items for the Journal, made in the last issue, has been such as to fill the present edition comfortably - and, in your Editor's opinion, with some very suitable material indeed. However, members will notice a lack of the usual reports of meetings this time. The material available to fill the gap has therefore been more valuable than ever.

Don't think the Society has ceased to meet regularly - what has happened is that some meetings have not been of a suitable nature to be reported in the form of a Journal article, and on other occasions notes promised by the speaker have not been produced. For one recent meeting the speaker himself did not appear, but the members present did say they enjoyed the discussion which took place instead as much as (or did I even hear "more than"?) they would have the speaker! Our meeting for February at which Dr Campbell spoke on the Highland Clearances was a most stimulating one. It was attended also by members of the local branch of the Highland Association and the ideas of each group seemed to stimulate the minds of the other to produce one of the liveliest discussions we have had for a long time. Subjects aired ranged from the Disruption of the Scots Kirk in the 1840s (evolution?) to Scottish politics of the 1970s (devolution) by way of Karl Marx and Das Kapital (revolution). This may not sound as if it had much to do with family history, but in fact it was all found highly relevant by those present!

If you live near enough, why not attend a meeting? There are usually some thirty to forty members present and many a useful piece of information has been received in the discussions which take place at them, the informal "chatting session" after the formal business is ever frequently being the most appreciated part of the evening. Why not make a special effort to come to the AGM in May? Who knows - you may find yourself installed as one of our Officers for the coming year (perhaps even as Editor!).

Suitable material is still needed for future issues and new members, in particular (though not forgetting the older ones!), are requested to write up all they knew about their families - and where they are stuck - so that we can see what the rest of the membership can add to it.

SECRETARY'S JOTTINGS

The fourth A.G.M. of the Society will be held at Newcastle YMCA, Ellison Place, Newcastle, on Wednesday, 16th May. Any nominations for officers, or for membership of the Committee, should be made to me as soon as possible, with a proposer and seconder. Please try to come to the A.G.M. so that the Society can learn your views on the way you think we should be moving, what we should be doing, etc. New ideas are always welcome!

Newer members might like to note that previous issues of the Journal are still available, price 50p. each, from me. Some are in very short supply - and Vol. I, No. 2 is completely sold out - so if you want any to make up a set, don't delay. There are also a very few copies of the Directory of Members' Interests (covering the first 400 members of the Society) available at 75p.

HOW FAR BACK CAN ANCESTORS BE TRACED?

F.R. Jarrett

When our interest was first aroused in family history we had little expectation of getting back more than a generation or two before our antecedents would be lost in the mists of time. All the information our parents passed on to us seemed to indicate that our forebears were of no great social standing, in fact poverty seemed to be the common denominator. We had so little expectation of finding out very much that it really seemed hardly worth the effort of starting at all. Still we decided to make a start.

We started with our paternal line but soon found ourselves well and truly stuck as we could not find out where our grandfather was born in the 1820s. Unfortunately our grandmother had destroyed all family papers before she died.

However in the case of our maternal grandmother's family of Whitehead we did have a better start. This we owed to our great-great-grandfather, Charles Whitehead (1782-1853) who had compiled shortly before he died a brief history of his family. The opening paragraph reads as follows:-

In the beginning of the year 1800 when Charles Whitehead resided at Nether Mill of Cowden he was often at his grandmothers and had many long conversations with her about the genealogy of the Whiteheads. As she had had a good education and had made good use of it and although advanced in years her memory had not in the least failed she also was able to repeat old histories correctly and I took notes at the time which afterwards I derived a great benefit from when I commenced selecting the undoubted facts and documents all in writing. I next informed my parents of what she told me and which they considered to be right from what they had formerly learned from different quarters and they likewise stated that about the year 1770 Alexander Frazer, Sherriff's clerk of Haddington took some old books and papers to examine them but never returned any of them again.

In spite of this further loss of family papers, all too common an experience it seems, we had a continuous record of the family back to the birth of Charles Whitehead's grandparents c.1700.

Nicholas Whitehead	=	Eleanor Robinson
b. 1705		b. 1717
d.		d.
Nicholas Whitehead	=	Marion Mason
b. 1741		b. 1749
d. 1812		d. 1822
Charles Whitehead	=	Agnes Dixon
b. 1782		b. 1794
d. 1853		d.
Nicholas Mason Whitehead	=	Marion Lennie
b. 1819		b. 1825
d. 1876		d. 1873
Marion Veitch Whitehead	=	Robert Tervet
b. 1851		b. 1849
d. 1920		d. 1920
Marion Lennie Tervet	=	Frank Lucas Jarrett
b. 1875		b. 1868
d. 1957		d. 1950

Our parents

The earlier generations are, however, without any supporting documentation. Does anyone know what Alexander Frazer did with the books and papers and where they are now? It would be great to trace them after 200 years!

According to Charles Whitehead's account, his grandfather rented a farm called Chiplea (?Shipley) near Alnwick, Northumberland. He married Eleanor Robinson, daughter of John Robinson of Felton Moor in 1738 and had a family of seven sons and four daughters. One of the sons, Nicholas Whitehead, born in 1741, went to Scotland and rented a limeworks near Dunbar and in 1768 married Marion Mason, daughter of John Mason and Katherine Bowden (or Cowden or Coldon) of Crumblehaugh (or Crumble Ha' or Cromwell Hall) in the parish of Oldhamstocks, East Lothian, and had a family of seven sons and six daughters. Charles Whitehead was their eighth child.

With our very limited knowledge of genealogy and even less experience in tracing through records, especially those of the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and with far too full a life in other directions we were content to let things lie with very little hope or expectation of ever getting any further back than this.

However a young cousin who had recently qualified as a librarian found that there was a book entitled 'The History of the Whitehead Families from A.D. 1200 - 1919'. He was able to trace a copy and borrow it from a university library. In this there was a family tree of one branch of the Whiteheads the last two generations of which overlapped precisely the first two generations recorded by Charles Whitehead.

The agreement of the two accounts (much fuller than here in both Charles Whitehead's account and in the book) gave us the confidence that we had the right family and in spite of the loss of documents Charles Whitehead's notes had been carefully and accurately prepared.

Robert Whitehead	=
Thomas Whitehead of Monkwearmouth d. 28.10.1580	=	Barbara Lawson of Usworth
George Whitehead of Boulmer	=	Mary
Nicholas Whitehead of Boulmer	=	Margaret Widdrington
Nicholas Whitehead of Lesbury Field bap. 26.12.1667	=	Barbara Craster d. 10.10.1732
Nicholas Whitehead of Long Houghton b. 26.11.1705	=	Eleanor Robinson of Felton Moor b. 9.8.1717
Nicholas Whitehead b. 6.11.1741	=	Marion Mason b. 1749

This tree takes our branch of the Whitehead family back to about 1540 and once again we are stuck with very little hope or expectation of tracing the Whiteheads any further back - unless, of course, someone with the necessary knowledge and skills can again come to our aid!

However, the most exciting part of this discovery concerns the Widdrington and Craster families into which the Whiteheads had married. From the New History of Northumberland and Surtees' 'Durham' and other sources our young cousin was able to trace the Widdrington family back to

John de Woderington c. 1139 and through Sir John Widdrington, Sherriff of Northumberland in 1472, who married Isobel Ogle, to Umfrid de Hoggell c.1150.

From Burke's Extinct Peerage we find that through the Ogle family we are 13th cousins to the present Duke of Portland and connected with numerous other exalted personages!

Our ancestry suddenly took on an entirely different aspect and it showed how wrong our earlier suppositions had been.

Through the Craster family we can trace back to William de Craster c.1150 and through the Mitford family into which the Crasters married, to the Musgrave and Rudchester families back to one Halden who was living in 1140.

All this staggering amount of information came through published genealogies and required no research into the original documentation which made it all very easy indeed.

We have since learnt that one of the Widdringtons, Roger de Woderington, born 1427, married Elizabeth Grey of Heton and the Ogles also married into the same family so by two routes we can now trace blood relationship with Henry III, William the Conqueror, Ethelred the Unready, Malcolm III and St. Margaret!

From a recent article in the North Cheshire Family Historian by A.J. Gautrey we learned that the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle gives the pedigree of Ethelred the Unready as follows:-

Ethelred the Unready, the son of Edgar, the son of King Edmund I, the son of King Edward 'the Elder', the son of King Alfred, the son of King Ethelwulf who died in 855 A.D. And Ethelwulf was the son of Egburt, the son of Ealhund, the son of Eafa, the son of Eoppa, the son of Ingild. This Ingild was the brother of Ine, King of the West Saxons, who held the Kingdom for 37 years and afterwards went to St. Peter's and ended his life there. And they were the sons of Cenred. Cenred was the son of Ceolwold, the son of Cutha, the son of Cuthwine, the son of Ceawlin, the son of Cynric, the son of Creoda, the son of Cedric. Cedric was the son of Elesa, the son of Elsa, the son of Gewis, the son of Wig, the son of Freawine, the son of Freothgar, the son of Brand, the son of Baldeg, the son of Wodin, the son of Frealaf, the son of Finn, the son of Godwulf, the son of Geat, the son of Tetwa, the son of Beaw, the son of Sceldwa, the son of Heremond, the son of Itermon, the son of Bathra, the son of Hwala, the son of Bedwig, the son of Sceaf, the son of Noah who was born in Noah's Ark.

Chapter V of Genesis gives the descent of Noah from Adam through Seth, Enos, Cainan, Mahaleel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah and Lamech. Unfortunately the Bible omits to mention that Noah had a son called Sceaf who was born in the Ark but I suppose that every pedigree must have a weak link in it somewhere. If you do not believe in Adam and Eve of course, it is too bad, but no genealogist can trace your ancestry back to an amoeba since they did not keep much in the way of records!

The long genealogy of Ethelwulf in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle is supposed to be historically accurate as far back as Cedric, who was the founder King of Wessex and who died in 534 A.D. but further back than that it cannot be checked.

Having reached such giddy heights of success with our maternal line it was sobering to realise that our paternal line was still stuck in the mid-nineteenth century!

But to what extent can we trust these published genealogies? Are they a reliable substitute for the laborious research through the original documents? Our knowledge of dog latin and palaeography is quite inadequate for this type of research, even if we had the time.

Our success with the Whitehead family and its connections has encouraged us to read more of the history of Northumberland and it was rather a shock to read in Percy W. Hedley's 'Northumberland Families', volume I:-

... fictitious pedigrees have been completed with great regularity even during the last four centuries. It is a pity that one has to include amongst these compilers many former well-known members of the College of Arms. It is only some fifty years ago that a competent historian had to refer to Burke's Peerage as 'a gorgeous repertory of genealogical mythology' (Waters, Parish Registers of England). At that time Sir Bernard Burke was the Chief Herald of Ireland, and one of his sons H. Farnham Burke was Somerset Herald. J.H. Round (Peerage and Pedigrees, I, p. 13) referred to Gilbert Dethick, Garter King of Arms and Robert Cooke, Clarencieux, King of Arms (16th century) as 'those two eminent rascals'. Both were authors of fictitious pedigrees. In 1597 the Earl Marshal's Commissioners found Dethick, Garter King of Arms, was guilty of contriving and publishing under the seal of his office, a fake pedigree. John Warburton who at one time was an excise officer in Northumberland and later Somerset Herald was charged in 1750 with preparing a false pedigree to back up a pretender to the dukedom of Somerset (The Ancestor, No. 3, p. 32).

So perhaps we are not, after all, descended from Adam! However, we will still cling to our success - unless you know differently!

A CAUTIONARY TALE

The following extract refers to the first Longhorsley parish register, 1668-1723, described as having been renewed 23 March 1761 by William Common, schoolmaster:

"This oldest register, belonging to this Parish, was falling to Pieces for want of attention & care, was given by the Vicar in 1761, to an illiterate Parish Clerk to renew. The Clerk copied only such names as he himself could decypher, & burnt the Original Register, imagining it of no use; which is the reason of this being so imperfect.

"The above is from the report of several responsible Persons who remember the circumstance inserted by me

March 8, 1803,

Rich^d Oliphant, curate."

A STRAY EXCISEMAN

Lapley Parish Churchyard, Staffordshire:-

SACRED To the Memory of ROBERT RIDLEY, EXCISE OFFICER. Son of ROBERT RIDLEY, SUPERVISOR OF EXCISE Newcastle on Tyne who died May 20th 1842 Aged 27 years.

INK IN THE FAMILY

A.H. Perry

"I'm stuck!", a cry that can be echoed by many genealogists; due, perhaps, to that elusive baptism or marriage entry, or alternatively a confusing census return that bears little relation to the known facts. Frustrating though these difficulties are, they may serve to be most helpful in the long term, by forcing research into unexpected and often very interesting avenues, yielding information that might otherwise have been missed. An instance of such a situation is described here.

An ancestor, Benjamin Perry (c.1781-1850), lived for approximately forty years of his life in the Northumberland village of Rothbury, where he worked initially as a cordwainer, and then later as a victualler of the 'Rifleman Inn'. Benjamin and his wife, Rachel, had nine children each of whom was baptised at the parish church. The lengthy entries in the baptism register are of a most helpful nature to a genealogist; for example:-

December 21st, 1806:

Elizabeth Perry of Rothbury, born October 29th, third daughter of Benjamin, cordwainer, native of Alnwick, by his wife Rachel, daughter of John Todd, native of Rothbury.

Unfortunately, Benjamin's name is absent from the baptism records of every denomination in Alnwick, and the surrounding area. Furthermore, apprenticeship records, directories, and the Alnwick Freeman's Guild records not only failed to mention Benjamin, but also failed to reveal any Perry in the area who could have been a relative. It was at this stage that by re-tracing steps, and examining the facts already gathered about Benjamin's descendants, another line of 'attack' was discovered.

"Printer", "Bookprinter" and "Compositor" were familiar terms because they appeared regularly on certificates concerning the Perry family obtained from St. Catherine's House, London. Printing was obviously a skill that was much in demand during the mid-nineteenth century; indeed it was the calling which caused one branch of the family to move such a great distance in so short a time. Benjamin's youngest son, William Todd Perry, was born in Rothbury in 1823; by the time he was married in Tynemouth in 1845 he was a book-printer. A year later he was working at Wortley near Leeds, and by 1850 he had moved to Heckmondwike. The early 1860s found the family well established in Stratford, Essex, where both William Todd Perry and his son were employed as printers. Their employers were the Great Eastern Railway Company, who had a printing works at Stratford. Although the story was interesting, it was not until the difficulty in locating Benjamin occurred, that any consideration was given to questions such as "Where was William trained?", or "Was printing a family tradition?". Researching the answers proved most interesting.

The history of individual printers and their work has received attention from historians and researchers; biographical lists have been produced, and these are of value to the family historian. One volume, published in 1975, proved very helpful regarding the Perrys - "The Book Trade in Northumberland and Durham to 1860" by C.J. Hunt. This is a biographical dictionary of persons who were engaged in the printing, engraving, publishing and sale of books and other materials. The book is the fruit of work undertaken by the History of the Book Trade group, whose chairman is Professor Isaacs of Newcastle University.

The above volume listed a Joseph Perry of Alnwick, who registered a printing press in February 1803, and who for a short time was in partnership with William Davison. One of the main reasons why such lists of printers

can be compiled for this period is that the Seditious Societies Act 1799, commonly called the "Gag Act", required every person with a press to register the fact with the clerk of the peace. Furthermore, the statute required the name and address of the printer to be attached to each piece of work printed. Such legislation may be attributed to the climate of fear that had been fostered in the minds of the authorities by recent events in France. Whether the "Gag Act" succeeded in restricting publication of treasonable material is a matter of debate, but the resulting records are certainly of value.

The returns made to the clerk of the peace in Newcastle are now deposited at the Northumberland Record Office; therefore I was able to obtain a photocopy of the registration submitted by Joseph Perry. The document itself, probably drawn by a solicitor, consists of little more than the formal words of registration, the name of the printer, and his address, in this case "Alnwick". It is signed by the printer, and the signature is witnessed.

Resort to printing history had thus provided information that might not have otherwise been discovered. Joseph is certainly a family Christian name, and the printing connection would appear to speak for itself. However, nothing is proved, and it is proving as difficult to locate the origins of Joseph; nevertheless, there is at least another name to look for, another clue.

Two other volumes that might assist genealogists in this field are: "Directory of Printers and Others - London and Vicinity, 1800-1840", ed. Todd, Printing Historical Society; and "Dictionary of Printers and Booksellers who were at work in England, Scotland, and Ireland, 1726-1775", Plomer. Both should be available through the inter-library loan scheme, although my local library has not as yet been able to trace a copy of the latter work for me.

THE BACON ARMS

B. Bacon

Ever since I can remember as a child there has always been hanging on the wall, a framed painting of the family Arms together with a pedigree chart telling us that we originally came from Northumberland and Durham, that John Bacon was Northumberland's High Sheriff in 1693 and his son William Bacon likewise in 1745 and that the name Forster featured somewhere. It has always been one of those things that I just took for granted but two years ago I decided to find out just who the Bacons and the Forsters really were.

My cousin surprised me when he came up with a great pile of old papers and manuscripts. Among the letters I found correspondence between a former member of my family and the College of Arms. He had been trying to update the family pedigree and to establish his right to the Armorial Bearings. Upon these papers coming into my hands I called on the Lancaster Herald in Victoria Street, London, to reopen the file. My inspection of the appropriate book of registration showed that in 1814 a very extensive pedigree was entered showing the descendants of George Bacon of Claylin, County Derby and of Broadwood Hall, Allendale. I also found that by patent dated 29th June 1752 arms were assigned to John Bacon of Newton Cap in County Durham, F.R.S. and only son of William Bacon of the same place, son and heir of John Bacon of Staward Pile, Esquires, to be borne by himself and his descendants and by other descendants of his said grandfather.

In order therefore to establish the title to the Arms it was necessary for a pedigree to be compiled, duly approved and entered in the records of the College setting forth the descent from a member of the family already on record. In order to connect with such member on record I handed over such documents as had come into my possession via my cousin. Parting with the sum of £105 I left the College with an air of expectancy together with an intense interest in my family origins.

Last year the Examiners at the College of Arms accepted the continuation pedigree of my family and hence my own entitlement to Armorial Bearings. In addition to those granted to John Bacon, Blue Mantle Pursuivant advised me that I was also entitled to several other quarterings. They include the Arms of Thomas Forster of Adderstone, Sir William Forster of Bamburgh Castle, William Clervaux, Sir William Chaytor of Croft, Co. York, Sir William Selby of Twizell and Thornton, Richard Lowther of Kippax and Swillington and Sir Cuthbert Radclyffe of Dilston and Blanchland.

The pedigree at some stages in addition to the above shows connections with well known Northumberland and Durham families such as the Blenkinsopps who at one time owned Blenkinsopp and Bellister Castles, Ord of Fenham, Fenwick of Bywell, Forster of Adderstone, Forster of Bamburgh Castle, Ridley of Unthank and later of Walltown, Marshall of Walltown, Wastell of Simonburn, Bates of Halliwell, Essington of Walwick Grange, Blackett of Wylam and Coulson of Jesmond.

THE POPULATION OF LONGHORSLEY IN 1788 AND 1811

The following extracts are from the Loughorsley parish registers:

"Thomas Thurlew, D.D., Lord Bishop of this Diocese held his Primary Visitation at Merpeth D. 1788, at same time a Confirmation was held, when 81 candidates from this Parish were admitted. At that time this Parish contained, 227 Families & 836 souls, belonging to the established Church, 12 Families of Protestant Dissenters, and 56 Roman Catholic souls.

Jos Middleton, B.A., Vicar
Jm^o Bucklebarrow, Curate."

"By the returns made under the act for ascertaining the Population of Britain in 1811, this Parish contained 538 Males and 496 Females. Total Population 1034.

Inhabited Houses	Number of Families		Males	Females	Total
45	49		121	106	227
46	46	Lord Carlisle's	139	120	254
--	22	Freeheld	41	55	96
3	3	Tedburn	12	7	19
33	33	Wingates	91	85	176
35	--	Stanton	89	89	178
6	7	Long Bhaws	23	17	40
6	7		22	17	39
			<u>538</u>	<u>496</u>	<u>1034</u>

Robt Messenger

Curate

Aug^t 10th 1811."

THE BLACK SHEEP

If that elusive ancestor of yours cannot be found in the 1851 census where you thought he should be, maybe it is because he was not as honest and upright a citizen as you imagined: perhaps he was in prison!

The "inmates" of Durham Gaol on the night of March 30th 1851 were six officers, with nine in their families, four "servants and others" and 190 men and 36 women prisoners. They were mainly County Durham born, but all parts of the British Isles were represented and there were even three Dutchmen. No less than 30 men and six women were Irish born, perhaps refugees from the potato famines in Ireland at this time. One is struck, also, by the youth of many of the unfortunates - nearly 20% of the men were still in their teens. What offence can the 11 year old Irish lad James Horn have committed which merited a prison sentence? Or Bridget and Ellen McQuire, presumably sisters, aged only 14 and 12 and described as "ballad singers"?

Here are the names, with the prisoners rearranged into alphabetical order. After the name, the marital state (U = unmarried, M = married, W = widowed) and the age is given, followed by occupation and place of birth. The abbreviations used are c.lab. = common labourer, and DA = domestic assistance. Some of the place names are unidentifiable, especially the Irish ones, no doubt because the enumerator could not understand the Irish brogue. (D) after the place name indicates that it is stated to be in County Durham - but where in the county are Climary Dilmone or Austin? (Austin could be Ouston, parish of Chester-le-Street.- Ed.)

STAFF, ETC.

William GREEN, governor, M56, Governor of gaol, Ellen GREEN, his wife, 50, son William, U27, colliery viewer, son Frederick, U18, scholar, daughter Emma, U16, scholar at home, son Edward, U14, scholar, daughter Ann, U12, scholar at home, daughter Rose, U9, scholar at home - all born Durham (D); Ellen EMERY, U25, governess, Lynn, Norfolk; Sarah DUNBAR, U28, house servant, Middleton, Northumberland; Frances HICKSON, servant, U17, Durham (D); George HUTTON, U20, servant, Shincliffe (D); John THOMPSON, M41, deer porter, Durham; Jane THOMPSON, female searcher, M49, Barton, Yorks; son George, U10, Durham, son John U8, Durham; Agnes JOHNSON, -35, matron, Edinburgh St. Andrew; Hannah SPARK, -30, schoolmistress in the gaol, Weatherley, Yorks; Ann THURLOWAY, -28, warden, Eiphill (D).

MALE PRISONERS

Robert ALDERSON, M26, Glass cutting, Bishopwearmouth (D); John ANTRIM, U19, sailor, Clapham, Surrey; James ASHCROFT, M26, Glassmaker, Hatter Heath, Lancs; Peter ATKIN, U22, c.lab., Sunderland (D); William ATKIN, U16, sailor, Liverpool, Lancs; William BARCLAY, M35, innkeeper, Black Water (?), Armagh; Robert BARKER, M55, c.lab., Sedgefield (D); William BARRON, U19, coal miner, Ravensworth (D); Walter BATES, M25, master builder, Shields (D); John BIRD, U21, coal miner, Easington Lane (D); Thomas BRADY, M27, book-keeper, Crossnal, Roscommon; Thomas BROOKS, U18, sailor, London, Middlesex; Henry BROTHERTON, M25, master grocer, Lanchester (D); William BRUCE, M20, butcher, Shadforth (D); John CAIN, U34, c.lab., Mildenhall, Suffolk; William CAMPBELL, U15, sailor, Sunderland (D); Robert CARLTON, M65, sailor, Darlington (D); Thomas CASH, U20, turner & brazier, Nottingham; William Christie, M42, shoemaker, Edinburgh; John CLARK, M49, gardener, Richmond, Yorks; Robert CLARK, U39, c.lab., Gateshead (D); Bowen de CLOE, M36, sailor, Holland; John COATES, M29, coal trimmer, Climary Dilmone(?) (D); George COCKBURN, U19, coal miner, Draycole, Yorks; Teasdal COLLEGE, M28, master mariner, Sunderland (D); Joseph COLLING, M45, auctioneer, Remaldkirk, Yorks; Dennis COOPER, U24, carpet weaver, Barnard Castle (D); Nicholas CRANSTON, U18, coal miner, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Christopher CURRAH, M44, game-keeper, Durham (D); James CURTIS, U13, tailor, Sunderland (D); John DAVIS,

U18, c.lab., Newry, Down; William DAVISON, M36, shipwright, Bentricks, Derby; John DELANY, U17, sailor, St. Nicholas; Roger DINNINGS, M28, blacksmith, Swallow (D); William DITCHBURN, M25, master grocer, Lamesley (D); James DUNBAR, M31, chain maker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; John EVANS, M21, boat builder, North America, British subject; George FARMER, M30, whitesmith, Liverpool; Thomas FENWICK, U44, shoemaker, Fishburn (D); John FISHER, U23, sailor, Harwidge, Essex; John FREEMAN, U16, sailor, Sunderland (D); Thomas FRYER, M28, cabinet maker, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancs; Peter GALACHER, U18, c.lab., Gateshead (D); Robert GARNET, W62, blacksmith journeyman, Sunderland (D); William GARNET, U20, painter, Sunderland (D); William GIBSON, U24, shoemaker, Darlington (D); James GINNET, U20, teaser at a cotton factory, St. Giles, London; James GRAHAM, U44, c.lab., Glasgow; William GRANT, U20, sailor, North America, New York, British subject; Robert GREATREX, W58, sailor, Sunderland (D); Joseph GREEN, M46, cartman, Fulham, Middlesex; John GRIFFIN, U23, c.lab., Pallinstree, Galway; William GRIEVES, M20, coal miner, Gateshead (D); Fenwick H. HABBARD, M37, c.lab., Shields (D); Henry HALLGARTH, M33, cordial maker, Riarth Coleath (D); Frederick B. HANDFORD, U40, sailor, Sunderland (D); Thomas HANN, U20, coal miner, Sheriff Hill (D); James HARDING, U19, c.lab., Spalding, Lincs; William HARDY, U25, sailor, Shields (D); Edward HARPER, U24, tailor, Barnard Castle (D); John HARRISON, U22, boiler smith, France, British subject; Thomas HARVEY, U13, c.lab., Newry Kilaney, Ireland; James HECKHERTY, M49, sailor, Kerry, Ireland; Patrick HEERON, U28, c.lab., Louth, Ireland; Robert S. HENDERSON, U28, millwright, Easington (D); Daniel HENRY, W65, c.lab., Shields (D); Peter HENRY, U35, c.lab., Derry Mackra; John HESLOP, M24(?), coal miner, Austin (D); Edward HEWIT, M37, sailor, Shields (D); Stewart HEWSON, W30, sailor, Babk Head, Northumberland; George HILL, U20, c.lab., Belfast, Antrim; William HOLT, M43, coal miner, Baken(?), Northumberland; John HOOPER, U21, shipwright, Sunderland (D); James HORN, U11, c.lab., Lethran Drumbolam, Ireland; James HOWE, W35, bottler, West Auckland (D); John HOWLEY, M36, c.lab., Ballimore, Mayo; John HUDDLESTONE, M54, master boat builder, Monkwearmouth (D); John HUGGETT, U17, sailor, Shields (D); Hugh HUTCHINSON, U21, sailor, Shetland Isle; Robert JAMES, U26, woolcomber, Barton, Yorks; William JAMESON, U15, c.lab., Jarrow (D); James JEFFERSON, U58, c.lab., Shields (D); George JOHNSON, M24, sailor, Shields (D); James JOHNSON, M34, c.lab., Alnwick, Northumberland; John JOHNSON, M36, c.lab., Boston, Lincs; William JONES, U24, c.lab., Kildare; William JONES, U20, sailor, N. Shields, Northumberland; John KEAN, U17, sailor, Kilkenny Rowan; James KEEDY, U20, c.lab., Newcastle-on-Tyne; Thomas KENNEDY, M23, c.lab., Carrarah, Sligo; Peter KILDAY, U33, c.lab., Plymouth; Richard KIRK, U21, brick maker, Dorally, Monaghan; William KITCHEN, M30, shoemaker, Eling, Hampshire; John LANSBURG, M29, sailor, Flushing, Holland; Thomas LAVERICK, U28, miller, Cramlington, Northumberland; John LAVIN, alias HANN, U26, hatter, Roscommon, Kilmore; John LAWS, U17, shipwright, Sunderland (D); John LITTLEHAILS, M25, master bootmaker, Edinburgh; William LLOYD, U27, surgeon an assistant, Limerick; John LOGAN, U47, c.lab., Gothgarn, Derry; George LOWE, U15, coalminer, Austin (D); John MABON, U22, c.lab., Tullanesca, Monaghan; Thomas McDONALD, U32, c.lab., Farmoy, Sligo; Patrick McGOUGH, M26, coal miner, Lisnekelly, Monaghan; Patrick McKENNA, U26, c.lab., Monaghan College Hall; John McKIE, U26, weaver, Port Glasgow, Renfrewshire; Edward McLAUGHLIN, M58, c.lab., Edington, Northumberland; Patrick McQUILLAN, U20, hawker, Essex; Alexander MADDON, U16, shoemaker, Dublin City; George MALLETT, U23, cabinet maker, Birkenhead, Cheshire; Abraham MARLOW, M27, glassmaker, Horninglow, Staffordshire; Matthew MARTIN, c.lab., Fachill, Armagh; Philip MARTIN, U23, c.lab., Maracloon, Monaghan; William MATHER, U20, glassblower, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Thomas MATTHEWS, M27, watchmaker, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Joseph MAUDLING, M36, coal miner, Bemish (D); Matthew MITCHELL, M42, sailor, Rothesay, Renfrewshire; Samuel MITCHELL, U23, sailor, Jersey, British subject; James MOODEY, U23, c.lab., Sunderland (D); James MORTON, M24, turner, Isle of Wight, Hants; John OATES, U22, coal miner, Etherley (D); Thomas OATES, W44, shipwright, Sunderland (D); Thomas ORD, M29, coal miner, Houghton-le-Spring (D); George PATTINSON, M24, coal miner, New Bottle (D); Charles POSKETT, M28, c.lab.,

Fishlick, Yorks; Thomas PRATT, U27, carpet weaver, Barnard Castle (D); George PRINGLE, U19, shipwright, Sunderland (D); John RICHARDSON, M46, plumber, Shields (D); James RILEY, M24, c.lab., Maidstone, Kent; John RILEY, U21, sailor, London, Middlesex; David ROBERTSON, U19, sailor, Dundee, Felfarshire; William ROBERTSON, U19, glassmaker, Sunderland (D); George ROBINSON, U19, c.lab., Easingwold, Yorks; Walter M. ROBINSON, U15, sailor, Hetton Hall (D); William A. ROBINSON, U17, Hetton Hall (D); William ROBISON, U35, brewer's clerk, Stranton (D); Thomas ROBSON, U20, tobacco manufacture, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Thomas ROGAN, U32, c.lab., Down, Ireland; George RUSSELL, U18, coal miner, Stanhope (D); George RUTHERFORD, U26, joiner, Shields (D); Joseph SCAIFE, U19, beet closer, Darlington (D); Joseph SCOTT, M46, Potato Dealer master, Greatham (D); Robert SHAW, U34, no trade had an annuity but has gone through, Usworth (D); James SMITH, U40, joiner, Darlington (D); John SMITH, U18, sailor, Middlesex, London; John SMITH, U20, coal miner, Hetton-le-Hele (D); Joseph SMITH, U21, printer, Darlington (D); William SMITH, U19, sailor, Shields (D); James SPARK, U19, sailor, Sutton, Kent; Joseph SPEARS, U30, c.lab., Down, Ireland; Solomon SPEARS, U16, sailor, Belfast, Antrim; George SPENCER, M29, putter, Malton, Yorks; John STEELE, M55, mason journeyman, Gateshead (D); William STEWART, U17, sailor, Perth; Joseph TAYLOR, U21, c.lab., Marlborough, Wilts; Robert TEASDALE, M50, master innkeeper, Durham (D); Robert THIRKELD, U22, farm servant, Egglestone (D); James THOMAS, M36, general clerk, Swansea, Glamorgan; Edward THOMPSON, U18, miller, Durham (D); John THOMPSON, M27, c.lab., Leightram, Ireland; Robert THOMPSON, M44, sailor, Sunderland (D); Stephen THOMPSON, M50, farmer, Greenhead, Northumberland; William THOMPSON, M30, c.lab., Liverpool; John TOY, M27, c.lab., Durham, Durham Gael; John TURNBULL, U15, coal miner, Wreckington (D); William TURNBULL, U51, coal miner, Gateshead (D); William TURNBULL, U14, Sunderland (D); John TURNER, U20, c.lab., Newcastle-on-Tyne; William VANDERSIDE, M40, sailor, Holland, Heenewood; Robert VAUGHAN, U17, sailor, Spitalfields, London; William WAILES, W40, chainmaker, Wallsend, Northumberland; William WAKE, M25, engine driver, Thralley (D); John WALTERS, M33, coalminer, Monkwearmouth (D); Joseph WALTON, alias WHITE, M28, coal miner, Stanhope (D); Ralph WATSON, M33, coalminer, Wreckington (D); John D. WATSON, U21, miller, Cotherstone, Yorks; Thomas WATSON, M24, shipwright, Hylton (D); William WATSON, U18, c.lab., Wiggan, Lancs; John WESLEY, U21, sailor, USA; WHITE, W50, c.lab., Harwood Dale, Yorks; Thomas WILE, U23, sailor, Norway, British subject; James WILLIAMSON, U19, brush maker, Newcastle, Staffs; Cuthbert WILSON, M20, coal miner, Shields (D); James WILSON, U20, glass cutter, Manchester; John WILSON, U19, cotton weaver, Deal, Kent; Henry WOOD, U16, c.lab., Surrey, London; James WOOD, U21, glazier, Westee (D); John WOODHOUSE, U40, c.lab., Dublin City; Henry WRIGHT, U18, sailor, Middlesbrough, Yorks.

FEMALE PRISONERS

Elizabeth ANDERSON, U19, prostitute, Slige; Jane ATKINSON, U19, prostitute, Shields (D); Mary BALMER, U20, rope spinner, Sunderland (D); Mary BROWN, M32, sempstress, Chester-le-Street (D); Isabella BRUNNING, M38, DA, Durham; Elizabeth B. BURN, M39, oakum teaser, Sunderland (D); Elizabeth CARMAN, U40, petter, Jersey; Jane CLAIG, U28, prostitute, Co. Cavan; Mary Ann COLE, M28, DA, Wersall, Yorks; Ellen CUMMINGS, M55, hawker, Mayo; Mary Ann DAVISON, M45, milliner, Gosferth, Northumberland; Rosanna DINNING, W45, hawker, Edinburgh West Kirk; Catherine DODDS, W40, prostitute, Belfast; Ellen HOLMES, U19, hawker, Hull, Yorks; Ann JAAG, W40, hawker, Belfast; Mary Ann JOHNSON, M31, prostitute, Liverpool; Hannah LEYBOURN, U29, prostitute, Darlington (D); Mary LOGAN, M50, DA, Darlington (D); Mary Ann McGOUGH, U19, silk weaver, Manchester; Bridget McQUIRE, U16, works in the fields, Liverpool, Lancs; Bridget McQUIRE, U14, ballad singer, Newcastle; Ellen McQUIRE, U12, ballad singer, Newcastle; Janet MESSENGER, M33, DA, Inverness; Mary MITCHELL, M45, DA, Alnwick, Northumberland; Ann MOFFOOT, U23, prostitute, Shields (D); Ellen O'BRIEN, U34, prostitute, Shields (D); Mary O'BRIEN,

W48, works in the fields, Sligo; Margaret PATTISON, U16, knitting, Middlesbrough, Yorks; Margaret RICHARDSON, M45, DA, Sunderland (D); Margaret Jane ROBINSON, M23, prostitute, Stockton (D); Agnes ROBSON, W37, prostitute, Perth St. Johns; Elizabeth ROGERS, M46, ginger bread maker, Reith, Yorks; Catherine SALKELD, U25, prostitute, Shields (D); Mary Ann SMITHSON, M23, chairwoman, "Durham Hull"; Rachel TAYLOR, M25, DA, York, Yorks; Margaret WATSON, U16, DA, St. Peters (D).

A GROUP OF TRIMDON LEASES

A.J. Pain

A recent and interesting addition to Durham County Record Office has been a collection of leases relating to Trimdon granted in 1616 or 1617. In his history of the Palatinate Surtees explains: "By indenture 31 July 13 Jac. Humphrey Wharthen of Gillingweed, co York Esq and Thomas Wharthen his son and heir acquired the manor of Trimdon and lands in Thorneley Seaton Elton of Philip Lord Wharthen and Sir Thomas Wharthen. By several indentures dated 13 and 14 Jac. the same Humphrey and Thomas Wharthen granted out various parcels of the lands belonging to the manor to different persons to hold for terms of 999 or 1000 years" For a long time the forty four leases were thought to have been either lost or inaccessible but now forty one of them have been deposited with the Record Office.

Whilst the majority of the lessees are described as being yeomen, for example: Robert Jackson, Richard Corban, William Brass, James Shadforth, all of whom came from Trimdon, not all of them are so described. There is a John Jackson of Trimdon a weaver and a Francis Weemes [Weemes] of Trimdon a widow and her eldest son Robert a yeoman of Durham. There is incidentally a John Weemes of Trimdon who may be related to Francis. There is another widow, Margaret Hutchinson, and her son, William. Again as one would expect the majority of the lessees are from Trimdon but not all: I have already mentioned Robert Weemes but there is a James Smeton of Durham, William Stoddart of Greenside, Richard Stoddart of Greenside (the last two may be related to Brian Stoddart of Trimdon, yeoman) and a Nicholas Barren [Baccon?] of Easington.

There are five families which perhaps deserve some special mention.

The Burleyson [Burletson] family took two leases in 1616. One lessee is Robert described as a yeoman of Trimdon. He seems to be one and the same as the Robert in Surtees pedigree of the Burletson family (vol. 1, p. 110). It seems likely that he had a brother Bryan who leased lands too. It is unlikely to have been Robert's son Bryan who was baptised in 1612 and who married Dorothy daughter of Jarrad Pearson on 16 October 1638. Surtees mentions two earlier Bryans: "Bryan Burletson and Margaret Farrow married 17 May 1602" and "Bryan Burletson and Elizabeth Bailes married 18 February 1616".

Robert Ward of Trimdon, gentleman took two leases, one on 2 August 1615, the other on 12 June 1616. He was one of the few lessees able to sign his own name in a fair hand. There is a pedigree of the Warde family of Trimdon and Bowes in Surtees (vol. 1, p. 110) and there is a Robert therein who married Barbara the daughter of Thomas Blenkinsep of Helbeck in Westmereland. They had a son called William aged 18 in 1615.

The Pearson family features prominently in the village. On 12 June 1616 Robert Pearson a Trimdon yeoman took two leases of land. On 20 November 1616 he took a lease of a very considerable tract of land, and on the same day Brian Pearson and John Pearson both leased other large pieces of land.

With the leases there is filed a deed dated 4 September 1735 which contains more detail regarding this family. A Robert Pearson whose wife was called Ann was the devisee of John Pearson, yeoman of Trimdon. Robert had a son called Robert who married a girl called Alice. This Robert apparently owned land in Southfield Trimdon. John Pearson's will was dated 14 December 1637.

Robert Sadler of Trimdon took a lease of a small piece of land in 1617. Once again filed with the leases is a deed dated 22 April 1708 which provides further information about the family. Robert Sadler the elder had a son Robert who was to die before his father. Robert junior married Anne and had a sister Jane who married Anthony Smith, but Jane and Anthony sold their lands in Trimdon in 1657. Anne, by the way, was still alive in 1670.

Finally, of course, the name Robert Reper [Reper] appears as one of the lessees in 1616. The pedigree of this family appears in Surtees (vol. 1, p. 107) and numbers within its members Robert Reper of Trimdon, LLD, Chancellor of the Diocese of York and Auditor of the Duchy Court of Lancaster for the Northern Parts. He married (secondly) Henrietta, the daughter of the 7th Earl of Kinneul. It may be of interest if mention is made of the will of an earlier Robert Reper of Trimdon who died in 1587 for it illustrates the close relation of the villagers: "Robert Reper of Tryndon sicke in bedye ... to my sons Bryan and Robert ... my daughters Elisabeth and Annas ... my wyfe Annas Reper ... Robt. Jackson, Richard Jackson and Cuthbert Close to have the oversight. Witness: Robt. Burlysen." Surtees goes on to say "A considerable estate in Trimdon has descended for several generations in another branch of the family Reper ... [it was ultimately devised] to Chancellor Robert Reper's grand nephew Reper-Stote-Donnison Reper the present proprier." In fact it was not until 1906 that Trimdon Hall farm was sold out of the Reper family.

It should be noted that the Durham County Record Office contains the following Church of England Parish Registers:

Baptisms:	1721-1869
Marriages:	1721-1940
Burials:	1721-1891

All local records of this type are fascinating, in the register of marriages we find: John Redman (of St. Dunstan's, Stepney) married Mary Smith on 29 September 1763, one of the witnesses being Brass Crosley who was to become Lord Mayer of London. In 1789 the marriage between Joseph Simpson (of St. Andrew's, Auckland) and Elizabeth Thiner was "prevented for want of proper asking".

Amongst the christenings many of the families already mentioned appear, for example: Richard son of John Jackson (12.4.1721); William son of Robert Hutchinson of Garmondsway (1.4.1722); Ann the daughter of John Pearson (2.4.1727); John the son of Matthew Stebbart (20.10.1730); Mary the daughter of Robert Burleyson (9.9.1732).

Like most Durham villages Trimdon saw changes in the Victorian age and many new families bought land there, for example, Robert Dennison, a miller of Floaters Mill (died 8.12.1861, Will proved 20.8.1862) and his grand daughter Jane Mary Coates married William Dalkin the village blacksmith, while another, Mary Dennison Coates, married Richard Walker, a farmer of Fishburn. John Thomas Brown was an innkeeper there in 1888 (died 24.7.1903) and there is a clause in his will in which he left eight shillings per week to his mother and father and the survivor of them. That for me serves to emphasize the close family ties within this village which must surely reward investigation by interested family historians.

RESEARCH INTO THE RISCHMILLER FAMILY

H. Rischmiller

At first this would appear to be quite an easy matter with such a name as ours as it is rather unique and, as has been discovered, anyone in the U.K., and in various parts of the world, with our name, and spelling, has originated from Frederick William, born Friedrich Wilhelm Rischmüller, who came to this country from Germany during the reign of George III. Unfortunately some members of the family did not like the name with its German connotation so they deleted the first part and became just Miller. This of course made life more difficult as Miller is quite a common name in the English speaking world.

Our history was commenced, rather sketchily, almost a hundred years ago, by a young member of the family who was dying of consumption and passed away at the early age of twenty. As he had written it so it remained until a few years ago when renewed interest became apparent. As far back as, I should think, sixty years ago, an aunt of mine long since passed away, told me that there was someone of our name, a naval officer, in London, but this could not be tied up as having any connection with our family until I began research just a few years ago.

It was stated in our 'history' that Frederick William, who I will call (1), had come to London from North Germany, married Mary Knibb, and eventually moved north to live at Felling Shere (Snowden's Hale), where he obtained employment in the chemical works in that district. From this marriage there were four children. Only the last, a daughter, Mary, was baptised at Heworth, so it is presumed that the others were born elsewhere, probably in London. As it was presumed that Frederick (1) had obtained employment in the royal household soon after his arrival in England, attempts were made to see if any information with regard to the marriage, and births of the children, could be obtained from the Royal Archivist at Windsor Castle, or from several churches around the Royal Palaces, but all to no avail. The eldest son Frederick (2) was my great-grandfather. There were two daughters whose names were not recorded, but I found them to be Caroline and Mary, and discovered that they had remained unmarried and carried on the occupation of dressmakers in Gateshead. The second son, Harry, who changed his name to Miller, was a sea captain and, as far as the 'history' was concerned, he had not married and therefore had left no family. However, in another copy of the 'history' which I obtained at a later date, it was stated that the second son of Frederick (2), who was named Henry and called himself Miller, had gone to sea in one of his cousin's, Thomas Robson Miller, ships. This set me thinking that if Henry Miller had a cousin, this cousin must have been the son of Harry Miller the sea captain, who, by the way, eventually was lost at sea. Henry as a sea captain also lost his life at sea.

In 1971 when I was becoming interested in my family history I noticed in the Daily Telegraph, on the Court Circular page, the announcement of the death of Commander Dawson Risch Miller. I thought this must be the naval officer my aunt had mentioned so many years ago. I did nothing at the time but about five years later, on the same page of the Daily Telegraph, was recorded the death of Cyril Gibson Risch Miller, and I immediately assumed that this must have been a brother to the late naval commander. Subsequently a neighbour gave me a cutting from the Daily Telegraph, a legal notice requesting anyone having interest in the deceased's estate to contact a named solicitor in London. I wrote (not having any interest in the estate, of course) and was brought in touch with the son of Cyril Gibson Risch Miller, who was kind enough to write to me and also passed on my letter to one of his aunts, who also wrote to me and gave me quite a lot of background to the Risch Miller family. It appears that Thomas Robson Miller, grandfather to

the deceased gentlemen, was a shipowner in Newcastle in the last century, lived at Winton House, Morpeth, the town of which he was a councillor and Mayor in 1877. He must have worried about his father dropping the Risch part of our name so he introduced it again by naming one of his sons Harry Risch. He also had a daughter and another son, Thomas Dawson, who became Sir Thomas Dawson Miller, High Court Judge in Patna, India. Harry Risch then passed on the name of Risch to his four children, the two deceased gentlemen already mentioned, and to two daughters who are still alive. Thomas Robson Miller was not successful as a shipowner and eventually turned to shipping insurance and moved to London and founded the firm of Thos. R. Miller, which today is a thriving business.

Thomas Robson had a sister and brothers. One of the brothers, Harry, also had a son, who he named Harry Risch, who became a ship's broker in Newcastle, lived in Jesmond and had a country cottage, "Pondicherri", in Bethbury, which is still there but in different ownership. I visited Pondicherri last summer but the present owner was not in residence so I could only see the cottage from the outside, but could admire the Coquet and the beautiful view of the surrounding countryside from that wonderful vantage point.

The information I obtained about this branch of the family came to me by another obituary notice that was cut out of a copy of the Newcastle Chronicle and saved for me for my subsequent annual visit to the Tyne. It was a notice of the death of Edith Hasler Miller, widow of Harry Risch Miller, and it mentioned that she had been a very active member of St. James Church, Newcastle. I therefore wrote a letter to the church secretary, who very kindly furnished me with a wealth of information about the family. It appeared that this Harry Risch had been the secretary of the church for many years, and had been a member since the end of the last century until his death in 1949. Through knowledge I had thus gained I was able to locate his son, Harry Hasler Miller, who is now an American and lives in the USA. I am in regular correspondence with him and he has been to visit me. He sent me a family history, written by his father. I found it was more complete than the one I had, and tied up the relationship between our families which I had taken a long time to find out by diligent searches. He also sent me a copy of the "Last Will and Testament" of Ann Robson of High Felling, who died in 1847. He had found the Will among the effects of his late mother. Ann was the mother of Sarah Robson, who was married to the first Captain Harry Miller. Ann Robson was the wife of Thomas Robson, builder, of High Felling and was born around 1787.

Thomas Robson Miller, as already mentioned, was Mayor of Morpeth in 1877. This interested me greatly as I am the only other member of the family to have attained this office by being Mayor of Bedford during the year 1972/73. I wrote to the Chief Executive of Morpeth to see what information I could glean from that source about Thomas R. Miller. He put me in touch with a historian who is engaged in writing a history of the past Mayors of Morpeth and between this historian and myself a quite comprehensive picture of the gentleman was produced, even to a photograph which I was fortunate enough to obtain from London.

During the course of my research I have been quite unable to trace the marriage of my great-grandparents, Frederick (2) and Elizabeth Fairbridge. Our history states that she was the cousin of George Stephenson, the great Engineer, and the daughter of a farmer in Felling and had worked at Felling Hall. In spite of intensive search I have been unable to trace the name of Fairbridge in this area, or the marriage. Also, no trace can be found of the marriage of Harry Miller and Sarah Robson in spite of the fact that they both belonged to Felling, continued living there and had their family born and brought up in the area. This has been very frustrating.

A second cousin of mine, Ralph Rischmiller, whose family had gone to the USA about the year 1926, became interested in family research and on searching through a German Who's Who, in New York, came across the name of Friedrich Rischmüller of Oldenburg, Germany, and wrote to him to see if he could establish any relationship. This gentleman invited Ralph to go to Germany to search the parish records of the village from when the family came. Unfortunately Ralph was killed in a motor car accident almost two years ago and before he was able to take up the offer. I then wrote to Germany and was offered the same hospitality and so in July of last year my wife and I went to Oldenburg. We were treated extremely well and were taken to the villages concerned, near to Hamlyn, renowned for its Pied Piper, and discovered the births of Rischmüllers about the time we had thought we should, 1770/80, but were disappointed at not finding the entry we were seeking and returned home without the satisfaction of discovering the birth of our ancestor who came from Germany to seek his fortune in this country. However, our host, who is the retired Chief Justice of East Friesland, continued the search for us and shortly after our return home we were informed that the entry we had been seeking had been located: Friedrich Wilhelm Rischmüller, subsequently Frederick William Rischmiller, had been born the son of Henrich Johan Rischmüller and Marie Louise, née Sassenbergs, in 1778, at Mattendorf, not far from Weibig I understand, and of course near to Hamlyn.

This ended a long search which has been most rewarding. It has brought me in touch with many members of the Rischmiller+Miller family, which is very extensive, much larger than I had dreamed of. Of course it has meant a great deal of letter writing to all parts of the world, to Archivists, Librarians, Churches, members of the family, and so on, and there is no doubt that everyone with whom I have been in touch has been most helpful. Without their help I could have got nowhere at all. In turn I have supplied all the information I have found to all these who are interested so that my research has not been something for my own personal satisfaction to be locked away for ever but it has served the purpose of helping many families to know something of their background and of their origin. Maybe it will not be followed up, but who knows a hundred years hence a member of the family, yet unborn, may possibly be interested as I was interested in a small document written almost a hundred years ago by a young sick man not destined to develop into full manhood.

It will be readily recognised that this is quite a brief summary of my research. It would take a book to write it all up - maybe this will come at a later date!

A POSTSCRIPT TO "INK IN THE FAMILY"

Readers of Mr Perry's article (pp. 67-68) may be interested in some additional details about the lists of printers which he mentions. The "Dictionary of Printers and Booksellers at work in England, Scotland and Ireland, 1726-75" was compiled jointly by H.R. Plomer, G.H. Bushnell and E.R. McC. Dix and published by the Bibliographical Society in 1932, four years after Plomer's death. The Society had already published similar Dictionaries by Plomer for the periods 1641-67 (1907) and 1668-1725 (1922) and one edited by R.B. McKerrow for 1557-1640 (1910). Copies of these volumes are available in Edinburgh University Library, Edinburgh Public Library and the National Library of Scotland, but in 1977 the Bibliographical Society republished the four Dictionaries as a one volume, unrevised, reprint, in reduced size, and members may find this easier to locate than the original volumes.

Members might also like to note that additional information or amendments to the entries about printers, booksellers, etc., in C.J. Hunt, "The Book Trade in Northumberland and Durham to 1860", would be welcomed by Professor Isaacs, Chairman of the Committee for the History of the Book Trade in the North. His address is: Dept. of Civil Engineering, Newcastle University, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE1 7RU. Mr Hunt himself is now in Australia but it is hoped that it will one day be possible to publish a revised edition of his book.

P.J.S.

FAMILY MYSTERIES
OF
FOG IN THE DALES

Alan Wright

1. Introduction

My interest in family history received its initial stimulus from an examination of a family bible (5kg in weight) belonging to my wife's paternal grandmother. On the yellowing fly-leaves in neat, faded handwriting were detailed the family of Thomas Holmes and Jane Kidd, who married on July 5th 1828 at St. John's Chapel, Weardale.

Like many amateur family historians I have since experienced the whole range of emotions from the exhilaration on finding a long-searched name to the despair after many a fruitless search; from the physical discomfort of sitting for hours in freezing-cold church vestries in the height of British summer, to perspiring in the ever-heated searchrooms of Record Offices. Again in common with many searchers the results, far from illuminating the family history, often only multiply the mystery. A more appropriate title for our society might be the "Northumberland and Durham Family Mystery Society"!

While the following 'mysteries' concern fairly humble members of the human race I trust that you will find them no less intriguing.

2. The Holmes Affair

What evidence there is suggests that Stanhope Parish was not the home of the Holmes. According to the parish registers the name first appears in 1705 when Margaret Holmes married Rowland Stephenson. We have to wait 45 years before it surfaces again in another marriage, Rachel Holmes to Thomas Errington. Neither of these marriages of course perpetuates the name.

The first male that occurs is that of Richard Holmes of Romaldkirk in 1760 who married Jane Little. Apart from a marriage of James Holmes and Elinor Mattras in 1773 all of the subsequent births, marriages and deaths seem to stem from the Richard/Jane marriage. The registers record ten children as being born from this union and all survived childhood except Jonathan, the youngest, and Jane, who died in 1789, aged 14 years. The last seven children were recorded as being born at Harthopeburn just outside Chapel.

Richard Holmes - Jane Little

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Richard	Mary	Sarah	Thomas	Jane	Margaret	Rachel	Ann	Esther	Jonathan
(1763)	(1765)	(1767)	(1772)	(1775)	(1777)	(1779)	(1781)	(1782)	(1786)

On 12th May 1790 the eldest son, Richard, married Elizabeth Slack at Alston and one month later a Mary Holmes and John Wearmouth were wed at Chapel. Because there is no evidence of any other Holmes family in the vicinity it is a reasonable assumption that Mary is the sister of Richard. If so, it is then necessary to explain the presence of a William Holmes, a witness at Mary's wedding, and this is discussed later.

The Richard/Elizabeth marriage produced nine children, three boys and six girls, of which five were born at Westgate and the remainder at Nenthall, near Alston. Richard was an innkeeper and a descendant of his, another William Holmes, still lives in Front Street, Alston.

A further marriage occurred in 1797 between William Holmes and Mary Dixon with Thomas Holmes and Ann Dixon as witnesses. Thomas and Ann marry in 1798 with Richard as a witness. While it is possible that Mary and Ann are sisters and Thomas is there because of his relationship with Ann, it is more reasonable to assume a relationship with William - a case of two brothers marrying two sisters. Another marriage of a Holmes occurs in 1797, that of Sarah to William Cellingwood, also with Thomas as a witness.

Only two further marriages occur up to 1812, that of Margaret Holmes to Thomas Mitchell in 1808 and a William Holmes to Jane Daglish in 1803, with the ever-popular Thomas earning his keep as a witness in the former. Margaret would appear to be the daughter of Richard/Jane but who is William?

A first suggestion is that it could be the same William who married Mary Dixon but this is easily discounted as William/Mary are recorded as having children in this period. There are no recorded children to the William/Jane marriage so they could have moved outside the area. Another possibility exists in that there is a death of a William aged 77 of Pinfield House, Daddry Shields, in 1812, so William and Jane could have been past caring about children when they married. However, other considerations support the first alternative as being the more likely of the two.

The William/Mary union produced eleven children, six boys and five girls; two of the boys and one of the girls died in infancy. A further son, Richard, died in 1828 and a fourth, William, was murdered by a peacher in 1832. The youngest son, Adam, does not appear again, leaving only the eldest, Thomas Dixon, to carry the name through to the next generation. Of one thing I am certain is that Thomas Dixon Holmes is the Thomas Holmes in the family bible.

Meanwhile, not to be outdone, Thomas/Ann were also producing a large family of seven boys and two girls, losing three boys and one girl in infancy. A significant fact supporting a close relationship between William and Thomas is that some of both their families were born at Pinfield House, Daddry. Could they have been brothers? Examination of the birth sequence in the Richard/Jane family shows a regular two year gap between births except between Sarah and Thomas when the interval is five years. So William could fit in comfortably. The omission in the baptismal record, if indeed it is, is puzzling since Richard/Jane were very conscientious about their other ten children.

Referring to the earlier mentioned death of William (77) it is suggested that this in fact could be Richard. Support for this assumption comes from the fact that there is no recorded death of a Richard right up to 1850 and beyond. However, there is the death of Jane Holmes (84) in 1822, which is obviously Richard's wife (or widow).

Ann, wife of Thomas, died in 1816, aged 38. However, there is a vague possibility that this could have been Ann, sister of Thomas, who would have been 35 in 1816. Ann's last recorded child was born four months before the death so the cause may have been this last confinement. Mary, wife of William, died in 1848, aged 72, but to-date no record of the "departure" of Thomas or William has yet been found.

Apart from entries relating to the family of Thomas D. Holmes, there are only sporadic occasions when the name Holmes crops up between 1820-50. Families of a John and a Thomas can be identified and these were probably sons of Thomas.

The registers confirm the family bible details but, in addition, give some further interesting information. Three daughters, Frances, Ester and

Margaret were known to have produced out-of-wedlock children (Margaret had two) and the registers actually give the names of the respective fathers. Margaret, surprisingly, never married the father of her two children but eventually married the village blacksmith at Daddry, George Harrison, a widower.

The Thomas D./Jane marriage produced ten girls and one boy, William, who died young. Interestingly, all the ex-family children were girls also and if the girls/boys totals are tabulated for all the known families an unusual pattern arises:

1. Richard/Jane	7/4
2. Richard/Elizabeth	6/3
3. William/Mary	5/6
4. Thomas/Ann	2/7
5. Thomas/Jane	4/6
6. Thomas D./Jane	10/1
Totals	<u>34/27</u>

In general, for the population at large, the ratio girls/boys births is less than unity and although the above is not a strictly scientific sample, it is in opposition to this general pattern. Perhaps, this is why, in spite of the large families, the Holmes name died out in the dales.

3. Who's Kidding Who!

The other half of the saga is not so involved and concerns the tracing of the Kidd branch: Jane Kidd - the second of three children born to John Kidd and Mary Gibson at Chapel. The family were recorded as living at Hilltop, a farm overlooking Chapel. This is a useful piece of information because from 1762 John Gibson and his wife Mary (Peart) lived at Hilltop, so finding their first daughter Mary (b.1763) gave one some confidence. She would have been 39 when she married and she and John Kidd managed to squeeze in three children before she became too old to bear children. It all fitted together rather nicely until - another Mary (b.1779) turned up. This small hiccup was cured easily as a check in the 'Burials' showed that the first Mary had died in 1778.

John Gibson and Mary Peart had eleven children (5b, 5g) spaced over 30 years which is an unusually long period of fertility. Checks on a number of other large family groups gave child-bearing periods of between 20-25 years. In the Gibson sequence there is a yawning gap of seven years (1770-77) between the 4th and 5th child which looked ominous. Another consultation with the 'Burials' book revealed the death of a Mary Gibson, wife of John, in 1773. If this is Mary of Hilltop then John must have remarried and to another Mary. Unfortunately there is no record of another marriage, or even of another John/Mary to fit the bill.

A further twinge of unease arises because when daughter Mary wed John Kidd in 1802 the witnesses were Isaac and Margaret Gibson and these names do not appear in the John/Mary (Peart) family. Could Mary belong to a different Gibson family altogether? The choice of witnesses outside the immediate family indicates this as a possibility.

On the Kidd side from 1705 to 1804 there were 37 Kidd marriages, of which 24 were male Kidds, so if we assume John Kidd was about 25 when he married this puts his birthdate around 1777. If he was the last of a large

^x Thomas was the second son of Richard and Elizabeth. Thomas' fourth son, Walton Holmes, was the grandfather of William Holmes of Alston.

family there are five possible sets of parents, while if he was the eldest of a family there are another three possibilities. However, in spite of the large number of potential parents floating around, there is an extreme shortage of births - only one in the 1760s, for example. Where did they all go to?

4. Conclusion

My first foray into family history produced reams of names, dates, places and a consuming desire to solve the puzzles presented by this deluge of data. It is rather like trying to complete a complicated jigsaw while having at one's disposal three or four times the required number of pieces. Any solutions to my puzzles will be gratefully received and prizes awarded accordingly.

CEMETERIES

F.J. Vaughan

The Industrial Revolution caused a huge increase in the population of England, villages became towns and towns swelled to cities so that by the middle of the last century the old Parish Churchyards could not cope with the number of burials required. The position regarding the Burial of the Dead was so grim that Acts of Parliament were passed closing to burials those Parish Churchyards which were full or surrounded by other buildings and houses. In place of the Churchyards large rural Cemeteries were opened. These were generally independent of any Religious Body. In the country areas, parishioners continued to be buried in the churchyard and the practice still continues today.

The first cemeteries were opened at Liverpool and Manchester and London's first cemetery at Kensal Green was opened in 1832. The early cemeteries were formed by public companies but Municipal Cemeteries followed later. The grave lay out in the "company" cemeteries tended to be haphazard. A customer (or rather his relations) picked the site of the grave, the area became scattered with graves and, in time, new ones were being squeezed into odd vacant spaces. In such a Cemetery it is impossible to locate a particular grave without consulting a plan of the grave plots, and it is often difficult to locate on the plan. The newer cemeteries, and probably all the municipal ones, were plotted out before any graves were sold. These cemeteries were generally laid out in Sections, A-B-C-D, etc. and the graves in each section were numbered in rows. In such a cemetery it is fairly easy to find a grave without consulting a plan, providing that you know the grave number. You know that Grave No. A368 will adjoin No. A369 and that they will not be at opposite ends of the Cemetery. Although the Cemetery Registers are very detailed it is always worth looking at a grave in case it had a Memorial Inscription which gives additional details of family history.

In recent years with the decrease in burials and an increase in cremation, many cemeteries have closed and the fate of their records is uncertain. The Municipal Cemeteries are generally still open (they can afford to run at a loss on the Rates). Their records are kept in the Superintendent's Office at the entrance to the Cemetery. Many of the public cemetery companies have gone into liquidation and if you wish to consult their registers, your only hope is that they have been deposited at the local Record Office.

Unless the cemetery belongs to a particular religious body such as the Jews or Roman Catholics, it will consist of Consecrated and Unconsecrated Sections. The Consecrated Section has been blessed according to the Established Church, while a grave in the Unconsecrated Section is blessed individually by the Officiating Clergyman at the first burial in the grave. There

may be a separate Burial Register for each of these sections.

The great majority of graves are private or Subscription graves, but a number are public graves. These latter type are not pauper burials as many people seem to think, but it means that no individual owns the exclusive burial rights to the grave and therefore the people buried in each grave have no connection with each other. These graves do not have monumental inscriptions.

The private graves are an asset to the genealogist and often enable him to discover an instant family tree in a few minutes even when there is no monumental inscription on the grave. The purchaser of a private grave obtained the sole rights to the burials in that grave. These graves vary in size from cemetery to cemetery. Some were made to contain three or four interments but in the north of England people evidently wanted more for their money and the graves were designed for five adults or ten infants or a mixture of both. There is a separate ledger kept for private graves with a section in the ledger for each grave. As each burial takes place in the grave a reference number is added to the section for that grave, the reference number being that referring to a burial in the Chronological Burial Register. The beauty of this information is that several searches in the Burial Register to find different deaths in one family are unnecessary.

To illustrate how this works. You have found that your grandmother, Ann Green, died on 6th June 1950, aged 72 years. (If you do not know the grave number in which she is buried you must find first the exact date of death of one of the people buried in the grave.) The Registrar looks at the 1950 burial register, and sees that she was buried in grave no. B432 Consecrated. He then consults the Grave Ledger and informs you that Grave B432 Consecrated was bought on 12 September 1880 by Frederick Green, that there are five people buried in the grave. He can look up these references immediately and inform you that they refer to John Green, died 10 September 1880, aged 67 years; Mary Green, died 30 August 1901, aged 61 years; Frederick Green, died 26 January 1926, aged 85 years; William Green, died 1 December 1912, aged 40 years. You know that all these people are relations and the details of "Next-of-Kin" will often reveal the relationship of each person in the grave. (In the old Church Registers you have no means of knowing whether any of the people you come across are related because you do not know whether or not the burials occurred in the same grave.)

The information given in Cemetery Registers varies. Generally it consists of the name of the deceased, date of death, age, occupation, address; name and address of next of kin. The Municipal Cemeteries of Bradford, Yorkshire, also give the names of the mother and father of each person buried. This gives as much information as you would find on a Scottish Death Certificate.

If you have not considered Cemeteries in your research up to now, why not drop in at your local?

SOME COUNTY DURHAM CATHOLICS

Following on our publication of the lists of Roman Catholics confirmed by Bishop Leyburn on his confirmation tour in Northumberland in 1687, readers may be interested to know of a later list of Catholics, this time in County Durham. Darlington Public Library has a "List of Catholics in the Townships of Darlington and Cockerton, 1767" (reference U418b), consisting of one and a half typed pages, and in some cases giving extra details, for example, age, place of birth, or occupation.

LOST LAMBS

H. Lamb

When my father and I first started on our family history about three years ago we progressed, as I presume most people do, in fits and starts. We kept returning to the beginning to seek guidance from the memory of an aunt (b. 1892).

The first line back was fairly easily established and confirmed by Baptismal records and Census Returns.

James	Robert	John	James	Henry	William & Elizabeth
b. Welton	b. Welton	b. Welton	b.?	b. East Matten	b. Jarro
1847	1849	1851	1854	1856	1863

These were the children of James Lamb, born Bedlington 1822. I can find no trace of the birthplace of James (1854) nor any other children who could have been born between 1856 and 1863. James Lamb (1822) married Dorothy Potts who stated Welton 1824 as her birthplace and birth. Again I can find no trace of her family. In 1851 the family was living at 4 New Wall House, Welton.

The second line back:-

Robert	Mary	Elizabeth	Hannah	James	Margaret
b. Monk- seaton	b. Monk- seaton	b. Bedlington	b. Bedlington	b. Bedlington	b. Bedlington
1813	1816	1818	1820	1822	1824

was again fairly comfortably ascertained. There is a strong suspicion, however, that this was a second family. There is recorded the death of a Mary Lamb of Netherton, wife of James Lamb (Husbandman), died 1807. Robert's, the eldest son's, line was very easy to establish through the ownership of farm lands at Red House, Bedlington, Linton, Widderington (1841-1851), Broadlaw, Shilvington (1861) and Berwick Hills, Ponteland (1871). Indeed, we have contacted some of his descendants still living in Ponteland.

Robert was willed part of Red House, Bedlington, through his mother (Elizabeth Thompson) by a Matthew Catchside. He sold this in 1836 to William Wharton Burdon of Hartford House, Bedlington, for £315.00.

Elizabeth Thompson (no trace of her family, or how she is linked with Matthew Catchside) married James Lamb in 1810. James is described as a "native of Tynemouth" on the marriage banns. James died in Bedlington in 1848 (reported by Robert) aged 73 years.

The only trace of a James Lamb born about this time is not at Tynemouth, but at Howick, as part of the family of Luke Lamb and Elizabeth Stephenson (married at Rennington 1774):

Robert	James	William	Matthew
b. Howick	b. Howick	b. Howick	b. Long Houghton
1775	1778	1781	1785

It is not proof positive of the same family but this William followed James Lamb onto Red House Farm, Bedlington. Indeed, William's family was still farming this land by the 1871 Census.

Luke Lamb was married previously to Isabel Marshall (b. 1736, Bamburgh, father David Marshall; married, of Swinhee, at Bamburgh 1759; died Howick 1772). Their family was Mark, Elizabeth, Jane, Luke and Isabel.

This is where we come to a full stop, and all of our searches since have provided no clue as to where Luke was born or if he had any other relations.

Going back to the beginning again we were told that it was thought that Elizabeth Lamb (b. Jarrow 1863) had married a John Lamb in Sunderland and that this John Lamb was a cousin. A fresh search was started to see if this line would be fruitful. This John Lamb (b. 1860 at Penshaw) was a Sea Captain. From the Electoral Roll it was found that he lived at Hunter Terrace, Sunderland, until 1914. He died and was buried in Sydney Harbour, Australia, in 1914. His father, John Lamb, was Station Master at Penshaw (1861) and Sunderland, Fawcett Street (1871). He states in both these census returns that he was born in Bedlington in 1829 - we can find no trace of this. We presume that he is the relation claimed as the census return of 1871 states:-

John Lamb, of 10 Grey Street, Sunderland, Widower, Station Master, 42 years, born Bedlington

JANE LAMB, NIECE, Housekeeper, born WELTON, EAST MATFEN, aged 24 years

John Lamb, son, 11 years, scholar, born Penshaw

James B. Lamb, son, 17 years, born Bishopwearmouth

James B. Lamb is a mystery, although written in an old Bible in our possession is Brodley Lamb, 18 Hunter, Sunderland.

I should be grateful for any advice from members. Indeed, there may be 'relations' who have researched better than we have. From Wills and other transactions our relations may be Catchside, Thompson, Bates, Petts, Burn, Summerside and Lenron.

During the course of my searches I decided to carry out a full survey of the Lambs in Northumberland in 1851. I am at present half way through this. When complete I will forward a copy, indexed, to the Society.

MEMBERS AND THEIR INTERESTS

Items for inclusion in this and the Second Time Around Column should be sent to Mrs Anne Spendiff, 17 Augustus Drive, Bedlington, Northumberland. Entries for the next (July) issue of the Journal should reach Mrs Spendiff by 7th May. Please include your membership number when writing.

634 Mr F. WAPPAT, 6 Kittiwake Close, The Links, Blyth.

Mr Wappat has traced his family back to two villages in Teesdale: in 1697 Ann, daughter of Ralph Wappat, was baptised in Whorlton Church, and in 1719, Ralph, son of (a different) Ralph Wappat was baptised at Winsten nearby. The church records began long before 1697, but there is no further mention of the family. Has anyone any ideas of the whereabouts of the Wappats before 1697?

635 Ms C. JOBLING, 3416 Faulkland Rd, Wilmington, Delaware, 19808, USA.

Seeking information on the Jobling family in the areas of Northallerton and Bishop Auckland, especially John Jobling, who was born in September 1826.

636 Miss M. PORTER, 31 Blakesley Street, Chatswood, NSW 2067, Australia.

Researching Judge William Maule, whose daughter, Isabella Grace, was a straw-bonnet maker, born in Newton in 1825, and died at Cap Hill, Stanhope, in 1892. His son, also William, was the keeper of Alnwick Castle.

637 Mr J.R. ESTHER, 21 Bramble Road, Fern Park, Stockton, Cleveland.

- 638 Mr B. BACON, 640 Fig Tree Pocket Rd, Fig Tree Pocket, Brisbane, Queensland 4069, Australia.
Mr Bacon is descended from the Bacens of Staward Pele, Styford, and Newton Cap, and from the Forsters of Adderstone and Hamburgh, who were prolific breeders. Both families are old, the Forsters dating back to the 14th century, and the Bacens to the 15th, and Mr Bacon is currently trying to find local history material that would give some information about their activities. Does anyone know of any descendant of Charles Edward Bacon of Madras, merchant (b.1789), Richard Bacon (b.1794) or George Bacon (b.1795)? All were born at Newton Cap, the children of John and Mary Bacon of Hartlaw.
- 639 Mr E.M. WOODTHORPE, "Newbank", Middleton Rd, Sadberge, Nr. Darlington, DL2 1RP.
Interested in the following: (1) Thomas family which moved from Guisborough to Hurworth-on-Tees in the 19th century; (2) Thomas family which settled in Seaton Carew in the mid-19th century; (3) Hartley family, Summerhouse, near Darlington, early to mid-19th century; (4) Ellersens of Darlington, 18th and 19th centuries; (5) descendants of Joseph Rickerby, master baker, Durham City and Adelaide; (6) Shepherds of south Durham; (7) marriage of Richard Thomas of Hurworth and Jane Hartley, c.1854.
- 640 Mrs J.F. HALL, 215 Union Rd, Surrey Mills, Victoria 3127, Australia.
Researching the Swan family of the Alnwick area, later of Sunderland, Foster Smith of Sunderland and Isaac Vickers of Westgate.
- 641 Mr D. COOK, Chalet Apts, Chadds Peak 'E', Pine Hill, New Jersey 08021, USA.
Mr Cook's interests are all in County Durham in the 19th century: the Cook family around Bishop Auckland and Cockfield; Thornton family, Sherburn Hill area; Ryan family around Thornley and Framwellgate Moor; Sharp family in the Thornley area.
- 642 Mrs M.E. THOMAS, Flat 7/16, Fruganini Rd, Carnegie 3163, Victoria, Australia.
Researching the family of her mother, Margaret Ann Cromarty, who was born at Holy Island, and whose parents were probably Jane and Thomas, who died in 1938 and 1940 respectively. Mrs Thomas' other grandfather was George Thomas Angrave, one of seven brothers (he was the only one to be born on Holy Island). One of these died at sea, and the rest of the family went to Australia when George Thomas was a youngster.
- 643 Miss B.M. GARDINER, Beacon Rd, Glenmont, New York 12077, USA.
Miss Gardiner would like to correspond with any descendants of the Gardiners of upper Weardale, especially Thomas (born 1781), Ralph (born 1793) and Fanny (born 1788). She is also searching for the birth of Hannah Forster, wife of John Gardiner, who died in 1806, aged 25, the birth of Mary Blades, who married Francis Gardiner in 1776, the marriage of John Gardiner in about 1750, and the birth and second marriage of George Gardner in about 1725.
- 644 Mr W.H. EDMUNDSON, 51 Bridge Park, Gosforth, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE3 2DX.
- 645 Dr A. BIRD, Old Forge, New Street, Halsall, Ormskirk, Lancashire.
John Scambler married Margaret Hedley at Netherwitten in 1784. Their first child, Margaret, was born in 1786 and married John Burn of Morpeth. John (b.1788), Elizabeth (b.1791) and Richard (b.1793) were baptised together in 1794 at Netherwitten. James Scambler (presumably a brother of John) married Mary Warner at Whalton in 1790, and they had a son James. It is likely that John and James were born in the area between Sedburgh and Orton. Any suggestions as to why they were in Northumberland and what became of their families would be welcome. Other spellings are Skamler, Scrambler, Scambley.
- 646 Mr J.F. THORNTON, 4 Chase End, Harworth, Darlington, DL2 2JH.

- 647 Mr A. BRADLEY, 15 Cedar Av, Shirley, Southampton, Hampshire.
Seeks information on the family and relatives of Thomas Bradley and Ann Bowlings of the Sunderland and Monkwearmouth area.
- 648 Dr J.R.C. LIGHT, The Light House, 24 Longfield Rd, Tring, Herts, HP23 4DG.
Interested in any information about Samuel Short, miller of Deddington, Northumberland, 1820-30; baptism of his daughter, Elizabeth, in 1825 (possibly a Congregationalist); and the baptism of Grace Taylor, his wife, c.1787.
- 649 Mrs M.A. JOBEY, Bridge House, The Brents, Faversham, Kent.
Seeks the marriage, in about 1870, of Benjamin Jobey, who was born in Hedden-on-the-Wall and died in Belvedere, aged 76. He married Elizabeth McWhirter, also a northerner, who died in Erith aged 69. Benjamin was a pattern maker who moved south, to Erith. They had seven children.
- 650 KINTRACERS Ltd., 12 Dover Street, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 3HD.
- 651 Miss M. STEWART, 129 Leighton Road, London, N.W.5.
Looking for the families of Stewart of the Easington Lane area, with Corbet and Page used as Christian names; & Page of Weardale (mainly Stanhope), with Corbet used as a Christian name. It is likely that a Corbet married a Page before 1766. Also, seeking a Page married to a Stewart, after 1745.
- 652 Mr F. BUTCHER, 62 Glen Street, Mabburn, Tyne & Wear.
- 653 Mr A. HEDWORTH, 48 Shaw Wood, Thursby, Carlisle, CA5 6QQ.
Searching for Hedworths of Gateshead and Seaham Harbour 1750-1850, especially Anthony, a widower who married Dorothy Smart in Sunderland, 1879. Also the Mould family of 189 Gateshead High Street, 1850-52, and in particular Ellen, born 17 June 1836, who may have married a Heward before 1890. Also the Grey family of Sunderland, Seaham and Seaham Harbour. Thomas married Susan Lawrence before 1866, when they lived at 18 Sussex St, Sunderland.
- 654 Mrs J. WILLCOCK, 131 14th Avenue, Tauranga, New Zealand.
Many of Mrs Willcock's interests are in Lancashire, but she lists the following from our local area: Willcock, Featherstone, Darlington 1880; White, of Jarrow, 1890; Nichelson of Whitehaven in 1855 and Jarrow in 1890; Tallentire of Harrington, Cumbria, 1855; Thornham and Chester of Halifax in 1838; Barker of Acklam, Huggate and Hull, 1841-71; and Everson and Roantree of Yorkshire.
- 655 Mr B. KIPLING, Summerfield House, Lew Stanmers, Merpeth, Northumberland, NE61 1SR.
Searching for the marriage of a Kipling and a Skelds in about 1787, and the history of the Skeld family in Southampton. Also, the ancestors of Robert Kipling and Elizabeth Rebecca Batty, who married in Bradford in 1869. Does anyone know of any Kipling connections in Marfa and Pecos, Texas, Roswell, New Mexico, British Columbia and California from 1825 onwards?
- 656 Mrs K.E. BALL, 'Gorse End', Hill Road, Beydon, Southwold, Suffolk.
Anxious to trace the birth of Anthony Lightly, born in Northumberland c.1796. He married Anne, who was born in Felling. They had a son, James, born in S. Shields, and father and son were engineers and connected with ships. James and his wife, Eliza Jeffs, had a daughter, Anne, born in Holyhead, and a son, George Edwin, born in Holyhead in 1855.
- 657 Mrs D. OATES, 33 Broom Lane, Whickham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE16 4QZ.
- 658 Mr P.T. REED, 17 Florey Street, Wulguru, Townsville, Queensland 4811, Australia.
Interested in the Reed family of Embleton, Craster, Hartburn and South Shields.
- 659 Ms J. MILLER, 20/342 Victoria Pl, Drumoyne, 2047, Sydney, N.S.W., Australia.
Seeking information on George Foster and his family. He is believed to have been the manager of Consett Iron Works, and

- owned a racehorse in 1857. Also the Batcliff and Godley families in the Sunderland area in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- 660 Mrs P. GEE, 64 Broadway, Lincoln, LN2 1SN.
Searching for the dates of birth of Richard Grey, a blacksmith in Middleton-in-Teesdale in the mid-19th century, and his wife, Sally Whalton. Mrs Gee's other interests include the Veal family of West Rainton, 19th century, the Grey, Whalton and Race families of the Middleton-in-Teesdale, Staindrop and Baby areas in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the Hycroft family in the Middridge and Shildon areas in the 19th century.
- 661 Mr G.V. PICKERING, 27 Alexandra Close, Framwellgate Moor, Durham, DH1 5ED.
Seeks information on the place and date of birth of Mary Wharrier, believed to be about 1845 in Gateshead/Felling area. Father was an engineman called James.
- 662 Mrs M.J. GRAVE, The Croft, Curthwaite, Wigton, Cambria.
- 663 Mrs M. BROWN, 'Gerse Croft', Ranmeer Lane, Hathersage, Nr. Sheffield, S30 1BW.
Looking for information on the Ross family of N. Northumberland in the 19th century. The connections are with Howey, Riddle, Spence, Allison and Smith.
- 664 Mrs J.M. FRERICHS, 3 Woodfield Av, Bury, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire.
- 665 Mr D.E. GILROY, 4 Lengmeer Av, Woolston, Southampton, SO2 9FZ.
- 666 Mr G.W. ROBSON, 12 Keats Av, Beldon, Colliery, Tyne & Wear.
- 667 Mr D. HEDWORTH, c/o Lucas Industries, Suite 1501, Goldhill Plaza, Singapore 11.
- 668 Mrs Y. ERLE, 42 Custance St, Farrer, A.C.T., 2607, Australia.

SECOND TIME AROUND

- 205 Mrs J. CROOKS, 17 Searells Rd, Christchurch 5, New Zealand.
Can anyone help with the descendants of Robert William Crooks, born in 1862 in Canterbury, New Zealand, son of Robert and Elizabeth? He left New Zealand between 1900 and 1906, believed to be going to the USA via Australia. Also interested in Richard Marley, born in 1804 at Stanton, Cleveland, the son of John and Elizabeth. He married Elizabeth Holmes of Herrington. Finally, the Todd family: William Todd was born in Crooks, Dundonald, and married Mary McWhinnie in about 1840. His parents, William, and Agnes Gibson, married in Dundonald in 1807.
- 509 Mrs B.L. SLAUGHTER, 89 Landseer Gdns, Whitleas, South Shields.
The marriage between Matthew Knott and Ann Miller took place in 1802 and not 1866 as given in the last Journal. Mrs Slaughter has now found evidence that Matthew was born in Simonburn and is proceeding on that basis.
- 563 Mr S. LIVINGSTONE, 216 Jesmond Dene Road, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE2 2JT.
Would like to hear from anyone who has information regarding the following families: Isabella Atchison, born c.1840 (place unknown), married Joseph Hunter (place and date unknown). Their daughter, Mary, was born in 1871 in Tyne Street, Newcastle. Isabella died in 1877 in Mitford Street, Newcastle. Also, Elizabeth Wilkinson, who was born in Gateshead about 1838 and married Matthew Brown, a cooper, in 1861. Also James Hall, a native of Lamesley, Co. Durham, a woodman, born in 1780, the son of William and Dorothy Hall.
- 599 Mr J.M. STUDHAM, 29 Princes Street, Shildon, Co. Durham.
Interested in any references to the names Studham, Studholm(e), Studdam, Studdom, Stoddam, Spedham or Speddam. References prior to 1750 would be particularly useful. Evidence suggests that in the late 17th and early 18th centuries the family lived in the Hexham district, with a branch at Corbridge, and was of the Roman Catholic persuasion from about 1680.

- 604 Mr J. NESBIT, 702 Jackson St, Reynoldsville, Pa 15851, USA.
Searching for the marriage of John Nesbit to Isabelle Robinson in Berwick or Roxburgh counties between 1845 and 1855, the birth of William Nesbit, son of John and Isabelle, on 21 June 1856 in the same area. Also the deaths of John and Isabelle between 1882 and 1902.
- 628 Mr E.W. SHAFTO-HILTON, The Bury, Flitwick Rd, Ampthill, Bedfordshire, MK45 2NP.
Seeking the birthplace of Thomas Hilton, who married Bridget Cole at Over, Cambridgeshire on 1 April 1658. Subsequently they moved to Newmarket. Family legend suggests that they originated in the north. Thomas may have had a brother named Charles.
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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

- 228 Mrs C.M. JAMES, 14 Redhills Lane, Crossgate Moor, Durham, DH1 4AT.
503 Miss C. TENNIER, Little Wormhill Cottage, Madley, Herefordshire.
309 Mrs B.L. SLAUGHTER, 89 Landseer Gardens, Whiteleas, S. Shields.
545 Mr J.R.W. RIDSDALE, "Westlands", Station Rd, Wem, Salop.
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THE NOVEMBER MEETING

PUTTING LEAVES ON THE FAMILY TREE - THE ESTATE PAPERS OF DURHAM CATHEDRAL

P. Mussett

Mr Mussett began an interesting talk on the records held in the Prior's Kitchen, Durham, by commenting that, while basic records can provide a skeleton of the family tree, it is often necessary to look elsewhere for details which may help to put the leaves on the family tree. Quarrels, sales and purchases all offer possible lines of inquiry. The estate records in the Prior's Kitchen deal with the administration of the estates owned by the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral from the sixteenth to the nineteenth century. An acquaintance with these records will also give some idea of what to expect from records for the estates owned by the Deans and Chapters of other Cathedrals, by Bishops, by Westminster Abbey and by the various Colleges of Oxford and Cambridge Universities, as all of these were organised in a similar fashion.

Following the Dissolution of the Monasteries a new non-monastic Dean and Chapter was set up in Durham in 1541. The Cathedral lost some of its outlying estates but retained much of the property that the old monastic establishment had held, nearly all of it lying within the boundaries of the old county of Durham. The property owned changed little between 1541 and the mid-nineteenth century as the Dean and Chapter could not sell land without a private Act of Parliament, which was expensive and only worthwhile in special circumstances. There were some 2,250 pieces of property, varying in size and value from a smallholding to a large farm, commercial premises or a salt pan, held by around fifteen hundred tenants. The records deal with the administration of all this varied property - court cases (one began in the 1290s and was not finally abandoned until 1920!) - accounts - leases.

Leases could be for 21 years, or for 40 years for house property in a town, and some estates gave leases for three lives (the lease contained the names of three people chosen by the tenant and lasted for as long as any one of these three was alive); people expected to be able to renew an

ecclesiastical lease and to be able to pass property on to their heirs; rents tended to be low but a fine, or lump sum, was paid when a new lease was taken out or an old one renewed and this fine, rather than the rent, reflected the real value of the property; leases were generally renewed when only one-third expired, so a 21 year lease would be renewed after seven years, a 40 year one after 14 years and one for three lives when one of the named persons died. Leases generally contained few restrictions beyond keeping the property in good repair, except on mining without a mineral lease and on timber. It was thus quite easy to be a Cathedral tenant for life and for the property to pass to a man's widow or son on his death if they wished to continue renting it.

This system continued until Parliament established the Ecclesiastical (now the Church) Commissioners by an Act passed in 1840. The Commissioners changed the system and tenants had to choose between buying the freehold or becoming annual tenants.

Having thus described the background to the records, Mr Mussett went on to describe some of the records in the collection in more detail.

Leases. There are 350 boxes full of leases in the Prior's Kitchen. These leases contain the name of the tenant, an often vague description of the property, and the annual rent, but not the fine paid. They can contain other bits of useful information, such as a new house being built, but this is not necessarily reliable as it may simply have been copied from the previous lease and the house described as new may have been new 14 years earlier!

For the years 1660-1829 there are annual lists of agreements for leases arranged in alphabetical order under the tenant's name so if you think your ancestor rented property at a particular period it is comparatively simple to check these annual lists to see whether his name occurs.

Receivers' Books, 1541-1871. There are some gaps in these in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries, and especially during the Commonwealth, but they are complete from the 1660s. These can be useful in tracing the probable date of death of a tenant: start when the last lease was taken out and check until the name is crossed out or replaced by a new tenant.

Renewals Books, c.1660-1790. These give details about each piece of property: what the property was, the year the lease was issued, the name of the tenant, rent, yearly value, fines (amount paid for renewal) and sometimes other notes such as that against a fine for a house in the suburbs of Durham in 1739: "In favour as an old servant, abate 20/- on fine".

Mr Mussett concluded an informative evening by reminding members that the Prior's Kitchen keeps the same hours as the Department of Palaeography in South Road, namely 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. and 2 - 5 p.m., except in August, plus Saturday mornings during the University term. He added that it is helpful if people phone before calling but that this is not essential.

P.J.S.

DEATHS ABROAD

Richard Marley, born Millfield, Monkwearmouth, Sunderland, married Mary Scott (of Sydney, Australia), Monkwearmouth, 7 March 1918, died Greymouth, New Zealand, 15 November 1970.

Joseph Marley, born Fulwell, Sunderland, 2 October 1913, died Greymouth, New Zealand, 6 August 1960.

These two were brothers, the eldest and youngest of eight children born to William and Elizabeth Marley.

PARSON GRICE UNMASKED

Many members have expressed an interest in the "little red book" which was the subject of the article on "The thoughts of Parson Grice" in the Journal, volume 3, number 4, July 1978. Now member 199, Mr Alan Wright, has pointed out several errors in that article, which must now be corrected. As Mr Wright lives in Whickham he would have featured in that book himself had he only been 150 years older, although as he is a Methodist the comments may not have been very complimentary!

The book was not compiled by the "Parson", or Rector, of Whickham, but by his Curate, and his name was not Grice but the Rev. William Gould. As Curate he was, in a way, serving his "apprenticeship" and like all apprentices he would be given the "dirty jobs". The Rector would be a substantial figure in the Parish and might possibly consider it beneath his dignity to visit the meaner of his nominal parishioners. One can imagine the Rector saying to his Curate "Go out and visit my flock, get to know them, who they are, what they do for a living, what their problems are, etc."

Perhaps there was behind it all a genuine desire to get to know people and understand their situation. If this survey is unusual the initiative may have come from the Curate himself - perhaps the Rev. Gould was a rather unusual Curate. It would be interesting to discover what he eventually achieved in the Church of England.

Mr Wright thinks the article a little cynical of the Rev. Gould's motives (e.g. "... clearly hated the demon drink ..."). Unlike the Methodists the Church of England clergy, then as now, were not particularly noted for any aversion to alcohol and the Curate of Whickham probably simply spoke as he found. It would have been quite typical for him to have found several drink-sodden households in the Parish, especially in the village of Swalwell where there was heavy industry in the shape of an iron-works and also a sizeable community of keelmen.

It is also probably unfair to accuse the Rev. Gould of repeating gossip. He did actually visit the families concerned and his information would be first-hand. Rachel Moss, for instance, told him herself that she was poor and that her husband had "run off to America".

The correct title of this mini-census was "Speculum Gregis" ("Mirror of the Flock"). Presumably "Grice" is simply a mis-reading of "Gregis".

FUTURE PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 18 April

New Members' Night, specially planned to supplement B.B.C.2 programmes. Come and find out how your local society can help you and meet those members who have already started on the road to growing a family tree.

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

Wednesday, 16 May

Annual General Meeting followed by Workshop and Display evening. Please bring your own work, however sketchily prepared, to pass round and discuss with fellow members.

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

Wednesday, June 13th

Wheatsheaf Hotel, on A696 near Newcastle Airport, 7.15 p.m. Northumberland v Durham genealogy quiz followed by buffet supper and bar - our first real opportunity to meet socially. Tickets £1.50 from committee. It is hoped to have Frank Wappat of Radio Newcastle as Quiz Master.