

Sheffield and District Family History Society

The Flowing Stream



Summer 1986

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THE FLOWING STREAM

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SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

The Society is open to anyone interested in the study of Genealogy and Family History. Monthly meetings are held at Endcliffe Methodist Church Hall off Ecclesall Road, Sheffield (near Hunter's Bar) during the winter months and excursions are arranged for the summer. Fortnightly informal meetings are held at the Order of Foresters on Trippet Lane, Sheffield. The Society caters for those parts of South Yorkshire and North Derbyshire which are within convenient travelling distance of Sheffield.

The annual subscription is £4 and £5 for joint membership (only 1 Journal).

The Officers at present are:

<u>Chairman:</u>	Dr.David Hey, Dept.Continuing Education, The University of Sheffield, Sheffield S10 2GJ.
<u>Secretary:</u>	Mrs.Margaret Furey, 58 Stumperlowe Crescent Road, Sheffield S10 3PR.
<u>Treasurer:</u>	Mrs.E.M.Allen, 25 Boston Castle Grove, Moorgate, Rotherham S60 2BA.
<u>Editor:</u>	Mrs.Denise Marsden, "Burnside", Low Bradfield, Sheffield S6 6LB.
<u>Committee Members:</u>	Mr.R.Bullen, 18 Furniss Ave, Sheffield 17. Mrs.M.W.Robson, (Librarian), Rock House, 126 Bawtry Rd, Bramley, Rotherham. Mr.N.Nicholson, (IGI), 32 Westwick Crescent, Beauchief, Sheffield S8 7DH. Mr.P.Wilkinson, 13 Beech Hill Road, Sheffield S10 2SA. Mrs.Marjorie Dunn,(Programme Secretary), 359 Baslow Road, Sheffield S17 3BH. Miss Sue Graves, 57a Fircroft Ave, S5 0SB. Mr.R.Stevenson, 43 Old Park Ave, Beauchief, Sheffield S8. Mr.J.P.Perkins, (Strays Co-ordinator), 24 Withens Ave, Sheffield S6 1WE. Mrs.S.E.Hammond, (Assistant Librarian), 2 Cross Cottages, Low Bradfield, Sheffield S6 6LB.

The Society is affiliated to the Federation of Family History Societies. Contributions and letters for publication should be sent to the Editor. All other correspondence on Society matters should be sent to the Secretary.

Contributors are reminded that articles and material submitted for publication should not be subject to Copyright.

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Copy days for the Society's Journals are: 28 February
31 May
31 August
30 November

EDITORIAL

The last two editions of The Flowing Stream highlighted the importance of title deeds and the need to do all we can to preserve them. One last fact, however, does need to be pointed out to members. If you have deeds or other valuable documents you realise their value and importance, but, have you done anything to ensure their safety in the future? The best way to do this is to give your Archive Department chance to copy them - or even hand them over for safekeeping to your local Archivist.

Some societies in the Federation have been having problems with material submitted for their publications. In all good faith articles have been printed. Later the editor has discovered that those same articles have been used in other magazines by other equally unsuspecting editors. Members are therefore reminded that material should only be submitted to one magazine and that the writer should hold the copyright of any material sent to an editor.

By the time you read this Journal, we should be enjoying summer days. What about spending a little extra time out of doors recording a graveyard? It's great fun. There are still a great many in our area unrecorded. Further details and help are available from Mrs. Marjorie Dunn or me.

Thank you to all those members who have sent in contributions for this and future journals.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

The Society welcomes the following new members:

- Miss J.Andrews, Woolpits Cottage, Little Waltham Road, Springfield,
Chelmsford CM1 1LL.
- Mr & Mrs.Bacon, 20 Plantation Close, Whitwell, Worksop S80 4QP.
- Miss J.Bangs, 4 Lomas Close, Sheffield S6 6EU.
- Mr.A.K.Barry, 57 Birchwood Ave, Sidcup, Kent DA14 4UZ.
- Mr.R.E.Bradshaw, 35 The Drive, Adel, Leeds LS16 6BQ.
- Miss K.M.Brookes, "High Wall", Pullens Lane, Headington, Oxford,
OX3 OBX.
- Ms B.J.Brown, 4 St.Mary's Ave, Northwood, Middlesex, HA6 3AZ.
- Mr.M.Burgess, 108 Handsworth Crescent, Sheffield S9 4BQ.
- Mr.P.Capille, 524 City Road, Sheffield S5 1GE.
- Mrs.R.Clarke, 19 Arden St, New Mills, Stockport, SK12 4NS.
- Mr.& Mrs. Cunningham. 44 Beech Ave, Brentwood, Essex CM13 2DX.
- Mrs.V.A.Farmer, Little Beck, Vernon Lane, Kelstedge, Derbys.
- Mrs.J.Farr, 10 Lynton Crescent, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7NS.
- Mrs.G.Ford, 3 Doe Royd Drive, Sheffield S5 8GG.

Ms.A.M.Giller, 1 Cranworth Road, Sheffield S3 9DT.
Mr.A.M.Grantham, 13 Triston Gardens, Rusthall, Tunbridge Wells, TN4 8PD.
Mrs.S.Green, 46 Larch Ave, Wickersley, Rotherham.
Mr.& Mrs.F.Harrison, 24 Church St, Holloway, Nr.Matlock, DE4 5AY.
Mr.& Mrs. Hunter, 6 Briar Rise, Ward Green, Barnsley S70 5JR.
Mrs.M.Hyde, 6 Nairn Drive, Dronfield Woodhouse S18 5ZP.
Mr.L.Ibbotson, 32 Wellington Crescent, Shipley BD18 3PH.
Mrs.M.Irvine, 5 Chaworth Road, Ottershaw, Chertsey, Surrey KT16 OPE.
Mr. Charles Locke, 3 Blackbrook Drive, Lodge Moor, Sheffield S10 4LS.
Mrs.Avril Lucas, 27 Armshill Road, Sheffield S11.
Mr & Mrs.Ludgate, "The Hay Wain", North Mills, Bridport, Dorset, DT6 3AH.
Mr.M.E.& Mrs.M.P.Marsden, 32 William Crescent, Mosborough S19 5DJ.
Mr.L.R.Peace, School of Mathematics, Lancashire Polytechnic, Preston,
PR1 2TQ.
Mrs.V.Russell, Ravenhurst, Church Rd, Ravenscar, Nr.Scarborough, YO13 0LZ.
Mr.& Mrs.Shirt, 24 Cromwell St, Sheffield S6 3RN.
Mr.& Mrs.A.Staley, 118 Bradley St, Sheffield S10 1PB.
Mr.N.Tummon, 2 St.Martin's Close, St.Mary's View, Newington, Sitting-
bourne, Kent ME9 7JU.
Mr.L.Wilks, 166 Wales Road, Kiveton Park Rotherham.

Overseas Members

Mrs.H.M.Everatt, 93 Garratt Road, Bayswater 6053, W.Australia.
Mrs.B.M.Payne, Unit 7 "Phoenix Rise", 40 King St, Buderim 4556,
Queensland, Australia.
Mr.& Mrs.Vick, 4156 Fieldgate Drive, Unit 4, Mississauga, Ontario,
L4W 2N1, Canada.

Change of Address

Mr R . F.Atkin, 19 Stone Delf, Fulwood S10 3QX.
Mr.&Mrs.M.Jones, The Grange, 4 Kirkstead Abbey Mews, Thorpe Hesley,
Rotherham S61 2UZ.

Resignations

Mr.P.T.Beeton.
Mr.N.Hyde,
Dr.M.Kaye,
Mrs.B.W.Tamlyn.
Mrs.J.Walsh.

Errata

Mr.D.Allen, 12 Cote Park (Not Cole). Bristol, Avon BS9 2AD.

Obituaries

Long standing members will be sad to hear of the death of Mr. Philip Young, one of our founder members. He was our Chairman when we were the Sheffield University Family History Society and helped us greatly in our early days as an independent Society. We send our deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

The death has also occurred of Mr. James Jay, another our our longstanding members. The Society sends its deepest sympathy to his wife, also one of our members. We hope that continued membership will help her to cope in the difficult days ahead.

NEWS AND NOTES

Dore Monumental Inscriptions

The Index to the churchyard at Dore is now completed and may be consulted at our meetings at the Order of Foresters, Trippet Lane.

Monthly Lectures

Will members who have any ideas on speakers or subjects for our monthly meetings please write details on a card and send or give it to Marjorie Dunn at a meeting.

THROUGH THE LETTERBOX

2 Horsley Road,
Chingford,
London E4 7HX.

Dear Editor,

I wonder if any member of the Society is interested in John Denton, born in Sheffield in 1818. He went to America and died in 1846 whilst travelling from Springfield, Illinois to California with a wagon train. He was, by trade, a gunsmith and gold beater.

I have found several references to him in two books about the ill-fated Donner party, many of whom perished in the snows of the Sierra Nevada in the winter of 1846-47. If anyone would like copies of these references, I would be happy to send them.

Yours etc,

A. Bell (Mrs)

SOCIETY MEETINGS

Meeting on Thursday Jan. 16 1986

A very interesting and informative talk was given by Margaret Turner from West Yorkshire Archives Services. She concentrated mainly on two collections inherited from the West Riding - the Registry of Deeds and Quarter Sessions.

Registry of Deeds records are open to the general public. They have been in existence from 1704-1970 and 1972 onwards in Nottingham. They include Title Deeds, Conveyances, Wills etc which give details of houses, occupations and possessions. Before 1704 land was mortgaged and sold, unfortunately the banks and money lenders were reluctant to loan money as there was no way of telling if the land had been mortgaged before. In 1701 there was a petition in Parliament and in 1703 an Act was passed establishing Land Registries in the West Riding, North Riding, East Riding and Middlesex. It became customary to register Title Deeds and between 1704-1914 there were 1½ million registered. After 1914 more people became owner occupiers and now there are 13,000 volumes of title deeds plus 13000 indexes containing 6 million documents. They are not original copies, but what is called a Memorial. The original was stamped and given a number and returned to the owner. They are to be kept in VERY LARGE VOLUMES. The indexes have to be checked first for information. The Personal Name Index is not in strict alphabetical order before 1794. The Places Index is not as comprehensive as the name index e.g. Sheffield would be very difficult to check, whereas a small hamlet or village would be easier. The Index to Wills 1704-1879 was compiled by Name.

The West Riding Quarter Sessions 1637-1971 were replaced by Crown Courts. They were called Quarter Sessions because they met quarterly at Easter, Midsummer, Michaelmas and Christmas. Session Rolls are the original documents and kept in flat files at Wakefield. Order Books are fully indexed under the name of the person and give information on Free Masons, Roman Catholic Estates, ale house keepers in the West Riding, as well as administrative and Judicial information. Indictment Books give court verdicts, fines etc.

Other records held by Wakefield are Land Tax Returns and Electoral Registers as well as Parish Registers. Land Tax Returns are arranged by Wapentakes; Sheffield is in Strafforth and Tickhill. These were replaced in 1832 by Electoral Registers. Also available are printed Grants of Probate, Calendars of Wills, Hospital Records, Wakefield Prison & Police Records.

The library is open 9-5pm from Monday to Thursday and 9-4pm on Friday.

Jose King.

Annual General Meeting on Thursday 20th February 1986

The Minutes of the last AGM were read and approved. Brief reports were given on behalf of Mrs.E.M.Furey our Secretary and by the Treasurer and Editor. The Society's finances are in a healthy state. All the committee were re-elected and Mrs.S.E.Hammond was voted on to the Committee as Assistant Librarian. After the meeting members were treated to an illustrated talk by Peter Machin on "The Little Mesters".

Little Mesters by Peter Machin.

Despite the weather, the meeting on the 20th February was well attended and all those who had braved the cold were amply rewarded by an amusing and informative talk on the traditional Sheffield trades. Although Peter declared that he was not interested in family history he did start by telling us that his father had started off as a razor blade manufacturer who had later turned to making and developing surgical instruments.

After tracing the development of the industries based on water power, in the 18th and 19th centuries, which were mainly based outside the city, the establishment of industry within the city was described. The illustrations showed a surprising number of sites which still exist in the Arundel Street, Sylvester Street, Garden Street, Rockingham Street and other areas and even more that have been demolished in the last ten or so years. The latter include Wostenholmes Washington Works, known throughout the U.S.A. for making Bowie knives.

Conditions in the various workshops were appalling but so were the conditions under which the workers lived, often in the same court as the works. Life for the outworkers was no better since the work was usually carried out in a corner of the kitchen or living room. There are still some craftsmen (and women) working in the city but they are mostly elderly with no-one to replace them once they have gone.

Eva Wilkinson.

MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER

Thank you for your co-operation in paying subscriptions by post and by cheque. It has certainly cut down the payment queues at meetings quite considerably. One more request - a covering letter with cheques is not always necessary. If you would put your address on the back of the cheque together with the purpose, i.e. "Subs", "St.Catherine's", "books" etc. Thanks.

E.M.Allen.

OTHER PEOPLE'S PROBLEMS

FLETCHER
SINGLETON
THACKER
BROWN
BIELBY

Mrs.B.Payne, Unit 7 "Phoenix Rise", 40 King Street, Buderim 4556, Queensland, Australia is seeking the marriage about 1844 of Samuel FLETCHER born 1821 at Langley Green, Worcs and Hannah SINGLETON born 1823 at Princes End, Staffs. Of 13 children about six survived. They lived at Langley Green, Dudley, Oldbury, Old Swinford and West Bromwich before settling at Parkgate about 1860. The men were iron workers. The surviving children were Moses, William, Hannah. (who married John THACKER), Isaac, John and Thomas.
Mrs.Payne would also like information about Charles BROWN born 1812 near Worksop and his wife Sarah, born 1810 in Notts.They lived at Stocks Lane, Rawmarsh. Their granddaughters Blanche and Thirza Brown married ? FLETCHER and ? BIELBY.

HOWE
IBBOTSON
BOOTH

Mrs.E.M.Furey, 58 Stumperlowe Crescent Road, Sheffield S10 3PR is looking for the baptism of Bartholomew HOWE about 1764 outside Sheffield. Bartholomew was the son of Joseph Howe, a taylor and was apprenticed to Mathias Smith razormaker in 1777. She is also seeking the baptism about 1750 of Timothy IBBOTSON who married Sarah BOOTH at Tankersley in 1776.

Belgian
Refugees

Mrs.Eileen Allen, 25 Boston Castle Grove, Moorgate, Rotherham, S60 2BA is seeking information on Belgian refugees. During the summer and autumn of 1914, there was an influx into this country of Belgian refugees from the German armies advancing across Europe. These refugees were accommodated in groups in all parts of the country. She is particularly interested in the group which was accommodated at the Big House in Rosehill Park at Rawmarsh.

FLEETWOOD
THORP

Mr.Anthony Barry, 57 Birchwood Ave, Sidcup, Kent, DA14 4JZ would be grateful for any information about the birth of Henry FLEETWOOD who married Martha THORP at Woolley on 25th December 1725 and later lived in Darton. His baptism is not recorded in either register.

ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY

The following Family History Society Journals:

Aberdeen & North East Scotland, Australian Genealogist "Descent",
Western Australian Genealogist Soc., Bedfordshire, Berkshire,
Birmingham & Midland, Bristol & Avon, Buckinghamshire,
Cambridgeshire, Channel Islands, Canberra, Cheshire, North Cheshire,
Cleveland, Derbyshire, Devon, Doncaster, Dyfed, Essex, Family
History, Folkestone, Genealogists Magazine, Glasgow & West Scotland,
Glamorgan, Gwent, Gwynedd, Hampshire, Herefordshire, Hertfordshire
Isle of Man, North West Kent, Lancashire, Leicestershire, Liverpool,
East of London, Central Middlesex, Norfolk, Northamptonshire,
Northumberland & Durham, Nottinghamshire, Oxfordshire, Palgrave
Chronicle, Somerset & Dorset, Shropshire, East Surrey, Suffolk,
West Surrey, Waltham Forest, Wiltshire, Yorkshire Family Historian,
East Yorkshire, York.

New Zealand in Colour. Presented by Mrs. Anita Brown of Paeroa, New
Zealand as a token of appreciation for help received.

A History of Sheffield Philatelic Society by T.G. Brown B.A. New
Series No.1 Oct 1969, presented by Mr. P.E. Robinson.

Local History Journal.

Lincolnshire History & Archaeology 1984.

Members' Interests from : Birmingham & Midland, Cleveland, Dyfed,
Glasgow & West Scotland.

McLaughlin Guides 2nd Edition: Wills before 1858, Censuses 1841-1881,
Illegitimacy.

Probate Jurisdictions 3rd Edition 1985.

People and Places of the Eckington District G.W. Shaw.

USEFUL ARTICLES IN OTHER SOCIETIES' JOURNALS

METHODIST REGISTERS & RECORDS BY THE REV. L. DAWSON.

The Banyan Tree No.23 1985.

REPUTED BASE OR SPURIOUS - EVE McLAUGHLIN.

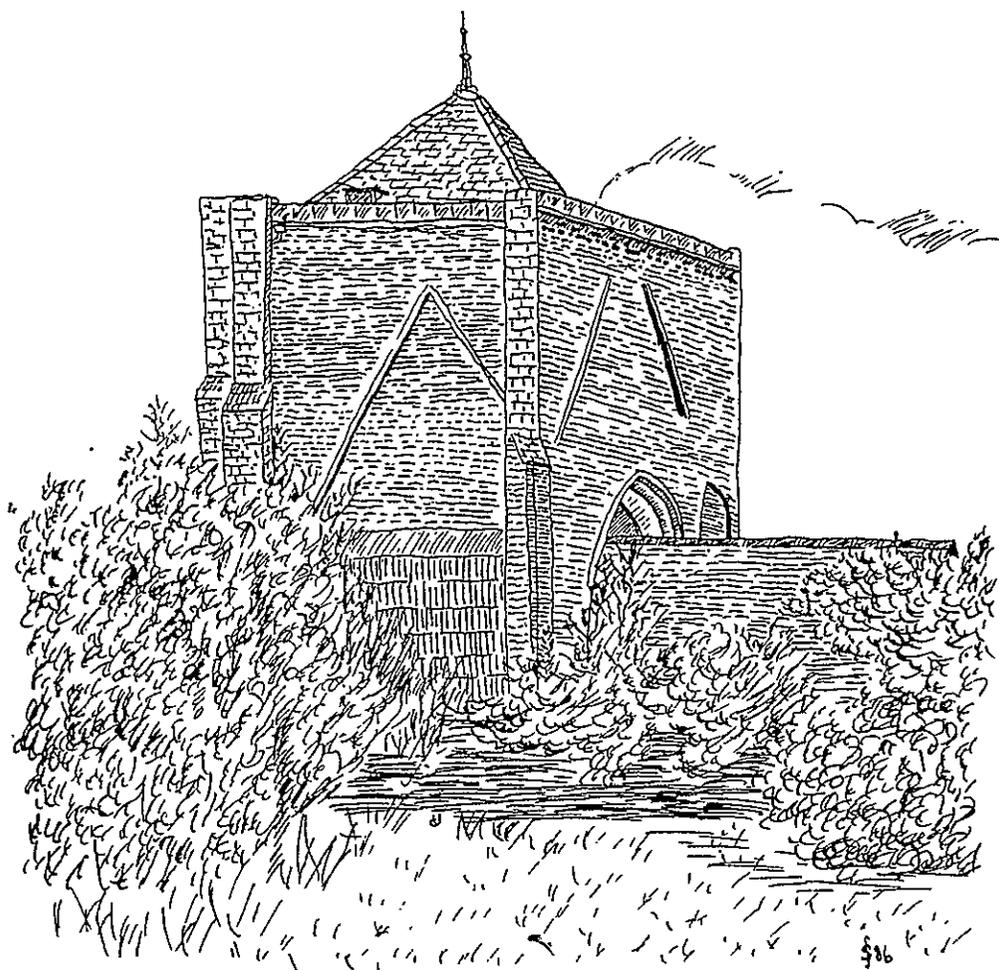
"Origins", Buckinghamshire Genealogy Vol.9 No.3 August 1985.
What illegitimacy has meant in practical terms through the ages.

MARRIAGE A LA MODE BY IVOR UFF.

"Origins", Buckinghamshire Genealogy Vol.9 No.3 August 1985.
Describes marriage customs through the centuries.

FAMILY HISTORY FROM UNUSUAL SOURCES BY JOAN HALL.

Cleveland F.H.S. Journal Vol.2 No.9 Jan 1985.



BEAUCHIEF ABBEY
SHEFFIELD.

BEGINNERS, PLEASE! PART VII

We have previously looked at the records of baptism, marriage and burial in the registers of the Established Church of England. However, not everyone belonged to the Established Church and many had strong objections to participation in its ceremonies. There were, of course, the Roman Catholics and the Jews, but from the middle of the 16th century there were also the Nonconformist protestants or Dissenters.

Most prominent were the "Three Denominations": the Baptists, the Independents or Congregationalists, and the Presbyterians, including the Unitarians. Each of these tended to splinter into sub-sects, before reuniting. Later came the Methodists, with three major subdivisions: the Wesleyan, the New Connexion and the Primitive. To these we must add the Quakers, the Plymouth Brethren, Bible Christians, Inghamites, Moravians, Calvinists, Lady Huntingdon's Connexion, Swedenborgians, the Scottish churches in England and the foreign Protestant Churches - such as Huguenot and Walloon, Dutch, Lutheran, Swiss and the Greek Orthodox Church.

Following the introduction of civil registration in 1837, the Non-parochial Registers Act of 1840 provided that non-Anglican registers might be authenticated by a Royal Commission and deposited with the Registrar General, thus becoming receivable in evidence at law. The registers so deposited, including those under a further Act of 1858, are now at the PRO, Chancery Lane, and microfilms have made them even more widely available (e.g. at County Record Offices.) However, the response to these Acts was very variable and the whereabouts of registers not at the PRO cannot be stated simply and detailed guidance is necessary. The following gives some very general guidance with regard to the more prominent religions and denominations.

Jews

The only non-Christian group likely to be of significance to English and Welsh genealogists, were expelled from England under Edward I in 1290 and did not resettle in any numbers before 1656, when Cromwell made it legally permissible. The first synagogue (Sephardic i.e. Portugese/Spanish) was Bevis Marks in London, while the first Ashkenazi (East European) synagogue was founded in 1690, also in London. The earliest registers are the marriage registers of Bevis Marks, 1666-1838; most are much later. Marriage registers, or more often the records of marriage contracts (the Ketubbah), usually appear first and, since the Jews were specifically excused from the provisions of the Hardwicke Act, may be found for the period 1754-1837. Records of birth or circumcision usually appear later. For the legal purpose of inheritance, Jews quite often paid local clergy to have births and marriages recorded in the registers of the parish church.

There are now about 375 synagogues in England but prior to 1838 there were only 37, of which 6 were in London. In Scotland there were 2, in Wales 1 and in Ireland 3. A few registers have been published, but the rest are mostly in the hands of the existing synagogues. The Jewish Yearbook has the names of the Ministers and Secretaries of existing Jewish congregations. For a more detailed account of the Jews in England and of their registers one should consult the chapter by E.R.Samuel in "The National Index of Parish Registers. Volume 3" published for the Society of Genealogists by Phillimore.

An invaluable guide for those with Jewish affiliations is the booklet, also published by the Society of Genealogists, "My Ancestor was Jewish", edited by Michael Gandy. Other bodies which may be able to help are: The Jewish Historical Society of England, 33 Seymour Place, London W1; The Mocatta Library, University College, Gower St, London WC1 and the Board of Deputies of British Jews, Woburn House, Upper Woburn Place, London WC1. The Jewish Museum is also here. If corresponding, do not forget an S.A.E.

Roman Catholics

Following the Reformation, Roman Catholics suffered varying degrees of official persecution and, despite Catholic Relief Acts in 1778 and 1791, it was not until the Roman Catholic Relief Act of 1829, followed by civil registration in 1837, that it once again became possible for a legally valid marriage to take place in a Catholic church. Indeed, following the Hardwicke Act of 1753, conducting an irregular marriage ceremony carried with it the penalty of transportation for fourteen years. It is hardly surprising that no registers were kept at the height of the persecutions and that, before 1837, relatively few Roman Catholic registers existed. The earliest known is that of the Franciscan Mission in Birmingham, commencing in 1657. It is true, however, that during the period 1754-1837 many Catholics accepted the Church of England ceremonies and registration in order to legitimise births and marriages for the purposes of inheritance. Some circumvented the law by marrying abroad.

1) The majority of registers are still in the keeping of the Catholic churches. The names of priests and addresses may be obtained from "The Catholics Directory".

2) A number of registers have been printed by the Catholic Record Society.

3) In 1837 the nonconformist and Catholic churches were asked to deposit their registers with the Registrar General, so that they might be validated for legal purposes. Only 79 Roman Catholic chapels did so, mostly in Yorkshire. These are, therefore, now to be found at the PRO in Chancery Lane under the class number RG4. Since all the PRO registers have been microfilmed, you will normally find copies in the relevant local record offices and deposit libraries.

4) Some other registers, notably those of Lancashire, have also been deposited in their local record office.

5) Another major deposit is for the Archdiocese of Westminster, which has its own repository at Archbishop's House, Ambrosden Ave, London SW1 1QJ.

The most useful guide to Roman Catholic genealogy is Volume 3 of "The National Index of Parish Registers", mentioned above. It includes a list of published registers and a list of the registers deposited at Archbishop's House. In addition to the Catholic Record Society (Miss R.Rendel, Flat 5, 24 Lennox Gardens, London SW1X 0DQ) there is a recently formed Society for Catholic family history, English Catholic Ancestor (Mr.L.Brookes, Hill House West, Crookham Village, near Aldershot, Hants GU13 0SS.)

Nonconformists

The title covers the multitude of protestant congregations which dissent from the Church of England, including the "Three Denominations" and the Methodists. No attempt is made here to distinguish between them, with the sole exception of the Quakers, see below. If you have not found your ancestor's baptism in the parish registers, you may find that his/her family was nonconformist. However, be realistic in your expectations. Few nonconformist registers were kept before 1700 and, even after this, Wrigley and Schofield, in their monumental work, "The Population History of England, 1541-1871" suggest that nonconformist baptisms constitute only 2% of all baptisms until they trebled to 6% during the last three decades of the 18th century. Remember also, that from the Hardwicke Act of 1753 until 1837, marriage by nonconformist ministers was illegal and few, if any, such records will be found.

In general the nonconformist denominations responded well, except in Wales, to the 1840 Act, and some 3630 congregations submitted about 7000 registers, later increased to about 8800 registers, which are now held by the PRO, Chancery Lane in the classes RG4 to RG8. These include the registers in "Dr.William's Library". In order to improve the poor register-keeping of nonconformist ministers, a special register was set up in 1742, centred on the library set up as a general library for Dissenters, based on the collection bequeathed by a Presbyterian minister, Dr. Daniel Williams. For a fee, it encouraged anyone, not just nonconformists, nor only Londoners, to register the births of their children. It was not conspicuously successful but, together with nonconformist registers deposited there, amounted to nearly 50,000 birth entries when it was surrendered. The microfilming of these PRO registers has made them much more widely available, especially in the relevant CROs.

You should first consult Lewis's "Topographical Dictionary" or Smith's "Genealogical Directory" to determine which, if any,

nonconformist congregations existed for the village or town of your interest. Next, consult the most complete account of the nonconformist registers and their whereabouts, which is Volume 2 of "The National Index of Parish Registers" of the Society of Genealogists, edited by D.J.Steel and entitled "Sources for Nonconformist Genealogy and Family History". Among other SOG booklets is one called "My Ancestor was a Methodist - How can I find out more about him?" by the Rev.William Leary. More are promised in this series.

When in doubt consult the relevant CRO (county record office, as you should know by now). They should know what exists, where it is to be found and may even have some original registers in their keeping.

Quakers or the Religious Society of Friends

Whilst being nonconformists, these are a case for special treatment. The Society was founded by George Fox in the north of England in the mid'17th century. They incurred much hostility and the name Quakers was a nickname conferred originally by a magistrate. The first records kept were in the 1650s, although the system of organisation was not adopted until 1666. They suffered especially from the 1672 Test Act and, even after the 1689 Toleration Act, continued to suffer disabilities. However, in 1753, the Quakers and the Jews alone were granted exemption from the provisions of the Hardwicke Marriage Act, and in 1794 a record repository was founded at Devonshire House, Bishopsgate.

Like most nonconformist congregations, the Quakers deposited their registers with the Registrar General, following the Acts of 1840 and 1858, and these may now be found at the PRO. The Society however, had "Digest" copies made of all registers before surrendering them and these are now housed in the extensive library of records at Friends' House, Euston Road, London NW1. These records have been heavily researched and any person with Quaker ancestry would be well-advised to contact the Society. It is desirable to equip yourself first with some knowledge of the organisation and the nature of the records, and especially with their calendar, which is different. For this purpose the SOG booklet "My Ancestor was a Quaker" by E.H.Milligan & M.J.Thomas, may be thoroughly recommended, to be supplemented by Volume 2 of the "National Index" mentioned above. It should finally be mentioned that a few Quaker records have been deposited locally.

Peter Wilkinson

(to be continued)

DIARY OF A VOYAGE TO QUEENSLAND

Friday May 22nd

Bar. 30.18 Thermo 81°F. Distance 156 miles. Lat 0.48N Long 25°20W

Passed the equator about 7pm which was announced to the passengers by the discharge of the signal gun. A fight on board between two Irishmen, the quarrel arose through one having kicked the other's can over.

Saturday May 23rd

Bar.30.15 Thermo 81½°F

Passed the ship "Tangier" from Liverpool bound to Bombay, out 26 days laden with a general cargo. We may now congratulate ourselves that we have safely crossed the equator without old Neptune troubling us either for money or drink; indeed, Capt. Phillips prohibited his appearance under any form whatever. Tomorrow being the Queen's birthday, this day was observed as a general holiday by the crew, some of whom were supplied with liquor by the passengers, until they became intoxicated and, as many do under similar circumstances, fell out among themselves. One, an old Irishman, drew his knife and inflicted a long incised wound on a companion, extending across his ribs and abdomen about nine inches in length, and slightly wounded another seaman. Captain and Surgeon were sent for, who soon restored peace and ordered one to prison and the other to the hospital. The wounded man is not seriously injured and expected, in a few weeks, to be able to resume his duties. The prisoner, from all we can learn, is a man of bad character, having once been condemned to death whilst serving in the East India Company's navy, for having killed a man.

Monday May 25th

Bar. 30.15 Thermo 80°F Distance 254 miles. Lat 8°23S Long 29°30W

The volunteers who manned the main mast resigned this day. The following extracted from the "Young Australia" Gazette No.3 describes another interesting ceremony which took place about 11 o'clock am:-

"Mr. William Wilcocks and Miss Mary Hebden were united in Holy Matrimony by Capt. Phillips. The saloon, where the ceremony was performed, was as full as it could hold of spectators. Mr. Gray performed Mendelsohn's Wedding March and the Captain performed the ceremony. Miss Hebden was attired in as near an approach to correct bridal costume as circumstances would permit. Miss Holme acted as bridesmaid and Mr. Foulkes nobly undertook to support Mr. Wilcocks through the trying ordeal. Dr. Flowman gave the charming bride away and Mr. Bourne, senior, acted as clerk. Both clerk and Parson seemed a little nervous and, indeed, hung fire at least once; on the whole, they got triumphantly through it. The bride and groom stood the trial admireably and seemed far less agitated

than any other of those concerned in the performance. The company sat down to breakfast consisting of all the delicacies procurable, including a magnificent bridal cake, excellently made by Mr. Marsh, head steward and tastefully decorated by him, assisted by some of the passengers with the ship's number and the Black Bull Flag. The Captain liberally supplied champagne and everything went "merry as a marriage bell". Toasts were drunk and speeches made. In the afternoon the sailors amused themselves by getting up a double wedding in which Messrs. Wiggin and Spavin were made happy by being united to the brides of their choice; and very fine brides we must say they were. The whole evening was taken up with dances, songs, Ethiopian melodies etc. We hope that Mr. & Mrs. Wilcox will for many years look back with unsullied pleasure to the 25th May, as spent on board the "Young Australia".

Wednesday May 27th.

Bar 30.15 Thermo 80°F Distance 213 miles. Lat 13°27'S Long 33°33'W

About midnight we encountered a sudden squall which carried away one sail and destroyed two others.

Saturday May 30th

Distance 180 miles. Lat 22°30'S Long 54°12'W

In the forenoon a quantity of ham, cheese, sugar, coffee, herrings, pickles, knives, spoons etc were sold by auction by Mr. Sandy. The auctioneer caused considerable amusement by his humorous remarks and made the marning not appear as long as it generally does. We purchased four dozen herrings and found them an agreeable change of diet. The ship's cook and the engineer were intoxicated again to-day, an occurrence which generally happens on washing days, one is bribed with drink to supply cold water and the other to warm it. This time the engineer was discharged from his post and a passenger out of the steerage appointed in his stead. In the afternoon a concert was given by the "Young Australia" Music Club in the saloon, for the benefit of the widows and orphans of destitute seamen. Tickets were sold at 2/6d each, total proceeds £20.2.6.

Tuesday June 2nd

Lat. 24°20'S Long 26°22'W. Distance 130 miles.

The bread for dinner being the first we have tasted since we left England.

Thursday June 4th

Lat. 27°51'S Long 30°21'W. Distance 175 miles.

Purchased 22½lbs flour for 3/11d from one of the passengers. Saw Proctor, the man who was stabbed, for the first time on deck since the affray. The Cape pigeons very numerous about the ship; many shots fired but few killed.

to be continued.

Mrs. D. Ellis.

INMATES OF PENISTONE WORKHOUSE 1871

From 1871 Census Returns Vol 4654 Folios 17 & 18.

Mary	Elvin	age 14	Benjamin	Senior	age 21
Hobson	Kippax	15	Joseph	Strawbridge	78
Joseph	Stringer	12	Sarah A	Wilkinson	42
Joseph	Swinden	35	Richard	Beaumont	71
Sarah	"	28	George	Bottomley	55
Nathan	Whiteley	60	Martha	Bramhall	9
Mary A	"	67	Richard	Richardson	64
Elizabeth	"	35	Joseph	White	67
Mary	"	6	Charles	Rhodes	66
William	Sowen	41	Miranda	Goldthorpe	42
Hannah	"	41	Bridget	Pearson	64
William S	"	7	Sarah	Taylor	38
Mary A	Kershaw	29	William	Parker	56
William	Lawton	59	Sarah A	"	18
Martha	Lomas	48	Charles	Beaumont	73
James	Rusby	12	George	Batty	70
Harriet	"	9	William	Burkinshaw	67
Anne	Sanderson	65	Sarah	Buxton	73
Mary	Dalby	20	William	Holdsworth	32
Thomas	Hepworth	25	Elizabeth	Jubb	63
William	Holt	78	Thomas	Hodgson	65
John	Kitson	75	Ann	Marshall	28
George	Robinson	84	Clara	"	2m
Elijah	Biltcliffe	67	John	Adamson	79
Edward A	Crossland	11	Abraham	Beardsell	35
Walter	"	9	Catherine	"	33
Benjamin	Hudson	48	Ann	Fawcett	28
Leonard	Maude	80	Robert	"	5
Sarah	Morton	37	Enoch	"	3
William	"	3	Charles	Hallas	44
Fred	"	5m	Ellen	Fretwell	85
Sarah	Peirce	24	William	Hinchliffe	30
Charles	Shaw	19	Allen	"	16
Richard	Wormhill	68	Henry	Jubb	9
Charles	Ellis	14	Eliza A	"	6
Benjamin	"	12	Job	Marshall	78
Ellen	"	31	Ann	Mellor	8
Thomas	"	8	Jonathan	Taylor	74
James A W	Hampshire	8	John	West	74
Catherine	Hirst	23	Frank	Woodcock	65
Hannah	Marshall	26	Mark	Beaumont	10
Tom	"	1	Annie	"	8
Mary	"	24	Henry	Holden	57
William	Senior	67	Mary A	Clark	32
George	White	75	John	Johnson	48
Ann	Broadbent	49	John	Brook	42
Amelia	Brownhill	21	John	Douglas	31
Charlotte	Dransfield	23			

Ted Shortland.

TAKEN FROM A FAMILY BIBLE

William Burton and Elizabeth Pollard were married at the Old Church in Sheffield on the 15th day of January 1821.

William Burton, son of the above William and Elizabeth was born on the 24th day of March 1822.

Reuben Burton son ditto	was born at Hickleton	25 Sept.	1823
Mary Burton dau	" " " " "	27 May	1825
Ann Burton "	" " " " "	27 Feb	1827
John Burton son	" " " " "	9 Mar	1831
Elizabeth Burton dau"	" " " " "	7 Mar	1833
George Burton son	" " " Sprotborough	13 Mar	1836
Hannah Burton dau	" " " "	2 Jan	1840

The above William Burton died 5th January 1858.

The above Elizabeth Burton died 22nd October 1851.

George Pollard and Mary Burton were married at Sprotborough in the County of York on the 31st July 1849.

John William Pollard	born	2nd Sept	1850
Henrietta Pollard	"	6th Mar	1852
Elisabeth Ann Pollard	"	20 Mar	1854
Claude George Pollard	"	22 Dec	1855 died 6 May 1857
Claude George Pollard	"	23 Sept	1857 " 27 Sept 1857
Claude George Pollard	"	28 Oct	1858 " 22 Mar 1860
Georgina Pollard	"	11 Jun	1860
Beatrice May Pollard	"	26 Jul	1862
Emily (Slack or Stack) Pollard	"	11 Nov	1864
Lillian Pollard	"	6th Feb	1867
Claude George Pollard	"	1st Jan	1871 " 10 Nov 1874

George Taylor Pollard died 22nd July 1872 aged 48

Henrietta Taylor died 27th March 1856 and was buried in(?)

Willows (?) (Newton le Willows?), Lancs.

Seen in Oxted, Surrey by:

Mrs. Brenda Cahill,
Quince Cottage, Hosey Hill,
Westerham, Kent.

The greater part must be content
to be as though they had not been,
to be found in the Register of God
not in the record of man.

Sir Thomas Browne.

THE MIDDLETONS OF BRADWELL

The local historian, Seth Evans writing in his book "Bradwell Ancient and Modern" states that the Middleton family ranked amongst the very oldest in the district - domiciled here for 600 years and still surviving in various branches. For example, Jon Myddleton and Robert Myddleton were farming lands in Bradwell according to the Forest Pleas of 1399, and there was not a single Court Leet record right through the centuries without the names of some of them. They figure prominently in Evans' lists of people paying Easter dues to Hope Church in the 17th century, men entitled to vote in 18th century Parliamentary elections, or liable to serve in the Militia, or do duty as churchwardens. They also appear in lists of Methodist preachers or stewards of friendly societies of the last century, and, finally, as owners of freehold property in the early 20th century.

My interest in them arose from the fact that Louise, daughter of the local grocer, Robert Middleton, married my husband's grandfather. She must have been amongst the most tragic of them all. On May 27th 1889 she and her husband (John Broadbent), both in their thirties, were buried on the same day, leaving three young children (2 girls and a boy) to be brought up by Middleton relatives. The story goes that Louise was milking the cows on their farm at Quick Edge, Saddleworth when she was informed of her husband's sudden death - a perforated bowel, I think it was - and she died from the shock.

One of Louise's brothers was Rev. Robert Middleton, a lead miner when he was young and, later, for half a century a Primitive Methodist minister. Born in 1834 he died in 1901 and was buried in the Primitive Methodist burial ground. (The adjacent chapel is now redundant, and used as a hostel for young people from Sheffield). Another brother was Anthony, the landlord of the Rose and Crown Inn, Smithy Hill (now a private house).

Descendents of Anthony are known as "Tants" to distinguish them from other Middletons. Other branches of the Middletons had other nicknames - one was "Gervase", presumably descendants of Gervase Middleton, born in 1786. Louise's family had the nickname "Clary" which it would appear comes from her grandmother Clarissa, wife of another Robert Middleton. It is known from the Census Returns that Clarissa originated from the neighbouring village of Castleton. (Whether the name was suggested by the famous novel I don't know). I went through the Castleton records and the only female was a Clarissa Hall whose date of birth corresponded. Robert Middleton lived in Smalldale, was a lead miner and it would appear from Evans' history was one of the overseers of the local workhouse when it was at Edentree (1812-1819). He would also appear to have tried to exploit the local medicinal waters in the field behind the Thatchers' Inn (Previously known as "The New Bath Hotel"), a

caravan site at present. He is said to have erected a building and constructed a bath for this purpose in 1830.

Two of his sons, George and Joseph were Primitive Methodist ministers. Rev. George who began as a lead miner, became a local preacher, and then a regular minister. He was appointed Governor of Bourne College, Birmingham, and held this appointment down to his death in 1908 aged 77. (I have his photograph). William Middleton of Long Meadow in the 18th century was an ancestor.

It is from John Middleton (born 1700) and his wife Margaret that Thomas Middleton, Mayor of Hyde in the early 1930's and author of the history of the town traced his family tree. His ancestor, Martin Middleton migrated to Hyde in the wake of the Industrial Revolution from Smalldale. It would appear that the Middletons of the Newburgh Engineering firm are also descended from this Martin. I found it very intriguing how the same Christian names persisted generation after generation. There was a Martin Middleton at Berristall Lodge just after the time of Cromwell, and the name recurred all through the 18th and 19th centuries and after. At Haddon Hall they still have the portrait of Little Martin Middleton, retainer to several Dukes of Rutland, who died in the year of Waterloo, aged 90. There were endless Thomas Middletons. Two of them, father and son, in the 18th century were benefactors of this village. The charity, it seems still exists, but its value has diminished with the value of money - only enough nowadays for 15 widows to get 7½p each on the Feast of St. Thomas!! The most famous Thomas was Thomas Fanshawe Middleton (1769-1822) Bishop of Calcutta whose statue stands in St. Paul's Cathedral, in London, behind the bookstall. He seems to have been a tall man, and is seen blessing two children. He was not actually born in the village, but his father, also Thomas, and also a clergyman - (he became Rector of Kedleston) was.

The manufacture of felt hats for the London market was carried on in the village for over 100 years. Many of the hat makers were Middletons. The 1841 Census shows George Middleton and his sons Robert and Abram engaged in hat making. Relatives Charles Middleton and his son Job and other relatives Daniel, John and Joseph and their father Robert were also in the same line of business. Job, the last surviving hatter, died in 1899 aged 85.

The Middleton pedigree is a very, very intricate one, almost impossible to follow, on account of the same names recurring again and again, and worse still, births of the same name close together.

Elinor Broadbent

ROMANTIC

Having numerous WILSON relatives in Derbyshire and Sheffield, I could not but be taken with the romantic figure of "WILSON" who was servant to Elizabeth Barrett, and aided her elopement. Elizabeth Barrett fled with Robert Browning on Saturday September 19th 1846. They married the same year. "WILSON" aided the escape, loaned her chest and travelled with the pair. Elizabeth took a carpet bag. They went to Italy. Elizabeth was 39 at the time.

Wilson had parent(s) alive in Sheffield and while in Italy became engaged to a Civic Guard, Sr. Righi, but on removal to Florence, the romance cooled. Back in England, Wilson met Ferdinando Romagnoli, and was pregnant by him. They married c1855 in Paris on the way back to London, agreeing that their children would be brought up Roman Catholic.

The Brownings determined to go to the Isle of Wight, whereupon Wilson confessing her condition, went to her mother in Sheffield for the confinement c1855/56. The child was baptised Orestes. Later a second child was born, Pilades, after return to Florence. The Browning's son addressed Wilson as "Lily" and the last we hear of her is when she is keeping house for him in Venice.

The Sheffield connection intrigued me, and I wondered if Sheffield records might yield more information. Has any member researched the romantically minded "Lily" Wilson, or discovered the, presumably R.C. baptism of her child, Orestes Romagnoli? Is anything known of her parentage?

Bernard H. Knight.

DO YOU HAVE THE PLAGUE?

The following was found in the front of a Register for Retford, Notts commencing 1711:

A copy of a receipt against the Plague taken from an old Register by me

Josh Sampson Vicar

In the time of the Plague let the person either infected or fearful of the infection take a penny-worth of dragon-water, a penny-worth of oil olive, a penny-worth of Mythridate and one penny-worth of Treacle; then take an onion and fill it full of Pepper when you have scraped it; then (soap, soak) it and after that put it to the liquor and strain and drink it in the morning; and if you take the same at night lay soap and Bay-salt to your feet and sweat upon it, and with God's blessing you shall recover.

Eileen M. Beech

HAWKSWORTH'S HOUSE, UPPER MIDHOPE - A SEQUEL

My article "Some Hawksworths in the Bradfield area", published in The Flowing Stream in Summer 1984 (Vol.5 No. 2 Page 43) referred in passing to Townhead Farm, Upper Midhope, the home of Joseph Hawksworth. According to the author of "Across the Derbyshire Moors", a pre-war collection of country walks, this farm bore on its lintel the date 1671; and in my earlier article I wondered whether it was still to be seen.

A recent visit, unfortunately too brief - to Upper Midhope quickly revealed that the house is indeed, still in existence, and apparently in good condition. The date 1671, although faint, remains visible over the door. The official name of the house is now Manor Farm but Mr.D.Green. the present owner, says that it was formerly known as Hawksworth's House. This name is confirmed by S.O.Addy's book, "The Evolution of the English House" (revised Summerson 1975) to which Mr.Green kindly referred me.

The ancient timber-framed house rates several pages of text, three photographs and a plan in Addy's book. A former feature of particular interest was the oak stairway, which was almost perpendicular and represented an intermediate stage of evolution between the ladder and the modern staircase. This however, was removed after the sale of the house in 1926.

Not mentioned by Addy, but of equal interest at any rate to a relation of the former occupiers, is the extraordinary collection of nineteenth century graffiti covering the ceiling beams. These jottings, although referring to matters of no great significance were not just scratched but deeply incised and meant to last. Lack of time precluded any detailed examination but one inscription which sticks in the memory records that on 6th March 1851 Adam Hawksworth went to Penistone and came home at 1.30 in the morning!

Much still remains to be done to clear up the relationships of the Hawksworths- sadly too numerous and with too narrow a range of Christian names - in Upper Midhope and elsewhere in the Bradfield area. If any other member is interested in this family, I shall be glad to exchange information. My address is 9 Canford Crescent, Canford Cliffs, Poole, Dorset BH13 7NB.

John Hawksworth.

EXTRACT FROM THE SHEFFIELD 1841 CENSUS

SHARLOTY MARVELOUS aged 48 Female Servant Not born in Yorkshire.

BUCK AND PROCTOR, SHEFFIELD EDGE TOOL

MANUFACTURERS IN AMERICA

Richard T. Buck was born in Sheffield October 1st 1831 and married Elizabeth Edge, who was born in Manchester October 9th 1830. He died in Millbury January 12th 1893. His wife also died there on March 9th 1901. They had a daughter, Sarah E. born in Worcester on March 6th 1862 who married William L. Proctor in Millbury.

Buck brothers manufacturers of chisels, gouges, plane irons and other edge tools commenced business in 1853 and being successful moved to Millbury, Massachusetts in 1873. When Richard Buck died the business was continued by his sons-in-law, E.M. Wood and William L. Proctor.

William Proctor, manager of steel works in Sheffield was born December 31st 1816 in Lincoln and married Hannah Eaton who was born in Bawtry April 24th 1818. He died in Southport August 28 1865 and she died in Pittsmoor, Sheffield January 23rd 1887.

William's son William L. Proctor was born in Pittsmoor, Sheffield on 9th April 1855. He was educated at Wesley College and later learned the business of steel making. Some years prior to 1887 he made several business trips to America and finally went to reside there as a valuable assistant to Richard Buck. He married in Millbury May 20th 1886 to Sarah E. Buck daughter of Richard Buck. Their children, all born in Millbury were Richard W. superintendent of factory, Buck Bros. Tool Works born August 16th 1887; Hannah E. born December 18th 1889 married in Millbury April 17th 1914 to Richard Oliver Bonner of Rockville Center N.Y.; Harold B. superintendent of Warehouse, Buck Bros, Tool Works born November 10th 1891.

EXTRACTS FROM THE BIRLEY VALE
MAGAZINE 1875-1876

Ridgeway 1875 - Confirmation.

Bishop Abraham held a confirmation on Friday March 5th when the following young persons were confirmed:

Robert Rose ARCHER	George HELLIWELL	Anna Maria VARDY
John ALLEN	John Jernyn HUTTON	Selina UNWIN
Herbert MARPLES	Thomas RENSHAW	Clara WILLIAMSON
Samuel Twyby INMAN	Henry Shaw MOORE	Annie CLOUGH
Benjamin FIDLER	Edward WILLIAMSON	Mary COOKSON
Frederick Wm. HIBBERT	Ellis CROOKES	Mary FISHER
Harry ATKIN	Arthur MARSH	Alice RODGERS
Albert Ernest INMAN		

Anabella HAVENHAND	Ada CLOUGH	Ann HASLAM
Florence MARSDEN	Lucy COOK	Jane NEWBOLD
Sarah Hannah CARNALL	Ann HASLAM	Emma Jane BROOMHEAD
Mary Ann WALTON	Sarah Ann WATERFIELD	Mary Elizabeth TAYLOR

also Colin and Joseph CHADBURN at Beighton on same day.

Ridgeway 1876 - Confirmation.

On Tuesday June 27th the Bishop of Lichfield held a Confirmation in Ridgeway Church, when the following young persons were confirmed:

Joseph ATKIN	Edward Ardron HUTTON	Ann Staniforth BOLSOVER
Arthur RODGERS	Thomas HUTTON	Mary HULLEY
Joseph GYTE	Horace UNWIN	Eliza Jane SINGLETON
Arthur GREAVES	Joseph LEVEREDGE	Sarah STEWART
Farewell HAVENHAND	Elizabeth HIBBERT	Sarah Jane BARKER
Eugene HAVENHAND	Hannah NEWBOLD	Annie CROOKES
George HIBBERT	Hannah WALLER	Agnes HAVENHAND
George WHITTAKER		

Deaths in Hackenthorpe for first half of 1875

Ann STANIFORTH	Betsey PARKER	Fred MILLS
Josiah HASSALL	Harriet CHAMPION	Joseph TURTON
Harrison BANKS	Katie HAYWOOD	Elizabeth OSBORN
William FROGGATT	Annie FIELD	Emily OSBORN
John William BANKS	Martha POXON	William PILGRIM
Cecilia BOALER	James HAYES	Clara MEGGET
Elizabeth WIDDOWSON	Sarah BOOTH	Annie Elizabeth TUMMANS
Rebecca SNOWDEN	Thomas WILLIAMS	Charles Wallis DOVER
Charles DICKINSON	Frances Mary Anna NORTON	Samuel Frederick LINLEY
George William SNOWDEN	Robert BIGGIN	William MARTIN
Rowland MIRFIN	Mark MILLS	Ada Alice LAX
Rachel CLAYTON	Elizabeth CLARK	Louisa Ann HAVENHAND
Eliza HUNS	Leonard HERBERT	Anne Elizabeth VALLANCE
Mary STANIFORTH		

And the following who were not strictly parishioners:

George DEANE, Sheffield	Mary Jane ELSHAW, Normanton Spring
Florence SMITH, Sheffield	Harrison ELSHAW, Normanton Spring
Elizabeth URTON, Sheffield	Sarah TURTON, Normanton Spring

Contributed by W.B.Clayton

THE MANY WIVES OF WILLIAM?

When I found that I had an ancestor with the name of Quinton my "Family Tree" spirits lifted; at last I had an unusual surname to research, but the labyrinth of his marriages has caused me many a headache and when I believed his puzzle to be unravelled, there are still question marks.

My great great grandmother Annie Maria Quinton was born on Broad Street, Park District in 1863, her parents being William and Henrietta Quinton. In the Trade Directories and Burgess Rolls, we find William as a pot hawker, earthenware and china dealer and in 1880 he was the landlord of the Old Harrow, still standing on what is left of Broad Street.

His marriage to Henrietta was eventually obtained via St. Catherine's after a fruitless search of Sheffield parishes; they were married at Manchester Cathedral Church on May 20th 1861. William is given as a widower, his father is another William, giving me, as I thought, another generation.

The Census of 1871 shows them living on Broad Street, the elder of the children obviously from the first marriage:

William Quinton	head	52	earthenware dealer	born	Cheltenham, Glos
Henriette	"	wife	34		Sheffield
Thomas	"	son	17		"
William	"	son	14		"
Annie Maria	"	dau	6		"
Elizabeth	"	dau	6?		"
Mary Ann	"	dau	2		"

Ann Fisher & Joseph Lilly servants

In 1861 just prior to his marriage William is living on Water Lane. Some of us (and I am not that old!) will remember it as the narrow steep trickle of cobbles running from Castle Street and for its association with the Police lock-up. Transgressors were said to be in Water Lane. I digress....William is shown as expected as a widower with four children:

William Quinton	head	44	hawker	Cheltenham, Glos.
Teresa	"	dau	14	Sheffield
Thomas	"	son	7	"
William	"	son	4	"
Mary	"	dau	1	"

Now for their mother!! The births of Thomas and William revealed a Mary Madden. "Ah", I thought, "William's first wife."

On the Census William is living as the head of what appears to be a house full of licenced hawkers. Can you imagine the noise that this picture conjures up!!?

On the 1851 Census still at Water Lane, William's wife is given as Ann Quinton - what happened to Mary?

William Quinton	head	36	here the birthplace varies to 'Haysum' Worcs (Evesham?)	
Ann	"	wife	32	Sheffield?
William	"	son	6	"
Teresa	"	dau	4	"

Teresa's birth, born Water Lane, gave her mother as Ann Harper, wife number three? Now I did not really need all this- after all I stem from the Henrietta connection, but who was it that said tracing your family tree was a mixture of a good detective story and a crossword puzzle? The clues were there, waiting to be found.

So to the 1841 Census, Water Lane. William's wife is given as Ann, still the same wife as in 1851. Determined to put William in his place complete with wives, I set out to track down the two marriages, the first to Ann Harper and her replacement Mary Madden.

I tried the Cathedral, this being the most logical place and Water Lane being in St. Peter's parish. I did not find either marriage but what I did find was one between William Quinton (father William Quinton) and Mary Ann Williamson in September 1837, address at marriage that "hot bed" of Quinton activity, Water Lane!! Wife number four?

Score: William/Mary Ann Williamson
William/Ann Harper
William/Mary Madden
William/Henrietta Hudson

On a visit to St. Catherine's (what a Godsend those five pound trips are), I set about the indexes. Eventually I found a match after a long search. A William Quintan married an Ann Harper at Rotherham. Later I checked the marriage in Sheffield Library - it took place on October 7th 1846 in the parish church but William's father at this time was a Thomas, occupation farmer, status bachelor. Oh dear, could I prove this was the real William Quinton?

Ann Harper's father was given as William Harper, optician. He was not in any directory for Rotherham. Could I find this gentleman in Sheffield? Thanks to the 1851 Census Index at Ellin St, I found a William Harper, optician, Sheaf Island plus his wife Elizabeth and a baptism at the Cathedral for an Ann Harper on July 15th 1818, with parents William and Elizabeth. Her age at marriage being 28, this would seem to prove the case. It was all too much of a coincidence, the Ann Harper on the marriage came from Sheffield. Despite discrepancies, was this the right marriage?

Now for Mary Madden. This lady did not appear on any Census with regard to William. She was married and died within the short span that bridges ten years. As for a marriage, a match was found on yet

another trip to St. Catherine's. William married a Mary Madden on October 1st 1856 at Chesterfield Parish Church. Alas! William's father this time was John, occupation farmer, and William appears to have aged one year in ten. However his occupation is hawker. This glimmer of light on the marriage is almost blotted out by his given status bachelor.

William's "first" marriage to Mary Ann Williamson, I have still to prove. So far I have yet to find any offspring but have two births to check out. It is interesting to note that a witness at the "first" marriage, one Edward Kerrigan, is shown as a close neighbour of William on Water Lane Census of 1841.

Mary (nee Madden) died November 1860 aged 30. She is buried at St. Philip's, possibly Wardsend, that forgotten tangle of weed and ivy, with her daughter Mary who died shortly after appearing on the Census of 1861 aged one. The entries in the burial register confirm, Mary wife of William Quinton, Mary daughter Water Lane.

I have found a Mary Madden, in service, working at the home of William Pearce in Sheffield, birthplace Ireland. Close by is her father, the John on the marriage lines? birthplace Ireland, both on the 1851 Census Index.

It would seem that all these Williams were one and the same; his place of birth sets him apart from even another William of the same name and the registration of various children with differing mothers being born, and dying all from Water Lane would seem to confirm this. Could there be another William Quinton operating in Sheffield for same period? Thanks again to the 1851 and 1871 Census Index there is no other William Quinton in Sheffield. There is only one other Quinton in Sheffield, a Peter, born Tipperary, Ireland. He is of a different generation, the names of his children cannot be confused and I cannot find any connecting factor with my William. Importantly, of course there are the children from the two previous marriages that show up with William's household at later dates and none of the marriages could have belonged to William's father.

What then were his motives? Why did he state different fathers on his marriage lines? Did he marry Ann Harper whilst married to Mary Ann Williamson and Mary Madden whilst married to Ann Harper? Was he a bigamist? On his marriage to Mary Madden he states that he is a bachelor, when he is clearly shown on the Census and by registration to have had a previous wife Ann Harper. On his first and last marriages, William is given as father. Had he then nothing to hide, being a bona fide bachelor on his first "marriage" and a genuine widower on his last? As yet, and I have tried, I can find no deaths in the relevant period for Mary Ann Quinton nee Williamson or Ann Quinton nee Harper.

Could the truth be simple. Did William not know his father? Was that "Bachelor" on the marriage lines merely an error and was there no sinister motive behind his out-of-town marriages?

Have I gone terribly wrong somewhere? Are they the right marriages? Have I complicated the discrepancies when I should have accepted them as errors?

Many of William's fifteen (known) children died, as did many in infancy or early childhood. Many of the births were not preceeded by the marriages. William, his son and namesake died in December 1880 aged 23. (This was William's second attempt at a son to bear his name. In 1853 his son William by Ann Harper died aged 8) Thomas was the only son who survived to marry in 1876 at St. Philip's Church. As yet I can find no births from this marriage to connect me with the six or so Quintons in the Sheffield telephone book. Elizabeth Hudson Quinton survived only to loose her mind, after I am told, being jilted. She died in Middlewood Hospital.

Annie Maria married a William Moore in 1880 to produce a reputed twenty-two children. This marriage was disapproved of by William who was said to have disowned his daughter. His judgement was later proved to be right but to quote a cliché, "That's another story". One of the twenty-two children, another William Moore married in 1919 to produce yet another William Moore, my father.

There is a rather fine headstone in City Road Cemetery to Henrietta Quinton who died on December 1st 1881 aged 44. On a shield flanked by lilacs are intertwined the initials H.I.S. I interpret this as Henrietta and the Latin, Semper Idem - Henrietta, always the same? and the verse:

Her languishing head is at rest,
It's thinking and aching is o'er,
Her quiet immovable breast,
Is heaved by affliction no more.

There are no other names on the headstone but William, who died in 1887 plus two of his children, Elizabeth Hudson Quinton and Thomas Quinton are also buried there.

Perhaps I could end by quoting a letter received from a relation very early on in my research. About William he says, "He was a big pot man in Sheffield Market". This one sentence is now a saga!

Please don't phone me if you find another Quinton marriage! My number is Sheffield 848031 anytime...

Carole Burgess

IGI SEARCHES

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THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

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