

**THE POWELL FAMILY**  
**Of**  
**BENSINGTON**  
**OXFORDFORDSHIRE**

**Compiled from Cousin Bruce Humfrey's Chart, of 1951, letters written by Thomas Henry Powell to Charles August Powell in the late 1920's provided by Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell, documents provided by Margaret Havell Humfrey, documents provided by Andrew Charles Powell, and documents and census data collected by David John Powell and Ann Faubion Powell.**

**Byfield, Massachusetts**

**2010**

## Obligatory Notes

### This Means You!

**Viewpoint.** This family history is focused, like most family histories, on the Powell male line. However, where possible, we have included information on the families of the women who married Powell men and the men that Powell women married. This is because we are well aware that who we are – genetically and experientially – is the result of who our mothers are as well as who our fathers are. For instance, Gemma Powell is half Plowman as well as half Powell even though her name is Powell. And, Charles Keith Powell is half Freylach as well as half Powell – in fact, he is ¼ Powell, ¼ Cumberpatch, ¼ Freylach and ¼ Stevens, just to take it back to his grandparents. Gets complicated, doesn't it?

It is also unconventional in that it starts with the most recent generation and moves back in time. This was done in the hope of catching the interest of the rising generations in the family history.

**Generational Numbers.** In this history, each person born a Powell has a generational number reflecting their distance from George Powell ❶, the first Powell we can identify definitely as of our line, who married into Bensington in 1711. Gemma, Matthew, Katie and Amber – the most recent generation – are the tenth since George so their number is ❿. Of course, this is purely arbitrary; if, and when, we identify George's father, George will slip to generation ❷ and everyone will get re-numbered!

**Information Bulge.** You will notice that there is more information on generation ❷ through ❺ than on the more distant and more recent. This is a function of the availability of public records. The older ones are harder to get and the more recent are not all public. The older will have to wait on patient research but you can help fill in the more recent. Please fill in – and share with us – information on your life. If you are a married-in-Powell, please share information on your family – your parents, siblings, grandparents, etc. The more the merrier!

**Documents.** We have included copies of a few of the documents we have collected to give you a flavor of them. We have not included them all – there are a lot of them and many, particularly the wills are very hard to read. If, for any reason, you would like a copy of a document we refer to but don't include, just ask for it!

**Why?** Why collect family history? For me, two reasons: (1) I understand myself and my family better as I learn about us, and (2) I understand the history of my country and the world better as I encounter it through my family's history. I hope you will, too!

Finally, please consider this for what it is – a work in progress. Help us correct errors and add information!

## Who were/are these people?

Fifty years ago, in the mid nineteen fifties, when I first began to encounter some of the names on headstones in the churchyard at Benson, Oxfordshire, they were for me just names cut into stone. I knew that some might be family members I was directly related to and that others were one to another parents, sibling, cousins, aunts or uncles. For many years their names remained for me letters on a stone or under a church window, or at best points on a large family tree that appeared in the mid fifties courtesy of a “cousin”.

All that was to change when my wife, Ann, and I began to visit the UK regularly in the 1980s. Ann’s talent for, and love of, family research was sparked by visits to sites associated with the family and I soon found myself in archives and libraries in Oxford and London reviewing birth, death and marriage records. At first the names remained just that and if anything became more confusing. Ann’s discipline and determination carried us through this period as we sought to disentangle the sequence of generations and the knots of relationships. Out of this process two things emerged. Firstly, the search took on a life of its own with its own compelling energy and secondly, distinctive “voices” and “characters” began to emerge out of the registers, certificates and wills which are the building blocks, the raw material of family history.

It seemed that I had entered the family “attic” like those found in so many adventure stories, except this one was full of voices, half-glimpsed faces and figures and rooms rather than the usual dusty cast-off clothes, sleds and tennis racquets - a little spooky, yes; but strangely familiar.

*In this corner of the attic a young woman in a straw bonnet says goodbye to her parents and brothers while her husband-to-be, one Thomas, seeks out a carter in Bensington village for the move to London.*

*In another corner a striking looking woman wearing a ribbon choker pinned with a gold and pearl circlet brooch tries to find the proper expression for a middle aged wife and mother of two boys as the photographer fiddles with his glass plates.*

*A loud, heavy crash echoes through the attic and a huge iron studded door swings shut and a line of men stand in the grey light of dawn as a prison guard calls out a list of names. “Freylach, Frederick Charles .....*

*A young boy pounds across the floor and the table shakes and wobbles. “Grandpa! Look at my new stamps.” Grandpa Thomas reluctantly lays down his pen and blots his letter to his brother, knowing that there will be little peace now. “Yes, Trevor let me see them.”*

*A nutty but sweet smell mingled with the ever-present odors from Spitalfields Markets wafts through the doorway. Two well-dressed men sit either side of a heavy desk. One of the men twists a diamond ring on his finger and looks across at his brother. Speaking in German he says, “Sebastian, I think we should write to Wurttemberg, to brother Martin and sister Magda and tell them of our decision.”*

*A high stepping horse clops down a rutted country road. In the gig it pulls sit two men somewhat the worse for drink. Suddenly the horse shies, the gig lurches and the passenger tumbles out into the road. After a while he sits up and clutches his leg. “Reverend, I think it is broken!”*

*A boy watches through the upstairs window as a man comes up the front path and knocks. His mother opens the door to an elderly man who asks timidly if “Stewart is home?” His mother takes the man into*

*the kitchen, comes out and closes the door behind her. "Go upstairs to your room and wait until your father comes home to talk to your Uncle Don." The boy turns slowly and goes reluctantly upstairs while his mind races "But I don't have any Uncle Don!"*

This young boy is me. The occasion is my first and only meeting with my uncle at our house in Ilford, Essex. It is the late 1940s and our family seems to have suddenly grown a new member. The whole idea of family seems about to change.

\* \* \* \* \*

My early and middle childhood were dominated by a number of events –the Second World War, my mother's illness and death and my years as a boarder at Forest School in Walthamstow. My family was a small group –my father and mother, sister, brother and, early on, grandma. There were other "relatives" but they appeared infrequently and I, like most children, paid little attention to how they were connected to me. Children were still largely seen and not heard, by adults anyway. All the exciting people seemed to be dead – my grandpa who I knew to have been Austrian and who had left behind foreign coins and a little machine made of mahogany and brass which if you cranked it gave you electric shocks; or "not proper family" like Mr. Coles, our next door neighbor who was a wholesale greengrocer in Spitalfields, who was loud (my mother's word) and had the first TV on the street on which we all watched the Boat Race every year.

My early visits to Benson were the result of my going with my father, then in his late sixties, to arrange for my mother's ashes to be interred in a family grave. I had little or no forewarning of what we would find. My father needed to be prompted and encouraged to talk about himself or his family. I think he simply saw no reason to do so and was somewhat surprised when I asked the few questions I did.

We stopped the car outside the Church and I walked into the churchyard to be immediately surrounded, or so it seemed then, by gravestones bearing the name Powell. There were so many. Who were all these people that I had never heard of before? The graveyard was quite unlike the City of London cemetery in Forest Gate where my Freylach grandparents were buried. My mother and I traversed a vast sea of graves, headstones and imposing Victorian marble memorials -endless, formal and anonymous - through grey winter afternoons to reach "Frederick Charles Freylach, beloved husband ....." Here, on that warm spring day in Benson stones leaned left and right while ivy crept into a large table tomb. Everything, it seemed, was fighting a losing battle with the softening rains and the invading lichens, but in a strange way I felt it also held a welcome.

Imagine my continued surprise on walking into the church and finding that the east window was dedicated to the memory of one Thomas Powell and to his other relatives in the churchyard and carried a date of some ninety years ago. I began to feel I had this grand family after all and that Thomas was surely a great-great-grandfather. (Turns out he wasn't). I was, though, more than a little confused by the repetition of names like Thomas and Richard and by names like Pleasey. It reminded me that we had a family tree chart at home that might explain this a little.

The only Powell family members whom I had met as a boy were cousins of my father. Bruce was a retired solicitor and County Recorder for Surrey. He visited us a couple of times and subsequently sent a family tree setting out the Powell family history as far as he had traced it. It was this chart I thought of now as I gazed at the graves scattered across the churchyard in Benson. The other cousin, John, should be on that chart, too. We had met him when he had contacted my father in order to pass on family keepsakes to us – the only male heirs of eight generations of Powells.

Cousin John was one of the other "exciting" members of the family. He was close to 80 then and he invited us to dinner "to get to know your family". We dined at Martinez, a long established restaurant in the Spanish courtyard style on Swallow Street, just a stone's throw from Piccadilly Circus. Cousin John seemed

quite at home there but we were all a bit overwhelmed by the hushed tones and the waves of deft waiters who spread serviettes and “presented” the paella for our inspection before serving it. His house south of London had its own surprises. He collected samurai swords and had a room especially fitted out to store and to display the collection. Sets of long and short swords nestled in drawers lined with red velvet together with intricately worked sword bosses. My eyes must have been hanging out on stalks as he opened one draw after another of these beautiful but deadly weapons.

After a couple more visits to Benson with my father, life moved on and the Powells and Oxfordshire were largely forgotten. When I moved to the United States, there was one tenuous “family” connection to explore. During and after the war we had received food parcels of goodies like dried fruit, chocolate and spices from the Jensens in the US. I learned later that the Jensens were ready to shelter my brother and me if things got bad and had also offered to adopt us “should it come to that” – which seems at the time to have embraced either the possible death of my parents or being overrun by the Nazis or both. The Jensens were childless and later spent many years in Japan working for the US government. They retired to San Andreas in Calaveras County in California where they bought and restored an historic house. Its claim to fame was to have been built by the county sheriff, Benjamin K. Thorn, who helped capture Black Bart, a famous stagecoach robber of the 1880s who sometimes left poems at the scene of his crimes! Very recently, I discovered that Bernhardt Jensen was the grandson of my grandmother’s brother, George W. Cumberpatch, who took his wife and young family to the States and fell in love with California. The Jensens were charming people and my visit there in the 70s made me think about how different my life would have been if I had come to the States at the age of 5 instead of aged 25! As Ann would say, “What if Ann Boleyn had had a boy?”

Twenty or more years passed before I found myself visiting places in London, in Essex and at Benson that Ann felt were important to any picture of who I really was and where I came from! That is what began the really serious family history research that we are now engaged in.

Initially, our first questions led to more questions and greater confusion on the part of the questioners. But gradually almost without our noticing, the original question changed in a very important way. The question became “Who are these people?” That change from the past tense to the present resulted from not only “living” with our subjects as any good researcher does, but it came most importantly from beginning to feel a real connection to the family’s individuals and their worlds. That is what I mean about those attic voices, faces and figures which people the many rooms and spaces across time and place.

Here are a few more.

*Thomas Henry* ..... Ah yes! Before we go any further, let’s talk about the name issue. “Names are not what they used to be”. Well... yes and no. It’s true that first names- or Christian names as they were called when I got mine – are in the 21<sup>st</sup> century many and various with any spelling you decide on being okay. However, this was not true in the 18<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Although names have always been influenced by fashion –the monarch’s name, a film star’s name – the most common influence is family. Thus we get American style, William Smith III (the third – this has always seemed to me a lack of imagination, but.....). The Powell family seems to me to have suffered from this lack of imagination to a rather exorbitant degree. Thomas, John and Richard recur with great profusion and Mary Ann’s are born and marry-in in large numbers. The head reels and seeks refuge to distinguish one Richard Ebenezer from another! So, what came about quite naturally was the use of “expanded, descriptive names” as in “John of the two families,” ”Thomas of the letters” –the description echoing both the character and the role of the family member. So we hope you and they will forgive us for the liberty.

Back then to the voices and the figures that people the Powell world.

*“Thomas of the letters” a retired chemist in his late 70s writes often to his brother “Charlie”, my grandfather who died before I was born. He is doing this in 1928-29 while engaged in writing his own series of “monographs” on family members and family history. Brother Charlie seems to appreciate them, though Sister Fanny does not acknowledge their receipt. He has a “voice” that is all his own recalling the way his grandpa Keen said grace and how he and Charlie made hydrogen in the kitchen - obviously a chemist from an early age! He is young stamp-collecting Trevor’s “Grandpa!”*

*The last wills and testaments of the two Schwartz brothers, Sebastian and Andrew (seen earlier at their “spirit coloring” business in White’s Row, Spitalfields) have very distinct “voices”. Andrew, who has survived his brother begins writing his will with Teutonic thoroughness only days after his only child, Sarah, wife of “John (Powell) of the two families” dies. His distress and sorrow turn to anger as John quickly remarries and starts a new family. Andrew takes more and more responsibility away from John, the former son-in-law, and just before his death appoints John’s own brother Thomas Powell (one of many in the family named Thomas) as his executor, describing him as “my friend”. Certainly he felt that John no longer was.*

*Thomas Coles, the coach maker of Benson, father-in-law of “Thomas of the window”, in 1808 (three years after Trafalgar and three years before King George III is declared insane) carefully writes a codicil to his will directing that “my silver teapot and stand and my silver soup ladle and two sauce ladles to be delivered to the said Fanny Powell after the decease of my wife Francis Coles.” Within a year Thomas Coles was dead. Fanny’s son, his grandson, yet another Thomas, dies the next year (1810) aged four. There are no other children. It was to be sixteen years before Fanny got her teapot and stand in 1826. The next year in 1827 Fanny follows her mother Frances Coles to the churchyard. Thomas Powell, now a childless widower, will live to see Victoria come to the throne ten years later and to read about the Great Exhibition and Paxton’s Crystal Palace in 1851, the year Thomas died aged 75.*

*Coach making took four Powell brothers to Regency London in the early 1810s. They were in business on Ray Street in Clerkenwell. This street still exists today though it is bisected by Farringdon Road now, under which runs the Metropolitan line, part of the earliest underground railway. My father remembers travelling this line to work as a young man when it used steam locomotives which filled the tunnels with smoke and ashes. He remembered getting his business suit scorched by flying cinders. Today The Guardian newspaper anchors one corner of Ray Street and the Daily Mirror distribution center the other. Number 39 is gone now but there is a pub on the street, “The Coach and Horses”! Coincidence? Probably, but one likes to think not.*

*It is an Easter Monday in the late 1880s -a world of gas lighting and lantern slide lectures. Six young adult Powells have come to the Free School in Benson to present a lecture “Benson as it Was and Is”, which will be punctuated by musical interludes rendered by the family members. A reporter is on hand from the local newspaper. As Benson’s history moved from stone tools to the Celts through the Romans, the musical offering included parts of Gounod’s “Faust” on the piano through songs of the period –“They all love Jack”, “To the Woods”, “Wishes and Fishes” and “The Old Brigade”. However it is Mr. C.A. Powell (my grandfather, Charles Augustus) who brings the house down with “Miss Hooligan’s Christmas Cake”. (Apparently the gas ran out bringing the event to a close after “a hearty vote of thanks” from those present.)*

\* \* \* \* \*

Some one said “Behind every good man there is a wise woman”, probably a woman! The poet T.S. Eliot wrote “men live by forgetting, women live on memories”. Family history is often written mostly about men. There are clear societal reasons for this. In a patriarchal society it is the men who tend to own the land, to own things, to write wills, to buy and sell property, etc –and generally to consider themselves more important than women in the scheme of things. The Powell family did not depart from this conventional tradition –Cousin Bruce, the family tree cousin, was cavalier about wives’ names (his own wife!) and dates and daughter’s

offspring –except when he is the offspring. However, “Thomas of the letters” is clearly very interested in his grandmother Hannah Hussey, her many poems and her strong religion. He feels that Hannah was a stern and lasting influence down the years but it irritates him that he can’t quite peg it all to his “scientific” satisfaction and this confuses what he believes about his grandfather. He might have turned Eliot’s phrase into ”women live in memory” as he speculates about Grandmother Hannah and his own mother and her family –the Keens.

Powells for the most part seem to have needed women in their lives and to have sought them out (see John of Pangbourne’s courting of Hannah described in Thomas’ letters). This appears to be especially true when they are widowed at an early age and left with young children to raise – a pattern my own father continued. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century this was very practical and normal, though the speed at which my great grandfather accomplished it was to greatly upset his first father-in-law, Andrew Schwartz. The prize, however, must go elsewhere. Another Thomas, a son of John of Pangbourne, married a third time and then shortly after died leaving a widow and their combined children. The widow with children from two marriages, having herself been a widow when she married Thomas, remarried and outlived her third husband!

So what if... “Thomas of the window” had not married Fanny Coles in 1806 – they did leave things pretty late by standards of the day. No coaches. No Ray Street. No money. No me ....no you? Maybe!

\* \* \* \* \*

Ann’s painstaking research of the Powells of Bensington and their relations far and near and the setting out of the known histories of each generation weaves a pattern from which I have teased vignettes which put a little more flesh on the bones than the available facts may strictly allow. However, I hope my musings will encourage you to dip into the material to find some of our favorite “uncles and aunts” and to discover your own. I think you will find the “voices” and “figures” that live in your family attic. We, the family, owe Ann Faubion Powell, our own Texan “in-law”, and her earlier family history writers so very much for making that possible.

Oh yes, that boy early on who was sent to his room did indeed have a real uncle and might have had an aunt as well had things worked out differently, but that’s another story.

David John Powell

Byfield, Massachusetts  
December, 2004

Miss Hooligan's Christmas Cake

Sung by Harry Melville and J. M. Gates with success.

(Copies of this Song can always be had at  
The Poet's Box, 10 Hunter Street, Dundee,  
for the small sum of One Penny.)

As I sat at my windy one evening,  
The letter man brought unto me  
A little gilt edged invitation,  
Saying, Gilhooly, come over to tea.  
Sure I knew that the Hooligans sent it,  
So I went just for old friendship's sake,  
And the first thing they gave me to tackle  
Was a piece of Miss Hooligan's cake.

Chorus—There was plums and prunes and cherries,  
And citron and raisins and cinnamon too,  
There was nutmeg, cloves, and berries,  
And the crust it was nailed on with glue.  
There was carraway seeds in abundance, •  
Sure 'twould build up a fine stomachache,  
'Twould kill a man twice after 'ating a slice  
Of Miss Hooligan's Christmas cake,

Miss Mulligan wanted to taste it,  
But really there wasn't no use,  
They worked at it over an hour,  
And they couldn't get none' of it loose.  
Till Hooligan went for the hatchet,  
And Killy came in with a saw,  
That cake was enough, by the powers,  
To paralyze any man's jaw.

Mrs Hooligan, proud as a peacock,  
Kept smiling and blinking away,  
Till she fell over Flanigan's brogans,  
And spilled a whole brewing of tay.  
" Oh, Gilhooly," she cried, " you're not 'ating,  
Try a little bit more for my sake,"  
" No, Mrs Hooligan," sez I,  
" But I'd like the resate of that cake."

Maloney was took with the colic,  
M'Nulty complained of his head,  
M'Fadden lay down on the sofa,  
And swore that he wished he was dead.  
Miss Dally fell down in hysterics,  
And there she did wriggle and shake,  
While every man swore he was poisoned,  
Through 'ating Miss Hooligan's cake.

**A Simplified Chart Showing the Descent of Currently Living Powells from George Powell Who Married into Bensington in 1711.**

Each line represents a generation. Except for the last line showing the four cousins of the last generation, only siblings and their spouses are shown on the same line and only those in our direct line (in bold) or their siblings important to the telling of the family story (two men named Thomas Powell who were brothers of our direct ancestors).

**George Powell ①** married in 1711 Jane Pinnell

**Thomas Powell ②** married in 1747 Mary Bennet  
(1716-1773) (1720-1769)

**Thomas Powell ③** married in 1774 Mary Stockwell  
(1756-1823) (1753-1820)

Thomas Powell ④ m. Fanny Coles (d. 1827)  
*Thomas of the Window*  
(1776-1851)

**John Powell ④** m. Hannah Hussey (d. 1840)  
*John of Pangbourne*  
(1781-1850)

**John Powell ⑤** m. Sarah Schwartz (d. 1850) and then Mary Ann Keen (1826-1889)  
*John of the Two Families*  
(1812-1892)

Thomas Henry Powell ⑥  
m. Ada Thrower  
*Thomas of the Letters*  
(1851-1932)

**Charles Augustus Powell ⑥**  
m. Mary Anne Cumberpatch  
(1853-1931)

**Stewart John Powell ⑦** m. Ethel Ebeling and then Ida Emma Freylach  
(1886-1971) (1887- 1930) (1907-1952)

Audrey R. D. Powell ⑧  
(b. 1919)

**Charles Keith Powell ⑧**  
(b. 1934)  
m. Joan Mary Greenaway

David John Powell ⑧  
(b. 1939)  
m. Ann Ella Faubion

**Simon John Powell ⑨**  
(b.1962)  
m. Tracey Plowman

Mark Stewart Powell ⑨  
(b.1964)  
m. Suzanne Fish

**Andrew Charles Powell ⑨**  
(b.1968)  
m. Janine van Rensburg (Div.)

Gemma Ceri Powell ⑩  
(b.1991)

Matthew David Powell ⑩  
(b. 1994)

Katie Sarah Powell ⑩  
(b. 1999)

Amber Jade Powell ⑩  
(b. 2000)

**Tenth Generation from George Powell Who Married Jane Pinnell at Benson in 1711**

1. Gemma Ceri ⑩ b. 1991 October 12, Tiverton Hospital, Tiverton, Devon  
Daughter of Simon John ⑨ and Tracey Plowman Powell
2. Matthew David ⑩ b. 1994 May 6, Tiverton Hospital, Tiverton, Devon  
Son of Simon John ⑨ and Tracey Plowman Powell
3. Katie Sarah ⑩ b. 1999 March 2, Newport, Isle of Wight  
Daughter of Simon John ⑨ and Tracey Plowman Powell
4. Amber Jade ⑩ b. 2000 10 September, London, England  
Daughter of Andrew Charles ⑨ and Janine Dayle van Rensburg Powell

## **Ninth Generation:**

### **1. Simon John Powell ⑨ (1962-)**

Born 1962 12 February

Son of Charles Keith ⑧ and Joan Mary Greenaway Powell

Married 1990 2 June, Westleigh, Devon

### **Tracey Plowman**

Born 1968 May 7

#### Children:

1. Gemma Ceri Powell ⑩ b. 1991 October 12, Tiverton, Devon
2. Matthew David Powell ⑩ b. 1994 May 6, Tiverton, Devon
3. Katie Sarah Powell ⑩ b. 1999 March 2, Newport, Isle of Wight

### **2. Mark Stewart Powell ⑨ (1964- )**

Born 1964 29 March

Son of Charles Keith ⑧ and Joan Mary Greenaway Powell

Married 1998 3 April

### **Suzanne Fish**

### **3. Andrew Charles Powell ⑨ (1968- )**

Born 1968 December 10

Son of Charles Keith ⑧ and Joan Mary Greenaway Powell

Married 1997 25 October at Chelsea, London

Divorced

### **Janine Dayle van Rensburg**

Born 1969 January 3 at Johannesburg, South Africa

#### Children:

1. Amber Jade Powell ⑩ b. 2000 10 September, London



**Seventh Generation: Stewart John Powell (1886-1971)**

Son of Charles Augustus ⑥ and Mary Anne Cumberpatch Powell  
Chartered Accountant, Chief Financial Officer of H. Young & Co.  
Lived at 26 Ashmount Road, Hornsey; Muswell Hill; Exeter Gardens, Ilford; and  
Orchard Drive, Theydon Bois.

**Stewart John Powell ⑦**

Born 1886 January 18 at Crouch End, North London (Edmonton District, Vol. 8a, p.269)  
Died 1971 February 19 (Redbridge District, Vol. 5d, page 1697)  
Ashes buried at Benson

Married 1<sup>st</sup> **Ethel Blanche Ebeling** 4 September 1913 at Park Chapel Crouch End  
Born December Quarter 1887, Islington District, London (Vol. 1b, page 408).  
Daughter of Charles Louis Ebeling and Emily Ellis  
Died 8 May 1930 at 42 years of age  
Buried in space No.100 in Square G8 of E. Finchley Cemetery  
(Edmonton District, Vol. 3a, page 522).

Children:

1. Audrey Ruth Daphne ⑧ b. 1919 May 30 at 59 Connaught Gardens, Hornsey

Married 2<sup>nd</sup> **Ida Emma Freylach** 16 April 1932 at St. Peters, Upton Cross  
Born 1907 January 8 Daughter of Frederick Charles Freylach and Mary May Stevens  
Died 1952 February 19 at 45 years of age  
(Ilford District, Vol. 52, page 403)  
Ashes buried at Benson, inscription with Stewart John

Children:

1. Charles Keith ⑧ b. 1934 April 22 in Forest Gate, West Ham, Essex  
m. 1959 September 4 to Joan Mary Greenaway at Theydon Bois,  
Essex
2. David John ⑧ b. 1939 March 14 in Exeter Gardens, Ilford, Essex  
m. 1960 to Barbara Gillet at Quarrington Hill, County Durham  
1969 to Helen Condon in Boston, MA, USA  
1985 August 4 to Ann Faubion Armstrong at N. Andover, MA, USA

**Seventh Generation: Stewart John Powell (1886-1971)**

**Married Ethel Blanche Ebeling in 1913 and Ida Emma Freylach in 1932**

Stewart John Powell was born at Crouch End, London on 18 January 1886. Highgate School confirms that he was a student there from September of 1897 to July 1903 where he won prizes for scholarship, books with award plates in the possession of Audrey Powell. During that period his family was residing at 26 Ashmount Road, Crouch End, London.

Stewart was articled in 1901 to William Lewis White of 85 Gresham Street, London in an agreement between S. J. Powell, Wm. L. White, and C. A. Powell. Stewart became a Chartered Accountant in 1909. The family has a gold pencil engraved SJP, London 1909 made by Sampson Mordan & Co, London which marked the occasion.

Stewart first worked for Warrillows Limited, 'fancy box makers' of Hampton House, Birmingham. He is listed as Mr. S. J. Powell, ACA, Secretary. From 1913 to 1919 he worked for W. H. Smith, a major news agent and book seller. In 1919 he joined Jurgens and was posted by that company to Nijmegen in the Netherlands from 1922 to 1924. We are unclear about his positions until the early 1930's when he joined H. Young & Co where he was the chief financial officer until his death

He first married Ethel Blanche Ebeling who appears in the 1901 census as a 13 year old living in Clerkenwell at 47 Mydelton Square with her parents, Charles Ebeling, a Watchmaker's foreman, aged 46 born in London, Westminster, and Emily Ebeling, aged 46 born in Islington, London. Ethel was also born in Islington, London.

Stewart and Ethel were married on 4 September 1913 at Park Chapel, Crouch End, Edmonton District, Middlesex. He is described as a 27 year old bachelor, Chartered Accountant of 7 Leaside Avenue, Muswell Hill, son of Charles Augustus Powell, Solicitor. She is described as a 25 year old spinster of 10 Connaught Road, Stroud Green, daughter of Charles Louis Ebeling, Diamond Merchant. The witnesses were Thomas Kelly and Gertrude Watts. They were married by J. T. Maxwell, Minister, according to the ceremonies of the Congregationalists by Certificate.

Their only child, Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell, was born at their home, 59 Connaught Gardens, Hornsey, Middlesex on 30 May 1919. Ethel Powell died on 8 May 1930 and is buried in East Finchley Cemetery. Stewart and Audrey then moved into 'digs' in Muswell Hill with Mr. and Mrs. Rolley, a tea planter. Audrey was at boarding school during her mother's final illness and after her death.

On 16 April 1932, Stewart Powell, 46 year old widower and Chartered Accountant of 24 Wyatt Road, West Ham, Essex, son of Charles Augustus Powell (Deceased), Solicitor, married Ida Emma Freylach, 25 year old spinster of 24 Wyatt Road, daughter of Frederick Charles Freylach, Clerk at St. Peters, Upton Cross after banns by A. I. Parry, Vicar. Witnesses to the wedding were F. C. Freylach and Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell – aged 13.

Ida Emma Freylach Powell died on 19 February 1952. Her ashes are buried at Benson. Stewart John Powell died on 19 February 1971. His ashes are buried at Benson with his wife, Ida Emma.

## The Ebeling Family

Stewart John Powell married Ethel Blanche Ebeling in the Edmonton District, September Quarter, 1913 (Vol. 3a, page 1473). Ethel was the daughter of Charles Louis Ebeling and Emily Ellis.

Charles Louis Ebeling was born in the June Quarter of 1854 in Westminster District (recorded Volume 1d, page 271). His parents married on 7 May 1853 in the Strand District (Volume 1b, page 547). Carl Heinrich Zimbert Ebeling, 25, bachelor watchmaker of 7 Hollen Street married Louisa Hebbert, 21, spinster of 80 Dean Street. They were wed by license at St. Anne, Westminster. His father was Zimbert Joachim Ebeling, Schoolmaster and her father was James Richard Hebbert, Coach Proprietor. The witnesses were Charles Victor Adolphe Nicole and Harriet Hebbert.

In the 1861 census, the family is living at 24, Charrington Street, Pancras and appears as follows:

|                 |      |         |    |            |                      |
|-----------------|------|---------|----|------------|----------------------|
| Charles Ebeling | Head | Married | 32 | Watchmaker | b. Germany           |
| Louisa Ebeling  | Wife | Married | 29 |            | b. London, Middlesex |
| Charles Ebeling | Son  | Single  | 6  |            | b. London, Middlesex |
| Edgar Ebeling   | Son  | Single  | 5  |            | b. London, Middlesex |

Carl Heinrich Zimbert Ebeling died in December Quarter of 1864 in the Pancras District (Volume 1b, page 140). Louisa Hebbert Ebeling married James Inman in the March Quarter of 1868 in Marylebone District (Vol. 1a, page 775). In the 1871 census the family is living at 10 Cleveland, St. Marylebone and appears as follows (the name Inman is transcribed as Tuman but is clearly Inman on the original:

|                       |         |      |    |                 |                             |
|-----------------------|---------|------|----|-----------------|-----------------------------|
| James Inman           | Married | Head | 60 | House Decorator | b. Lincolnshire, Horncastle |
| Louisa Inman          | Married | Wife | 39 |                 | b. Marylebone               |
| Edgar Zimbert Ebeling |         | Son  | 15 | Scholar         | b. St. Pancras              |

(transcribed as Edgar Jimbert Ebeline)

I have been unable to locate Charles Louis in the 1871 census.

In the June Quarter 1878 marriage records for London Middlesex (Vol. 1b, page 424) Charles Louis Ebeling married Emily Ellis. Emily was the daughter of Joseph Ellis, a printer, and his wife Mary G. Ellis who were witnesses at the wedding. The wedding was on June 1 at the Holy Trinity Church, Islington after banns.

The 1871 census gives this view of the family of Emily Ellis living at 8 Huntingdon Street in Islington, St. Mary Parish:

|               |    |      |         |          |                              |
|---------------|----|------|---------|----------|------------------------------|
| Joseph Ellis  | 48 | head | Printer | Composer | b. Holborn, Middlesex        |
| Mary G. Ellis | 46 | wife |         |          | b. Blakeney, Gloucestershire |
| Emily Ellis   | 17 | dau  | Scholar |          | b. St. Pancras, Middlesex    |
| Jessie Ellis  | 15 | dau  |         |          | b. Clerkenwell, Middlesex    |
| Joseph Ellis  | 13 | son  |         |          | b. Clerkenwell, Middlesex    |
| Jane Ellis    | 9  | dau  |         |          | b. Clerkenwell, Middlesex    |
| Walter Ellis  | 7  | son  |         |          | b. Clerkenwell, Middlesex    |

They have a 17 year old female servant named Betsy Bully.

Emily Ellis was born in 1853 (March Quarter, Pancras, London, Middlesex (Vol. 1b, page 148).

In the 1881 census we find the young family at No. 62 Huntingdon Street, London, Middlesex:

|                 |      |         |              |             |
|-----------------|------|---------|--------------|-------------|
| Charles Ebeling | Head | 27      | b. Middlesex | Watch Maker |
| Emily Ebeling   | Wife | 26      | b. Middlesex |             |
| Charles Ebeling | Son  | 2       | b. Middlesex |             |
| Ruth Ebeling    | Dau  | 1 month | b. Middlesex |             |

The family has a female servant, Alice Lineham, aged 17.

In the 1891 census we find Charles Ebeling, aged 36, living at 55 Isledon Road with his wife, Emily also aged 36, a son Charles aged 11, and a daughter Ethel aged 3. They had one servant. Charles is listed as a watchmaker's foreman. Ruth Ebeling died in the March Quarter of 1882, Islington District, Vol. 1b, Page 288. It appears that Audrey Powell may have gotten one of her names from this aunt who died young.

In the 1901 census, Charles and Emily, both aged 46, are living at 47 Myddelton Square, Islington, St. Marks Parish, with only their 13 year old daughter, Ethel. Charles is listed as a watchmaker working 'on his own account.' Ethel's older brother's full name appears to have been Charles Christian H. Ebeling and he was born in 1879 (June Quarter Births, Islington District, Greater London, Middlesex, Vol. 1b, page 425. It is unclear whether or not he survived to adulthood. I have not, to date, been able to locate him in records.

To follow Charles Ebeling the elder's younger brother (Ethel's uncle) a bit further, he married Emma Eleanor Pearson in the December Quarter of 1870 in Stepney District, Volume 1c, page 936. They appear in the 1881 census at 4 Laurence Place, Lambeth as follows:

|                       |               |         |    |                          |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------|----|--------------------------|
| Edgar Zimbert Ebeling | Head          | Married | 25 | b. St. Pancras           |
| Emma Eleanor Ebeling  | Wife          | Married | 24 | b. Groby, Leicestershire |
| Amelia Bryan Pearson  | Sister-in-Law | Single  | 22 | b. Groby, Leicestershire |

The two sisters were the daughters of Lydia Pearson, born Leicester who in the 1871 census is a widow keeping a boarding house in Hastings, Sussex.

The name Ebeling is unusual and there are not many of the name in England during this period. Initially, Ethel's father was confused with another Charles Ebeling born a couple of years earlier. This Charles Ebeling belongs to a family that has many name similarities with Ethel's family and it is reasonable to assume that they are closely related. They appear as follows in the census:

|                 |      |            |                      |         |
|-----------------|------|------------|----------------------|---------|
| Henrich Ebeling | Head | b. c. 1821 | Hanover, Germany     | Furrier |
| Jane Ebeling    | Wife | b.c. 1826  | St. Luke, Middlesex  |         |
| Charles Ebeling | Son  | b.c. 1852  | Islington, Middlesex |         |
| Jane Ebeling    | Dau  | b.c. 1857  | Islington, Middlesex |         |
| Louisa Ebeling  | Dau  | b.c. 1859  | Islington, Middlesex |         |
| Henry Ebeling   | Son  | b.c. 1861  | Islington, Middlesex |         |
| James Ebeling   | Son  | b.c. 1864  | Islington, Middlesex |         |
| Ernest Ebeling  | Son  | b.c. 1866  | Islington, Middlesex |         |

The family has at least one servant and is living in Islington, St. Mary.

## The Freylach Family

Ida Emma Freylach was born on 8 January 1907 at 253 Thorold Road (the family home), Ilford, Essex, the daughter of Frederick Charles Freylach, Correspondent, and Mary May Freylach formerly Stevens.

Frederick Charles Freylach, aged 25, Bachelor, Correspondent of 15 Skelton Road, Forest Gate, West Ham, Essex, married Mary May Stevens, aged 28, Spinster, of 19 Skelton Road on 5 August 1899. He was the son of Frederick Charles Freylach (deceased), Banker, and she was the daughter of Henry George Stevens (deceased), Warehouseman. They were married at Emmanuel Church, Parish of Forest Gate, West Ham after banns. Witnesses to the wedding were Henry James Stevens, brother of the bride, and Mark Emery.

Mark Emery, I presume a friend of the groom, is in the 1901 census at 8 St. James Road, West Ham. He was 42 years old, born in the City of London and was a Tailor Coat Maker. His wife was Elizabeth A. Emery, aged 41, born City of London. They had children: Elizabeth A. Emery, 19; Mark Emery, 18; Reuben Emery, 16; Ernest Emery, 15; Horace Emery, 5; Leonard Emery 1; and Winifred Emery, 1 month.

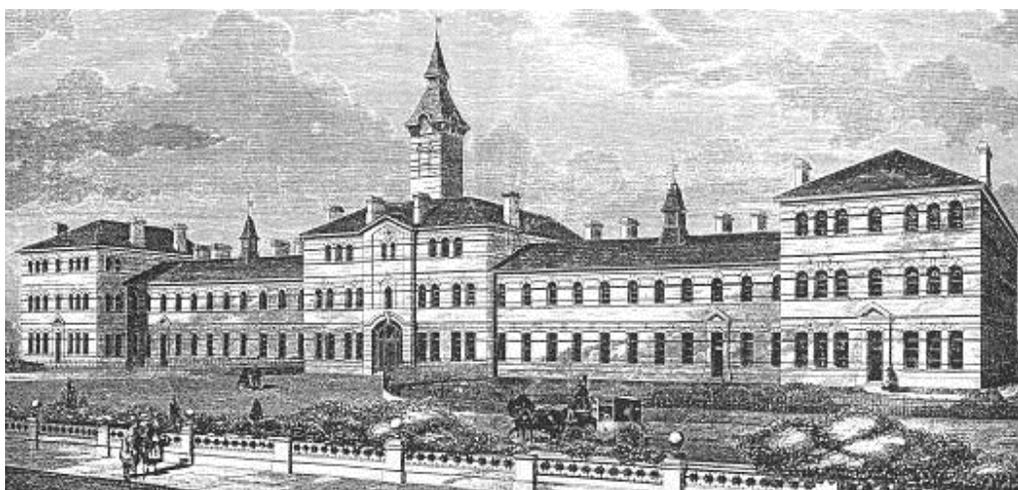
It has long been thought that Frederick Charles Freylach was Austrian but until recently we were unable to find any record to prove this. We have now found the 1901 census record for the family at 253 Thorold Road, Ilford, which lists Frederick C. Freylach as head, 26 years old, Clerk in the shipping trade, born Austria, an Austrian subject. Mary M. Freylach, wife, is 31, born Islington and living with them is Matilda A. Stevens, Mary May's mother, 70 years old, born Newington, Surrey. (The record was hard to find because the name was indexed as Feylark (Essex, Ilford, District 8, page 20).

Frederick Charles Freylach was interned during World War I in Holloway as an enemy alien. David John Powell remembers his mother, Ida Emma Freylach Powell, talking about visiting her father during that period and Charles Keith Powell has in his possession a letter written by Frederick Charles Freylach to his daughter, Ida, on the occasion of her birthday on 5 January 1919 which begins: "My dearly loved Ida, Now you are nearly 12 years old and Daddy is sending you his best wishes, so that you may be kept healthy and strong, good and kind."

For many years it was assumed that Frederick Charles Freylach was interned in Holloway Prison. However, from Mr. John Walling of the Anglo-German Family History Society we have learned that he was probably held in an Internment Camp about two miles north of Holloway Prison. To quote Mr. Walling, "St. Mary's Institution, Islington, really a workhouse in Holloway, is a very remarkable establishment. In place of the grey-haired sentries with their carbines and bayonets whom one finds in other camps, the total guard of the 722 inmates here consists of one sergeant and four police constables. The explanation is that all these aliens are married to top English wives, have been over 10 years in the country, and in many cases are strongly British in their sympathies. Their wives visit them for half an hour once a week." The

material from Mr. Walling was shared by Olive Wittich Gardner whose own father was interned in this camp.

Built before 1863 as the City of London Union Workhouse, the building where Frederick Charles Freylach was interned was bought by the Islington Board of Guardians in 1882 and renamed St. Mary's. In the 20th Century it became the General Post Office Telecommunications Workshops and the GPO Postal Order Office. Mrs. Gardner reports that the internees were apparently allowed considerable freedom because her father and his first wife managed to have two children while he was interned. Mrs. Gardner was a child of his second marriage. The workhouse faced on Cornwallis Road (earlier known as Shadwell Road) and was a large t-shaped building. Its site is now occupied by housing.



*St. Mary's Institution, Cornwallis Road, Upper Holloway in an engraving showing it as it was to be built in the 1860's. We have found no image of the structure after this and so do not have much idea of what it looked like during World War I when Frederick Charles Freylach was interned here.*

Photos of Frederick Charles Freylach show a debonair man who always wore a 'button hole' and who seems to exhibit a great zest for life. He was clearly adored by his wife and daughter. He died on 26 January 1934 at the age of 59 years and is buried in the City of London Cemetery. The inscription on his headstone reads as follows:

In loving memory  
of  
my dear husband  
Frederick Charles Freylach  
who passed away 26<sup>th</sup> January 1934  
after long suffering  
aged 59 years  
"Too well loved to be forgotten."

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Rodwell

Mary May Stevens Freylach lived with Stewart John Powell and his family until her death in the September Quarter (actually in August) of 1949 at age 80 (Ilford District, Vol. 5a, page 279).

## The Stevens Family

Mary May Stevens was the wife of Frederick Charles Freylach and the mother of Ida Emma Freylach Powell. She was the daughter of Matilda A. Tyler Stevens and Henry George Stevens, a Warehouse Man according to her marriage certificate. She was born in Islington in June Quarter of 1869 (Volume 1b, page 376).

Matilda Ann Tyler was the daughter of James Baigent. Tyler and his wife Ann. The family appears in the 1851 census on 40 Downham Road in West Hackney, District 17, page 68:

|                   |      |   |    |                              |                      |
|-------------------|------|---|----|------------------------------|----------------------|
| James Baig. Tyler | Head | M | 42 | Clerk & Accountant           | b. Gosport           |
| Ann Tyler         | Wife | M | 42 |                              | b. Petworth, Sussex  |
| Matilda A. Tyler  | Dau  | U | 20 | Governess/<br>Private school | b. Newington, Surrey |
| Henry C. Tyler    | Son  | U | 17 | Clerk to attorneys           | b. Shoreditch        |
| Kate Tyler        | Dau  | U | 12 | Scholar                      | b. Shoreditch        |
| Alfred Tyler      | Son  | U | 8  | Scholar                      | b. Shoreditch        |
| George Tyler      | Son  | U | 5  | Scholar                      | b. Shoreditch        |

The family has one 18 year old female servant born in Ireland.

Matilda Ann Tyler married Henry George Stevens in the March Quarter of 1856 in the Hackney District, Vol. 1b, page 354. According to the marriage certificate, Henry George Stevens was a 27 year old widower, resident at No1, Northampton Villas, Kingsland, the son of John William Stevens, Fishmonger. Matilda Ann was 25 and a spinster, resident at No. 40, Downham Road, DeBeauvoir Town. She was the daughter of James Biagent Tyler, a public accountant.

In the 1851 census, Henry George Stevens is living with his parents, John and Mary at 10 Norway Place, Hackney Road (Middlesex, Bethnal Green, Hackney Road, District 18, page 13).

The family appears as follows:

|               |      |   |    |                           |                |
|---------------|------|---|----|---------------------------|----------------|
| John Stevens  | Head | M | 52 | Fishmonger                | b. Shoreditch  |
| Mary Stevens  | Wife | M | 50 |                           | b. Rye, Sussex |
| Henry Stevens | Son  | U | 23 | Straw Bonnet Warehouseman | b. Shoreditch  |
| Mary Stevens  | Dau  | U | 21 | Fancy Box Maker           | b. Shoreditch  |
| Frederick     | Son  | U | 17 |                           | b. Shoreditch  |
| Joseph        | Son  | U | 15 |                           | b. Shoreditch  |

Henry George Stevens died at age 41 in Islington District, December Quarter of 1869 (Vol. 1b, page 226).

We have not been able to find the family in the 1861 census; this may be due to a number of schedules being missing or because the family was missed on census night or because the names were badly transcribed.

The 1871 census (London, Hackney St. John, District 17b, page 43) tells begins the story of her family. We find the family living at 58 Greenwood Rd., St. John, Hackney:

|                    |    |      |              |                        |
|--------------------|----|------|--------------|------------------------|
| Matilda A. Stevens | 40 | Head | b. Surrey    | (She is a widow)       |
| Henry J. Stevens   | 14 | Son  | b. Islington | working in a warehouse |
| George P. Stevens  | 12 | Son  | b. Islington | working in a warehouse |

|                    |    |        |                         |         |
|--------------------|----|--------|-------------------------|---------|
| Herbert A. Stevens | 9  | Son    | b. West Hackney         | Scholar |
| Albert E. Stevens  | 8  | Son    | b. Hornsey              | Scholar |
| John S. Stevens    | 3  | Son    | b. ? (the page is torn) |         |
| Mary May Stevens   | 1  | Dau.   | b. ?                    |         |
| Ann Tyler          | 60 | Mother | b. ?                    |         |
| Lillian F. Tyler   | 13 | Niece  | b. ?                    |         |

In the 1871 census, Walter M. Stevens, born Islington, is a student at the Warehousemen & Clerks School in Beddington, Surrey (District 1, page 25).

In the 1881 census (Islington East, District 12, page 9) we find the family living at 59 Mildmay Rd., London, Middlesex:

|                    |    |        |                       |                   |
|--------------------|----|--------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Matilda A. Stevens | 50 | Head   | b. Newington, Surrey  | Annuitant         |
| Henry J. Stevens   | 24 | Son    | b. Hackney, Middlesex | Dpy Warehouseman  |
| George D. Stevens  | 22 | Son    | b. Hackney            | Accountants Clerk |
| Walter M. Stevens  | 21 | Son    | b. Hornsey            | Mercantile Clerk  |
| Albert E. Stevens  | 18 | Son    | b. Hornsey            | Mercantile        |
| Mary M. Stevens    | 11 | Dau    | b. Islington          | Scholar           |
| Anne Tyler         | 72 | Mother | b. Petworth, Sussex   |                   |

In the 1891 census, eight years before her marriage, we find the following entry for the family of Mary May Stevens at 3 Blenheim Road, Wanstead, Essex:

Matilda A. Stevens, Head, Widow, 60 and an annuitant, b. London, Newington  
 Henry J. Stevens, Son, single, 34, Warehouse Manager, b. Hackney, London  
 Mary May Stevens, Daughter, 21, Waitress at an Inn, born Islington, London.

Also in the 1891 census, Mary May's brother Walter is living in the Dalston section of Hackney (District 11, page 44) at 34 Forest Road:

|                   |      |    |                |           |
|-------------------|------|----|----------------|-----------|
| Walter M. Stevens | Head | 31 | Draper's Clerk | b. London |
| Minnie            | Wife | 26 |                | b. London |
| Ethel L.          | Dau  | 3  |                | b. London |

By the 1901 census, Walter is living at 53 Chevet Street in Hackney (District 6, page 20):

|                   |               |    |                |           |
|-------------------|---------------|----|----------------|-----------|
| Walter M. Stevens | Head          | 41 | Draper's Clerk | b. London |
| Minnie            | Wife          | 38 |                | b. London |
| Ethel L.          | Dau           | 12 |                | b. London |
| Grace D.          | Dau           | 7  |                | b. London |
| Albert D.         | Son           | 4  |                | b. London |
| Percy G.          | Son           | 1  |                | b. London |
| Louisa Hill       | Sister-in-Law | 43 | Single         | b, London |

Also in the 1891 census, Mary May's brother, Herbert A. Stevens, is living at 71 Woodland St., Hackney (Hackney District 9, page 55):

|                    |      |    |       |                        |
|--------------------|------|----|-------|------------------------|
| Herbert A. Stevens | Head | 29 | Clerk | b. London, Clapton     |
| Frances A. Stevens | Wife | 29 |       | b. London, Clerkenwell |
| Frances M. Stevens | Dau  | 1  |       | b. London, Hackney     |
| Herbert W. Stevens | Son  | 4  |       | b. London, City Road   |

In the 1901 census, Herbert has moved his family to Cann Hall, Essex (District 9, page 19) and they appear as follows:

|                 |      |    |                  |                            |
|-----------------|------|----|------------------|----------------------------|
| Herbert Stevens | Head | 39 | Commercial Clerk | b.London, Stoke Newington  |
| Frances         | Wife | 39 |                  | b. London, Clerkenwell     |
| Herbert         | Son  | 14 | Commercial Clerk | b. London, St. Lukes       |
| Frances         | Dau  | 11 | Scholar          | b. London, Hackney         |
| Harry           | Son  | 8  | Scholar          | b. Essex                   |
| Edwin           | Son  | 7  | Scholar          | b. Middlesex, Enfield      |
| Doris           | Dau  | 4  |                  | b. London, Stoke Newington |

In the 1891 census, George D. Stevens has married and is living in St. Martha, Surrey in “The Cottage” (District 14, page 6):

|                   |         |    |                              |           |
|-------------------|---------|----|------------------------------|-----------|
| George D. Stevens | Head    | 32 | Sub. Manager Gunpowder Works | b. London |
| Mary A. E.        | Wife    | 28 |                              | b. London |
| Constance M.      | Dau     | 7  | Scholar                      | b. London |
| Amy M.            | Dau     | 6  |                              | b. Surrey |
| Gertrude          | Dau     | 3  |                              | b. Surrey |
| Isabel L. Ingrahm | Visitor | 24 | Draper’s Clerk               | b. London |
| Louisa F. Brazel  | Serv.   | 13 | General Domestic             | b. Surrey |

In the 1901 census, George is still in “The Cottage” (Surrey, St. Martha, District 14, page 2) in the Hambledon Rural District:

|                   |      |    |                             |           |
|-------------------|------|----|-----------------------------|-----------|
| George D. Stevens | Head | 42 | Sub-Manager Gunpowder Works | b. London |
| Mary A. B.        | Wife | 38 |                             | b. London |
| Constance         | Dau  | 17 |                             | b. London |
| Amy Maud          | Dau  | 16 |                             | b. Surrey |
| Gertrude          | Dau  | 13 |                             | b. Surrey |
| Harold D.         | Son  | 7  |                             | b. Surrey |
| Winifred          | Dau  | 4  |                             | b. Surrey |

In the 1891 census, Albert E. Stevens is living in Willesden, Middlesex (District 1, page 62) at “Home Villa”:

|                   |      |           |               |           |
|-------------------|------|-----------|---------------|-----------|
| Albert E. Stevens | Head | 24        | Bankers Clerk | b. London |
| Elizabeth         | Wife | 22        |               | b. London |
| Albert L.         | Son  | 11 months |               | b. London |

There is one 14 year old domestic female servant.

In the 1901 census, Albert and his family have moved to Ilford, Essex (District 5, page 20) and are living at 158 St. Alban’s Road:

|                   |      |    |               |           |
|-------------------|------|----|---------------|-----------|
| Albert E. Stevens | Head | 38 | Bankers Clerk | b. London |
| Elizabeth         | Wife | 31 |               | b. London |
| Albert L.         | Son  | 10 |               | b. London |
| Edward V.         | Son  | 9  |               | b. London |
| Roland S.         | Son  | 8  |               | b. London |
| Doris M.          | Dau  | 4  |               | b. London |

In the September Quarter of 1891, the marriage of Henry James Stevens to Emma Laura Rose is recorded. She was the daughter of George and Rebecca Rose and was born at Barton Stacey, Hampshire where her father was an agricultural laborer.

(Her family is recorded there in the 1871 census (Hampshire, Barton Stacey, District 2, page 13) when she is 5 months old. By the 1881 census, the family has moved to Andover, her father is listed as a Railway Porter and her mother has died and been replaced by a second wife named Annie. The family is living on Moreway Road in one of Watson's Cottages. By the 1891 census, Emma Laura is in domestic service in Forest Gate at No. 1 Latimer Road. She was working for William Dadds, 55, Schoolmaster LSB, his wife and his three grown children who were also teachers.)

Henry Stevens, his wife, mother and sister, Mary May, were all living at 19 Skelton Road, Upton, West Ham, Essex at the time of Mary May Stevens' wedding in 1899.

In the 1901 census, the eldest son, Henry J. Stevens, and his family are living at the same address:

Henry J. Stevens, Head, 44, born Islington, London

Emma L. Stevens, Wife, 30, born Hampshire (here it says Alresford  
where before it has been Barton Stacey)

Harold J. Stevens, son, 8, born Stratford, Essex

Stanley Stevens, son, 6, born Forest Gate, Essex

Eva J. Stevens, daughter, 2, born Stratford, Essex

Rhoda M. Stevens, daughter, 7 months, born Upton, Essex

Henry was employed as an Artificial Flower Traveller. The family had a visitor staying on census day, Maria L. Green, widow, 64, born Stepney, London.

Henry J. Stevens was the eldest son, the witness at Mary May's wedding, and was, no doubt, the male head of the family during her childhood. It is likely that Ida Emma's second name honors Henry J. Stevens' wife, Emma Laura Rose Stevens. Their children were the first cousins of Ida Emma Freylach and played a large role in her life. Eva and Rhoda Stevens survived into at least the 1970's living at Shepperton on Thames.

In the 1901 census, Matilda Ann Tyler Stevens is a 70 year old living with her daughter Mary May Stevens Freylach and her son-in-law Frederick Charles Freylach. Matilda Ann Tyler Stevens died at age 78 in 1909 (March Quarter, Romford District, Essex, Volume 4a, page 315).

**Sixth Generation: Charles Augustus Powell (1853-1931)**

Son of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Solicitor (Sheffield Sons & Powell, 23 St. Swithin's Lane, City of London)

Retired to Craigmere, Rusper Road, Horsham

**Charles Augustus Powell ⑥**

Born 1853 May 24 in Islington

Died 1931 March Quarter at 85 (Horsham District, Vol. 2b, page 566) and buried in plot 146 of Section C, Hills Cemetery in Horsham

Married 1880 September 21 at Holloway Chapel, Camden Road, Islington

**Mary Anne Cumberpatch**

Born 1848 December Quarter in the Marylebone District, London, daughter of George Cumberpatch, Waiter

Died 1924 May 24, aged 75 (Horsham, Volume 2b, page 384) and buried by Charles Augustus

Children:

1. **Stewart John ⑦** b. 1886 January 18  
m. Ethel Ebeling  
m. Ida Emma Freylach  
d. 1971 February 19
  
2. **Donovan Ernest ⑦** b. 1891 (Sept. Quarter, Greater London Middlesex, Vol. 1b, page 215)  
d. 1960 December 20  
Rochford District, Essex (Vol. 4a, p. 713)

**Sixth Generation: Charles Augustus Powell (1853-1931)**

***Charlie of the Letters***

**Married Mary Anne Cumberpatch in 1880**

We have the birth certificate for Charles Augustus Powell. He was born on 24 May 1853 at 14 Manchester Terrace, Liverpool Road (the family's home), Islington, London. His father, John Powell (listed as Gentleman), registered the birth and his mother was Mary Ann Powell, formerly Keen. He was the second son of the marriage.

We know that Charles Augustus Powell was trained as a solicitor and practiced in the firm of Sheffield Sons & Powell at 23 St. Swithin's Lane in the City of London. Apparently, Charles Augustus read law and went into practice with solicitors who were the sons of men who had been well known to the family for many years. (See Sheffield Family below.)

The 1871 census shows Charles Augustus as a 17 year old law student 'visiting' in the home of his maternal uncle William Keen (aged 40) at 69 City Road, Finsbury, London. Mr. Keen is listed as a master tailor employing 7 men. Also in the household are the wife, Fanny Keen aged 40, a son William Charles, aged 4; two male boarders who are builders' clerks and apparently their sister who is listed as visiting and is a school teacher in training.

We have a copy of Charles Augustus' wedding certificate. On 21 September 1880 he was 27 years old and he married Mary Anne Cumberpatch, aged 31, spinster. He is already listed as a Solicitor resident at 89 Isledon Road, the son of John Powell whose rank is listed as 'Independent,' meaning he lived on his own means. Mary Anne is listed as residing at 6 Annette Road, the daughter of George Cumberpatch who is the Manager of an Hotel. The marriage was performed at Holloway Chapel, Camden Road, an Independent venue, not Church of England. It was witnessed by John Powell, Thomas Henry Powell, George Cumberpatch and Judith Anne Cumberpatch, the bride's sister.

In the 1881 census the couple is living at 89 Isledon Road with a 16 year old servant girl named Emma Avis.

In the 1891 census the couple is living at 26 Ashmount Road, Islington, Upper Holloway, London. Charles Augustus is listed as a 37 year old solicitor and head of the household. His wife Mary A Powell is 41 and his son, Stewart J. Powell is 5. Also in the household is his sister-in-law Fanny (Frances) Cumberpatch aged 38 and his sister-in-law Judith A. Cumberpatch aged 31, a milliner. Finally, there is a servant, Emily Field, who is listed as 'slightly deaf.'

In the 1901 census, Charles August Powell (47, born Islington), his wife Mary Ann (51, born Pimlico), his sons Stewart John (15, born Stroud Green) and Donovan Ernest (9, born Crouch End) are living at 26 Ashmount Road, Islington, with a live-in servant, Louise Beddingfield (21). When the census was taken, they also had a houseguest, Frances A. Cumberpatch (47), a single lady who was born in London and Mary Ann's younger sister.

Charles Augustus Powell retired to a house called Craigmore which he built in Rusper Road, Horsham, Sussex. Plans for the house are in the possession of Charles Keith Powell. Mary Ann Cumberpath Powell died at Horsham on 24 May 1924 at the age of 75 and is buried at Hill Cemetery, Horsham. Charles August died on 2 February 1931 and is buried next to Mary Ann, his wife. In his last years, his sister-in-law, Judith Cumperpatch, sometimes lived with him and is mentioned in letters written to Charles Augustus by his brother, Thomas Henry Powell. She is also remembered fondly in his will. Charles Augustus' younger son, Donovan Ernest, also lived at home.

The executors of Charles Augustus' estate were Stewart John Powell of 47 Pages Hill, Muswell Hill, Middlesex, Chartered Accountant, and Donovan Ernest Powell of Craigmore, aforesaid, of no occupation, sons of the deceased. His will provides for:

- To my son Stewart John Powell the gold watch and neck chain that belonged to my Father
- To my son Donovan Ernest Powell three articles of my jewellery to be selected by him.
- To my son Stewart the forgiveness of the debt of £269 which he owes me.
- To my son Donovan the forgiveness of the debt of £252, 8 shillings and 6 pence which he owes me.
- To his Trustees the sum of £800 to invest at a rate of 5% to pay the same income to my sister-in-law Judith Cumberpatch during her life as a slight token of my recognition of the great kindness I have received from her since the death of my wife and after Judith's death the principal of said sum shall fall into and form part of my residuary estate.
- To my nurse Miss Sercombe the legacy of £40 if she shall be in my service at the time of my death and not under notice to leave either given or received.
- All the residue of my estate and effects to my sons as tenants in common.

## The Sheffield Family

We know that Charles Augustus Powell was trained as a solicitor and practiced in the firm of Sheffield Sons & Powell at 23 St. Swithin's Lane in the City of London. The Post Office London Directory for 1882 lists Charles Augustus Powell, Solicitor at 20 Culum Street EC and resident at 89 Isledon Road, Holloway N. Frederick Sheffield is listed as a solicitor practicing at the same 20 Culum Street EC address. In the London Post Office directory for 1895, both Charles Augustus Powell and Frederick Sheffield are listed as practicing law at 23 St. Swithin's Lane. In the 1910 directory, C. A. Powell of 31 Leaside Avenue, Muswell Hill, is still practicing law at 23 St. Swithin's Lane but he has been joined by Lancelot Hull Sheffield of 66 Dennington Park Road, West Hampstead.

Reference to the census shows that Lancelot Hull Sheffield was the son of Frederick Sheffield. They appear in the 1901 census at Beech Hill House in Reigate when Frederick is 55 and Lancelot H. Sheffield is a 21 year old Oxford undergraduate. Frederick Sheffield was born in June Quarter of 1846 in Hackney District (Volume 3, Page 194). He married Mary Geraldine Ohely in June Quarter of 1871 on the Isle of Wight. In the 1881 and 1891 census they are living in Croydon with a growing family and servants. In the 1871 census, Frederick is unmarried and living on Anerley Park, Penge, Surrey with his sisters, Elizabeth N. and Mary and three servants – the parents were apparently away from home for the census. His parents were, in fact, in Hastings with his aunt. Isaac Sheffield 69 year old solicitor, born Whitechapel. His wife is Isabelle M. Sheffield, 65, born Strand. Her sister is Emma Lee, unmarried aged 63, born Strand. The parents are at home in the 1881 census on Anerley Park, Penge with their two daughters, Elizabeth N. and Mary.

The 1851 census ties Frederick directly to the solicitors who witnessed the wills of Sebastian and Andrew Schwartz in the 1830's and 1850's - Isaac Sheffield, Jr. and William Sheffield. In that census in South Hackney (Dist. 7, page 27) on Mare Street we find:

|                 |      |           |    |                          |                |
|-----------------|------|-----------|----|--------------------------|----------------|
| Isaac Sheffield | Head | Widower   | 49 | Solicitor                | b. Whitechapel |
| William         | “    | Son Unmar | 24 | Solicitor                | b. Whitechapel |
| Sophia          | Dau  | “         | 23 |                          | b. Whitechapel |
| Elizabeth       | Dau  | “         | 21 |                          | b. Whitechapel |
| Isaac           | Son  | “         | 20 | Clerk to Lumber Merchant | b. “           |
| John            | Son  | “         | 14 | Scholar                  | b. Whitechapel |
| Thomas          | Son  | “         | 13 | Scholar                  | b. Whitechapel |
| Mary            | Dau  | “         | 10 | Scholar                  | b. Hackney     |
| Frederick       | Son  | “         | 5  |                          | b. Hackney     |

There are two female servants.

## The Cumberpatch Family

Mary Anne Cumberpatch (her name is given as Mary Ann and Mary Anne, depending on the record) married Charles Augustus Powell on 21 September 1880 at Holloway Chapel, Camden Road, Islington. She was born 1848/9 in Pimlico, London. Her parents were George Cumberpatch and Judith Woods Cumberpatch. Their marriage is recorded in the June Quarter of 1848 in St. George Hanover Square District, London, Vol. 1, page 55.

In the 1851 census, we find the Cumberpatch family at 6 Stafford Place South, St. Margaret's Westminster, Middlesex (Dist. 14, page 38):

|                    |         |              |                       |
|--------------------|---------|--------------|-----------------------|
| George Cumberpatch | Head    | 27 years old | b. Coventry           |
| Judith Cumberpatch | Wife    | 26 years old | b. Reepham, Norfolk   |
| Mary Ann           | Dau     | 2 years old  | b. Pimlico            |
| Fanny Woods        | Visitor | 54 years old | b. Guestwick, Norfolk |

(Monthly Nurse and listed as a widow)

The family was still living at this address when Mary Ann's younger brother, George William, was born in 1853. George Cumberpatch is listed as a waiter.

In the 1861 census, we find the family living in Middle Lane, Hornsey, Edmonton District as follows:

|                       |      |              |                                   |
|-----------------------|------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| George Cumberpatch    | Head | 37 years old | Waiter b. Coventry                |
| Judith Cumberpatch    | Wife | 35           | b. Reepham                        |
| Mary A. Cumberpatch   | Dau  | 12           | Scholar b. St. George Hanover Sq. |
| George Cumberpatch    | Son  | 7            | Scholar b. St. George Hanover Sq. |
| Chas. H. Cumberpatch  | Son  | 5            | Scholar b. St. George Hanover Sq. |
| Judith A. Cumberpatch | Dau  | 1            | b. Hornsey                        |

The 1871 census the family has moved and is living at 6 Annette Road, Islington, the same address that appears on Mary Anne's marriage record in 1880. The family configuration is as follows:

|                    |    |      |                          |                           |
|--------------------|----|------|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| George Cumberpatch | 46 | Head | Waiter                   | b. Coventry, Warwickshire |
| Judith Cumberpatch | 45 | Wife |                          | b. Reepham, Norfolk       |
| Mary Cumberpatch   | 22 | Dau  |                          | b. Westminster, Middlesex |
| George Cumberpatch | 17 | Son  | hand lithographic writer | b. Westminster, Middlesex |
| Judith Cumberpatch | 11 | Dau  |                          | b. Hornsey, Middlesex     |
| Edith Cumberpatch  | 9  | Dau  |                          | b. Hornsey, Middlesex     |

Another daughter, Frances Cumberpatch, aged 18, appears in the census in the household of Louisa E. Collins, Draper, as an assistant. She was born in Westminster, Middlesex. The establishment is in High Street, Stoke Newington. It is composed of the head, a sister who is a dress maker, a brother who is an assistant to the head, an apprentice draper, a 3 year old son and a female servant.

Judith Woods Cumberpatch died aged 47 in 1872. Her death is recorded in the September Quarter for 1872, Islington District, Vol. 1b, page 213.

In 1881, George Cumberpatch, Sr., widower, is listed as an hotel manager and waiter at Lanes Hotel, 1-2-3 St. Alban's Place, Westminster. His daughter Frances, aged 28, is living with him and the third person listed is the Housekeeper, Eliza Limmer, a widow, aged 45, born Norfolk.

In the 1891, George Cumberpatch, widower, is still hotel manager at 1-2-3 St. Albans Place, St. James, Westminster, (Lanes Hotel), with 11 people on staff and 17 guests who appear of good quality – a retired surgeon, a man living on his own means, a retired colonel, a Lt. in the regular army, etc. The second person listed is Eliza Limmer, Housekeeper, aged 51, born Norfolk.

George Cumberpatch married Eliza Jane Limmer in 1891. The marriage is recorded in the September Quarter (July-Sept.) of 1891, Strand District, London, Middlesex, Vol. 1b, page 1157. He died at Lanes Hotel on 8 September 1891 at the age of 67. His wife, Eliza Jane, is Executrix. In the 1901 census, Eliza Cumberpatch, aged 58 and born in Norfolk, is Keeper of a Lodging at 42 Sea Road, Bexhill, Sussex. She has three women and a 4 year old male child as paying guests.

(We have probably located Eliza Limmer in the 1871 census with her first husband, John Limmer aged 40, a bus. driver. They are living at Bell's Marsh (Water Side Tavern), in Gorleston, Great Yarmouth, Suffolk. Her husband was born there; she is listed as born in Thorpe Norfolk and is 38 years old. Eliza, like many women, seems to have only aged about 6 to 8 years between each census – in spite of fact the census came every ten years.)

#### The North American Connection

In the 1881 census, George William Cumberpatch the younger brother of Mary Anne Cumberpatch Powell, is 27, single, and living as a boarder and draftsman (Artizan) in the household of William Mills, Printer/Compositor at 15 Featherstone Buildings, London.

On 7 September 1881, George W. Cumberpatch married Jane Mackie (aged 23) at a Methodist church in Pimlico. Jane (called Jeannie) Mackie was born 21 April 1858 and was the daughter of James Mackie and Charlotte Thorburn. Family records indicate she was born at 178 Tooley St., Southwark whereas the 1891 census says she was born in Scotland. She was certainly of Scots descent. George Cumberpatch's occupation is listed as "Draftsman" and both their residences are given as 42 Cambridge Place, NW 6 on their marriage record.

In the 1891 census, Mary Ann's brother, George, is living in the old family home at 6 Annette Road, Islington and the family is as follows:

|                       |      |    |                             |
|-----------------------|------|----|-----------------------------|
| George W. Cumberpatch | Head | 37 | General Commission Agent    |
| Jeannie Cumberpatch   | Wife | 32 | b. Scotland                 |
| Edith                 | Dau  | 8  | b. Dulwich, Surrey          |
| George A.             | Son  | 7  | b. Dulwich, Surrey          |
| Ethel Violet          | Dau  | 5  | b. St. Georges, Westminster |
| Stanley C.            | Son  | 3  | b. St. Georges, Westminster |

Also Alice Dyer, a 17 year old female servant.

Sometime after the birth of Stanley Charles in 1887 and before the birth of James Thorburn in 1898, George and Jeannie Cumberpatch took their young family to North America and settled in California where James Thorburn was born in Berkeley. Family records indicate that the family was on a round-the-world trip and loved California and settled there. Why the family chose to travel – and where the money came from – is unknown.

George William Cumberpatch, after settling in California, worked for the Southern Pacific Railroad and retired at the age of 72 in 1925. He died on 6 April 1929 at 117 Southhampton, Berkeley, CA, the home of his daughter Ethel. Jeanne Machie Cumberpatch died on 19 December 1941. Long before that date, her grandson, Bernhardt Machie Jensen, only surviving child of her daughter, Edith Mackie Cumberpatch, was in close correspondence with Stewart John Powell and offered to take Stewart's young sons into his family during the war. In fact, he and his wife, Marnie, offered to adopt the boys 'should it prove necessary' – if their parents were killed or if Hitler overran England. David John Powell visited Bernhardt and Marnie Jensen in 1970 but did not, at that time, know of the nature of the family connection.

Not long before David John Powell's visit, Mr. and Mrs. Jensen had visited Stewart John Powell in England on their way home from a posting in Africa. David John Powell has a letter from Bernhardt Machie Jensen to Stewart John Powell expressing his pleasure in finally meeting face to face. Bernhardt Machie Jensen worked for USAID, United States Agency for International Development, and was stationed in Japan and Africa. The couple collected ethnographic materials which are now part of the permanent collection of a gallery at Humboldt University in Northern California, an institution of importance to Bernhardt Jensen and where he met his wife.

To put this in a family perspective, Stewart John Powell and Bernhardt Machie Jensen, who had carried on a correspondence for decades, were first cousins once removed. Jeanne Machie Cumberpatch, Bernhardt's grandmother, was the sister-in-law of Mary Anne Cumberpatch Powell. Edith Machie Cumberpatch Jensen, Bernhardt's mother, and Stewart John Powell were first cousins. The Powell and Cumberpatch families remained close in England through Mary Ann's younger sister, Judith. We know from the letters of Thomas Henry Powell that in 1928 Judith was living with the widowed Charles Augustus Powell in Horsham (Mary Ann Cumberpatch Powell died in 1924) and Charles Augustus remembered Judith fondly in his will when he died in 1931.

#### The North American Cumberpatch Family

**George William Cumberpatch and Jane (Jeannie) Machie Cumberpatch** had the following descendents in North American:

1. **Edith Machie Cumberpatch**, born 1881 in Dulwich. Married Jen Peter Jensen.
  - a. Bernhardt Mackie Jensen, born 20 July 1905 Berkeley. Married 30 June 1932 Marjorie France Harper (b. 26 August 1915, Eureka, Calif., daughter of Harvey Mitchell Harper (Salina Kansas) and Maisie Lucretia Morgan (Arvilla, ND). No issue.
2. **George Cumberpatch**, born 1883 in Dulwich. Unmarried.

3. **Ethel Violet Cumberpatch**, born 28 Nov. 1885, Dulwich. Married 22 July 1911 at Berkeley Dr. James Kyle Warner, son of John Warner and Julia Frances Berry.
  - a. Jo Kyle Warner, born 3 August 1912, Alameda, Calif. Married 17 July 1937 Emily Reigh Calfee at San Francisco, Calif. Divorced 17 May 1943, Bexar Co., No issue. Married 25 June 1943, Central Union Church, Honolulu, Mikell de Lores Wormell, daughter of Leslie Arden Wormell and Ethel (Peggy) de Lores.
    - (1) Kerry de Lores, born 25 May 1944
    - (2) Son born & died 22 April 1946
  - b. France Jean Warner, born 7 January 1914, Alameda, Calif. Married 11 September 1940, Pensacola, Florida, Norman Edwin Denning, son of Edwin Milton Denning and Sophie De Lambertini.
    - (1) Diane Ethel Denning, born 11 July 1941, Evanston, Illinois. Married 21 Feb. 1960, Oakland, CA Dennis Marven Wilkinson, son of Kenneth Wilbur Wilkinson and Freda Caroline Popp. Divorced.
    - (2) Edwina Jean Denning, born 20 March 1944, Camp Lejeune, NC. Married 17 December 1962, Treasure Island, Calif., William Horsley, son of Franz A. Horsley.
      - (a) Jonathan Paul Horsley, born 24 October 1964.
      - (b) Michael Joseph Horsley, born 9 July 1966, Albany, Calif.
    - (3) Victoria Louise Denning, born 26 December 1947, Berkeley, Calif. Married 4 September 1966, San Francisco, Arnold Sheldon Pearson.
    - (4) Norman Edwin Denning, Jr., born 15 Feb. 1950, Oakland, Calif.
4. **Stanley Charles Cumberpatch**, born 1887, St. George's Road, Westminster. Married Jacqueline.
  - a. Stanley Cumberpatch.
  - b. John Alfred Cumberpatch, born 19 November 1932, San Francisco, Calif. Married 19 March 1955 at the Post Chapel, Presidio, San Francisco, Mary Ellen Ernst (born 10 August 1934, daughter of Kenneth Frederick Ernst and Norma Le Ves Conte).
    - (1) Karen Irene Cumberpatch, born 11 July 1956, Redwood City, Calif.
    - (2) Catherine Ellen Cumberpatch, born 31 March 1958, Redwood City.
    - (3) Susan Lee Cumberpatch, born 13 March 1964, Redwood City.
5. **James Thorburn Cumberpatch**, born 1898, Berkeley, Calif. Married 10 September 1921, Louise (Lupe) Kerr, born 7 July 1898 in Independence, MO, daughter of William Henry Kerr and Annie Stone.
  - a. James Richard Cumberpatch, born 8 June 1922. Married 27 November 1945, Washington, DC, Mary Olgivie Shumate (born 18 January 1924, daughter of James Olgivie Shumate and Mary Edna Wright. James was in the Air Force and served at the Pentagon in the Office of Congressional Liaison. He was a 1944 graduate of West Point. His wife died in 1988.
    - (1) James Richard Cumberpatch, Jr., born 3 November 1946, Washington, DC. He worked on the Stardust Project for NASA at the Jet Propulsion Lab. Died in Vietnam in 1965.
    - (2) John Alan Cumberpatch, born 5 July 1948, Washington, DC
    - (3) Michael Norman Cumberpatch, born 5 November 1952. Was living in Annapolis in 1998.

- (4) Mary Louise Cumberpatch, born 12 April 1957, Sacramento, CA. Married Robert Durbin.
- (5) Thomas Edward Cumberpatch, born 23 January 1959, Sacramento, CA. Was living in Annapolis in 1998.
- (6) Mark Emery Cumberpatch, born 25 November 186?. Was living in Baltimore in 1998.
- (7) Joseph Brian Cumberpatch, born 23 October 1962. Diagnosed with Downs Syndrome. Was the subject of his father's testimony to a Senate Committee in 1998. Was then living with his father in Kensington, Maryland.

### The Cumberpatch Name

Cumberpatch is an unusual name and, particularly in the 1871 census is frequently incorrectly transcribed as Cumberpath or Cumberbatch, Cumberfatch and even Cumber\*atch.

The vast majority of Cumberpatch records are for people in Northamptonshire and I assume this is where the family originated. Mary Anne Cumberpatch's father was born in Coventry, Warwick, and there are only two other Cumberpatch listings in the 1871 census born in Coventry. They are James Cumberpatch and Sarah Ann Cumberpatch, brother and sister, living in the same household in Bristol. It seems most likely that these are siblings of George Cumberpatch, Mary Anne's father. The Bristol household in St. Nicholas Parish consists of:

|                        |         |    |                       |                          |
|------------------------|---------|----|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| James Cumberpatch      | Head    | 44 | Etching stone dresser | b. Coventry              |
| Louisa                 | Wife    | 45 |                       | b. Bristol               |
| George James Charles   | Son     | 17 | Lithographic ?        | b. Bristol               |
| Francis Charles Harper | Son     | 12 | Scholar               | b. Bristol               |
| Edward Arthur          | Son     | 9  |                       | b. Bristol               |
| Sarah Ann Cumberpatch  | Sister  | 29 | Dress Maker           | b. Coventry <sup>7</sup> |
| Florence Cumberpatch   | Niece   | 19 | Waitress              | b. Bristol               |
| Jane Mathias           | Servant | 20 |                       | b. Cardigan              |

James Cumberpatch married Louisa Pillers in 1852 (March Quarter, Avon/Gloucestershire, Vol. 6a, page 5). Their first child, George James Charles was born the next year in 1853.

The Civil Registration Index (1837-1983) provides more information on this family:

James and Louisa appear to have had other children who did not live long: Louisa Ann who died in the March Quarter of 1858 and a male Cumberpatch who died in March Quarter, 1888. Louisa, the wife, died in the December Quarter of 1896.

Edward Arthur Cumberpatch was born in June Quarter of 1861, married in the December Quarter of 1884 and had, apparently, two children: Violet Amy Cumberpatch in the December Quarter of 1889 and Arthur Prowse Cumberpatch in the September Quarter of 1891. Edward Arthur died in the December Quarter of 1893.

Sarah Cumberpatch, probably the aunt of Mary Anne, died in the December Quarter of 1890.

**Fifth Generation: John Powell (1812-1892)**

Son of John ④ and Hannah Hussey Powell

*John of the Two Families*

**John Powell ⑤**

Born 16 February 1812 in Reading  
Died 3 December 1892 aged 80 at Benson and buried at Benson  
(Wallingford District, Vol. 2c, page 194)

Married 1<sup>st</sup> **Sarah Schwartz** on 27 February 1833 at St. James Clerkenwell, London

Born 20 August 1813

Died 20 July 1850 (Shoreditch District, London Middlesex, Vol. 2, page 263) and buried  
Bunhill Fields, London.

Children:

Sarah and John Powell had 7 children. Only three lived to adulthood and only two had issue:

1. Andrew Powell b. 24 August 1833  
d. 10 January 1835 buried Bunhill Fields
2. John Powell ⑥ b. 27 December 1834 at 39 Ray Street, Clerkenwell  
d. 30 November 1862 buried Highgate Cemetery, London  
(father of Mary Ann Powell Clench)
3. Mary Ann Powell ⑥ b. 17 October 1836 at 39 Ray Street, Clerkenwell  
d. 30 April 1861 buried Norwood  
(mother of Miss Robinson and Mrs. Covington)
4. Andrew Powell b. 6 July 1838  
d. 17 August 1838 buried Bunhill Fields
5. Sarah Jane Powell ⑥ b. 18 May 1840 at 3 White's Row, Spitalfields  
d. 16 June 1874 at Brayton and buried Wallingford
6. Hannah Schwartz Powell b. 30 May 1842  
d. 14 September 1842 buried Bunhill Fields
7. Anne Powell b. 10 July 1846  
d. 19 July 1846 buried Bunhill Fields

John mentioned the children of his deceased son and daughter in his will and indicated that they were financially provided for earlier, including apparently money coming from Sarah Schwartz Powell.

Married 2<sup>nd</sup> **Mary Ann Keen** on 4 February 1851 at the Tabernacle, District of Saint Luke, Middlesex, London.

Born 22 July 1826 at Gillingham, Suffolk, the daughter of Charles Keen, Tailor, Baptist

Died 30 November 1889 at age 64 and buried at Benson  
(Wallingford District, Vol. 2c, page 188 – gives age as 63)

Children:

1. *Thomas Henry* ⑥ b. 7 November 1851 on Nov. 6 at Islington, London  
“*Thomas of the Letters*”. Chemist  
m. 7 November 1882 Ada Ellen Thrower, daughter of Ellen and  
Stephen Thrower, born Beccles, Suffolk, 1882 Quarter

- Marriages, Greater London, Surrey, Vol. 1d, p. 899 and had issue
- d. 2 September 1932 buried Morden Cemetery
2. **Charles Augustus** ⑥ b. 24 May 1853 at Islington, London  
     *"My dear Charlie"*, Solicitor  
     m. 20 September 1880 Mary Anne Cumberpatch at Holloway Chapel, Camden Road, Islington, Middlesex, London.  
     d. 2 February 1931 at Horsham buried at Horsham
  3. **William Arthur** ⑥ b. 24 February 1855     Architect  
     m. 1892 Jane Elizabeth Boyce (June Quarter Greater London, Surrey, Vol 1d, p784)  
     d. November 18 1921 buried at Benson (Headstone read 2000)
  4. **Edwin (Ted)** ⑥ b. 31 January 1857 at Holloway, London  
     m. 12 May 1886 Beatrice Hide (Beatie) June Quarter in London, Middlesex, (Vol. 1b, Page 814) who was born at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire  
     d. 14 September 1932
  5. **Clara** ⑥ b. 26 September 1858 at Islington, Middlesex  
     m. John Slade on 27 September 1888 and had issue  
     d. 27 June 1924 at Worthing
  6. **Emily** ⑥ b. 24 February 1861 at Holloway, Islington, Middlesex  
     m. 24 October 1889 Edward Howell Humfrey and had issue (including Cousin Bruce)  
     d. 18 March 1913
  7. **George Frederick** ⑥ b. 23 November 1862 at Benson  
     (December Quarter, Wallingford, Vol. 2c, p.297)  
     d. 1944 April 27 in Victoria, British Columbia  
     (Reg. #1944-09-641900), Roll b13182, Microfilm #13182  
     GSU #1983205)
  8. **Annie Maria** ⑥ b. 3 December 1864 (June Quarter Wallingford, Vol. 2c, p. 301)  
     at Benson  
     m. 1895 John Wyatt Painter and had issue (June Quarter Wallingford, Vol.2c, p. 700)  
     d. 18 January 1903
  9. **Fanny** ⑥ b. 13 January 1867 at Benson  
     d. 7 August 1930 buried at Benson
  10. **Ernest** ⑥ b. 23 December 1868  
     d. 27 April 1870 buried in Wallingford
  11. **Alfred** ⑥ b. 23 March 1871 at Benson (June Quarter Wallingford, Vol. 2c, page 311)  
     d. 6 November 1894 November 6 aged 23  
     buried in Beira, South East Africa  
     Memorial on stone at Benson where also the ashes of Ida Emma Freylach Powell and Stewart John Powell are buried. He was a tea broker.

**Fifth Generation: John Powell (1812-1892)**

***John of the Two Families***

**Married Sarah Schwartz in 1833 and Mary Ann Keen in 1851**

**Supporter of Baptist Causes (Thomas of the letters indicated he was very religious and received consolation from his faith)**

John Powell is often called ‘the younger’ in documents since his father was also a John Powell. This John Powell had two families. From his first wife, Sarah Schwartz, he had, according to Cousin Bruce Humfrey, 7 children but only three grew to adulthood and only two married and had children. All pre-deceased their father.

One of the three who grew up was John’s namesake, John Powell, who died late enough that Thomas Henry and Charles Augustus, the eldest sons of the second family, watched his funeral “bound for Highgate.” It was this son John who presented the silver mug/tankard to John of the Two Families when John retired from business in 1857. This John’s daughter, Mary Ann Powell Clench, and the two daughters of his sister, Mary Ann Powell Robinson, are mentioned in John’s will.

John and Sarah’s third child was named Mary Ann and lived to marry and produced two daughters mentioned in John’s will and the accounting of his estate as Miss Robinson and Mrs. Covington.

John and Sarah’s child, Sarah Jane Powell, is mentioned in her Grandfather Andrew Schwartz’ will but died before her father made his will. I located her in the 1861 census as a visitor in the home of George Best and his family in Drayton, Berkshire. She is described as an unmarried 20 year old born in Spitalfields, London, and as an “Independent Lady”. In the 1871 census: Sarah J. Powell, 31 years old, single and living on her own means, born Spitalfields, Middlesex, London, is living on Abingdon Road at North Villa in Drayton, Berkshire, in the household of a woman who “receives Lady Boarders.” Sarah Jane Powell’s death at aged 34 is recorded in the June Quarter of 1874, Abingdon District of Berkshire, Vol. 2c, page 186. Drayton was part of the Abingdon District.

Sarah Schwartz Powell, John Powell’s first wife and mother of these three children, died on 20 July 1850 at their home at 8 Bulls Place, Shepherdess Walk, Hoxton New Town, Middlesex, London (recorded in September Quarter Deaths of 1850 for London Middlesex, Vol. 2, Page 263). She died of an “enlarged liver” – a complaint that was listed as of 2 years duration. John Powell was present at her death and reported it. She is listed as wife of John Powell, “Spirit Colour Maker”. Sarah was 37 years old. She was buried in Bunhill Fields where four of her children were buried.

John married a second time (1851 London Middlesex March Quarter Marriages, Vol. 2, page 291) to Mary Ann Keen and produced 11 more children including Charles Augustus Powell from whom our branch descends.

Having joined his father and uncle in carriage making business in Ray Street, John of the Two Families clearly branched out and made, as well as inherited, money. Thomas Henry’s letters

say that John was apprenticed in the carriage making firm of Mssrs. Wright, Meeks, Powell and Powell (1826-1833) and also to a Pewterer in London. The Pewterer's Company of London's records show John Powell in the Court Book for 15 October 1829:

*“Thomas Davidson of Holland Place, Clapham Road in the county of Surrey, pewterer, by trade Corn Dealer, presents John Powell, son of John Powell of Ray Street, Clerkenwell in the County of Middlesex, Coach Maker.”*

However, there is no record of John Powell in the register of freemen up to 1845 and it appears that he did not complete his apprenticeship and become a Freeman of the City of London.

In the 1841 census, John is living with his young family in White's Row (Middlesex, Christ Church Spitalfields, Spitalfields, District 10, page 1) and appears as follows:

|              |    |                   |                     |
|--------------|----|-------------------|---------------------|
| John Powell  | 25 | Musical String M. | b. not in Middlesex |
| Sarah Powell | 25 |                   | b. in Middlesex     |
| John Powell  | 6  |                   | b. in Middlesex     |
| Mary Powell  | 4  |                   | b. in Middlesex     |
| Sarah Powell | 1  |                   | b. in Middlesex     |

There is also one female servant. This is the only census record showing John married to Sarah Schwartz and their three surviving children.

In Pigot's Directory for 1846, John Powell (late Schwartz & Powell) is listed as a harp & violin string maker, wholesale & for exportation, 3 White's Row, Spitalfields. By 1850 when he appeared in court as an executor of his father's will, he is listed as a Spirit Colouring Maker at 3 White's Row, Spitalfields. From later directories and census records, it is clear he was doing both.

In the 1851 census, John and his new wife are living at 14 Manchester Terrace, Liverpool Road, Islington along with his son from the first marriage and appear as follows:

|  |      |    |   |                        |
|--|------|----|---|------------------------|
| John Powell                            | Head | 39 | Spirit Colour Maker &<br>Violin String Maker, employs 4 men | b. Reading             |
| Mary Ann                               | Wife | 24 |   | b. Gillingham, Suffolk |
| John Powell                            | Son  | 16 | Apprentice to his father                                    | b. Clerkenwell         |
| Two servants (Sarah, 24) and (Ann, 13) |      |    | Lambden   | b. Basildon, Berks     |

In this same census, John's two daughters by his first wife are boarding in the home of Charles M. H. Lawrie, Teacher, at 1 Halton St. They are listed with several other young female pupils as:

|                 |    |         |                   |
|-----------------|----|---------|-------------------|
| Mary Ann Powell | 14 | Scholar | b. Clerkenwell    |
| Sarah J. Powell | 10 | Scholar | b. City of London |

John Powell and his second wife, Mary Anne Keen, were living at 14 Manchester Terrace, Liverpool Road, Islington, when their second son, Charles Augustus, Powell, was born in 1853. John Powell retired from business in 1857 leaving its management to his son by his first wife, John. It was on this occasion that the son presented the mug/tankard to his father.

In the 1861 census, John and Mary Ann are living at 11 Norton Villas, Camden Road, Holloway and the family looks like this:

|             |      |        |                   |               |
|-------------|------|--------|-------------------|---------------|
| John Powell | Head | 49     | Landed Proprietor | b. Reading    |
| Mary Ann    | Wife | 34     |                   | b. Gillingham |
| Thomas H.   | Son  | 9      | Scholar           | b. Islington  |
| Charles A   | Son  | 7      | Scholar           | b. Islington  |
| William D   | Son  | 6      | Scholar           | b. Islington  |
| Edwin       | Son  | 4      |                   | b. Islington  |
| Clara       | Dau  | 2      |                   | b. Islington  |
| Emily       | Dau  | 2 mos. |                   | b. Islington  |

There are three servants (cook, general servant and housemaid) plus a woman described as a 'monthly nurse.'

In 1862, John and his second wife, Mary Ann Keen, moved their young family to Benson into the house he inherited on the main street in Benson (Kingsford House) upon the death of his aunt, Mary Powell Stevens Corsellis. Her death extinguished her life tenancy under her brother's will (Thomas of the Window) and the property and its contents passed to John. This is where John and Mary Ann spent the remainder of their lives and where both died.

In the 1871 census, John of the Two Families is settled in Bensington with three female servants. John is 53 years old and Mary Ann is 44. Their children Clara (12), Emily (10), George F. (8), Annie Maria (6), Fanny (4) and Alfred (1) are at home. Also living with them is Martha Thatcher aged 68 who is listed as a monthly nurse.

In this same 1871 census, the older children of the second marriage are off at school or training for professions. Thomas Henry is in London studying to be a Pharmaceutical Chemist. Charles Augustus is a law student in London. I think I have found William as a 14 year old student in St. Pancras, London, under the mastership of George Raymond in a large establishment at 2-19 Regents' Park Road. Edwin appears to be a scholar under the mastership of Ezekiel Meadows in St Mary the More, Wallingford, Berkshire. If this is, indeed, our Edwin, among his fellow students were George Powell (13) and John W. Powell (15), both born in Wallingford, cousins of Edwin and sons of Richard Ebenezer Powell who was then living in Sotwell with his wife and younger children.

In the 1881 census, John and Mary A. Powell are at the same location on the High Street in Benson. They have a 19 year old female servant named Sarah A. Johnston. In the same census, Fanny Powell, aged 14 and Annie Maria (listed as Anne Powell) aged 16, are boarders at Sarah L. White's school at 175 Kings Road, Reading. The eldest son, Thomas Henry, is in business at 116 Denmark Hill, Lambeth, as a Chemist and his brothers William A. Edwin, and George F. are living with him. Charles Augustus Powell is newly married and living in London at 89 Isledon Road, Middlesex, London.

John Powell's family appears in the 1881 census as follows:

|                |    |      |                  |                        |
|----------------|----|------|------------------|------------------------|
| John Powell    | 69 | Head | Land Fund Holder | b. Reading, Berks.     |
| Mary A. Powell | 54 | Wife |                  | b. Gillingham, Suffolk |
| Clara Powell   | 22 | Dau. |                  | b. Islington, London   |

|               |    |      |         |                      |
|---------------|----|------|---------|----------------------|
| Emily Powell  | 20 | Dau. |         | b. Islington, London |
| Alfred Powell | 10 | Son  | Scholar | b. Bensington, Oxon  |

In the 1891 census, following Mary Ann's death, the family appears as follows:

|                    |    |      |            |                     |
|--------------------|----|------|------------|---------------------|
| John Powell        | 79 | Head | Widower    | living on Own Means |
| Alfred Powell      | 20 | Son  | Tea Dealer |                     |
| Annie Maria Powell | 26 | Dau. |            |                     |
| Fanny Powell       | 24 | Dau  |            |                     |

All three of these young people were born in Bensington, Oxon. There are two female servants.

John Powell died on Saturday, 3 December 1892 at Benson. Thanks to Margaret Havell Humfrey, we now have a copy of the newspaper article reporting his funeral. He was clearly held in high esteem and the article states that he was a member of Rev. H. R. Salt's Church at Thames Street, Wallingford (Baptist) 'but latterly he attended the Free Church at Benson, though still retaining his connexion with Thames Street.' His funeral was conducted jointly by Rev. Salt and Rev. C. Williams of the Benson Free Church.

"The first portion of the service which was conducted by the Rev. C. Williams and H. R. Salt, was held at the residence of the deceased shortly after two. The solemn cortege was of considerable length, and as might naturally be supposed the village showed all the sign of mourning and regret at his loss, and numbers of the villagers joined in the solemn procession or attended at the graveside."

The family mourners are listed which include sons and daughters and their spouses plus Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Powell of Winterbrook (his brother), Mrs. Bain (his sister-in-law and sister of Mary Ann Keen Powell), Mr. J. Webb (his nephew and son of Jane Powell Webb), and Mr. John Powell (his nephew and son of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell). A number of townspeople are listed who paid their respects at the graveside. Finally, it is interestingly noted that: "According to the deceased's express wish there were no flowers, one beautiful wreath, however being sent by Mrs. Corsellis, to the grave." This is Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, the daughter of his cousin, Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Ray Street Clerkenwell, who lived at Colne House.

### **Will of John Powell (John of the Two Families)**

John Powell drew up his will at Benson on 4 Feb. 1890, died in 1892 and the will was proved on 5 January 1893. It made the follow provisions:

- To my eldest son, Thomas Henry Powell, my large telescope
- To my son, Charles Augustus Powell, my gold watch and neck chain
- To my son, William Arthur Powell, my microscope and diamond ring
- To my son, Edwin Powell, my silver watch formerly belonging to my father and the diamond ring formerly belonging to Mr. Schwartz
- To my son George Frederick Powell, the diamond Brooch formerly belonging to Mr. Schwartz
- To my son, Alfred Powell, the large silver mug which my son John gave to me. (This silver mug which John Powell, son of Sarah Schwartz, presented to his father when his

father, John Powell of the Two Families, retired from business, was apparently never given to Alfred who died in East Africa in 1894 or came back into the family after his death. It went to the eldest surviving son, Thomas Henry (Thomas of the letters). Thomas Henry left it to his son John, who when the only male in the next generation of his father's line (Thomas Trevor) died in the second world war, presented the mug to the only surviving male Powell with male heirs, Stewart John Powell. Stewart John Powell left it in the keeping of his elder son, Charles Keith Powell, and it will, in time, pass to Simon and then to Matthew.)

- I bequeath to such of my daughters as shall from time to time be spinsters or are spinsters the personal use and enjoyment (so long as they or either of them shall think fit personally to dwell in the house now in my occupation under the provision for that purpose herein after contained) of my jewellery and trinkets and of all my household furniture, plate and plated as well as glass, books, linen, pictures and other articles of domestic use and ornament except what I otherwise dispose of by this my will or any codicil hereto. An inventory to be made and a copy delivered to my daughters and the executors to have another. Everything is to be divided between his children equally when no single daughter is left living at home.
- To my granddaughter, Mary Ann Clench, daughter of my late dear son, John Powell, the sum of £100 and to each of my grandchildren being the children of my late daughter, Mary Ann Robinson, the sum of £100 as a mark of my affection for them. And I desire it to be understood that the reason why I have made no other provision for my said grandchildren by this my will is that they are otherwise provided for by means of benefits which I have already conferred on their deceased parents or which they have become entitled to as the children of their mother, my first wife.
- To my sister-in-law, Ellen Keen the sum of £30.
- To each of the different charitable and religious societies and institutions to which I am an annual subscriber, one year's subscription of the same amount as subscribed by me for the year immediately preceding my death.
- To my son, Thomas Henry Powell, £2,502, 15 shillings per cent Bank annuities and to each of my other 9 children the same amount.
- After occupation by my unmarried daughters, my house, gardens, orchards, etc. are to go to my sons, Thomas Henry, Charles Augustus, and William Arthur.
- The remainder of his estate to his sons living or their heirs who shall have attained the age of 21.
- The money left to each daughter "shall not vest in such daughter as her absolute property but shall be paid to, retained, and held by the trustees or trustee for the time being of this my will upon trust to pay the income of the said sum and of the share of each such daughter to the same daughter during her life for her sole and separate use exclusively of any husband she may marry and she shall not have power to dispose or deprive herself of the benefit thereof by anticipation and after her death in trust for all her children or any her child living at my death or born afterwards who being a son or sons shall have attained the age of 21 years or being a daughter or daughters shall have attained or shall attain the age of 21 years or shall have married or shall marry under that age with the consent or subsequent approval in writing of her or their parents, etc

Executors: Thomas Henry Powell, Charles Augustus Powell, and William Arthur Powell. Each was to have £50 if they served and Charles Augustus was to be entitled to charge for any professional business done by him in relation to the trusts and executorship of the will in the same manner as he might have done if he had not been made a trustees and executor thereof.

The Codicil to the will, dated 29 November 1892 made a bequest of £30 to Mrs. Emma Bayne, the sister of my late wife and the sum of £20 to the Baptist Missionary Society. He also revoked the gift of £150 to his son, Alfred, and directed that” any sum which may be owing to me at the time of my decease from any child of mine shall be deducted from and repaid out of the share in my estate bequeathed to such child”.

Full copies of the will and accounting are in hand. The will was proved by Thomas Henry Powell of 116 Denmark Hill in the county of Surry, Chemist; Charles August Powell of 23 St. Swithin’s Lane in the City of London, Solicitor; and William Arthur Powell of 27 Endymion Terrace, Finsbury Park in the county of Middlesex, Architect. It is interesting to note that the 1891 census shows William Arthur Powell at 27 Endymion Terrace as a 36 year old architect living as a boarder in the home of his maternal aunt, Emma Keen Bayne who is a 57 year old widow. Also in this household are Emma’s two sons – Herbert aged 24 and Percy aged 22, her daughter – Mary E. aged 17 – and her sister Ellen E. Keen.

Some years later, there was a dispute between the executors and the remaining single sister, Fanny Powell. Apparently, Fanny was not living in the house and was renting it out. The brothers were concerned about wastage of the property and sought legal opinion. Legal opinion was that Fanny had the right to the enjoyment of the rental of the house and could live where she pleased. In 1901, Fanny was living in Reading (see census records).

**Notes on the Will of John Powell (John of the Two Families) who died in 1892:**

John Powell died with an estate that totaled £26,149.3.9 after the sale of his stocks and bonds including shares in Nichalai of Russia (Railroad) bonds.

The bequests and divisions of his estate are discussed in the material preceding. However, it is of interest to note the organizations that he supported annually and to which he left one year’s subscription at the usual level of his support. This list was as follows:

| Organization              | Pounds | Shillings | Pence |
|---------------------------|--------|-----------|-------|
| Regent’s Park College     | 1      | 1         |       |
| Baptist Building Fund     | 1      | 1         |       |
| Bible Translation         |        | 1         | 1     |
| Fatherless Children       |        | 3         | 3     |
| Paralyzed & Epileptic     | 1      | 1         |       |
| Cottage Hospital          |        | 1         | 1     |
| Berks Baptist Association |        | 1         |       |

|                                |   |    |    |   |
|--------------------------------|---|----|----|---|
| Baptist Augmentation Fund      |   | 1  | 1  |   |
| Metropolitan Colportage        |   | 1  | 1  |   |
| Baptist Home & Irish           | 2 | 2  |    |   |
| Baptist Missionary Society     |   | 4  | 4  |   |
| North London Nursing           |   | 1  | 1  |   |
| London City Mission            | 1 | 1  |    |   |
| Benson Benefit Society         |   | 1  | 1  |   |
| Widows & Orphans               |   | 1  |    |   |
| Radcliffe Infirmary            |   | 1  | 1  |   |
| Regents Park Preaching Station |   |    | 10 | 6 |
| Sunday School Union            |   | 10 | 6  |   |
| Pontypool College              |   |    | 10 | 6 |
| Bristol College                |   |    | 10 | 6 |
| Horticultural Society          |   | 10 | 6  |   |
| Baptist Union                  |   |    | 10 |   |
| Coal Clubs & Clothing Club     | 3 | 5  |    |   |

He also left the Baptist Missionary Society a legacy of £20.

It is interesting to note that under payment of debts, £1 15 shillings was paid for “Upton Pew Rent” and £2 paid for “Pew Rent (Benson)”. Clearly, Thomas Henry (Thomas of the Letters) was correct when he said that his father was a religious man. He was also a generous man and seems to have held pews in two houses of worship.

The funeral expenses totaled £24 14 shillings plus £9 6 shillings 3 pence for mourning, £1 2 shillings 10 pence for cards and £2 for mourning for the servants.

**Sixth Generation: John Powell, (27 December 1834 – 30 November 1862)**

Son of John Powell ⑤ and Sarah Schwartz (Second Child)

John was the second child of John Powell and Sarah Schwartz who married in 1833. He was also apparently the eldest child to survive. He appears in the 1841 census as a six year old with his parents and his two younger sisters, Mary Ann aged 4 and Sarah aged 1.

John appears in the 1851 census with his father and new step-mother. They are living at 14 Manchester Terrace, Liverpool Road, Islington:

|  |      |    |  |                        |
|--|------|----|--|------------------------|
| John Powell                            | Head | 39 | Spirit colour maker & Violin String Maker, employs 4 men | b. Reading             |
| Mary Ann                               | Wife | 24 |  | b. Gillingham, Suffolk |
| John Powell                            | Son  | 16 | Apprentice to his father                                 | b. Clerkenwell         |
| Two servants (Sarah, 24) and (Ann, 13) |      |    | Lambden  | b. Basildon, Berks     |

John Powell married Mary Ann White on 6 January 1857 at the Baptist Chapel in Cross Street, District of Islington, County of Middlesex. They were both 21 years old, he a bachelor and she a spinster. He is listed as a Commercial Clerk. He was resident at Norton Villa, Camden Road, Holloway, the home of his father, John Powell who is listed as a Vinegar and Spirit Colour Maker. Mary Ann White was resident at 7 Hemingford Cottages, Richmond Road (now Richmond Avenue), the home of her father, Hamlet James White who is listed as an Engraver and Chaser. The witnesses to the marriage were Hannah White (the sister of the bride who is resident with the young couple in the census of 1861), Crescens Robinson, husband of John Powell's younger sister, Mary Ann; and Hamlet James White, father of the bride.

On 29 April 1857, John was named as an executor of his Uncle Richard Ebenezer Powell's will. Richard Ebenezer Powell amended his will because his father-in-law, the Rev. Wm. Woolley, had died. He also replaced his brother Thomas Powell without comment. The new executors were "Mr. Carey Tyso of Wallingford and Mr. John Powell, son of my brother John."

On 24 June 1857, John gave his father a silver mug/tankard on the occasion of his father retiring from business and apparently took over the business in that year. He was 21 years old. This is the tankard now in the possession of Charles Keith Powell of Spetisbury, Dorset.

In the 1861 census, John Powell, Jr. and his wife Mary A. White Powell are living at 61 Culford Road, West Hackney. The family appears as follows:

|              |               |    |           |                |
|--------------|---------------|----|-----------|----------------|
| John Powell  | Head          | 26 | Gentleman | b. Clerkenwell |
| Mary A       | Wife          | 25 |           | b. Islington   |
| Mary A       | Dau           | 2  |           | b. W. Hackney  |
| Hannah White | Sister-in-law | 30 | unmarried | b. Islington   |

The daughter Mary Ann's birth record can be found in the Hackney District, December Quarter, 1858, Vol. 1b, page 309.

Richard Ebenezer Powell had to amend his will because his nephew John died young. On 19 March 1863 Richard made a codicil to his will naming his brother John Powell of Benson and

Mr. Carey Tyso of Wallingford as executors, “my nephew Mr. John Powell Junior being dead.” From Cousin Bruce’s records we know that John Powell, Jr. died on 30 November 1862 and was buried in Highgate Cemetery.

### The White Family

Mary Ann White who married John Powell, son of John Powell and Sarah Schwartz, was the daughter of Hamlet James White, an engraver and chaser. His family was resident at 7 Hemingford Cottages in the 1851 Census although they were difficult to locate because the family name was mis-transcribed as Mate rather than White. The family appears as follows:

|                 |      |   |    |          |                        |
|-----------------|------|---|----|----------|------------------------|
| Hamlet J. White | Head | M | 46 | Engraver | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Sarah           | Wife | M | 41 |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Hannah          | Dau  | U | 20 |          | b. Middlesex Islington |
| William         | Son  | U | 19 |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Mary Ann        | Dau  | U | 15 |          | b. Middlesex Islington |
| George          | Son  | U | 13 |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Luisa           | Dau  | U | 5  |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Fred            | Son  | U | 3  |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |
| Henry           | Son  | U | 1  |          | b. Middlesex St. Luke  |

By the 1861 census, Mary Ann is married to John Powell and Hannah is living with them; Sarah has died and Hamlet has married again to a woman named Charlotte M. who is 32 to his 56 and they have four small children. (Louisa is still at home but William and George have left home.)

### **Seventh Generation: Mary Ann Powell Clench (1858-1897?)**

Daughter of John Powell ⑥ of the Mug/Tankard

Mary Ann Powell was the only surviving child of John Powell, eldest and only surviving son of John Powell and Sarah Schwartz. Mary Ann was mentioned in her grandfather's will of 1892 where she is characterized as his dear granddaughter, daughter of his dear deceased son John. She is provided with a bequest which was paid to Mary Ann Clench.

Mary Ann Powell was born in December Quarter of 1858 (Hackney District, Vol. 1b, page 309). She appears in the 1861 census as a 2 year old in the household of her father, John Powell Jr. and her mother, Mary A. Powell, along with her maternal aunt, Hannah White. We know from Richard Ebenezer Powell's will that her father, John Powell, was dead by March 19, 1863 when he executed a codicil naming John Powell, his brother as executor, "my nephew Mr. John Powell Junior being dead."

Mary Ann Powell, daughter of John Powell, Junior, would have been approximately 12 at the time of the 1871 census. Mary Ann Powell aged 12 and listed as a Scholar, is found as a "step-daughter" in the household of Benjamin H. Gerrans, "Manufacturer of Wine & Spirit Colouring, also musical instrument strings; Master employing 2 men." This is precisely the business that John Powell turned over to his son, John, Jr. in 1857. Benjamin and his wife, Mary A. Gerrans, and family are living at 67 Buckingham Rd. Hackney. Benjamin Henry Gerrans married in the Hackney District, December Quarter 1865 (Vol. 1b, page 827).

We now have the birth certificate for one of the young Gerrans children and know that Mary Ann Gerrans is listed as "previously Powell formerly White." She was a widow Powell when she married Benjamin Gerrans and was born a Miss White. This entry, coupled the marriage record of John Powell and Mary Ann White, makes it clear that Benjamin H. Gerrans married the widow and took on the business she inherited from her husband.

Mary Ann Powell, daughter of John Powell, married Reginald Herbert Clench on 4<sup>th</sup> September 1880 at the Mildmay Road Wesleyan Chapel in Islington, Middlesex, London. She was then living at 4 Farleigh Road, Stoke Newington and her father was listed as John Powell, deceased, who had been of "Independent Means" She is a 21 year old spinster (1880 September Quarter Marriages, London Middlesex, Vol. 2c, Page 542).

(Reginald Herbert Clench appears in the 1871 census at school on High Street in Braintree, Essex, as an 11 year old in an establishment headed by Sidney William, School Master, born in Scotland, whose two eldest sons were born in Jamaica while the two younger were born in Hertfordshire.)

In the 1881 census, Mary A. Clench (born Islington, Middlesex), aged 22 is living with her husband Reginald H. Clench (Shorthand Writer to Stores) at 17 George Lane, Lewisham, Kent. (RG11, Folio 0734/118, p. 26).

It should be noted that Kate Powell, daughter of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell, gave this address on her marriage certificate in August of 1882. She was apparently married from the home of her groom's brother and his wife, her first cousin once removed, Mary Ann Powell Clench.

In the 1891 census Reginald H. Clench 32 is listed as Secretary to a Public Company (as he was on his wedding license) and his wife is listed as Annie Clench, aged 32. They are living in St. Stephens Parish, Hammersmith, at 40 Frithville Gardens.

I have been unable to locate this couple in the 1901 census. However, there is a death record for Mary Ann Clench, aged 38, in 1897 (March Quarter, Edmonton District of Essex, Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Vol. 3a, page 170) which would match our lady. In that same district in the June Quarter of 1898 Reginald Herbert Clench married Fanny Louisa White (Vol. 3a, page 593). It appears that Mary Ann Powell Clench died young and apparently without children.

### The Gerrans Family

In the census of 1861, Benjamin Gerrans (who became the second husband of Mary Ann White Powell and the step-father of Mary Ann Powell Clench) appears in the household of his widowed mother, Mary Gerrans at 4 Barford Terrace, Islington. He is an unmarried, 23 year old Railway Clerk, born Islington. Also in the household is his unmarried sister, Emily Jane Gerrans, 26, born Clerkenwell and his niece, Mary Frances Linden, 11, born Islington.

Benjamin Gerrans' occupation of Railway Clerk seems to affirm he was not part of the Spirit Colouring business until after his marriage to John Powell's widow and that, therefore, Benjamin ran the business that she had inherited from her husband who been given it by his father, John Powell, who had become associated with it through his marriage to Sarah Schwartz, daughter of Andrew Schwartz. The Sprit Colouring and musical string making businesses had belonged to Andrew Schwartz and his older brother Sebastian.

Benjamin Henry Gerrans married Mary Ann White Powell in the Hackney District, December Quarter 1865 (Vol. 1b, page 827).

In the 1871 census, we find the couple living at 67 Buckingham Road, Hackney, as follows:

|                     |               |   |    |   |              |
|---------------------|---------------|---|----|---|--------------|
| Benjamin H. Gerrans | Head          | M | 32 | "Manufacturer of Wine & Spirit Colouring, also musical instrument strings; Master employing 2 men." | b. Islington |
| Mary A. Gerrans     | Wife          | M | 35 |   | b. Islington |
| Mary A. Powell      | Step-daughter |   | 12 | Scholar   | b. Hackney   |
| Benjamin A          | Son           | U | 4  |   | b. Hackney   |
| Mary L              | Dau           | U | 3  |   | b. Hackney   |
| Edith J             | Dau           | U | 1  |   | b. Hackney   |

There were also two female servants in the household.

In the 1881 census, Benjamin H. Gerrans and his family – minus Mary Ann Powell who married in 1880 – are living at 82 Holloway Rd. Islington and he is termed “Cordial & Colour Maker, Wine & Spirit Merchant.”

In the 1891 census, the family is living at 47 Aubert, Islington and Mr. Benjn. Gerrans is listed as the Secretary of a Benevolent Society while his wife is listed as a “caramel manufacturer.”

Benjamin H. Gerrans and his wife Mary Ann White Powell Gerrans are listed as Benjn. H. Gerrands and Maryann Gerrands in the 1901 census. They are living at Canonbury Square 48, Islington and he is a 62 year old Acct. & Sec. of a Benevolent Society. She is 65 and no occupation is listed. They are both listed as being born in Islington, London.

Benjamin H. Gerrans died in the Islington District, December Quarter, of 1910 (Vol. 1b, Page 246), aged 72.

**Sixth Generation: Mary Ann Powell, (17 October 1836-30 April 1861)**

Daughter of John Powell ⑤ and Sarah Schwartz (Third Child)

Mary Ann Powell was born in 1836. She appears in the 1841 census with her parents, older brother John and younger sister Sarah J. living in Whites Row, Spitalfields.

Mary Ann appears as a 14 year old in the 1851 census (Islington East, District 20, page 25) boarding at school with her younger sister, Sarah Jane who is 10. The school is headed by Charles M. H. Lawrie, a teacher of drawing and writing, and his wife, Mary Ann Lawrie, school mistress. The household also includes an English governess, a cook, a housemaid and 13 other female students. The students range in age from 18 to 10.

Mary Ann is called Mary Ann Robinson in her father's will. She was dead when her father died in 1892 having died in 1861. He mentions her children in his will, but not by name or even by number. The accounting for his estate indicates that legacies were paid to Miss Robinson and Mrs. Covington. The reference to these grandchildren in John Powell's will is vague compared to his mention of Mary Ann Clench (daughter of his son, John) and one is led to believe that John did not know these children as well.

Mary Ann Powell married Crescens Smith Robinson in the Islington District, March Quarter, 1856 (Vol. 11b, page 303). She is listed as a 19 year old spinster, the daughter of John Powell, Color manufacturer, of North (Norton) Villa, Camden Road, Islington. Crescens Smith Robinson is listed as a 28 year old bachelor, a wholesale stationer, son of Edward Robinson, living at 79 Upper Thames Street, City of London. The witnesses to the wedding held at the Baptist Chapel, Cross Street, Islington, were Elisha Smith Robinson, Sarah Jane Powell, Clara Anne Taylor, John Powell, and Edward Robinson.

In the 1861 census Crescens and Mary Ann are living at Overbury Villa, Knights Hill Road, Norwood, in the registration District of Lambeth, and are listed as follows:

|                      |        |         |      |           |                     |                             |
|----------------------|--------|---------|------|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Crescens Robinson    | Head   | Married | Male | 32        | Wholesale Stationer | b. Overbury, Wors.          |
| Mary Ann Robinson    | Wife   | Married | F    | 28        |                     | b. Clerkenwell, Rue St.     |
| Crescens A. Robinson | Son    | Unm.    | M    | 4         |                     | b. Upper Thames St., London |
| Ada Maria Robinson   | Dau    | Unm     | F    | 3         |                     | b. Upper Thames St., London |
| Sarah Jane Robinson  | Dau    | Unm     | F    | 15 months |                     | b. Upper Thames St., London |
| Emma Robinson        | Sister | Married | F    | 26        |                     | b. Reading, Berks.          |
| Maria R. Todd        | Niece  | Unm.    | F    | 6         |                     | b. Sydenham, Kent           |
| France L. Robinson   | Niece  | Unm.    | F    | 3         |                     | b. Bristol                  |

Two female servants, a nurse and a housemaid.

By the 1871 census, Mary Ann Robinson, Crescens Robinson, and the son Crescens A. Robinson are missing from the household. (There is a death record for Mary Ann Robinson in the Lambeth District, June Quarter of 1861, Vol. 1d, page 258. The elder Crescens death record is in the March Quarter of 1871, Lambeth District Vol. 1d, page 377). According to Cousin Bruce's records, the younger Crescens died on 4 February 1877 but I have been unable to locate him in the 1871 census.

Crescens Smith Robinson remarried during the September Quarter of 1862 in the Hastings District (Vol. 2b, page 40). His widow and daughters are at the same address, Overbury Villa, as follows in the census for 1871:

|                   |         |        |    |                     |                        |
|-------------------|---------|--------|----|---------------------|------------------------|
| Emily J. Robinson | Head    | Widow  | 42 | Wholesale Stationer | b. Not Stated          |
| Ada M. Robinson   | Dau.    | Single | 13 |                     | b. London, Middlesex   |
| Jane S. Robinson  | Dau     | Single | 11 |                     | b. London, Middlesex   |
| Mary A. Hollick   | Visitor | Widow  | 60 |                     | b. Not Stated          |
| Mary J. Lowe      | Niece   | Single | 23 |                     | b. Greenwich, Kent     |
| Louisa Knight     | Visitor | Widow  | 60 |                     | b. Bloomsbury, Middle. |

There are two female servants.

Please note that Louisa Knight, the visitor, seems to be the same woman who was the housekeeper for Mary Ann Powell's grandfather, Andrew Schwartz. (She was a 40 year old widow in 1851 and is now a 60 year old widow.)

In the 1881 census, Emily J. Robinson is still making a home for her two 'daughters' but they have moved to 14 Oakhurst Grove, Camberwell. The entry appears as follows:

|                   |      |    |  |                      |
|-------------------|------|----|--|----------------------|
| Emily J. Robinson | Head | 52 |  | b. London, Middlesex |
| Ada M. Robinson   | Dau  | 23 |  | b. London, Middlesex |
| Sarah J. Robinson | Dau  | 21 |  | b. London, Middlesex |

There is a visitor, Otto Voge, born about 1852 in Bremen, Germany, a naturalized British citizen, and a female servant born in Scotland.

In the 1891 census, Emily J. Robinson and Ada M. Robinson are living in Camberwell at #31 The Gardens (London, Camberwell, District 29, page 32) and appear as follows:

|                    |         |    |                     |                         |
|--------------------|---------|----|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Emily J. Robinson  | Widow   | 64 | living on own means | b. Kentish Town, London |
| Ada Maria Robinson | Dau     | 33 |                     | b. City of London       |
| Otto P. Voge       | Boarder | 39 | Merchant's Clerk    | b. Germany              |

**Sarah Jane Robinson** married Walter George Covington in the June Quarter of 1886 (Camberwell, Vol. 1d, page 1191) The couple appear in the 1891 census at 14 Rossiter Road, Streatham, Registration District of Wandsworth:

|                       |      |         |          |               |                    |
|-----------------------|------|---------|----------|---------------|--------------------|
| Walter G. Covington   | Head | Married | 32       | Bankers Clerk | b. Norwood, London |
| Sarah J. Covington    | Wife | Married | 31       |               | b. E. C., London   |
| Crescens K. Covington | Son  | Unm.    | 6 months |               | b. Balham, London  |

There are two female servants, a nurse and a general domestic.

Crescens Kingsley Covington was born in the December Quarter of 1890 in the Wandsworth District, Vol. 1d, Page 697.

In 1901, the Covingtons are at 33 Culverden Road, Streatham, District of Wandsworth and appear as follows:

|                       |      |         |    |               |                    |
|-----------------------|------|---------|----|---------------|--------------------|
| Walter G. Covington   | Head | Married | 41 | Bankers Clerk | b. Norwood, London |
| Sarah J. Covington    | Wife | Married | 40 |               | b. E. C. London    |
| Crescens K. Covington | Son  | Unm.    | 10 |               | b. Balham, London  |
| Inez I. M. Covington  | Dau  | Unm.    | 8  |               | b. Balham, London  |

There are two female servants in the household.

Also in the 1901 census, we find the second Robinson daughter still living in the household of her stepmother at 318 Lordship Lane, Camberwell:

Emily J. Robinson    Head    Widow 74    Living on own means b. London, Middlesex

Ada M. Robinson    Dau    Single 43    Living on own means b. London, Middlesex

There is one female servant.

Apparently, Ada M. Robinson did not marry.

### **The Robinson Family**

Crescens Smith Robinson was the son of Edward Robinson, a paper merchant who was born in Littledean, Gloucestershire. Edward Robinson appears in the 1851 census, age 56, a paper merchant, born Littledean, Gloucestershire living at what appears to be 4 Teresa Place in South Hamlet, Gloucester (District 5a, page 2) with his wife Augusta S. Robinson, aged 41. From her age she appears to be a second wife and not the mother of his sons. In the household on census night were also a visitor who was an attorney's daughter, and a female servant.

In the 1861 census, Edward Robinson, aged 69, Traveler for Wholesale Stationer, born Littledean, Gloucestershire, was living at Nelson Terrace in Bedminster, Somerset. He does not appear in the 1871 census and I believe his death record to be in the September Quarter of 1870 (Clifton District, Vol. 6a, page 144) which records the death of Edward Robinson at the age of 78 years.

From a search of the census records, it appears that Edward Robinson had at least five sons, three of whom followed him into the paper business:

Elisha Smith Robinson, born Overbury, Worcestershire about 1817

Edward Lloyd Robinson born Overbury, Worcestershire about 1817

John Robinson born Overbury, Worcestershire about 1820

Alfred Robinson born Overbury, Worcestershire about 1825

Crescens Smith Robinson born Overbury, Worcestershire about 1829

There were clearly other children but I have been unable to locate daughters who would have been married by the first census available in 1851 and not listed under Robinson. No female Robinson is listed born in Overbury, Worcestershire.

It is quite probable that the Edward Robinson and John Powell who witnessed the wedding of Mary Ann Powell and Crescens Smith Robinson were the brothers of the bride and groom rather than their fathers. Elisha, another witness at the wedding, was certainly a brother.

**Elisha Smith Robinson** In the 1851 census, Elisha Smith Robinson was living at 9 Kings Parade in Clifton (District 1m, page 5) Gloucestershire. He is 34, born in Gloucestershire according to this census (but in Overbury Worcester according to the 1861 census). In the 1851 census the family appears as follows:

|                          |      |   |    |                |             |
|--------------------------|------|---|----|----------------|-------------|
| Elisha Smith Robinson    | Head | M | 34 | Paper Merchant | b. Glos.    |
| Elizabeth Frank Robinson | Wife | M | 30 |                | b. Bristol  |
| Frank Ring               | Son  | U | 4  |                | b. Bristol  |
| Maria Elizabeth          | Dau  | U | 1  |                | b. Westbury |

The family has a cook, a housemaid and a nursemaid.

In Slater's Directory for 1852-3, there is the following listing for Bristol:  
 Robinson, Elisha Smith. Paper maker, wholesale grocer, stationer, and lithographic and letterpress printer.

Elisha Smith Robinson appears in the 1861 census in Sneyd Park, Westbury on Trym (District 7, page 9) as a 44 year old Paper Merchant and printer and manufacturer employing 170 AND a member of the Town Council. The entry appears as follows:

|                          |      |   |        |            |                                    |
|--------------------------|------|---|--------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Elisha Smith Robinson    | Head | M | 44     | Paper etc. | b. Overbury, Wor.                  |
| Elizabeth Frank Robinson | Wife | M | 40     |            | b. Bristol                         |
| Maria Elizabeth          | Dau  | U | 11     |            | b. Westbury on Trym                |
| Edward                   | Son  | U | 7      |            | b. Clifton, Glos.                  |
| Arthur                   | Son  | U | 5      |            | b. Clifton, Glos.                  |
| Harold                   | Son  | U | 3      |            | b. Westbury on Trym                |
| Gladstone                | Son  | U | 9 mos. |            | b. Sneyd Park,<br>Westbury on Trym |

The family also included a cook, two nursemaids, and a housemaid.

In the 1871 census, we find Elisha Smith Robinson as a widower, still in Westbury on Trym (District 12, page 23) as follows:

|                       |                        |   |    |                     |                   |
|-----------------------|------------------------|---|----|---------------------|-------------------|
| Elisha Smith Robinson | Head                   | W | 54 | Wholesale Stationer | b. Glos.          |
| Frank                 | Son                    | U | 24 |                     | b. Bristol        |
| Edward                | Son                    | U | 17 |                     | b. Bristol        |
| Martha Smith          | 1 <sup>st</sup> cousin | U | 43 | Annuitant           | b. Blokely, Glos. |

The family has a cook, housemaid, and undermaid.

In the 1881 census, Elisha Smith Robinson is still in Westbury on Trym (District 7, page 9) as follows:

|                       |      |   |    |                             |                     |
|-----------------------|------|---|----|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Elisha Smith Robinson | Head | W | 64 | Stationer<br>and Magistrate | b. Overbury, Worcs. |
|-----------------------|------|---|----|-----------------------------|---------------------|

He is living "behind Tuckers Houses" with a cook, parlourmaid, housemaid, and kitchen maid to look after him.

By the 1891 census, Elisha Smith Robinson disappears. He died at age 68 in 1885 (September Quarter, Vol. 6a, page 90, Barton Regis District, Gloucestershire).

**Edward Robinson** Edward Robinson the younger, probably brother of Crescens and perhaps twin of Elisha Robinson appears in the 1851 census living at 60 George Street in Hastings, Sussex (St. Clement, District 2a, page 29) as follows:

|                       |      |   |    |              |                    |
|-----------------------|------|---|----|--------------|--------------------|
| Edward Lloyd Robinson | Head | M | 34 | Linen Draper | b. Overbury, Wors. |
| Rebecca S.            | Wife | M | 37 |              | b. London          |

The household includes 5 male draper's assistants, an errand boy, and one female house servant. The 1851 Post Office Directory for Hastings, Sussex, page 771, lists:  
Robinson, Edward Lloyd & Co. Linen drapers and merchants, 60 George Street.

This Edward's birthplace makes it very probable that he and Crescens and the others were brothers. He is the same age as Elisha in this census. This could be an error or they could have been twins. This Edward does not appear in any later census. It is possible that he, like Crescens, died early and his widow remarried.

**Alfred Robison** Alfred Robison appears in the 1851, 1861 (Bristol, St. Mary Redcliffe, Dist. 12e, page 10), 1871, 1881, and 1891 censuses as a paper dealer. In 1891, he is listed as a Retired Wholesale Stationer living at "Beechwood House" on Fishponds Road, in Stapleton, Bristol. He has a 29 year old son, Alfred B. Robison who is a Wholesale Stationer.

**John Robison** John Robison appears in the 1851 census in South Hamlet, Gloucester (District 5b, page 370 married to Sarah whose mother is named Sarah Potter (the wife of a retired builder). They have a 4 year old daughter named Josephine and John is described as a corn merchant. In the 1861 census John and Sarah and their growing family are living in York House Lane in Wooten St. Mary, Gloucestershire with an 8 year old daughter named Maria Smith Robison (District 5, page 21). John has a large household and seems to be in the 'manure manufacturing' business. He doesn't appear in the 1871 census or later and perhaps also died young.

### The Covington Family

The Covington family into which Walter George Covington, husband of Sarah Jane Robison, was born is a fascinating one to follow through the census records because they – unlike most families – remain firmly in one place. In the 1851 census, Thomas Covington and his wife, Sarah A. M. Covington are living in Croydon (District 4p, page 52) at #4 Grecian Cottages (Crown Hill) with their 6 month old son Frederick B., a nurse and another female servant. Mr. Covington is a Bankers Clerk born in Kennington, Surrey. His wife was born in Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. Their son – in fact all their children – will be listed as born in Norwood, Surrey.

By the 1861 census, the family has moved to #5 Grecian Cottages (Croyden, District 31, page 1) and the family has expanded to include more children including Walter George, a governess, a female servant and a nurse.

By the 1871 census, Thomas Covington has died leaving the family still at #5 Grecian Cottages as follows:

|                       |       |    |           |                       |                   |
|-----------------------|-------|----|-----------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Sarah A. M. Covington | Widow | 47 | Dividends | b. Tewkesbury, Glous. |                   |
| Frederick B           | Son   | Un | 20        | Bankers Clerk         | b. Norwood, Surry |
| Charles J.            | Son   | Un | 18        | Insurance Clerk       | b. “              |
| Mary Sophia           | Dau   | Un | 16        |                       | b. “              |
| Stanton Thomas        | Son   | Un | 14        | Scholar               | b. “              |
| Walter George         | Son   | Un | 12        | “                     | b. “              |

|          |     |    |    |   |      |
|----------|-----|----|----|---|------|
| Sarah L. | Dau | Un | 10 | “ | b. “ |
| Ada M.   | Dau | Un | 8  | “ | b. “ |

One female Servant.

By the 1881 census (Croydon, District 55, page 30), Frederick and Charles have left home, Stanton has become an Insurance Clerk and Walter has become an Insurance Clerk. The family has two female servants and Sarah's niece, Agnes G. Hughes, unmarried, 31 years old, born Shropshire, is living in the household.

By 1891, Sarah A. M. Covington has moved her family to 182 Beulah Hill (Croydon, District 59, page 1) and only Mary, Stanton (a Clerk in a Fire Insurance Co.), Sarah and Ada are at home. There is a cook and a housemaid.

In the 1901 census, the family is still at 182 Beulah Hill (Croydon, District 94, page 21). Sarah A. M. Covington is a 77 year old widow with three single daughters and a cook in her household. The girls are Mary aged 46, Sarah aged 40 and Ada aged 37. Stanton has left home.

**Sixth Generation: Sarah Jane Powell (18 May 1840 – 16 June 1874)**

Daughter of John Powell ⑤ and Sarah Schwartz (Fifth Child)

Sarah Jane Powell was the fifth child of John Powell and Sarah Schwartz and the third surviving child. She appears in the 1841 census in the home of her parents with her older brother John and older sister Mary as a one year old living in White's Row, Spitalfields where she had been born.

Sarah Jane is mentioned in her Grandfather Schwartz' will but died before her father made his will. Her birth record can be found in Vol. 2, page 531, London Middlesex, Whitechapel District (which includes Spitalfields) in June Quarter of 1840.

She appears as a 10 year old in the 1851 census (Islington East, District 20, page 25) boarding at school with her older sister, Mary Ann who is 14. The school is headed by Charles M. H. Lawrie, a teacher of drawing and writing, and his wife, Mary Ann Lawrie, school mistress. The household also includes an English governess, a cook, a housemaid and 13 other female students. The students range in age from 18 to 10.

Sarah Jane appears as an "Independent Lady" of 20 years, unmarried and born in Spitalfields, London in the 1861 census. She is a visitor in the home of George and Elizabeth Best in Drayton, Berkshire. George Best, 50 years old, is a Baptist Dissenting Minister, born in Gloucestershire. His wife, Elizabeth, was born in Poplar, Middlesex, London. They have a 20 year old son, Albert, who is unmarried and apprenticed to a carpenter. He and his sister, Louisa, age 9, were both born in Berkshire. There is one female servant in the household. (Drayton, District 3, page 14)

In the 1871 census, Sarah J. Powell, 31 years old, single is living on her own means, born Spitalfields, Middlesex, London, on Abingdon Road at North Villa in Drayton, Berkshire, in the household of Elizabeth Best, now widowed, who "receives Lady Boarders." Mrs. Best's daughter, Annie Louisa, 19, is also of the household. There is one other boarder and a female servant.

Sarah Jane Powell's death at aged 34 is recorded in the June Quarter of 1874, Abingdon District of Berkshire, Vol. 2c, page 186. Drayton was part of the Abingdon District. She was buried in Wallingford under the same marker as her half brother, Ernest, son of John Powell and Mary Ann Keen Powell, who died in 1870 at the age of just 2 years. A photo of this monument has been provided by Margaret Havell Humfrey.

## The Schwartz Family

Sarah Schwartz, daughter of Andrew and Mary Schwartz, married John Powell (John of the two Families) at St. James Clerkenwell, Middlesex, London, in 1833. From Cousin Bruce Humfrey's notes and other records, we know that she and John had seven children only three of whom survived into adulthood and only two of whom married and had children.

Sarah Schwartz Powell died on 20 July 1850 at the age of 37 of an "enlarged liver." John Powell married Mary Ann Keen as his second wife in early February of 1851. His first son by Mary Ann Keen, Thomas Henry, was born in November of the same year.

John Powell left bequests of £100 to his grandchildren from his first marriage in his will: "the daughter of my late dear son John – Mary Ann Clench –and the children of my late dear daughter Mary Ann Robinson." He desired it to be known that he was leaving these bequests as a token of his affection and that these children have been provided for earlier through their parents, either by his providing for their parents or as children 'of their mother', i.e. Sarah Schwartz. The accounting of John Powell's estate shows the bequests paid to Mary Ann Clench, a Miss Robinson and a Mrs. Covington.

Interestingly, John Powell in his will leaves a diamond ring described as "formerly belonging to Mr. Schwartz" to one of his sons from his second marriage and a diamond brooch described as "formerly belonging to Mr. Schwartz" to another son. We do not know how these jewels came into John's hands but were perhaps left to him by one of his children by Sarah Schwartz.

We find Andrew Schwartz, Sarah Schwartz Powell's father and John's father-in-law, in the 1841 census in Powell's Place (Middlesex, St. Luke, City Road, District 3, page 10) as follows:

|                    |    |             |                     |
|--------------------|----|-------------|---------------------|
| Andrew W. Schwartz | 50 | Independent | b. Foreign Parts    |
| Mary Schwartz      | 58 |             | b. not in Middlesex |
| Lucy Knight        | 30 | Servant     | b, Middlesex        |

Between 1841 and 1851, Mary Schwartz died and Andrew Schwartz appears in the 1851 census at No. 3 Powell's Place in London. He is a 64 year old widower, born in Germany (Kingdom of Wurttemberg), and his occupation is listed as "Gentleman." He lives with a 40 year widowed housekeeper, Louisa Knight, and a 14 year old servant girl named Ellen Knight. (I feel sure that the Lucy of 1841 is the Louisa of 1851.)

We have the will of Andrew Schwartz, father of Sarah and father-in-law of John Powell. Andrew Schwartz of Powell's Place, City Road, in the County of Middlesex signed his will on 4 August 1850. At that time, he was a widower, and began his will by leaving his son-in-law John Powell £50 as a mark of his regard and esteem. He left all his household possessions and the residual of his estate to his three grandchildren – John Powell, Mary Ann Powell, and Sarah Jane Powell, the children of his late daughter, Sarah (Schwartz) Powell. He left the household possessions in the care of John Powell as a trust for his grandchildren and named two other trustees to handle the investments – Ebenezer Hart and James Shick. He also left bequests to his late wife's widowed sister, Hannah Holford Sanderson, to two nephews (Edward Sanderson and

Martin Gehringer), and most generously to his brother, Martin Schwartz and his family, residents of the Kingdom of Wurttemberg. Andrew also left Martin the gold watch and chain and seals that his brother Sebastian had left to him. Also, his diamond ring (“but not his diamond mourning ring”). He left a bequest to his friend and pastor, the Rev. John Peacock of Spencer Place, Goswell Road in the County of Middlesex.

Andrew Schwartz made six codicils to his will, the first on 30 November 1850 giving his housekeeper of many years, Louisa Knight, furniture and his parrot with its cage and amending the legacy to a nephew. This was witnessed by Isaac Sheffield, Jr. of 68 Old Broad Street and Charles Adams of 1 Powell’s Place, City Road, County of Middlesex.

In the second codicil signed on 14 May 1851, Andrew Schwartz revoked the bequest to his son-in-law John Powell and gave the sum to a charitable institution instead. He gave a nephew two portraits, one of himself and one of his late wife, in addition to what he had previously been left.

In the third codicil signed 1 October 1851, Andrew Schwartz lists a number of articles of furniture and decorative items to be left to his housekeeper, Louisa Knight; to Thomas Powell, brother of his son-in-law John Powell; to his executor James Shick; to his grandson John Powell; to his other executor Ebenezer Hart; and to his two granddaughters, Mary Ann and Sarah Jane Powell. It appears that he was disposing of all the items he had originally left in the care of John Powell in trust for his three grandchildren. The objects are to be held in trust by the executors (not John Powell) for any child who shall not have reached 21 years of age or, in the case of the daughters married, at his death.

In the fourth codicil signed 8 October 1852, Andrew Schwartz made some changes to bequests to a nephew and to his brother Martin and Martin’s family. In the fifth codicil signed 5 January 1853, Andrew Schwartz adjusted legacies to two nephews.

In the sixth codicil signed 25 February 1853, Andrew Schwartz replaced Ebenezer Hart as executor with ‘my friend’ Thomas Powell, brother of his son-in-law John Powell, because Ebenezer Hart was aged and infirm and incapable of serving. Thomas Powell is listed as of No. 11 Bonner Road, Victoria Park.

The will of Andrew Schwartz with six codicils was proved at London on 22 September 1854 with James Shick and Thomas Powell serving as executors. James Shick was an original executor and is listed as of 22 Rahore Street, Goswell Road, Saint Lukes, County of Middlesex and he is a fusee cutter. Research indicates that a fusee or fuzee was the part of a watch or clock on which the chain was wound. From Shick family wills we know that James Shick’s father had made fusee chains and his mother took over the business after his father’s death. The business then passed to his brothers, Joseph and Frederick. James seems to have been in a related business and on the same street where his brothers worked. Andrew Schwartz left James’ wife, Sarah Ann Shick, his copy of Bunyon’s *Pilgrim’s Progress*.

We also have the will of Andrew’s brother – Sebastian Schwartz – which was proved in London on 29 September 1832 (some 22 years before Andrew’s death). Sebastian’s will had one codicil. The will was signed 30 March 1832 with the codicil added on 30 August 1832. Sebastian

Schwartz is listed as of White's Row, Spitalfields in the County of Middlesex and also of Beckford Park, Kennington, County of Surrey, capillaire maker. He leaves his household goods and money to his wife, Elizabeth, and an annuity to his step-daughter. He leaves his gold watch, chain and seals, his clothing and his body linen to his brother, Andrew Schwartz of No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields. He also leaves Andrew his leasehold in White's Row and all the materials, etc., and goodwill connected to the business. He leaves a bequest of cash to his widowed sister, Magdalene Kovering living in the Kingdom of Wurtemberg. He appoints three executors including his brother Andrew, and entrusts them with his financial holdings including numerous investments, such as annuities of the Bank of England, to invest on behalf of his step-daughter, Elizabeth Davis, the wife of Thomas Davis of Vauxhall in the County of Surrey, Gentleman, and on behalf of his wife and his sister. The codicil replaced the executor serving with Andrew Schwartz for another.

### **The Schwartz-Powell Business Connection**

The Schwartz brothers – Sebastian and Andrew of Wurtemberg in what is now Germany – were skilled craftsmen engaged in sugar refining and in the manufacturing of musical instrument strings and bows during the early part of the 19<sup>th</sup> century in London at No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields.

Sebastian Schwartz of No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields is listed in Pigot's Directories for 1822 through 1824 under the trade of Liquid Refined Sugar Makers – makers of capillaire and spirit colouring. Andrew Schwartz is listed in Pigot's Directory of 1823/4 as a violin, harp & Bow string maker at 3 White's Row, Spitalfields. In 1832, Sebastian Schwartz died and left his brother Andrew his business and his share in the leasehold of No. 3 White's Row. Andrew Schwartz is listed in the 1846 Post Office London Director as a "Vinegar & spirit colouring manufacturer to Her Majesty's revenue" at No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields.

By the time John Powell married into the Schwartz family in 1833, Andrew Schwartz was running two businesses and John went into business with him. John Powell (late Schwartz & Powell) was listed in the 1846 Directory as a harp & violin string maker, wholesale & for exportation, at 3 White's Row. He is listed as a spirit colouring manufacturer of No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields, when he appeared with his brother Thomas to obtain administration of his father's will in 1850. (He was also listed as a "Spirit Colour Maker" on his wife's death certificate in July of 1850.)

By 1850 when Andrew Schwartz drew up his will, John Powell was running both businesses and Andrew Schwartz, John's father-in-law, was termed a Gentleman (apparently retired from business). It is now clear these are the businesses that John turned over to his son John in 1857.

Capillaire and spirit colouring were related products, both the end products of processing sugar. Capillaire was "a water-clear syrup originally flavoured with dry maiden hair fern (*capillus veneris verus*) and was believed to be efficacious for treatment of many ailments, particularly coughs and lung complaints. Capillaire was later flavoured with orange-flower water and much used by confectioners as a flavouring and also as a cordial. In the theatre advertisements on the front of *The Times*, the sale of capillaire as a refreshment was often mentioned. Spirit colour

was developed as a colouring for rum – “a boiled dark muscavado sugar with a small amount of rum added was produced, and about 3 pints would colour 100 gallons of spirit.” It is apparent that although developed to colour rum, spirit colouring was used to color other alcoholic beverages and food products.

The spirit colouring business passed from the son of John Powell upon his death to his widow, Mary Ann White Powell who married Benjamin Henry Gerrans. Gerrans took over the business and ran it for many years. When he left the business to be the secretary of a benevolent society, Mary Ann White Powell was listed as a caramel manufacturer, a very closely related business. It all had to do with ‘burning sugar’ for commercial uses.

### **The Schwartz-Powell Religious Connection**

Finally, it is interesting to note that the pastor to whom Andrew Schwartz left a legacy – the Rev. John Peacock – is the same clergyman who performed the marriage ceremony of John Powell and his second wife, Mary Ann Keen. Apparently, the Schwartz family, John Powell and his brothers, and the Keen family all worshiped at the Tabernacle in Spencer Place where the Rev. John Peacock was pastor. John Peacock appears in the 1851 census in Clerkenwell, Goswell Street (District 8, page 35) as follows:

|              |      |         |    |  |                           |
|--------------|------|---------|----|--|---------------------------|
| John Peacock | Head | Married | 71 | Baptist Minister of Spencer Place Chapel |                           |
|              |      |         |    |  | b. Bedfordshire, Ravenden |
| Deborah      | Wife | Married | 64 |  | b. Bedfordshire           |
| Ebenezer     | Son  | Un      | 29 | Printer                                  | b. Clerkenwell            |

There is one female servant.

John Peacock appears in the 1861 census as an 81 year old Baptist Minister born in Bedfordshire living with his son Ebenezer Peacock and one servant at 23 Tavistock Terrace in Islington while Mary Ann Keen’s brother, Henry, and his family are living at 13 Tavistock Terrace in the same census.

We know that John Powell was married at the Tabernacle in 1851. His brother Thomas probably also attended but we have evidence that his brother George did. In a letter to Charles Augustus, Thomas Henry of the Letters notes that this George Powell (brother of John and Thomas) wrote to Hannah Hussey Powell, his mother, that he had been listening to a sermon by Mr. Peacock.

(The Rev. John Peacock appears to have died in London on May 15, 1864. He was born in Ravensden, Bedfordshire in 1779. His father was a farmer and ‘churchman.’ The Rev. Peacock had a son, Wiles Peacock, born in 1818. He married Jane Furneaux and they immigrated to Australia (Point Adelaide) in 1842. Patterns of emigration, in particular to Canada and Australia, are of interest because of the ‘disappearance’ of young members of the Powell family in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century.)

Thomas Henry of the Letters concluded that Hannah Hussey Powell was a woman of strong religious convictions and that she had influenced her surviving children – John, Thomas, George, Richard Ebenezer and Jane Powell Webb – profoundly. They were all religious. Thomas Henry’s letters also discuss the fact that the Keens were dissenters and that Mary Ann Keen’s

brother, Henry, was apparently a lay preacher who argued theology with her husband, John Powell. John Powell was active in and generous to Baptists causes throughout his life and in his will left money to many Baptist causes. He also paid for pews in two houses of worship, at St. Helen's in Benson and at Upton, Berkshire (now Oxfordshire).

James Shick, who served as one of the executors of Andrew Schwartz' will along with Thomas Powell, was a lay preacher – like Henry Keen - who left Spencer Place, London, for Pangbourne in 1859. James Shick married the sister of Thomas Powell's second wife, Jane Grace, whose name was Matilda. After the death of James Shick and Jane Grace Powell, Thomas married Matilda Grace Shick. After Thomas died, leaving Matilda to rear her own daughter by James Shick and his four children by her sister, Jane Grace Powell, Matilda married Seth Valentine Lewis, a Baptist minister.

Sarah Jane Powell, daughter of John Powell and Sarah Schwartz, visited and then lived in the home of a Baptist Dissenting Minister in Drayton, Berkshire as a young woman.

In each of the following generations, there is a strong streak of dissenting in the Powell family.

### The Keen Family

Mary Ann Keen was the second wife of John Powell of the Two Families. Her father was Charles Keen. He was a tailor at the time Mary Ann married John Powell in 1851 and the family was living in Islington.

In the 1851 census the family appears at 9 Windmill Street, Finsbury (Dist. 6, page 1) as follows:

|              |      |     |    |               |                        |
|--------------|------|-----|----|---------------|------------------------|
| Charles Keen | Head | Mar | 51 | Master Tailor | b. Suffolk, Rishangles |
| Ann          | Wife | Mar | 51 |               | b. Suffolk, Eye        |
| William      | Son  | Un  | 20 | Tailor        | b. Suffolk, Gillingham |
| Harriet      | Dau  | Un  | 19 |               | b. Suffolk, Gillingham |
| Emma         | Dau  | Un  | 17 |               | b. Suffolk, Gillingham |
| Charles      | Son  | Un  | 15 | Tailor        | b. St. Luke, Middlesex |
| Ellen        | Dau  | Un  | 7  |               | b. Middlesex           |

There are also two servants listed as errand boys.

Mary Ann Keen had married John Powell earlier in the year. In this same census, the eldest son, Henry Keen, aged 26, Master Tailor, born Suffolk is listed as head of his own household in Holborn St. Andrew (Eastern, Dist. 1b, page 20) with his wife Mary A., also 26, born Clerkenwell and a one year old daughter named Fannie. They have one female servant.

In the 1861 census, Charles Keen and his household are at 69 Grays Inn Lane, Holborn St Andrew, Middlesex, appear as follows:

|              |      |         |    |               |                        |
|--------------|------|---------|----|---------------|------------------------|
| Charles Keen | Head | Married | 61 | Master Tailor | b. Rishangles, Suffolk |
| Ann Keen     | Wife | Married | 61 |               | b. Eye, Suffolk        |
| Ellen Eliza  | Dau  | Single  | 17 |               | b. London, Middlesex   |

There is one female servant born in Suffolk.

In the 1861 census, Emma Keen Bayne (Emma Keen married James Bayne, London, Middlesex, June Quarter 1854 (Vol. 1b, p 359) and her family are living at 24 Victoria Road in Islington and their family appears as follows:

|             |      |         |    |                          |                         |
|-------------|------|---------|----|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| James Bayne | Head | Married | 29 | Newspaper sub-editor     | b. Islington, Middlesex |
| Emma Bayne  | Wife | Married | 27 |                          | b. Gillingham, Suffolk  |
| James       | Son  | Single  | 5  |                          | b. Islington, Middlesex |
| Arthur      | Son  | Single  | 1  |                          | b. Islington, Middlesex |
| Henry       | Son  | Single  | 19 | Printers Readers Asst    | b. Shoreditch           |
| William     | Son  | Single  | 16 | Custom House Agent Clerk | B. Shoreditch           |

There is one female servant. It is also clear that Henry and William are not the children of this couple and are probably James Bayne's brothers.

Also in the 1861 census, William Keen and his family are living 36 Tabernacle in St. Luke Parish, Middlesex:

|                |        |         |    |             |                           |
|----------------|--------|---------|----|-------------|---------------------------|
| William Keen   | Head   | Married | 29 | Taylor      | b. Gillingham, Suffolk    |
| Fanny Keen     | Wife   | Married | 29 |             | b. St. Luke, Middlesex    |
| Emily Chandler | Lodger | Single  | 30 | Dress Maker | b. Westminster, Middlesex |

Finally, in the 1861 census we have the family of Henry Keen living at 13 Tavistock Terrace as follows:

|            |      |         |      |                 |                        |
|------------|------|---------|------|-----------------|------------------------|
| Henry Keen | Head | Married | 36   | Merchant Tailor | b. Gillingham, Suffolk |
| Mary Ann   | Wife | Married | 34   |                 | b. Middlesex, London   |
| Fanny      | Dau  | Single  | 12   |                 | b. Middlesex, London   |
| Edwin      | Son  |         | 8    |                 | b. Middlesex, London   |
| Mary Ann   | Dau  |         | 6    |                 | b. Middlesex, London   |
| Emma       | Dau  |         | 4    |                 | b. Islington           |
| William    | Son  |         | 2    |                 | b. Highgate            |
| Baby       | Son  |         | 1 mo |                 | b. Highgate            |

There are two female servants.

The Keen and Powell families were close with many connections. For instance in the 1871 census we find:

At 69 City Road, London:

|                      |         |    |   |
|----------------------|---------|----|---|
| William, Keen        | head    | 40 | Master Tailor employing 7 men                             |
| Fanny Keen           | wife    | 40 |   |
| William Charles Keen | son     | 4  |   |
| Charles Powell       | visitor | 17 | law student (this is Charles Augustus, nephew of William) |

The household also has one female servant, two male boarders who are builders' clerks and their sister visiting who is a school teacher in training.

Also in the 1871 census we have the family of Henry Keen at 12 Kingsdown Road, St. Mary Islington, Upper Holloway, Finsbury:

|            |      |    |                |   |
|------------|------|----|----------------|---|
| Henry Keen | Head | 46 | b. Gillingham  | Tailor & Outfitter                      |
| Mary Ann   | Wife | 44 | b. Clerkenwell |   |
| Fanny      | Dau  | 21 | b. Holborn     |   |
| Edwin H    | Son  | 17 | b. Holborn     | (Given incorrectly as Edward in census) |
| Mary Ann   | Dau  | 15 | b. Holborn     |   |
| Emma       | Dau  | 14 | b. Highgate    |   |
| Arthur     | Son  | 10 | b. Holloway    |   |
| William B. | Son  | 10 | b. Holloway    |   |
| Frederick  | Son  | 7  | b. Holloway    |   |
| Bertha A.  | Dau  | 5  | b. Holloway    |   |
| Harriet    | Dau  | 3  | b. Holloway    |   |
| Frank N    | Son  | 1  | b. Holloway    |   |

In the 1881 census the family is living at 12 Cathcart Hill, Middlesex, London and looks like this:

|            |      |    |                |                 |
|------------|------|----|----------------|-----------------|
| Henry Keen | Head | 56 | b. Gillingham  | Tailor & Draper |
| Mary Ann   | Wife | 54 | b. Clerkenwell |                 |
| Mary Ann   | Dau  | 25 | b. Holborn     |                 |
| Emma       | Dau  | 24 | b. Islington   |                 |
| William B. | Son  | 21 | b. Islington   | Accountant      |
| Arthur     | Son  | 20 | b. Islington   | Architect       |

|             |     |    |              |              |
|-------------|-----|----|--------------|--------------|
| Fredrick G. | Son | 17 | b. Islington | Tea Merchant |
| Bertha A.   | Dau | 15 | b. Islington | Scholar      |
| Harriet M.  | Dau | 13 | b. Islington | Scholar      |
| Frank N.    | Son | 11 | b. Islington | Scholar      |

The family had one 19 year old female servant.

Thomas Henry of the Letters mentions correspondence about the Keen family from Harry Keen. This may have been Edwin Henry Keen, son of Thomas Henry's uncle, Henry Keen, or it may have been Edwin Henry's son, Harry who was 7 in the 1891 census. Apparently Henry Keen, older brother of Mary Ann Keen Powell, was a lay preacher who according to Thomas Henry's letters 'sometimes preached up to 3 times on a Sunday' and his preaching both got him into difficulty with the Board of Trade and also was the making of him apparently.

The Powell family also seems to have done business with the Keen family tailors. The estate settlement of John Powell of the Two Families, widower of Mary Ann Keen - Henry's brother-in-law and Thomas Henry's father - who died in 1892 shows that the estate owed H. Keen, Tailor of High Holborn, £5.

In the 1891 Mary Ann Keen Powell is dead and Henry Keen's family appears as follows at 15 Cathcart Hill, Islington, London:

|                   |      |    |                            |
|-------------------|------|----|----------------------------|
| Henry Keen        | head | 66 | Tailor                     |
| Mary Ann Keen     | wife | 64 |                            |
| Arthur Keen       | son  | 30 | Architect                  |
| Frederick G. Keen | son  | 27 | Grocer                     |
| Bertha A. Keen    | dau  | 25 |                            |
| Frank N. Keen     | son  | 21 | Accountant Articled Pupil; |

The family had two female servants and there were Ladies Schools at #10 and #16 Cathcart Hill.

Also in the 1891 census, we find a Powell boarding with his Keen aunt at 27 Endymion Terrace, Finsbury Park, London:

|                   |         |       |    |                       |
|-------------------|---------|-------|----|-----------------------|
| Emma Keen Bayne   | Head    | Widow | 57 | Boarding House Keeper |
| Herbert Bayne     | son     |       | 24 | Engraver on wood      |
| Percy Bayne       | son     |       | 22 | Stationers Assistant  |
| Mary E. Bayne     | dau     |       | 17 |                       |
| Ellen E. Keen     | Sister  |       | 46 |                       |
| William A. Powell | Boarder |       | 36 | Architect             |

The Keen family became dissenters because of an incident related in the letter of Thomas Henry to Charles Augustus which are well worth reading. Mary Ann Keen's father took his family out of the Church of England and paved the way for Mary Ann to meet John Powell at the Tabernacle in London.

**Sixth Generation: Thomas Henry Powell, (7 November 1851 – 2 September 1932)**

Son of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Thomas Henry Powell was the eldest son of John Powell by his second wife, Mary Ann Keen. Thomas became a Pharmaceutical Chemist.

In the 1861 census, Thomas is in the home of his parents as a 9 year old.

In the 1871 census, Thomas is living as an apprentice in the home of John Broad, Pharmaceutical Chemist at 14 Hornsey Rise “Rise House”, St Mary Parish of Islington, Upper Holloway in the Parliamentary Borough of Finsbury. The household consisted of John and his wife Harriett; two daughters, Mary and Sarah Sophia; a son, John Morris; the apprentice, Thomas Henry Powell, and two female servants.

Thomas Henry is the writer of a series of letters to his brother Charles Augustus in 1928-29 which Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell has made available and which have been invaluable in research on the family. In one letter to Stewart John Powell, Thomas Henry discussed his apprenticeship. He said that the house looked like a private home and stood in an ample garden and that they did a very good dispensing business. The son was spoiled by his mother and later came to a bad end.

In the 1881 census, Thomas Henry has taken up residence at 116 Denmark Hill, Lambeth, Surrey, where he is listed as head of the household and a Pharmaceutical Chemist. He is 29 years old and assisted in his business by a 27 year old Chemists Assistant named James Haston. His household also includes a 26 year old housekeeper named Theresa Rouse and three of his younger brothers: William A. Powell, Architects Clerk; Edwin Powell, Coal Merchants Clerk; and George F. Powell, Stationers Apprentice.

On 7 November 1882 (1882 December Marriage of Greater London, Surrey, Volume 1d, page 899), Thomas Henry married Ada Ellen Thrower. She was the daughter of Stephen and Ellen Thrower and she was born in Beccles, Suffolk. In the 1871 census she is an 8 year old living with her parents and two sisters and a lodger at 10 Low Street in Hoxne, Suffolk. Her father was a fish merchant.

In the 1891 census he and his family are at 116 Denmark Hill as they are in the 1901 census which lists the full family (Lambeth, Brixton, District 50, page 16):

Thomas Henry Powell, Head, 49, born Islington, London, Pharmaceutical Chemist

Ada Ellen Powell, Wife, 38, born Beccles, Suffolk

John Henry Powell, son, 19, born Lambeth, London, Chemical Student

William Ernest Powell, son, 16, born Lambeth, London

Thomas Arthur Powell, son, 11, born Lambeth, London

Violet Marian Powell, daughter, 8, born Lambeth, London

The family had a live-in female servant.

Violet Marian Powell (29 March 1898) called Maidie married Ralph D. L. Wolsey and lived at Burwell. They apparently had no children. Wolsey was a retired military man and chairman of

the local Old Soldiers Club when Thomas Henry visited them in 1928 according to his letters to Charles Augustus.

William Ernest Powell (3 December 1884 – 26 October 1916) was killed in the First World War. Ada died (26 August 1926) before Thomas Henry leaving him an elderly widower who moved between the homes of his sons John Henry and Thomas Arthur. John Henry (b. 22 August 1883) lived with his wife Jessie (Jessie Olive Barrett) at 14 Underhill Road, Dulwich SE 22. Thomas Arthur (b. 13 November 1889) and his wife, Marjorie (Marjorie Eugene Annette Horrel), and son, Thomas Trevor (b. 23 January 1922), lived at 44 Ritherdon Road, Balham SW 12. John died without issue and Thomas Arthur's son, Thomas Trevor, was killed in World War II (missing over Berlin 1-2 January 1944).

These events left John Henry Powell in possession of his father's papers on the family and the mug that John Powell, son of Sarah Schwartz Powell and John of the Two Families, had presented to his father in 1857. The mug had been left by John of the Two Families to his son Alfred who died in Africa. As the eldest son, Thomas Henry must have come into possession of it. The mug was presented to Stewart John Powell because he had two sons and therefore the hope of carrying on the family in the male line.

Thomas Henry Powell died at the age of 80 on 2 September 1932 (the September Quarter of 1932 (Croydon District, Volume 2a, page 35).

**Sixth Generation: William Arthur Powell, (14 February 1855 – 18 November 1921)**

Son of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

William was the third son of John Powell's second family. He was born in 1855 according to Cousin Bruce's chart. I have not been able to find his birth record but I believe he was born in London.

In the 1861 census, William is in the home of his parents in London.

In 1871, William is apparently in boarding school in Caversham, Oxfordshire while his family is living in Benson.

In the 1881 census, William is living with his brother, Thomas Henry, at 116 Denmark Hill, Lambeth (London, Lambeth, Brixton, District 18a, page 17) and he is listed as an architect's clerk.

In 1891, William is listed as an architect and is boarding in the home of his maternal aunt, Emma Keen Bayne at 27 Endymion Terrace, Finsbury Park, London. He was listed at the same address and occupation the next year when he received authority to administer his father's will as one of three executors. The other two were his older brothers, Thomas Henry and Charles Augustus.

There is a marriage record for William Arthur Powell in the June Quarter of 1892, Greater London, Surrey, Vol. 1d, page 784 while indicates that he married Jane Elizabeth Boyce. Cousin Bruce's chart lists him as a bachelor so this record may not be our man.

In the 1901 census (London, St. Pancras, Kentish Town, District 23, page 26), there is a record for:

|                |    |      |                    |                     |
|----------------|----|------|--------------------|---------------------|
| William Powell | 46 | Head | Living on own Mean | b. Highgate, London |
| Jane Powell    | 45 | Wife |                    | b. Swansea, Wales   |

I believe this record pertains to our William Arthur but cannot be sure.

Letters in the possession of Charles Keith Powell lead one to believe that William was unwell and in care for a number of years before his death in 1921. William Arthur Powell died at the age of 66 on 18 November 1921 (December Quarter of 1921, Camberwell District Volume 1d, page 890). There do not appear to have been issue of the marriage if, indeed he married.

**Sixth Generation: Edwin Powell, (31 January 1857 – 14 September 1932)**

Son of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Edwin (Ted) Powell was born at Holloway in London, the fourth son of John Powell's second family.

In the 1861 census he is a child in his parent's home in London but would have moved to Benson with his family in 1862.

In the 1871 census, he is a student in the parish of St. Mary the More, Wallingford with three of his cousins, sons of Richard Ebenezer Powell.

In the 1881 census, he is living in the home of his brother, Thomas Henry Powell, 116 Denmark Hill, Lambeth, London.

In the June Quarter marriage records for 1886, London, Middlesex (Vol. 1b, page 814) is recorded his marriage to Beatrice Hide (Beatie) which occurred on 12 May 1886. She was born on 6 July 1860 at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire (St. Ives District, September Quarter of 1860, Volume 3b, page 261).

In the 1891 census, the couple is living in Hackney, Stamford Hill, at #58 Alkham Road. Edwin is listed as Edward and is 34 years old, Beatrice is 30, and there is one 50 year old female servant. Edwin is listed as a Coal Co.s' Clerk.

In the 1901 census we find the couple living in St. Andrews Parish, Callow Land, Watford, Hertfordshire, at Gunwalloe, apparently the name of a villa, on St. Albans Road. Edwin is 44 years old and Beatrice is 40. There is also a 15 year old female servant. Edwin is listed as a grocer, shop keeper, coal merchant's clerk, employer & worker. Beatrice is listed as a grocer.

Edwin and Beatie did not have any children. Edwin died 14 September 1932 (September Quarter, East Preston District, Volume 2b, page 448).

**Sixth Generation: Clara Powell Slade, (26 September 1858 – 27 June 1924)**

Daughter of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Clara Powell was born in Islington, Middlesex, London in 1858 (December Quarter, Volume 1b, page 189).

In the 1861 census, she is in the home of her parents in Islington, Middlesex.

In the 1871 census, she is living in Benson with her parents. In the 1881 census she is living in Benson with her parents as a 22 year old.

In 1888 on 22 September (Sept. Quarter, Berkshire/Oxfordshire Marriage Records, Vol. 2, Page 26), she married John Slade.

In the 1891 census, the young couple is living with John's widowed mother and two sisters at Mill House, Ewelme Street, Ewelme:

|             |            |    |         |                     |                         |
|-------------|------------|----|---------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| Sarah Slade | Head       | 67 | Widowed | Living on own means | b. Dorchester           |
| Katherine   | Dau        | 40 | Single  |                     | b. Hagbourne, Berks     |
| Fanny       | Dau        | 35 | Single  |                     | b. Hagbourne, Berks     |
| John        | Son        | 33 | Married | Miller              | b. Bagnor, Berks        |
| Clara       | Dau in Law | 32 | Married |                     | b. Islington, Middlesex |
| Dora        | Granddau   | 1  | Single  |                     | b. Benson               |

In the 1901 census, the family appears at 5 Railway Approach, Durham Villa, 43, in the Parish of St. Andrews Entire, Worthing, West Sussex:

|                   |    |      |                      |                           |
|-------------------|----|------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| John Slade        | 43 | Head | b. Bagnor, Berks.    | Retired Miller and Farmer |
| Clara Slade       | 42 | Wife | b. Islington, London |                           |
| Dora Slade        | 11 | Dau. | b. Benson, Oxon      |                           |
| Mary Powell Slade | 9  | Dau. | b. Ewelme, Oxon      |                           |
| Evelyn Slade      | 8  | Dau. | b. Burton, Sussex    |                           |
| Muriel Slade      | 6  | Dau. | b. Burton, Sussex    |                           |
| Alfred John Slade | 4  | Son  | b. Burton, Sussex    |                           |

Clara Powell Slade died on 27 June 1924) (June Quarter of 1924, East Preston District, Volume 2b, page 430). Worthing is part of the East Preston District. John Slade died in 1931.

Muriel Slade was a favorite niece of Thomas Henry of the letters and David John Powell remembers here fondly. She was born in the June Quarter of 1895 in the Petworth District (which included Burton) Sussex (volume 2b, page 329).

### The Slade Family

John Slade was the son of William and Sarah Slade. In the 1851 census, the family is living in East Hagbourne (Dist. 8, page 33) and William is listed as a 24 year old paper maker employing 10 men. He was born in Hants. His wife Sarah is 27 and born in Dorchester. Their daughter Sarah Jane is 1 year old, born Hagbourne and their daughter Kathleen is 3 months old, born Hagbourne. They have two house servants.

John Slade appears in the 1861 census with his family living in the Hamlet of Shillingford, Warborough, District 5, page 27 of 32 as follows:

|             |      |    |                      |                               |
|-------------|------|----|----------------------|-------------------------------|
| Sarah Slade | Head | 37 | Widow of paper maker | b. Dorchester, Berks.         |
| Sarah J.    | Dau  | 11 | Scholar              | b. Hagbourne, Berks.          |
| Kathleen    | Dau  | 10 | Scholar              | b. Hagbourne, Berks.          |
| Fanny       | Dau  | 6  |                      | b. Hurstbourne Priors, Hants. |
| John        | Son  | 3  |                      | b. Bagnor, Berks              |

John Slade appears in the 1871 census as a 13 year old pupil in a school at Ewelme run by Elizabeth Garlick, aged 70. In that same census, his family is living at West Lockinge, Berkshire and consists of:

|                |      |        |    |                |           |
|----------------|------|--------|----|----------------|-----------|
| Sarah Slade    | Head | Widow  | 47 | b. Oxfordshire | Annuitant |
| Kathleen Slade | Dau. | Single | 20 | b. Berkshire   |           |
| Fanny Slade    | Dau. | Single | 15 | b. Hampshire   |           |

In the 1881 census, John Slade is living with his family in Dorchester and is listed as a miller:

|                |      |        |    |                      |           |
|----------------|------|--------|----|----------------------|-----------|
| Sarah Slade    | Head | Widow  | 57 | b. Oxfordshire       | Annuitant |
| Sarah J. Slade | Dau. | Single | 31 | b. Hagbourne, Berks. |           |
| Kathleen Slade | Dau. | Single | 30 | b. Hagbourne, Berks. |           |
| John Slade     | Son  | Single | 23 | b. Speen, Berks.     | Miller    |

Sarah Slade and her daughter, Katherine, were living in the Littleworth section of Benson when the 1901 census was taken. She died in March Quarter of 1902 (Wallingford District Vol. 2c, page 230) at the age of 78 years.

### **Sixth Generation: Emily Powell Humfrey (24 February 1861 – 18 March 1913)**

Daughter of John ⑤ and Mary Anne Keen Powell

Emily Powell was the daughter of John Powell and Mary Anne Keen. She was born in 1861 in Islington, London (March Quarter, Volume 1b, page 246) and moved with her family to Benson in 1862. She was their last child to be born in London.

She appears in the 1861 census as an infant in her parents' home in Islington, London. In the 1871 census, she is living with her parents on High Street in Benson. In the 1881 census, she appears as a 22 year old in her parent's home on High Street in Benson.

Emily married Edward Havell Humfrey on 24 October 1889 (Dec. Quarter, Berkshire/Oxfordshire Vol. 2c, page 729). Thanks to her granddaughter, Margaret Havell Humfrey, we have a copy of the newspaper article reporting the wedding. It was held in Benson at the Free Church and notes that Emily "has taken an active part in connection with the Free Church cause..." Her brother and sisters attended in force with Thomas Henry Powell playing the music and Charles Augustus composing a hymn for the occasion sung to *Lewisham* (New Bristol Tune Book) which was fully produced in the article. The article lists all the wedding gifts received by the happy couple and is particularly interesting for the light it throws on family connections. In addition to gifts from the bride and groom's parents and siblings it lists the gift of a tea tray from Master S. Powell. We conclude that this refers to the almost four year old son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Augustus Powell, Stewart John, the only young male Powell with an initial S.

The extended Powell family is represented by gifts from Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Powell (of Winterbrook), Miss H. Powell (Hannah, daughter of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell), Mrs. Case (Hannah's married sister, Jane Powell Case), Mrs. Lewis (widow of these girls' father Thomas Powell), Miss Shick (daughter of Mrs. Lewis from her first marriage to James Shick), Mr. Franklin (John Lane Franklin, widower of Plessey Powell Wiggins Franklin cousin of John Powell), Mrs. Corsellis (Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, daughter of John's cousin Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell), Mrs. Slade and the Misses Slade (mother-in-law and sisters-in-law of Clara Powell Slade, sister of the bride) and perhaps Mrs. Clinch (who may be Mary Ann Powell Clinch, half sister of the Bride, daughter of John Powell from John Powell's marriage to Sarah Schwartz) or Kate Powell Clinch (sister of Hannah Powell and Jane Case listed above who were children of John Powell's brother, Thomas and therefore cousins of the bride).

The Keen family is also well represented (the family of the mother of the bride) with gifts from Mr. and Mrs. Keen, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Keen, Miss Keen, and Mrs. Bayne (born a Keen and aunt of the bride) and a Miss Bayne.

There were also gifts from the Dorcas Society and Members of Congregation of Free Church and its Sunday School and from members of the church and community including its most prominent members such as Miss Newton, Mrs. and Misses Burgis, Mr. and Mrs. Littleboy and the Misses Littleboy, and of course from the Rev. and Mrs. C. Williams (he performed the ceremony) and from Miss Williams.

The article concludes by noting that the bride and groom are spending the honeymoon at Hastings.

In 1891 the couple is living at Fords Farm in Ewelme which still stands looking across to the School House and the family appears as follows:

|                   |      |          |        |                        |
|-------------------|------|----------|--------|------------------------|
| Edward H. Humfrey | Head | 36       | Farmer | b. Reading, Berkshire  |
| Emily Humfrey     | Wife | 30       |        | b. London, Holloway    |
| Ilbury Edward     | Son  | 9 months |        | b. Ewelme, Oxfordshire |

They have one young female servant.

Fords Farm  
Ewelme



In 1901, the family is still in Ewelme and appears as follows:

Edward H. Humfrey, Head, 46 years old, b. Reading, Berkshire

Emily Humfrey, Wife, 40 years old, b. London

Ilbury Ed. Humfrey, son, 10 years old, b. Ewelme

Gertrude Humfrey, daughter, 9 years old, b. Ewelme

Mervyn Humfrey, son, 8 years old, b. Ewelme

Bruce Humfrey, son, 4 years old, b. Ewelme

(This is the “Cousin” Bruce who made the Powell family chart in 1951.)

Mr. Humfrey is listed as a farmer and employer on both census records.

Emily Powell Humfrey died on 18 March 1913 at the age of 52 (March Quarter, E. Preston District, Volume 2b, page 471). Edward Havell Humfrey died in 1915 at the age of 60 (October-December Quarter, East Preston District, Vol. 2b, page 476.)

## The Humfrey Family

Edward Havell Humfrey was the son of Edward Humfrey (1820-1915) and Caroline Havell whose marriage is recorded in the December Quarter of 1854, Reading District, Vol. 2c, page 683.

Caroline appears to have been the daughter of Thomas Bilson Havell (1785-1846) and Lucy Ann House (1785-1863) of Reading who were married on 28 July 1811 at St. Dunstan & All Saints, Stepney in Middlesex. Thomas was the oldest son of Thomas Havel and Sarah Cooper. Thomas senior was the son of Luke (b. 1722) Havell and Mary Wells and the older brother of Robert (1769-1832) a famous artist who was the father of Robert Havell, Jr. (1793-1878) who engraved J. J. Audubon's *Birds of America*.

In the 1841 census, Caroline's family is living in the Parish of St. Mary, Reading:

|                 |    |
|-----------------|----|
| Thomas Havell   | 55 |
| Lucy Havell     | 55 |
| Frances Havell  | 15 |
| Caroline Havell | 11 |

Caroline in the 1851 census is a visitor in the home of Maria Taylor, 32 who is listed as a 'baby linen warehouse' at 114 Broadway in Speen. She is listed as unmarried, 21 years old and an annuitant (Speen, District, Volume 1a, page 27). Caroline's sister, Frances married Dennis Edmund Taylor on 30 July 1850 at St. Mary's Reading so perhaps this was a family connection. In the same census of 1851, Lucy Havell is living with Dennis E. Taylor, 27, farmer of 172 acres in Steventon, Basingstoke, Hampshire and his wife, Frances, also 27. Lucy is listed mother-in-law of the head, 65 and a widow.

Edward Humfrey was born in Blewbury, Berkshire, the son of William (1783-1858) and Sarah Rumsey Humfrey. William was the son of Ilbury Humfrey (b. 1761) and Mary Smith and descended from a long line of Humfrey males connected to Blewbury and Upton, Berkshire.

In the 1851 census before his marriage, Edward is living with his family at Whitby Park Farm in the St. Giles parish of Reading. William Humfrey is a farmer of 400 acres employing 20 laborers. Edward is 30 years old and listed as the farmer's son (Reading, St. Giles, Dist. 2a, page 2).

In the 1861 census, Edward and Caroline are living in White Waltham, Berkshire and their family appears as follows with their son Edward Havell listed as Havell:res (16 men & 8 boys)

|          |      |       |                  |
|----------|------|-------|------------------|
| Caroline | Wife | 31    |                  |
| Havell   | Son  | 6     | b. Reading       |
| Alice    | Dau  | 5     | b. Reading       |
| Jessie   | Dau  | 2     | b. White Waltham |
| Kate     | Dau  | 5 wks | b. White Waltham |

Five servants complete the household.

The family appears in the 1871 census with the name written as Humpey. They are at Heywood Farm in White Waltham, Maidenhead, Berkshire (Registration District Cookham) as follows:

|                  |      |    |                     |                    |
|------------------|------|----|---------------------|--------------------|
| Edward Humfrey   | Head | 49 | Farmer of 650 acres | (10 men & 10 Boys) |
| Caroline Humfrey | Wife | 40 |                     |                    |
| Jesse            | Dau  | 12 |                     | b. White Waltham   |
| Kate             | Dau  | 10 |                     | b. White Waltham   |
| William          | Son  | 8  |                     | b. White Waltham   |
| James            | Son  | 5  |                     | b. White Waltham   |
| Thomas           | Son  | 3  |                     | b. White Waltham   |
| Frank            | Son  | 1  |                     | b. White Waltham   |

The family has a 20 year old Governess, a female general domestic servant, aged 20 and two male servants, a 17 year old male characterized as a farm boy and a 54 year old man characterized as an agricultural laborer.

Edward Havell Humfrey at 16 is apparently away at school but I have been unable to locate him.

The family appears in the 1881 census still living at Heywood Farm in White Waltham, Berkshire. Mr. Humfrey is farming 700 acres and employing 11 men and 9 boys. The entry lists 4 male servants and 1 female servant in the household plus the following Humfrey family:

|                  |      |                                       |        |
|------------------|------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Edward Humfrey   | Head | b. abt. 1821 at Blewbury, Berks.      | Farmer |
| Caroline Humfrey | Wife | b. abt. 1831 at Reading, Berks.       |        |
| Alice Humfrey    | Dau  | b. abt. 1858 at Reading, Berks.       |        |
| Jessie Humfrey   | Dau  | b. abt. 1860 at White Waltham, Berks. |        |
| Kate Humfrey     | Dau  | b. abt. 1861 at White Waltham, Berks. |        |
| Mary E. Humfrey  | Dau  | b. abt. 1877 at White Waltham, Berks. |        |

Edward Havell Humfrey appears as a visitor in the household of George and Sarah Baylis with his name misspelled as Humphrey.

Cousin Bruce Humfrey named his house 'Ewelme' in honor of the village where he was born and spent his early years and a subsequent house 'Blewbury Down'. It is clear that this Humfrey family is part of the Humfrey clan from Blewbury Down and Upton. In this regard, it is interesting to note that John Powell, father of Emily Powell Humfrey, had a pew in the church at Upton – the settlement of his estate paid for two pews, one at Upton and one at St. Helen's in Benson where he lived. The Humfrey family was long established in the Upton and Blewbury area and related to the Slade family. Interestingly, Emily Powell Humfrey's elder sister, Clara, married John Slade.

**Sixth Generation: George Frederick Powell, (23 November 1862 - 1945)**

Son of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

George Frederick Powell was born in Benson, Oxfordshire in 1862 and is said by Cousin Bruce Humfrey on his chart to have gone to British Columbia. His birth record can be found in the 1862 Dec. Quarter, Berkshire/Oxfordshire records, Vol. 2c, page 297.

In the 1871 census, George is living on High Street in Benson with his parents.

In the 1881 census, he is living with his brother, Thomas Henry, in London at 116 Denmark Hill, Lambeth.

In the 1891 census, George F. Powell, age 28, single, born Bensington, Oxon, is a lodger in the home of widow Sarah Pearce at 9 Kingston in St. John Parish, Yeovil, Somerset. He is listed as a Stationer and Printer.

In his father's will, George was left a diamond brooch "formerly belonging to Mr. Schwartz", John Powell's first father-in-law. He also received an equal share of his father's assets.

In the 1901 census, he has come into his inheritance (his father died in 1892) and is now living in Bosham, Sussex, the owner of Lower Home Farm. He is now 38, still single but head of his household which consists of a 38 year old housekeeper and a 21 year old male who is listed as a farm assistant. George is listed as a farmer and employer.

Cousin Bruce Humfrey's chart indicates that George Frederick went to British Columbia and died in 1945. We have located a death record for George Frederick Powell in 1944. On April 27, 1944, George Frederick Powell, aged 81, died in Victoria, BC (Reg. No. 1944-09-641900, BC Archives Microfilm No. B13182, GSU Microfilm No. 1983205). This fits our man and is the only record for a George Frederick Powell in British Columbia. We do not know whether or not George Frederick married.

**Sixth Generation: Annie Maria Powell Painter (3 December 1864 – 18 January 1903)**

Daughter of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Annie Maria was the daughter of John Powell and Mary Anne Keen. She was born at Benson in 1864, the December Quarter (Wallingford District, Volume 2c, page 303).

In the 1871 census, Annie Maria is listed as Anne M., 6 years old and living on High Street in Benson with her parents.

In the 1881 census, she is listed as Anne Powell, a boarding student in the school of Sarah White in Reading. She is there with her younger sister Fanny.

In the 1891 census, Annie Maria Powell is living on High Street with her widowed father, her brother Alfred, and her sister Fanny plus two female servants. She is 26 years old. She was still living at home when her father died in 1892. In 1895 (June Quarter Marriages, Berkshire/Oxfordshire, Vol. 2c, page 700) Annie Maria married John Wyatt Painter.

John Wyatt Painter was the son of John Thomas and Mary Martha Painter and in the 1891 census the family is shown living at Hale Farm on Berrick Street in Benson. This is the farm that was earlier in the hands of Richard Ebenezer Powell, brother of Mary Ann Powell Corsellis and son of Richard Powell, Tiresmith. Richard was apparently willed the farm by his uncle, Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window). Richard died in 1878.

In 1891, John Wyatt Painter is 20 years old and living at home and is listed as farmer's son. His father is listed as a farmer. John Wyatt Painter was born at Clifton Hampton, Oxfordshire (which is just northwest of Dorchester and now just north of the A415 across from Long Wittenham). In 1891, there were also three other sons at home: Alfred James Sidney 19, Edgar William 17, and Frederick Thomas 16. There is also a brother-in-law of the head, James Paxman, aged 66 and two servants. Apparently, Mrs. Painter was born a Paxman.

In fact, the 1851 census (Oxfordshire, Clifton Hampden, District 9, page 16) and the 1861 census (Oxfordshire, Clifton Hampden, District 1d, page 1) show Mrs. Painter as a child and young girl with her family. She was the daughter of Noah Paxman, born Asfield, Suffolk, and his wife Elizabeth, born Brightwell, Berkshire. She had three brothers, the James mentioned above and Jason and Noah plus a sister named Elizabeth. All these children were born in Dorchester. Mrs. Painter's father was a farmer and in the 1861 census was farming 96 acres employing 6 men and 3 boys. The family had one house servant.

In 1901, John Wyatt Painter, aged 30 is living with his wife, Annie M. Painter, aged 36, at Chalk House Green, Kidmore, Oxfordshire, with their son Frederick John Painter aged 3 and their daughter, Winifred M. Painter aged 1. Both children were born at Kidmore. There was also a 16 year old female servant.

Annie Maria Powell Painter died in 1903 on 18 January. Her death record is found in the March Quarter, Abingdon District, Volume 2c, page 199.

**Sixth Generation: Fanny Powell (13 January 1867 – 7 August 1930)**

Daughter of John ⑤ and Mary Ann Keen Powell

Fanny was youngest daughter of John and Mary Ann Keen Powell and remained unmarried. She was born in Benson during March Quarter of 1867 (Wallingford District, Volume 2c, page 317) and appears in the 1871 census living in her parents' home on High Street in Benson

In the 1881 census, she is in boarding school in Reading with her older sister, Annie Maria.

In the 1891 census, Fanny is living at home in Benson with her widowed father; her 20 year old brother, Alfred; her 26 year old sister Annie Maria; and two female servants. Fanny is 24 years old. They are in the elegant brick house on the High Street now called Kingsford House.

She was still living at home and single when her father died in 1892 and inherited the “enjoyment” of his house on the High Street in Benson under his will as a single daughter. Her financial inheritance, like that of her sisters, was managed by her three eldest brothers and the interest paid out to her in regular installments. A Miss Powell is listed in the directory for Benson in 1895 under Gentry. Annie Maria who married in that year would have been termed Miss Powell and listed if the director was compiled prior to her marriage. If compiled after her marriage this entry would refer to Fanny.

Fanny was the cause of considerable concern to her brothers who sought legal opinion about her “enjoyment” of the Benson house in 1898 (see document that immediately follows). She had moved out of the house and was renting it.

In the 1901 census, Fanny is still single, aged 34, living on her own means in the Parish of St. Giles, Reading, Berkshire, at 34 Upper Redlands Road. She may well have moved to Reading to be near her Special friend, Mary Florence Brigham, who was born in Reading and still living there when this census was taken.

Margaret Havell Humfrey has a letter written to Cousin Bruce from Fanny on 23 December 1929 from 77 Penn Hill Avenue, Parkstone, Dorset, where she indicates that her Special friend is well and it is the friend's sister who had died recently. Margaret also has a letter to Cousin Bruce from Miss M. Florence Brigham written on 19 August 1930 thanking him for his letter of sympathy on Fanny's death which she described: “Your Aunt Fanny passed away quite peacefully after 4 months severe illness. Muriel Slade came to nurse her for which I was most grateful.” She noted that Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Powell came down for the funeral. This was Thomas Arthur, son of Thomas Henry who was her oldest brother and one of her trustees. Fanny's death record is following: Fanny Powell dead at 63 Poole District, September Quarter, 1930 Volume 5a, Page 250.

Steward John Powell, elder son of Charles Augustus and great-nephew of Fanny, remembered visiting Great Auntie Fanny in Benson with his father, probably in 1896 or 1897 before she moved to Reading.

**Legal Opinion Sought by Thomas Henry, Charles August, and William Arthur Powell as Trustees under Their Father's Will on Their Sister Fanny's Use of the Family Home in Benson**

(In order to understand the reasons for Thomas Henry, Charles Augustus, and William Arthur seeking legal counsel, it is useful to know about the Settled Land Act of 1882. It was enacted to deal with situations where land was 'settled' on one person – in this case the house in Benson settled on Fanny for the term of her life as a single woman – and others – in this case the three sons who were trustees under the will – had an interest in the property. The act specifically stated that the person in possession of the property could treat it as if it was held in fee – even to selling it – no matter what the plain language of the instrument settling the property said. If the property were sold, Fanny would have to give the money into the court for a division of interests. Otherwise, under the Settled Land Act, she was free to lease or rent the house, even if her father's will said she must live in it in order to retain her interest.)

In December of 1898, the executors of John Powell's will - his sons, Thomas Henry, Charles Augustus, and William Arthur – were concerned enough about the manner in which their sister, Fanny, was using the home their father had left to her 'enjoyment' that they sought legal opinion:

Counsel is requested to advise the sons

1. whether the plain meaning is to be given to the words of the Testator's will or whether the plain meaning of the words of his will is affected by the Settled Land Act so as to make void the gift over to the sons upon the daughter ceasing to dwell in the house
2. whether the daughter has still the powers of tenant for life under the Settled Land Act and whether she has also powers of selling & leasing under the Settled Land Act subject to obtaining the appointment of the Trustees as Trustees for the purposes of the Settled Land Act
3. whether she is entitled (notwithstanding the clause in the will) during her spinsterhood to the rents of the property and to the income of the proceeds of sale if sold
4. whether, having regard to the wording of the Will, any letting by her must be in such a way that either she or the tenant is, as between herself & the Testator's sons, bound to maintain & keep the premises fully insured & in good tenantable repair & condition to the satisfaction of the Trustees of the Will as mentioned in the Will.

Counsel answered as follows:

1. I am of opinion, that effect is to be given to the plain meaning of the Testators will for all purposes except that Miss Powell will not forfeit her interest by ceasing to "dwell" in the house, if she lets or sells it under the statutory powers, vested in a tenant for life under the Settled Land Acts (see: 58 (vi)), and vacates possession in favour of such lessee or purchaser
2. If Miss Powell has not already, forfeited or abandoned her life interest by ceasing to occupy (which may be a nice question of missed fact and law, depending upon her intention, to be ascertained or implied from her acts and conduct; and of which I have no sufficient means for forming an opinion) her powers under the Settled Land Act have ceased (In re Haynes 37 Ch. D. 306). But if she has still power to resume her occupation under the Will (and the words of the Will do not impose any terms or conditions as to the

duration of residence, which is to constitute “personal dwelling” within the meaning of the will) then Miss Powell still has I think power to sell or let her house under the Settled Land Act – provided (at least in the case of sale) – Trustees are appointed for the purposes of the Act

3. The only event, in which Miss Powell would be entitled to the rents of the property, or to the income of the proceeds of sale, would be, in case she let or sold the property under the statutory powers above referred to (In re paget 30 Ch. D. 161)
4. I am of opinion, that (as between herself and the Testators sons) Miss Powell would remain liable to “maintain and keep the premises fully insured against fire and in good tenable repair and condition”, notwithstanding she might exercise her statutory power of leasing. If she so let the property, though her “occupation” would cease her “use and enjoyment” thereof (in the receipt of the rents reserved) would continue during her life, or at least during the continuance of the lease: and unless she imposed on the lessee the obligations to insure and repair by means of covenants in the lease, she would I think be bound to do so herself, or make compensation for omitting to do so.

I may observe; that Mr. Wolstenholme suggests some doubt as to the correctness of the decision *In re Haynes* (sup). I cannot say I concur in his doubt, but assuming it to be well founded it would follow that the condition of residence is itself void; and that Miss Powell is entitled to the property, though she no longer “personally dwells” in the house, and does not exercise her statutory powers. But nothing short of a judicial decision could establish this result.

Jasper K. Peck  
Lincoln’s Inn  
February, 1<sup>st</sup> 1899

Miss Fanny Powell was still ‘enjoying’ the residence in Benson well into the 20<sup>th</sup> century. There is a reference in a letter from Thomas Henry to Charles Augustus of July 28, 1929 when he speaks of ‘when he was last in Wallingford for the sale of Chiltern Lodge’ – the name the house had at that time. Thanks to the wealth of material provided by Cousin Bruce’s daughter, Margaret Havell Humfrey, we now know that Chiltern Lodge was sold at auction on 30 July 1926. At that time, the house was let on a repairing lease to Miss R. M. Bishop at what the advertisement noted was ‘the exceedingly low rent of £50 per Annum’. It also noted that the lease expired on 29 September 1933 but that Miss Bishop might be willing to consider a good offer for Vacant Possession to be given on 11 November 1926. Miss Bishop has apparently been running a boarding house for young women.

Also, assuming that Fanny knew about her brothers’ concerns, I don’t think it should have surprised Thomas Henry that she did not write him except when he was late sending her annuity which he and his brothers were responsible for paying under their father’s will.

**Kingsford House (Chiltern Lodge)**  
**Benson High Street**  
**Home of Thomas Powell until 1851 and John Powell from 1862**



*Fig 7.15: Kingsford house is an example of a new type of house, a villa, built in the early 19th century, and using blue/grey header bricks and red brick dressings to create the form of the facade*

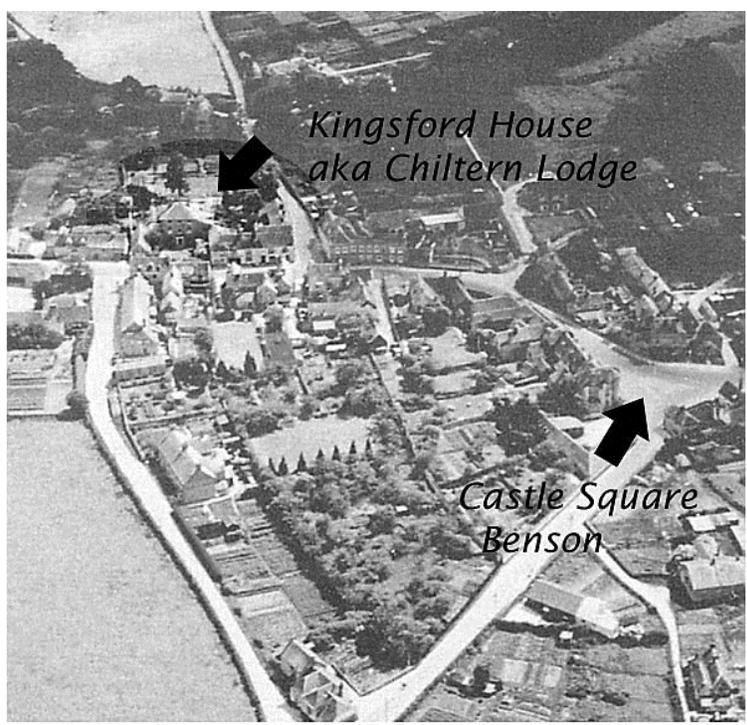
**Picture and caption, page 188, Benson: A Village Through Its History edited by Kate Tiller**

The structure now known as Kingsford House and called Chiltern Lodge in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century was acquired by Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window) prior to 1841 when he is resident there in the census for that year. He may have bought it as early as 1830. Thomas Powell, Esq. is listed under Gentry in Benson in Pigot's 1830 Directory of Oxfordshire, page 638. Thomas resided here until his death and left the property to his widowed sister for life and after her death to his nephew John Powell (John of the Two Families) who moved to the property in 1862 and died there in 1892. It was left to his unmarried daughters for their enjoyment as long as they remained unmarried and was then to pass to his three eldest sons who were the executors of his estate. They sold it at public auction in 1926.

The property owned by Thomas Powell at his death was apparently essentially the same as that sold by the Powell family in 1926 and included 'pleasure ground, house, offices, etc. along with a kitchen garden and orchard plots adjacent in the rear.

It was described in the Benson Bulletin of November, 1995 (Vol. 2 No 3) as *".... an early 19th Century residence, which had a large beautifully maintained walled garden to the rear until it was developed in the 1960s to accommodate Nos. 15 to 23 Mill Lane. It was built in vitreous bricks with red brick dressings and Westmorland slate roof. Paddock House, "Troys" at Gould Grove and "The Cedars" (since demolished) were built at the same period using the same bricks and slate to a very similar 3 storey design. The house had a formal front garden enclosed by a dwarf wall and fine wrought iron railings and gate parallel to the road, in line with the front wall of No. 12.*

As stated above, upon Thomas Powell's death in 1851, the use of the house passed to his widowed sister, Mary Powell Stevens, but upon her death it was to go to his nephew, John Powell, son of his deceased brother John. After her brother's death, Mary Powell Stevens married a second time to N. C. Corsellis, Surgeon of Ewelme. In the 1861 census they are resident in Kingsford House on the High Street of Benson with a nurse and two servants. It is probable that the doctor had his surgery in the house – it would have been a perfect location.



*Aerial of Benson from WWII, looking south  
Kingsford House: three storied house set back from street*

Mary Powell Stevens Corsellis died on 16 May 1862 and John Powell moved his second wife, Mary Ann Keen, and their young family to the house very soon because we know that their son George Frederick was born at Benson on 23 November 1862. They lived in the house for the rest of their lives and their younger children, beginning with George Frederick, were born there.

When John Powell died in 1892, he left the ‘enjoyment’ of the house and its contents to his daughters who were unmarried for as long as they remained single and chose to live in the house. At the time of his death, two of his daughters were single and living at home: Annie Maria and Fanny. In Kelly’s Directory of Oxfordshire for 1895, Miss Powell (Fanny) is listed among the private residents in Benson, presumably in Kingsford House. In that same year in the June quarter, Annie Maria married John Wyatt Painter, a farmer’s son from Benson.

Apparently the remaining single daughter, Fanny Powell, moved out of the house between the time her sister married and December of 1898 when her three elder brothers (Thomas Henry, Charles Augustus, and William Arthur) who were administrators of her father’s will and, as stated above had a personal financial interest in the property, sought legal opinion as to whether she lost of ‘enjoyment’ of the property if she ceased to live in it. Put simply the opinion, based upon the Settled Land Acts, said Fanny could do what she pleased including leasing the house and even selling it under certain circumstances but that she was responsible for keeping it in good repair and insured.

### **The House Becomes a Rental Property**

In the 1901 census, Fanny Powell is still single, aged 34, and living on her own means in the Parish of St. Giles, Ward of Redlands, County Borough of Reading, Berkshire. Apparently the house was rented.

We don’t know what was happening to the house in the late 1890’s or to whom Fanny rented it. However, we think we know who was living there when the 1901 census was taken:

|                    |      |    |           |                       |
|--------------------|------|----|-----------|-----------------------|
| William Neill      | Head | 42 | Barrister | b. Geelong, Australia |
| Amy Gertrude Neill | Wife | 34 |           | b. Dullish            |
| Frederick H. Neill | Son  | 2  |           | b. London             |
| Harry I Neill      | Son  | 4  |           | b. London             |

The household also includes four servants: 2 nursemaids, a cook and a housemaid.

William Neill married Amy Gertrude Rich in the June Quarter of 1893 in Kensington, District, London (Vol. 1a, page 188). Amy Gertrude was the daughter of F. H. and Elizabeth Rich, both born in Ireland. F. H. Rich was a retired Col. and associated with the Board of Trade. (1881 census, Kensington, RG11/0022, Vessel 1a, Folio 13, page 19). Although Amy, the youngest child, was born in Dulwich, two older daughters were born in Malta and a son in Ireland. The family had 7 servants including a footman, Ladies maid, cook, two kitchen maids, and 2 house maids.

As to the Neill children, Harry John L. Neill was born in 1897 Sept. Quarter, Pancras, London (Vol. 1b, page 40) and Frederick Henry Neill was born in 1899, March Quarter, Kensington (Vol. 1a, page 138).

William Neill, 32, Barrister at law, born Geelong, Australia, appears in the 1891 census as a lodger at 52 Maddox Street, Mayfair. (St. George Hanover Square, Vessel 7 Folio 39, page 30) in the household of George C. Sutton (born Devizes) and his wife Sarah J. Sutton (born

Somerset). Also listed as a Lodger is Charles Neill, 22, Medical student, born in Ireland and John F. S. Cridland, 30, Solicitor, born, Slough, Bucks.

If we have the correct family living in Kingsford House – and there is hardly a house big enough for them anywhere else along High Street in Benson – then Fanny was renting to good quality people by 1901. Several questions immediately come to mind:

1. Did Charles Augustus, a solicitor in London, help arrange this rental?
2. Was William Neill the child of a soldier as his wife was and does that explain his birth in Australia?
3. Is the Charles Neill lodging in the same house with him in 1891 his brother?

Kelly's Directory of Oxfordshire in 1907 has a fascinating entry: Henry Reeve Cooper, **Kingsford**. Normally, the name of the house or street address is what follows the name. This is the first time we seem to find the name Kingsford attached to the brick house on High Street. Henry Reeve Cooper is in the 1901, 1891, and 1881 census as a Commission Agent working on his own account and living with his wife and at least one servant in Crowmarsh Battle. He was born about 1843 in Newington, Surrey.

By Kelly's Directory for 1911, Mr. Cooper is gone from High Street. So, what was Fanny doing with the house at that point? Part of the answer is provided by the Benson Bulletin of November 1995 which says that:

*"...From about 1914 to 1926, under the name of Chiltern Lodge, Miss Rebecca Anne Bishop used the premises as a boarding house ..."*

### **The House if Sold Out of the Family**

Thanks to Margaret Havell Humfrey who has made available many of the papers of her father, Cousin Bruce Humfrey, we now have a copy of the publication printed for the sale of what was then known as Chiltern Lodge in 1926 which gives a full description of the property and fills in a number of blanks in the story of the house.

On Friday, 30 July 1926, Franklin & Gale, Auctioneers of Wallingford and Oxford offered the sale of freehold residential property in the Oxfordshire village of Benson known as "Chiltern Lodge." The sale was managed by Messrs. Kingsbury & Turner, Solicitors of 369 and 371 Briston Road, London, SW. The property was described as a highly attractive commodious residence containing 9 bedrooms, 3 reception rooms, good offices, and having extensive stabling and outbuildings, good pleasure grounds and kitchen garden and also thriving and well-stocked orchard, the whole containing about 1 acres, 2 rods and 14 poles.

The exact arrangement of rooms is listed as:

On second floor – Three bedrooms, 2 having grates, bath room with bath fitted (h. and c.) WC  
On first floor – Five good bedrooms all fitted with grates and 4 with cupboards.

On ground floor – Entrance hall with door to garden, drawing room with slow combustion grate with tiled panels and marble hearth, dining room with register grate and cupboards, morning room with grate and cupboards, housekeepers room with grate and cupboard, kitchen with tradesmen’s entrance, range with over, boiler and plate rack, dresser, cupboard, sink with South Oxfordshire Company’s water supply and force pump, pantry, servant’s bedroom.

It was further noted that there was good cellarage in the basement, a rear verandah and a coal house. The extensive outbuildings were described as principally brick and timber built and tiled and comprised: large wash house with 2 coppers, fire place and sink, and a long range of stabling with loft over. Approached from Mill Lane was a brick-built and tiled stable and coach house. There was a garden in front of the house and in the rear were good lawn and pleasure grounds and productive kitchen garden well stocked with fruit trees and bushes. The property had a frontage to Benson High Street of about 74 ft. and a return frontage to Mill Lane, on the opposite side of which was a well-stocked and thriving orchard running down to the stream and having a timber-built and tiled shed thereon.

The material further states that the property was currently let at the exceedingly low rent of £50 per annum by Miss R. M. Bishop whose lease was to expire on 29 September 1933 ‘but who might be willing to consider a good offer for vacant possession to be given on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1926.’

From a letter of Thomas Henry written to Charles Augustus we know that Thomas Henry went down to Wallingford for the sale of Chiltern Lodge which passed out of the family in 1926 although Fanny did not die until 1930. One assumes that she was compensated in some way by her brothers financially for her loss of ‘enjoyment’ of the £50 per annum rent.

### **Later History of the House**

In the mid 20<sup>th</sup> century, Kingsford House became the site of shops. In *Benson: A Century of Change 1900 – 2000* by Janet Burt and Peter Clarke on page 65 is a picture of five young women, the staff of Gerald Aldridge’s shop, standing in the doorway of Kingsford House in 1960. When David John Powell first saw the house, it was a bicycle shop.

Later, the entire house was turned into flats. H.M. Land Registry provides the information that Kingsford House (No. 16 High Street) is now divided into five flats as follows:

- Flat 1 (Ground Floor and Basement with Car Park Space 1)
- Flat 2 (Ground Floor and Parking Space)
- Flat 3 (First Floor and Car Parking Space 3)
- Flat 4 (First Floor and Car Parking Space 4)
- Flat 5 (Second Floor and Car Parking Space 5)

The Registry material traces the property backwards to 1976. It appears that the flats were divided in manner described above and registered in 1987. Apparently, Gordon James Smith and Marjorie Anne Smith of Fountain Court, Oakley Lane, Chinnor, Oxon. OX9 4HT bought the freehold of the entire property and registered it on 20 April 1989 (ON97201). They are apparently granting leaseholds on the apartments, all of which changed hands in 2003 and 2004.

The registration further states that the land in this title, and other land, was conveyed on 2 July 1976 by Patricia Sheilah Holtorp to Quenteams Investment Limited. It is probable that Guenteams Investment Limited is the entity that cut up the property since the house as currently constituted has lost its rear land running down to the stream and also a portion of its original site to the left as one faces the house. Sheilah Holtorp seems to have retained ownership of the land to the right of the main house as well as a portion of land to the rear and it is separately registered (ON107764) and is numbered 14 High Street. This may be the unit that in 2010 was offered for sale as a free hold with one off-street parking place entered from Mill Lane.

### **Unanswered Questions**

But other questions remain. Who built the house and when? Thomas Henry in his letters seeks Charles Augustus' help in remembering the date carved over the fireplace in the kitchen. He thought it was 1812. Was this the date of its building? Who in Benson in 1812 had the wealth to build and live in this house?

When did Fanny actually leave the house and did she return to live there from time to time between 1898 when her brothers were concerned about her not living there and 1914 when she apparently gave Miss Bishop a long-term lease on the property? Stewart John Powell recalled visiting his Auntie Fanny at the house in Benson. This was most likely in 1896 or 1897 when Fanny was planning to rent the house but before she moved out. Annie Maria married in the June Quarter of 1895 and left the house. Stewart was born in January of 1886 and would have been ten in 1896 or eleven in 1897 so that seems the most likely time for the visit that Stewart John made in company with his father, Charles Augustus, who may well have gone down to Benson from London to discuss Fanny's intentions concerning the house.

**Sixth Generation: Alfred Powell (23 March 1871 – 6 November 1894)**

Son of John ⑤ Mary Ann Keen Powell

Alfred was the seventh and last son born to John and Mary Ann Powell. He was born at Benson and spent his entire life there.

In the 1871 census Alfred is listed as a one year old with his family on High Street in Benson. In the 1881 census Alfred is listed as a 10 year old scholar living at the same location with his parents and older sisters, Clara and Emily. In 1891, following Mary Ann's death, the family is still on High Street in Benson as follows:

|                    |    |      |            |                     |
|--------------------|----|------|------------|---------------------|
| John Powell        | 79 | Head | Widower    | Living on own means |
| Alfred Powell      | 20 | Son  | Tea Dealer |                     |
| Annie Maria Powell | 26 | Dau  |            |                     |
| Fanny Powell       | 24 | Dau  |            |                     |

There are two female servants.

Although it is still unclear why, sometime after the 1881 census and before late 1894, Alfred traveled to Africa and settled at Umtali.

Thanks to Margaret Havell Humfrey, we now have materials shedding light on Alfred's death. In the fall of 1894, Alfred went on a hunting trip 'up towards Zambezia' with two friends, Mr. A. Kopping and Mr. V. H. Jensen. Alfred kept a day book or journal on this trip and portions of it and a letter written by Mr. Jensen, the man leading the trip, were found by Margaret among Cousin Bruce's papers.

The letter was written to Thomas Henry Powell from Fontesvilla on 29 December 1894 and explained that on the hunting trip, Alfred became ill and was brought down the river to Beira to the hospital. Mr. Jensen did not believe him to be dangerous ill and was shocked when returning from another hunting trip some time later, to find that Alfred had died in hospital, apparently of 'Malarial' fever.

This letter accompanied the journal and other of Alfred's belongings which were sent back to England to Thomas Henry as head of the family since John Powell had died in 1892.

Alfred was buried in Beira, South East Africa. A memorial stone was raised to him in St. Helen's churchyard Benson where also the ashes of Stewart John Powell and his second wife, Ida Emma Freylach Powell are buried.

**This newspaper cutting was taken from the *Berks & Oxon Advertiser*, April 26, 1889.**

## **BENSON**

**Easter Services.** – The Parish Church, to which a new lectern has been recently presented by Lady Dickson, wife of Sir Frederick Dickson, K.C. M.G., in memory of her brother M. F. C. Ayton-Lee, who died last summer while on a visit to Benson, was tastefully decorated with flowers in commemoration of Easter by ladies of the parish. The musical part of the services was well rendered by the choir under Mr. Hill's management, especially at the eight o'clock communion at which there was a very considerable attendance. This and the other services were preceded by full peals of bells.

### ***“Benson as it Was and Is.”***

On the evening of Easter Monday the good people of Benson repaired in considerable numbers to the British School to enjoy one of those entertainments by the Powell family, a pleasing recollection of the last of which, given some time since, yet lingers in the memories of those who attended it. “Benson as it Was and Is” was the subject of a lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, the first part being delivered by Mr. T. H. Powell and the second by Mr. C. A. The Rev. C. Williams presided, and the building was well filled.

The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, said he should be very glad indeed for his own part to have a little information on what he could not help regarding as a very interesting topic. He knew a great deal of pains had been taken to gather information on the subject, and all that would be given them that night would not only have the advantage of being illustrated by photographic slides, but they would know the information that was given to them was eminently reliable. He only hoped the result of the lecture would be to stimulate the inhabitants to make Benson as important a city as it was in the days long gone by. Of course there were other places to compete with them – some across the water – (laughter) – but he did not know why they should feel scruples for their sakes. If they made Benson an important a center as Manchester, or Liverpool, or London – (much laughter) – by all means let them do it. (Laughter.)

Mr. T. H. Powell said: Let us suppose that one of use, like Rip Van Winkle, fell asleep some 25 years ago, and awaking today from his long trance, takes a stroll for the first time along the streets of his native village. He finds those he knew as children, his little playmates, now men and women with children of their own; those he knew as middle-aged now grey-headed, bent with toil and care, while a tribe of little children, healthy, strong, and noisy, troop out of the British School and fill the air with their shouts and laughter. He paces the old familiar roads, he visits the same old Church, he sees the same old houses flanking the village street; but slowly it dawns upon him change and decay have been ceaselessly at work among these too. There by the Church stands a new vicarage, while the Churchyard has doubled in size, houses of modern red brick and slate have replaced the old thatched cottages he remembers at Littleworth, a heap of rubble and a ruined wall on the Shillingford Road is all that is left of a public house, where, let us hope, he never tasted stronger liquor than ginger beer – (laughter). By the brook still flowing from Ewelme, half hidden by tall firs, a villa overlooks the Pond he once fished beside, while last of all, offspring of the old Chapel by the Wheelwright's, a Free Church stands in the High Street, a new center of religion and morality. Now these changes have taken place so slowly that many

of us may think that Benson has always been much about the same, and that if we could only have seen it as it was two or three hundred years ago – say, when King Charles and his cavaliers fought with Hampden and his roundheads on Chalgrove Field – it would have been much as it is today. Now we wish tonight to correct this idea as far as possible, for of the old village of those days nothing is now standing with the exception of portions of the Church and we hope before the evening is over you will all readily admit that Benson is a much more interesting place than you ever supposed it to be, for we hope to bring before you scenes from the year's past, and, in imagination, people the streets with the inhabitants who once lived and moved and had their being here. Unfortunately, we can only picture those times in words for photography was then unknown. We are obliged, therefore, to fall back on old drawings, old records, old books, and even old traditions, and where those fail us, call to our aid records which lie scattered on our hills, which are ploughed up in our fields or dredged up from our river, clues which if studied and rightly understood, will bring back to us with considerable certainty the life of the distant past. Several years ago some men, when digging gravel in a pit which lies at the back of our National School, came upon several large bones and teeth which, from the description, seem to have been the remains of a mammoth or elephant. Such a discovery does not occur every day; but you will find if you are favoured with a view of the collections belonging to Mr. Hedges or Mr. Davies, of Wallingford, or that of our own Vicar, the Rev. J. E. Field, a large number of bones, teeth, antlers, and other animal remains have been found at various times in the gravel beds which cover the surface of the chalk all over the district. You will find the remains of the elephant and deer occur most frequently, but the bones of the rhinoceros, hippopotamus, bear, tiger, hyaena, and reindeer are also found, and point to a time when the surface of the land was very different from what it is now. Now, two facts must be noticed with regard to those bones. First, they differ from those of any animal now living; in other words, the particular species to which they belonged are all now extinct; and secondly, they are most water-worn, and have certainly been washed down to their last resting place with the gravel stones among which they are found. How long ago this may have been no one can tell, but associated with these remains are found the first trace of the human race, consisting of pear-shaped or oval flint tools or weapons cut to a rude edge, or point. (A photograph of one of these was then thrown upon the screen, which was found in a gravel pit at Broom Hill in Norfolk.) Several specimens very similar in shape have been found in the gravel pit at Gould's Grove, while hundreds of specimens from all along the Thames Valley may be seen by anyone who cares to pay a visit to the Reading Museum. We know but little of those earliest inhabitants of Benson and its neighbourhood, but they were certainly a savage race, living by hunting and fishing, probably resembling in many respects the Esquimaux; indeed, it has been conjectured the Esquimaux are their lineal descendants. We must now suppose a lapse of many centuries has taken place. The surface of the land has been much altered till at last we find it much as it is at the present day. The earlier race has disappeared and another clad in skins and living in pits, encampments or stockaded villages, inhabits the neighbourhood. These Celts or ancient Britons, as they are called, had at all event at first no knowledge of working in metal, and their weapons and tools were consequently made of flint, and these being imperishable, are scattered about wherever their owners last made use of them. You may find them by the barrowful all along the line of Grimm's Dyke beyond Crowmarsh, and indeed on most of the hills fronting the river from Goring to Beggar's Bush Hill, where they are turned up by the plough, bleached by age and exposure. Those, now magnified and thrown upon the screen were found at Grimm's Dyke are known as scrapers; they were probably used for preparing skins. A fine specimen was picked up

some years ago in the Allotments, and is now in Mr. Field's possession. The next shews a few flint arrow heads, also found in the fields near the Dyke, all of which have been chipped with considerable skill and care. In addition to those stones, beads of various colours are occasionally picked up together with rude-made, sun-dried pottery, the remains of vessels which were probably used for drinking and cookery purposes, pyrites which seem to have been used for striking sparks and producing fire, and rounded stones, known as pot-warmers, hot water having been produced by pacing these in a fire till very hot and then dropping them into earthen vessels containing water. To the Britons we probably owe the Dyke Hills at Dorchester and the circular camp on Sinodun Hill, although it is likely the river formed a tribal boundary and the tribe which fortified Wittenham Hill was a trifle more civilized, and therefore more warlike than the degraded race living on the Oxfordshire Hills. Flint weapons are found by the Dorchester Dykes, but as far as I know, only one implement has been found within the Sinodun Camp (a photograph of which was then shewn), while pieces of bronze which are supposed to be British are not uncommon there. It is certain, however, the camp was held by the Roman legion. Leland, some 300 years ago, writes: "Sinodun, wonderful diked about, and stonidith on a hill in Barkshire, hanging over the Tamise. It is yon estimation half a mile. An with it hath been some towne, or as the commune voice sayith, a castelle the Britannes tyme defacif by lyklihood the Danes. At this tyme it berith very plentiful both barley and whete, and Roman coins be there found in ploughing." Roman coins are found there to this day. They are found, too, over the river in Dorchester, which was once, as its name proves, a Roman camp, and along the line of the Roman road some of which crossed the river by fords, still known as Shillingford, Wallingford, and Moulsoford. It is especially worthy of note that while the British flint remains are found all along the Oxfordshire side of the river, the Roman, as evidenced by the great number of coins found at Sinodun, Sotwell, Wallingford, Winterbrook, Cholsey, Aston, Moulsoford, Streatley, Basildon, are confined almost entirely to the Berkshire side, the exceptions being at Dorchester, the Stokes, and Berrin's Hill, near Ipsden, where there was a camp. But to return for the moment to the Bretons. I have mentioned the finding of a flint scraper in the Allotments, but we have positive evidence of their presence in the very center of the village. Mr. Field tells me a British cemetery lies on the northeast, beginning near the Churchyard and running in the direction of the National School; here have been found at regular intervals sun-dried earthenware vessels ornamented with zig-zag lines all broken as if by a passing plough, very similar to the vessels found in the burial mounds so abundant in Wiltshire; and I think we may assume, as the Church stands hard by, this spot is hallowed by the unbroken memories of at least two thousand years. Little remains to show the Romans ever attached much importance to the spot. Tradition says an offshoot from one of their roads ran down to the Thames, perhaps not far from the Ferry; at all events I have a coin of Constantine II, who lived some 400 years after Christ, which was ploughed up in the field at Preston Crowmarsh, just opposite Mr. Littleboys' Mill.

The slides shown included views of Benson Church; the White Hart Hotel (from which hostelry we are informed that His Majesty King George IV, had been seen to depart, in old coaching days, "as drunk as a lord"), Ewelme Church; Wittenham Hill, Jemmett's Row, Dorchester, with the Abbey in the distance; Clifton Hampden Church, etc. etc. The second part of the lecture, similar in character and substance to the first, proved of equal interest, and was carried on amidst evidences of hearty appreciation until the supply of gas, which had been considerably taxed the best part of a couple of hours, began to slacken, reminding those who had assembled that even the best entertainment must come to a close.

Before separating, however, a hearty vote of thanks to the Messrs. Powell was proposed by Mr. Littleboys and seconded by Mr. Williams, was recorded, the thanks of the meeting being also tendered to Mr. Graham Littleboy for exhibiting the slides.

The proceedings were considerably enlivened by the execution at intervals, of a musical programme. Mr. E. F. Powell favouring with Gounod's "Faust" as a pianoforte solo, Mr. A. Powell rendering the popular favourite "They all love Jack" and Miss Powell singing "To the Woods." Mrs. E. Powell charmingly sang "It was a Dream" and "Wishes and Fishes", Mr. T. Powell admirably gave "Father Ambrose", Mr. W. A. Powell "The Old Brigade" and Mr. C. A. Powell caused much fun with the song "Miss Hooligan's Christmas Cake."

#### **Fourth Generation: John Powell (1781-1850)**

Son of Thomas ③ and Mary Stockwell Powell

*John of Pangbourne*

#### **John Powell ④**

Born 17 March 1781

at Benson

Died 15 August 1850

at Pangbourne where he is buried (Stone read in 2004)

Married 4 April 1807

at the Church of St. Mary, Reading

#### **Hannah Hussey**

Born c. 1787

perhaps at Nettlebed or Basildon

Died 22 June 1840

Daughter of Thomas Hussey, farmer, and Mary Hussey, stay maker  
at Pangbourne of heart disease; she was 53 years old. Her future son-in-law, John Whiteman Webb, Surgeon, was present at her death and registered the death. She is buried at Reading.

John married a second time on 25 January 1843 at the Parish Church of St. George Hanover Square in Middlesex, London after Banns (March Quarter, 1843, Vol. 1, page 11). He is listed as of full age, a widower and a gentleman, the son of Thomas Powell, Wheelwright. The bride was Maria, of full age and a spinster. John and Maria are both listed as resident in Portugal Street at the time of the marriage. The witnesses were Henry Giles and Alice Brown. Maria Hope Powell was born in Checkendon, Oxfordshire on 3 August 1796, the daughter of Fletcher Hope who was a farmer. After John's death, she remained a widow in Pangbourne where she died on 17 May 1883 (June Quarter of 1883, Bradfield District Vol. 2c, p.226) at the age of 87. She apparently had a warm relationship with her step-children and step-grandchildren.

All the children are from the first marriage to Hannah Hussey.

#### Children:

1. Ann ⑤      b. 21 December 1808  
                  d. 12 September 1813 at Reading
2. Mary ⑤      b. 27 September 1810  
                  d. 8 January 1811      at Reading
3. **John** ⑤      b. 16 February 1812      at Reading      *"John of the Two Families"*  
                  m. Sarah Schwartz & Mary Anne Keen  
                  d. 3 December 1892 at Benson
4. Jane ⑤      b. 5 March 1814      at Reading      *"Aunt Jane Webb"*  
                  m. Dr. John Whiteman Webb and had issue  
                  d. 30 January 1902
5. Hannah ⑤    b. 11 February 1816      probably at Reading  
                  d. 27 July 1837 (September Quarter 1837, Bradfield District,  
                  Berkshire, Vol. 6, page 85. Pangbourne is in this district.)
6. Thomas ⑤    b. 4 October 1817      at London      *"Uncle Thomas"*  
                  m. Eleanor (She died Dec. 9 1856, aged 38, buried at Pangbourne)  
                  m. Jane Grace (She died 3 January 1868 in Sotwell)

- m. Matilda Grace Shick
  - “Succeeded to house at Winterbrook nearly opposite Uncle Richards.”
  - According to Thomas of the Letters.
  - d. 16 November 1867 at Crowmarsh and buried at Wallingford
- 7. Harriet ⑤ b. 31 March 1819
  - c. 31 March 1819 in London
- 8. Pleasant ⑤ b. 8 May 1820
  - d. 2 April 1821 in London
- 9. George ⑤ b. 21 January 1822 in London
  - d. 13 February 1852 buried at Pangbourne (stone read 2004)
- 10. Henry ⑤ b. 27 June 1823
  - d. 10 January 1824 in London
- 11. Hester ⑤ b. 19 February 1825
  - d. 28 May 1828 in London
- 12. Mary Ann b. 8 January 1827
  - d. 27 June 1828 in London
- 13. Richard Ebenezer ⑤ b. 19 December 1828 in London “*Uncle Richard*”
  - m. Anna and had 12 children
  - d. 29 September 1903 in Wallingford
- 14. Peter ⑤ b. 7 February 1832
  - d. 7 February 1832

**Fourth Generation: John Powell (17 March 1781 – 15 August 1850)**

***John of Pangbourne***

**Married Hannah Hussey and Maria Hope**

John was born at Benson and married Hannah Hussey, daughter of Thomas and Mary Hussey. The letters of Thomas, elder brother of Charles Augustus, share the results of his family history research. He reports that the Hussey family first lived at Nettlebed and then moved to Upper Basildon. Thomas Hussey worked on a farm and there were 3 daughters, Elizabeth, Harriett, and Hannah as well as 3 sons, William, Thomas, and Henry; William and Thomas became soldiers and Henry became a farmer. The wife, Mary, made stays. The father died from ‘a friendly punch in the ribs.’

Hannah met John Powell in Reading where she was in service with a Widow Long. According to Thomas’ letters, they had a very romantic meeting, John telling a friend that the tall young woman walking ahead of them was the one he would marry. Later, he presented Hannah with a moss rose bud as she left church one Sunday morning. They were married on April 4, 1807 at the Church of St Mary in Reading. Hannah was the mother of all John Powell’s children. She died on 22 June 1840 at Pangbourne of heart disease and was buried at Reading although she is remembered on the inscription on John tomb at Pangbourne as well. John Whiteman Webb, who would later marry her daughter, Jane, in 1843, was in attendance and registered her death.

On 15 August, 1840, John drew a will. In the will, he is described as John Powell of Pangbourne in the County of Berks. Gentleman. He leaves £4,000 to each of his sons: John Powell the younger, Thomas Powell, George Powell, and Richard Ebenezer Powell. He leaves £4,000 in trust with his sons John and Thomas and the Rev. William Woolley of Pangbourne, dissenting minister, to invest for the benefit of his daughter Jane Powell and after her lifetime to benefit her children and their heirs, if any. Should these lines fail, the funds are to go to his sons equally.

The rest of his estate was to be divided between his four sons in equal shares & to Jane or her children but if she died without issue then her share came back to his sons.

To his three executors as trustees he left his dwelling house in Pangbourne “now in my own occupation and also my 2 freehold dwellings, gardens, etc. situate in Basildon now occupied by Mary Hussey Widow and Stephen Sanbolt” – to sell. Cousin Bruce records his house in Pangbourne as ‘Howarth House.’ The residue of the estate is to go to the four sons equally.

In the 1841 census, John is listed as Independent and head of a household consisting on census night (June 8) of his unmarried daughter, Jane, his youngest son, Richard Ebenezer, and his son Thomas and Thomas’ wife, Eleanor. There is also one female servant. This record was very hard to find because the name Powell is indexed as Privell. The census record was made in pencil and is very difficult to read (1841 census for England, Berkshire, Pangbourn, District 11, page 4).

On 13 March 1843 John added a codicil to his will providing for his second wife, Maria Hope. She was to have £30 per annum for her lifetime from investments made by the three trustees, John and Thomas Powell and Rev. Woolley.

John Powell's will was proved in London with John Powell of No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields, in the County of Middlesex, Spirit Colouring Manufacturer, and Thomas Powell of No. 63 Fore Street in the City of London, Oil and Italian Warehouseman, appearing in court. They swore to the will and codicil being found "together enclosed in a sheet of brown paper in a box belonging to the said deceased in the room where the said deceased died. 1 November 1850.

We know that John was born in Benson and was working in Reading when he met and married Hannah Hussey. Their younger children were born in Reading. Their 6<sup>th</sup> child, Thomas, was born in London in 1817 so I assume the family was living there by that date. John may have been working in London but returning to the family in Reading before then. Thomas Henry's letters say that John Powell left London for Pangbourne in 1833 or perhaps a little later. John (of Pangbourne) and Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window) are listed as partners in the firm of Messr. Wright & Co., Coachmakers, 39 Ray Street, Clerkenwell, London, in a business directory for 1826. The other partners were Mr. Joseph Wright and Mr. Meeks, perhaps Thomas Meakes (a Thomas Meakes witnessed the will of Thomas Coles in Benson).

We now know that Thomas Coles was a carriage maker in Benson where he died in 1809. By that time, his daughter Fannie and her husband Thomas Powell were already 'of London' according to the codicil to his will.

Having learned the carriage trade from Mr. Coles, Thomas, and apparently fairly early his brother John, went to London and did very well indeed. The brothers welcomed John's son John (John of the Two Families) into the business and the records show that Peter Powell (1779-1812), William Powell (1790-1856), and James Powell (1792-1816) – all brothers of Thomas (of the window) and John (of Pangbourne), were working in Ray Street at some point. All these siblings were born in Benson but moved to London. Their sister, Jane Powell (1794-1821) married Thomas Ball of St. James, Clerkenwell, London and their brother Richard Powell (1787-1839) was described as a Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell, London, when his daughter, Plessey, was married at Benson to Richard Wiggins, sadler and harness maker of Newgate Street, London, in 1839. While working in London, these men came home to be married and have children at Benson and most are buried at Benson – where these events are all recorded in the church records.

It is unclear when Thomas Powell and John Powell (of Pangbourne) retired from the coach making business and left London. Thomas of the Letters thought John of Pangbourne moved to Pangbourne as early as 1830 or 1832 but was unsure exactly when. Pigot's Directory for Oxfordshire of 1830 lists Thomas Powell, Esquire, as resident in Bensington and the new Bensington history certainly affirms his residence there by 1840. Indeed, railroads were making coach making obsolete and John Powell (of the Two Families) had moved on to manufacturing Spirit Colouring – used in colouring rum and other spirits – and his brother, Thomas, was in the luxury grocery business importing and selling olive oil and other Italian goods.

Thomas Henry (Thomas of the letters) remarked that John of Pangbourne had 'the taste to lay out the property at Pangbourne.' Apparently, John bought property in Pangbourne which he improved in major ways, perhaps he even built the house and laid out the landscaping and

outbuildings. He is buried in Pangbourne although his first wife and several of their children were buried in Reading and his parents buried at Benson. His son, George, and Eleanor, wife of his son Thomas, are buried under identical coped tombs near him (and very near the wall along the main street) in the churchyard of St. James the Less in Pangbourne.

### **Maria Hope Powell**

From Cousin Bruce's material, we know that Maria Hope was born on 3 August 1796.

In the 1841 census, a Hope family appears in Checkendon (Oxfordshire, Checkendon, District 19, page 1) as follows:

|                |    |            |                   |
|----------------|----|------------|-------------------|
| Fletcher Hope  | 55 | Blacksmith | b. in Oxfordshire |
| Ann Hope       | 20 |            | b. in Oxfordshire |
| John Hope      | 18 | ap. Grocer | b. in Oxfordshire |
| Henry          | 12 |            | b. in Oxfordshire |
| Fletcher Hope  | 14 |            | b. in Oxfordshire |
| Maria Hope     | 9  |            | b. in Oxfordshire |
| Thomas Harding | 4  |            | b. in Oxfordshire |

This is apparently Maria's brother rather than her father since she is 44 or 45 in 1841. She may well be the Maria Hope listed as 45 (please note that ages in the 1841 census are not reliable and were frequently rounded to the nearest five) and as a servant in the household of Laura and Emily Parry both aged 35 listed in the Marine Front at Brighton (1841 census for England, Sussex, BRIGHTHELMSTONE, KEMPTOWN, District 14, page 4). Maria was most likely a female companion for the younger ladies.

After John Powell's death, Maria Powell lived as a widow in Pangbourne on income derived from dividends as head of her own household until her death in 1883. John's son Thomas thought enough of Maria to leave her an annuity and Thomas Henry of the Letters noted that John Powell married 'two good women.' He did not know his Grandmother Hannah except by reputation and from her letters but he probably knew Maria Hope Powell personally since she was still alive when he was in his 20's and his father was one of her trustees. Thomas Henry's letters make frequent reference to things he remembers happening 'at Pangbourne' and it is probable that these events occurred while the family was visiting in the home of Maria Hope Powell.

The census records regarding Maria's later years are as follows. The 1851 census for Pangbourne (Dist. 6, page 2) shows:

|                |            |        |    |             |                      |
|----------------|------------|--------|----|-------------|----------------------|
| Maria Powell   | Head       | Widow  | 54 | Annuitant   | b. Checkendon, Oxon. |
| Richard Powell | Son-in-law | Unmar. | 22 | Fund Holder | b. Clerkenwell       |
| Ann Hope       | Visitor    | Unmar. | 71 | Annuitant   | b. Checkendon, Oxon. |
| John P. Webb   | Grandson   |        | 6  |             | b. Soho, Middlesex   |

There is also one female servant.

Ann Hope is probably a relative, perhaps even a sister, of Maria and Richard is Richard Ebenezer Powell, her step-son (son-in-law was used in this sense at the time) who will soon marry Miss

Anna Allnutt Woolley of Pangbourne. John P. Webb is John Powell Webb, son of Jane Powell Webb, Richard's older sister.

Maria is listed in the 1861 census for Pangbourne, District 9, page 9 as:

Maria Powell Head Widow 63 b. Checkendon, Oxon

She has an 18 year old female servant, Ellen Lamdin b. Basildon.

In the 1871 census, Maria Powell is still head of her own household. She is now listed as 76 years old, "income derived from dividends," born Checkendon, Oxon. (District 9, page 2).

In 1881, Maria Powell, head, widow, aged 86, 'Independent, born Checkendon, Oxon is still living in District 9 in Pangbourne. She has a housekeeper aged 28 and a visitor, Jane West, 35, no occupation, born Pangbourne.

Maria Powell died on 17 May 1883 aged 87 (June Quarter of 1883, in the Bradfield District which includes Pangbourne, Volume 2c, page 226).

**Fifth Generation: Jane Powell Webb (5 March 1814 – 30 January 1902)**

Daughter of John ④ and Hannah Hussey Powell

Jane Powell, born 1814 in Clerkenwell, London, was the eldest surviving daughter of John Powell and Hannah Hussey and the only daughter who lived to marry and have issue. Jane died in 1902.

In the 1841 census, Jane is unmarried and living in Pangbourne with her father, widower John Powell and her younger brother, Richard Ebenezer Powell. At least on census night (June 6), her brother Thomas and his wife Eleanor were also part of the household. In this same census, her future husband, John Whiteman Webb appears in Pangbourne as a surgeon living in the household of another surgeon who is married with several servants. Dr. Webb had attended Jane's mother in her last illness and registered Hannah Powell's death in 1840.

Jane married John Whiteman Webb, a doctor of medicine, in 1843 (St. James Westminster, June Quarter, Vol. 1, page 116). He is listed as an MD (Aberdeen) LSA London in the 1871 census. He died at the age of 82 in the September Quarter of 1893, East Preston District, County of Sussex (Vol. 2b, p. 248).

They had three children:

John Powell Webb b. 22 July 1844 married 3 times and had daughters:

Mary Ursula Webb (May)

Clara Constance Webb (Connie)

He was a dentist

Mary Whiteman Webb (Polly) b. 9 July 1847 and d. 9 August 1928  
married Peter Raven Overton; no issue.

Edith Maria (Edie) Webb b. 28 April 1849 did not marry.

Thomas Henry (Uncle Thomas of the letters) was in contact with both John and John's daughter, May. Thomas Henry apparently had a photo of Aunt Jane Powell Webb and her son, John Webb, apparently had a water color of Grandfather Powell (John Powell of Pangbourne). Thomas Henry recalled that Dr. Webb was a woman chaser and that Aunt Webb did not look heart broken at his funeral commenting, "She was a proud woman."

In the 1851 census for St. Anne, Soho, Middlesex (Dist. 7, page 26) we find at #25 Wardour Street:

|               |      |    |                      |                |
|---------------|------|----|----------------------|----------------|
| John W. Webb  | Head | 40 | General Practitioner | b. Norfolk     |
| Jane Webb     | Wife | 31 |                      | b. Clerkenwell |
| Mary W. Webb  | Dau  | 3  |                      | b. Middlesex   |
| Edith M. Webb | Dau  | 1  |                      | b. Middlesex   |

There are two female servants.

On this census night, John Powell Webb, aged 6, was living with his step-grandmother, Maria Hope Powell in Pangbourne.

In the 1861 census the family appears living at 13 Moreton Terrace, St. Pancras as follows:



In the 1891 census the Jane Webb family appears as follows:

John Whiteman Webb, Head, 80 years old, Retired doctor of medicine

Jane Webb, Wife, 77 years old

Edith Maria Webb, Daughter, 41 years old, single, teacher of music

The family was living at 105 Park Road, 'Belle Vue', Broadwater, Worthing, West Sussex and had one female servant.

The younger Webb household appears as follows in 1891:

John P. Webb           Head   46     Surgeon Dentist Registered

May A. Webb           Wife   50

They continue to live at 103 Lewisham High Road, Deptford, St. Paul, London

The Overton household looks like this in 1891:

Peter R. Overton, 48, Clerk to Board of Religious Society

Mary W. Overton, 42

Ann Overton, 46, sister, living on own means.

One female servant. They are living at 16 Bishops (?) Road, Hornsey.

In the 1901 census Dr. Webb has died and Jane is living with her daughter Edith in a household that is taking in lodgers:

Edith M. Webb, Head, 51 years old

Jane Webb, Mother, 87 years old

A female servant and lodgers (Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. H. Plummer and their 8 months old daughter) are part of the household that is living in the civil parish of Littlehampton, Sussex at 25 Norfolk Road.

Also in 1901, the Overton's are also found in Littlehampton, Sussex, at 3 Western Road as lodgers in the home of Ellen L. Skinner, Widow. They are listed as Peter R. Overton, 58, Clerk-Retired, Mary W. Overton, 53.

In 1901, John P. Webb's family is still at 103 Lewisham High Road as follows:

John P. Webb           Head   56     born Soho, London   Dentist

Mary A. Webb           Wife   61     born Wilton, Somerset

Mary U. Webb           Dau   28     born New Cross, London   Asst Teacher Pub School

Clara C. Webb           Dau   22     born New Cross, London

**Fifth Generation: Thomas Powell (4 October 1817 – 16 November 1869)**  
**Son of John Powell and Hannah Hussey**  
**Thomas of Pangbourne – *Uncle Thomas of the Letters***

Thomas was the sixth child and second son of John Powell and Hannah Hussey. He was born at London in 1817 and died in Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire in 1869. Thomas remained something of a mystery through much of our early family history work but the facts of his life are now clear from our research and confirmed by the papers of Cousin Bruce.

We know much about this man from the letters that Thomas Henry Powell (Thomas of the Letters) wrote to Charles Augustus Powell in 1928-9. Thomas, son of John and Hannah Hussey was the uncle of Thomas Henry and Charles Augustus and they discuss him as Uncle Thomas. According to Thomas of the Letters, this Thomas wrote a lovely letter to his mother, Hannah, when quite young - "Edy Webb has sent me several letters from our grandmother Hannah and one written by Thomas when 13 years of age written from school at Kentish Town, in a beautiful hand, well expressed, dated 1830." So, we know this Thomas attended a boarding school in Kentish Town as an adolescent. Thomas Henry had a photograph of "Uncle and Aunt Thomas and two of their children." Thomas Henry also had a copy of this uncle's will.

Thomas Powell first married Eleanor Willson at the Parish Church in Hackney, Middlesex, London on November 20, 1838. He is listed 'as of full age' and his father is listed as John Powell, Gentleman. Thomas is listed as a Coach Maker. He apparently followed his father and older brother into that business. Eleanor is listed as the daughter of William Willson, Jeweller, who signed as a witness along with Louisa Willson. Eleanor is listed as 'not of full age.'

In the 1841 census, Thomas and his wife Eleanor are listed in the household of his father, John Powell, in Pangbourne. Whether they were living there at the time or only visiting on census night (June 6) is not clear – the census for 1841 does not give relationship to head of household and rounds ages. Thomas is listed as a "Coach Body Builder."

In 1850, Thomas and his older brother, John of the Two Families, appeared in court as executors of their father's will. Thomas is listed as an Oil and Italian Warehouseman at No. 63 Fore Street, City of London. It is useful to note that this is the same term used to identify Fortnum and Mason at this period. Thomas had left coach making and was in the luxury grocery business.

In the 1851 census (Bethnel Green, Tower Hamlets, Dist. 21, page 27), Thomas, aged 33, born Clerkenwell, is listed as the head of a household at 11 Bonner Road, Victoria Park, Middlesex, London. He is still an "Oil & Italian Warehouseman." His wife is listed as Eleanor Powell, aged 32, born St. Luke's. They have a 16 year old servant girl named Eliza Peaves. There are no children listed in the household.

In 1852, Thomas' younger brother George died and left Thomas "all that dwelling house with all of its outhouses gardens & appurtenances & assigns belonging thereunto situate in Pangbourne and now in the occupation of Edward Sherwood (spelled Shorwood in the will) & which were lately purchased by me of and from the Executors of my late Father John Powell deceased."

With the discovery of the will of Andrew Schwartz (father of Sarah Schwartz who was the first wife of John of the two families), we know that Thomas Powell was still resident at No. 11 Bonner Road, Victoria Park in 1853 when Andrew Schwartz appointed him an executor of his will. Andrew calls him a friend and leaves him not only a legacy for the trouble he will have in carrying out his wishes expressed in his will but also leaves him objects that were clearly important to Andrew.

Thomas Powell, Esq. is listed among Gentry living in Winterbrook (part of the parish of Cholsey but on the edge of Wallingford) in the 1854 Post Office Directory for Berkshire.

Eleanor died on 9 December 1856. Her death is recorded in the December Quarter of the Wallingford District but the entry for the volume and page is almost impossible to read. (It is probably Volume 2c, page 196 but the page is very unclear.) Apparently, she and Thomas were resident in Winterbrook when she died. She is buried at Pangbourne next to her father-in-law, John Powell, and George Powell, her brother-in-law. Their tombs are all identical. Apparently the couple did not have children or none survived.

Thomas Powell, widower, married Jane Grace, Spinster, in the Baptist Chapel in Wallingford on 28 May 1857 (Wallingford District, June Quarter, 1857, Vol. 2c, page 546). Thomas was 39 years old and Jane was 28. He was resident in Winterbrook, Parish of Cholsey, Berkshire. She was resident in the High Street, Wallingford, where she and her mother had a dress making and milliner shop. Joseph Grace and Matilda Grace, brother and sister of the bride were witnesses. The couple apparently first settled in Winterbrook where their first child, Jane (sometimes called Jennie according to Cousin Bruce's papers), was born on 27 November 1858.

Thomas Henry of the Letters writes about a scribbled note in his Aunt Jane Webb's handwriting (sister of this Thomas) –*“unsatisfactory note which explains how Thomas succeeded to the house at Winterbrook nearly opposite Uncle Richard's. I remember very well going there with father. Do you? His showing Father a land measuring machine he had made and seeing Saturn through his telescope.”* Winterbrook, although part of the parish of Cholsey, is an area of Wallingford located on the Reading Road leading out of town to the south where Richard Ebenezer Powell, youngest brother of this Thomas, and his family lived for many years and where Richard Ebenezer died. Thomas and his family were resident at 2 Elm Villas, Winterbrook, Wallingford, when he drew up his will in 1859.

The 1861 census finds Thomas and his family living on the Street in Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire and they appear as follows:

|               |      |           |  |                        |
|---------------|------|-----------|--|------------------------|
| Thomas Powell | Head | 43        | Freeholder, Land Proprietor and Proprietor of Houses | born Clerkenwell       |
| Jane Powell   | Wife | 32        |  | born Wallingford       |
| Jane Powell   | Dau  | 2         |  | born Cholsey           |
| Kate Powell   | Dau  | 10 months |  | born Crowmarsh Gifford |

There are two general servants and a nursemaid.

Right next door are Jane's mother and sister:

|                      |      |       |    |                    |                 |
|----------------------|------|-------|----|--------------------|-----------------|
| Mary Elizabeth Grace | Head | Widow | 66 | Straw Bonnet Maker | born Kensington |
|----------------------|------|-------|----|--------------------|-----------------|

Matilda Grace                      Dau    Single    30    Milliner & Dress Maker    born Wallingford

Jane Powell, wife of Thomas, died on 3 January 1868 at North Farm, Sotwell. She was 38 years old and listed as the wife of Thomas Powell, farmer. Matilda Shick of Wallingford was present at the death and reported it. This is Jane's sister, Matilda Grace Shick who married James Shick during June Quarter of 1862. On 13 February 1864 they had a daughter, Matilda Kate Shick, born at 21 Albert Road, Dalston, London. The parents are listed as James Shick, Fund Holder, and Matilda Shick formerly Grace. James Shick died at 21 Albert Road, Dalston, London in the March Quarter of 1865 (Hackney District, Great London, Middlesex, Volume 1b, page 354) leaving Matilda a widow. She apparently took her small daughter and returned to the Wallingford area where her mother and sister lived.

This family was living in Sotwell because this Thomas and his brothers Richard Ebenezer and George were each left a third interest in Sotwell Farm in the parish of Sotwell, Berkshire along with pasture land of the same farm in Brightwell, Berkshire and also 5 freehold cottages in the Parish of Sotwell in 1851 by their uncle, Thomas of the Window.

On 25 February 1869, Thomas Powell, widower, aged 51, son of John Powell, Gentleman, deceased, married Matilda Shick, widow, aged 37, at the Denmark Place Chapel, Cold Harbour Lane, Lambeth. Matilda is listed as the daughter of John Grace, Draper, Deceased. The witnesses are Joseph Grace and Elizabeth Grace. Both bride and groom are said to be resident at 2 Palmerston Terrace, Cold Harbour Lane, Lambeth which was the home of William Grace and his wife Elizabeth. (Apparently, it was not legal for a man to marry his dead wife's sister. This may explain why Thomas and Matilda went to London to marry. Although technically illegal, such marriages were quite common.)

Thomas Powell, aged 52, died on 16<sup>th</sup> November 1869 at Crowmarsh Gifford. On his death certificate he is termed a landed proprietor and farmer and the cause of death is given as diseased heart and dropsy. The death was reported by Sarah Huggins who was present at the death and resident in Crowmarsh Gifford. Sarah Huggins had earlier lived at Sotwell and in the 1871 census is listed as a "Lady's nurse."

Thomas had drawn up his will in 1859 when he was the new father of a daughter, Jane. He appointed his brother John Powell of Bensington and "my friend" Joseph Grace of Southampton Street, Reading as executors and trustees. Mr. Grace was also his brother-in-law. Thomas made the following provisions:

- To each executor the bequest of £100
- To my brother John Powell my Achromatic Telescope and Stand and the portrait of our late Father
- To my dear wife Jane Powell £100 to be paid immediately after my death
- Also to my dear wife absolutely all my household furniture, plate, linen, china, books, pictures (except the said portrait), prints, jewellery, watches, clocks, musical instruments, wearing apparel, wines and liquers and all other my goods and chattels of the like nature.
- To his executors in trust:
  - (1) My freehold dwelling house, stable, gardens, and premises at Crowmarsh now in the occupation of Mr. W. L. Clarke and also the freehold dwelling house and premises

- adjoining thereto in the occupation of Mrs. Bradford to hold the same upon trust to permit y wife to reside in the same during her life if she shall think fit (she keeping the same in tenantable repair) but if not, then in trust to pay the income from them to my dear wife during the term of her natural life whether or not she remarry. (After her decease the income to go to his child or children then living and if none survive to his siblings in equal shares or to their heirs.)
- (2) My freehold house, garden and premises situate at Pangbourne lately on lease to Mr. Sherwood and my freehold houses and premises situate and being in the High Street, Wallingford, and in the respective tenures of Mr. Alldridge and Mr. Huggins. Also my piece of freehold arable land containing nearly two acres situate in Saint John's Field Wallingford and in my own occupation to hold the same upon trust or to sell and invest the proceeds and pay the income from the same to my said wife for the term of her natural life or as long as she shall remain a widow for the maintenance of herself and their children. After her decease or remarriage, the income to go to his children but if he has no surviving children then to his siblings or their heirs.
- (3) My one-third or other share and interest of and in an estate partly freehold and partly leasehold situate at Sotwell bequeathed to me by my late Uncle Thomas Powell of Benson. And also all my one-third or other share in two Rod Eyotts containing together about two acres two rods and thirty perches situate at Sotwell aforesaid in the occupation of the Executors of Mr. John Lovegrove. And also all my one-third or other share and interest in four Rod Eyotts and pieces of meadow land containing about two acres situate in Warborough in the County of Oxford near Lane Edge Ferry. And also of and in a Fishery in the River Thames extending from Sotwell Mead to Elm Eyott in Warborough and in which four last mentioned premises my brother Richard Ebenezer is interested jointly with myself – to hold the same in trust to pay an Annuity or yearly sum of £52 unto Mr. William Willson (the Father of my late wife) for and during the term of his natural life and from and immediately after his death then to pay the said annuity until his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Willson (in case she shall be then living) during the remainder of her natural life. And also to pay an Annuity or yearly sum of £10 to my late Father's widow, Mrs. Maria Powell for and during the term of her natural life. (The annuitants were to have the right to collect rents from these properties if the executors failed to pay the sums due. Of the remaining income from these properties, one-half was to go to his wife for her natural life, whether or not she remarried, and the other half interest was to go to his wife and after her death to his "present daughter Jane Powell" and when she reached 21 or married, the properties were to be sold "at public auction only" for her benefit and the benefit of any other children he might have.)
- (4) And as to my reversionary interest (subject to the life-interest therein of my said Mother-in-Law Mrs. Maria Powell) in the sum of £140 – Three pounds per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities, part of the sum of seven hundred pounds like annuities invested in the joint names of William Woolley, the said John Powell and myself. And, also as to my reversionary share and interest under the Will of my late Father (subject to the life interest therein of my said Mother-in-Law) in the sum of one thousand pounds – three pounds per cent Consolidated Bank Annuities invested in the joint names of the said John Powell, myself, and the said William Woolley. And to the dividends whereof myself, my said Mother-in-law is also entitled for her life.

And also as to my reversionary share, estate and interest, under the will of my late Father of and in a Freehold house and premises situate in Pangbourne aforesaid and late in his own occupation (subject nevertheless to the life estate of my said Mother-in-Law therein). And also as to my right, share, estate and interest whether in real or personal property as one of the residuary legatees under the Will of my late Brother George Powell deceased. And also as to all the rest, residue, and remainder of my estate and effects (not hereinbefore disposed of) which I shall die possessed of, interested in, or entitled unto, and all property, estate and effects (if any) over which I now have or shall or may at anytime hereafter have any power of disposition or appointment. I do hereby bequeath them to my executors upon trust the income to be paid to my said Dear Wife during her natural life or so long as she shall remain my widow for the maintenance of herself and our children. (Should she marry again or die, the proceeds are to benefit his children if any survive and if not his siblings or their heirs.)

- (5) I appoint my Dear Wife during her life and after her death my said Brother John Powell guardian of my children or child I may leave surviving me.

The will was signed on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 1859 and witnessed by Isaac Sheffield Solicitor of 68 Old Broad Street and James Honour, his Clerk. It was proved at Oxford the 22 day of December 1869 by the oaths of John Powell of Bensington in the County of Oxford, Gentleman, the Brother, and Joseph Grace of Maidenhead in the County of Berks. Draper, the Executors to whom administration was granted. The Testator was listed as Thomas Powell, formerly of No 2 Elm Villas, Winterbrook near Wallingford in the County of Berkshire. But late of Crowmarsh Gifford in the County of Oxford, Gentleman who died on the 16<sup>th</sup> day of November 1869 at Crowmarsh Gifford aforesaid. The estate was noted as under £12,000.

Thomas lived less than a year after his third marriage and did not alter his will during that period. It will be clear from the following census records that his third wife, Matilda Grace Shick Powell continued to live in one of his freehold properties in Crowmarsh Gifford for the rest of her life. Also, as step-mother and aunt to Thomas' children, she stayed close to each of them.

### **Children of the Sixth Generation**

Thomas Powell and Jane Grace Powell had four children:

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| Jane Powell   | b. 27 November 1858 in Winterbrook (Cholsey parish, Berkshire) |
| Kate Powell   | b. 11 May 1860 in Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire               |
| John Powell   | b. 14 January 1863 in Wallingford, Berkshire                   |
| Hannah Powell | b. 30 November 1864 in Sotwell, Berkshire                      |

In the 1871 census, taken two years after Thomas' death, Matilda Powell is head of a household on the Street in Crowmarsh Gifford which includes his four children and her daughter by her first marriage. The household consists of:

|                    |    |          |       |                                       |
|--------------------|----|----------|-------|---------------------------------------|
| Matilda Powell     | 40 | Head     | Widow | b. Wallingford<br>Living on own means |
| Matilda Kate Shick | 7  | Daughter |       | b. Dalston, Middlesex                 |

(This is Matilda's own daughter by James Shick)

|                      |    |               |                |
|----------------------|----|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Jane Powell</b>   | 12 | Step-daughter | b. Wallingford |
| <b>Kate Powell</b>   | 11 | Step-daughter | b. Crowmarsh   |
| <b>John Powell</b>   | 8  | Step-son      | b. Wallingford |
| <b>Hannah Powell</b> | 6  | Step-daughter | b. Sotwell     |

(These are her nieces and nephew – and step-children, the children of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell.)

|               |    |                |                          |
|---------------|----|----------------|--------------------------|
| Mary E. Grace | 77 | Mother of head | b. Kensington, Middlesex |
|---------------|----|----------------|--------------------------|

(This is Matilda and Jane's mother)

Plus two female servants both aged 16 years.

By 1881, the Powell children have grown up and all but one is out of the nest. In the 1881 census living on Crowmarsh Street, Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire are:

|                    |        |       |    |                |                   |
|--------------------|--------|-------|----|----------------|-------------------|
| Matilda Powell     | Head   | Widow | 50 | b. Wallingford | Money on Mortgage |
| <b>Jane Powell</b> | Dau    |       | 22 | b. Winterbrook | Fund Holder       |
| Mary E. Grace      | Mother |       | 86 | b. Kensington  | Annuitant         |

The family has a 28 year old female servant.

In the same census, **Kate Powell**, aged 20, born Wallingford, is living as a Private Governess to the children of Henry Breton at 157-158 High Street in Southampton, Hampshire. Mr. Breton is a draper employing 40 hands. **John Powell**, aged 18, born Wallingford, is an unmarried Stationer's apprentice in the household of James Bragg, Stationer & Bookseller, at 15-106 Broad Street, Reading. **Hannah Powell** (recorded as Hannah Rowell) is a boarding scholar in the household of School Mistress Elizabeth Lacy in St. Giles Parish of Reading. She is a 16 year old born in Sotwell. Katie Shick (mis-transcribed as Stock), a 17 year old scholar born in Dalston, is in the same boarding school. This is Matilda Kate Shick, daughter of Matilda Grace Shick Powell and first cousin of Hannah Powell.

By 1891, only **Hannah** and Katie Shick still at home – she and Katie Shick have returned from boarding school – and **Jane, Kate, and John Powell** have married. In the 1891 census, the Crowmarsh Gifford household has changed noticeably because Matilda Grace Shick Powell has remarried and we find:

|                      |               |    |                          |  |
|----------------------|---------------|----|--------------------------|--|
| Seth V. Lewis        | Head          | 76 | Retired Baptist Minister | living on own means<br>b. Llanelly Breconshire |
| Matilda Lewis        | Wife          | 60 | Living on her own means  | b. Wallingford                                 |
| Matilda K. Shick     | Step-daughter | 27 |                          | b. Dalston, Middlesex                          |
| <b>Hannah Powell</b> | Niece         | 26 | Living on her own means  | b. Sotwell                                     |

In the 1891 census, **John Powell**, aged 28, born Wallingford, Berkshire, appears as head of a household in St. Peter Civil Parish, Brighton, Sussex. His wife is Sarah Anne, aged 24, b. Brighton (John Powell married Sarah Anne Pratt, in March Quarter, 1890, Brighton District, Sussex/East Sussex, Vol. 2b, page 335). They have a daughter, Nora Powell, aged 4 months, born Brighton. They also have a visitor, Marion Grace, born Camberwell, London. John is listed as a watch finisher.

In the 1891 census, **Kate Powell Clench**, aged 30, born Crowmarsh, Oxfordshire, is the wife of Henry Spurway Clench whom she married in 1882, September Quarter, Lewisham District, Greater London, Kent, Vol. 1d, page 1186. Henry is 40 years old, born Brixton, Surrey. They have a 1 year old son Leslie Howard Clench who was born in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, where they are living. Henry Clench is a Banker's Clerk.

(Kate's birth record is December Quarter of 1860, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 278. This is the only record of a birth I have been able to locate for these four siblings. It lists her father as Thomas Powell and her mother as Jane Powell, formerly Grace. The other birth dates for these siblings comes from Cousin Bruce's research.)

In the 1891 census, **Jane Powell Case**, aged 30, born Wallingford, appears as the wife of Sydney H. Case, aged 39, a Baptist Minister born in Trowbridge, Wiltshire. They are living in the civil parish of Caversham near Reading on Prospect Street and have a daughter Lois, 6, and a son Sydney, 4, both born in Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire. Jane Powell married Sydney Henry Case in the June Quarter of 1884 in the Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 625.

In the 1901 census, Matilda Lewis, aged 70, widow, living on her own means, is living alone as head of a one-person household on Crowmarsh Street in Crowmarsh Gifford, Oxfordshire, next door to Rose Villa where she had lived in the 1891 census. In the same census, Kate Shick (transcribed as Kate Schick), single, 37, living on her own means, born Dalston, is a patient at the Royal Ophthalmic Hospital on City Road, Finsbury.

### **The 1901 census give us a final picture of Thomas and Jane Powell's four children:**

**(1)** In the 1901 census, **Hannah Powell Grigg** is listed with her husband, Frederick Richardson Grigg (they married in the March Quarter of 1895 in the Wallingford District (Vol. 2c, page 451). They are living at a house called Inglewood on the High Road in Finchley, Middlesex as follows:

|                    |      |           |                         |                         |
|--------------------|------|-----------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Frederick R. Grigg | Head | 47        | Flour Factor – Employer | b. London               |
| Hannah R Grigg     | Wife | 36        |                         | b. Sotwell, Berks.      |
| Donald R. Grigg    | Son  | 16 months |                         | b. Whetstone, Middlesex |

There is also a female servant born in Crowmarsh, Oxfordshire, named Ethel A. Lovegrove, aged 17.

(Frederick Richardson Grigg appears in the 1881 census at 11 Truro Street, St. Pancras, London, in the household of his grandmother, Rachel Richardson, widow, 83, living on her own means, born Middlesex. Also in the household is Frederick's aunt, Rachel Richardson, unmarried 51, born Middlesex. He is described as a 27 year old general clerk, born Middlesex.)

**(2)** In the 1901 census **John Powell** and his wife Sarah Anne have two more children, Enid, 6, born Crowborough, Sussex, and Muriel, 7, born Crowborough, Sussex. They have one female servant. John is listed as a watchmaker and jeweller working on his own account at his home which is now at Crowborough Cross, Rotherfield, Sussex. (John became a watchmaker and jeweler, a trade practiced by Thomas Powell's first father-in-law. Thomas thought enough of this man to leave him an annuity in his will and perhaps Mr. Willson played a part in John

entering the trade.) According to Cousin Bruce's records, John went to America and Australia in later years.

(3) In the 1901 census, **Kate Powell Clench** and her family are still living in Leighton Buzzard at 8 Church Square. They have two female servants and a second son, Kingsley G. Clench 9, born Leighton Buzzard.

(4) In 1901, **Jane Powell Case** and her family were still in Caversham living on Prospect Street. The census record shows:

|                |      |         |    |                      |                |
|----------------|------|---------|----|----------------------|----------------|
| Sydney H. Case | Head | Married | 49 | Free Church Minister | b. Trowbridge  |
| Jane Case      | Wife | Married | 42 |                      | b. Wallingford |
| Daisy G. Case  | Dau  | Single  | 15 |                      | b. Missenden   |
| Violet W. Case | Dau  | Single  | 8  |                      | b. Caversham   |

Jane's son whose full name is Sydney Thomas P. Case was away from home at a large boarding school run by Charles David Whittaker, Head Master, in Taunton, Somerset. He is listed as Thomas Sydney Case. Jane's family was difficult to locate because the family was mis-listed as CARE. They have a new daughter, Violet W. Case, born about 1893 in Caversham. Lois is now using her middle name and is listed as Daisy G. Case.

To look a little more at the complicated names of Jane Powell Case's children, Lois Daisy G. Case was born during September Quarter of 1885 in the Amersham District of which Great Missenden is a part (Vol. 3a, page 573). Sydney Thomas P. Case was born in the June Quarter of 1886 in the Amersham District (Vo. 3a, page 616). One wonders if the son's initial P. stood for Powell – that he was named after his father and his maternal grandfather - and if the daughter's initial of G. stood for Grace.

## The Grace Family

Jane Grace was the daughter of John Grace, Draper, and Mary Elizabeth Grace. Although Mary Elizabeth was born in Kensington, London, the family was obviously established early at Wallingford, Berkshire because all of the children we know of were born there. John Grace apparently died early (his may be the death record for one John Grace, September Quarter 1840, Wallingford District, Vol. 6, page. 146) but he managed to establish both of his sons in his line of work – both were drapers.

In the 1841 census for Berkshire, St. Peter, District 6, Page 3 on High Street, Wallingford:

|                  |    |              |                     |
|------------------|----|--------------|---------------------|
| Mary Grace       | 40 | Bonnet Maker | b. not in Berkshire |
| Jane Grace       | 12 |              | b. Berkshire        |
| Arthur (?) Grace | 8  |              | b. Berkshire        |
| William Grace    | 6  |              | b. Berkshire        |

Where 10 year old Matilda is remains a mystery but she was either in school or visiting away from home on June 6, census night. (The census indexes the name I read as Arthur instead as Nathan. It is very difficult to read but the entry is listed as a male.)

In Pigot & Co.'s Directory of Berkshire for 1844, Mary Elizabeth Grace is listed in High Street, Wallingford under Straw Hat Makers. Mrs. Mary E. Grace and Miss Jane Grace are listed as dress makers in the High Street in Wallingford in Kelly's 1848 Directory. In Slater's Directory of Berkshire for 1852, Mary Elizabeth Grace, High Street, Wallingford, is listed as both a Milliner & Dressmaker and a maker of straw bonnets. In the 1861 census, Mary Elizabeth Grace is listed as a Straw Bonnet Maker and Matilda Grace as a milliner and dress maker.

Mary Elizabeth Grace died at age 88 in the June Quarter of 1883, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 215. She was part of her daughter Matilda's household until her death.

John and Mary Elizabeth Grace had at least four children, all born in Wallingford:

|               |                 |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Joseph Grace  | born circa 1826 |
| Jane Grace    | born circa 1829 |
| Matilda Grace | born circa 1831 |
| William Grace | born circa 1836 |

The 1851 census for St. Peter, Wallingford (Dist. 6, page 14) we find living on High Street:

|                      |      |        |    |                                  |                |
|----------------------|------|--------|----|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Mary Elizabeth Grace | Head | Widow  | 55 | Straw Hat, Milliner, Dress Maker | b. Kensington  |
| Jane Grace           | Dau. | Unmar  | 22 | “                                | b. Wallingford |
| Matilda Grace        | Dau. | Unmar. | 20 | “                                | b. Wallingford |

Joseph Grace and Matilda Grace were witnesses at the wedding of Thomas Powell and their sister, Jane Grace. Joseph was also named an executor of Thomas Powell's will. He appears in the 1861 census in Reading, St. Giles Parish, 22 Southampton Street as follows:

|              |      |   |    |        |                |
|--------------|------|---|----|--------|----------------|
| Joseph Grace | Head | M | 36 | Draper | b. Wallingford |
| Mary         | Wife | M | 40 |        | b. Andover     |
| Joseph C     | Son  | U | 4  |        | b. Reading     |
| John T       | Son  | U | 2  |        | b. Reading     |
| Mary E       | Dau  | U | 2  |        | b. Reading     |

The family has a visitor on census night – Henry S. Lack, 11 years old, born Newbury.

Joseph appears in the 1871 census as a visitor with his two sons, John Thomas Grace, 12, and Josh. Collins Grace, 14, in the household of Frederick Graveley, a draper employing 5 men, 3 ladies, and 5 apprentices. Joseph is listed as a draper and he was born in Wallingford. His wife and daughter are recorded as visitors at 67 Liverpool Road, Kingston on Thames, Surrey, in the household of Thomas Bilbe, retired shipbuilder and his wife, Jane W. who was born in Andover. I assume Jane may well have been the sister of Mary Grace. Jane was 48 years old. The daughter is transcribed as Elizabeth M. and her name was probably Mary Elizabeth and she was called Elizabeth to differentiate her from her mother.

In 1881, Joseph Grace is located at 36 Lloyd Street, Chorlton on Medlock, Manchester with apparently a new wife, Louisa C. Grace, his daughter by his first wife, Mary E. Grace, 22, and a new son William A. Grace, 2.

In the 1891 census, Joseph Grace is still in the same area of Manchester and listed as follows:

|               |      |         |    |                            |                |
|---------------|------|---------|----|----------------------------|----------------|
| Joseph Grace  | Head | Married | 65 | Agent Prudential Insurance | b. Wallingford |
| Louisa Grace  | Wife | Married | 42 |                            | b. Glastonbury |
| Mary E. Grace | Dau  | Single  | 30 | Dressmaker                 | b. Reading     |
| William A.    | Son  | Single  | 12 | Scholar                    | b. Manchester  |

Sara Jeans, a 75 year old boarder living on her own means completes the household.

In 1901, Joseph's family is in the same area of Manchester at 5 Park Street and listed as follows:

|              |       |         |    |                 |                |
|--------------|-------|---------|----|-----------------|----------------|
| Joseph Grace | Head  | Married | 76 | Insurance Agent | b. Wallingford |
| Louisa Grace | Wife  | Married | 52 |                 | b. Glastonbury |
| William A    | Son   | Single  | 22 | Stationer       | B. Manchester  |
| Anna Hewitt  | Niece | Single  | 16 |                 |                |

George Whitehead, a boarder, completes the household.

William Grace, the younger brother of Jane and Matilda, married Elizabeth Jane Beckensall in September Quarter of 1868 in the Abingdon District, Vol. 2c, p. 445.

(In the 1861, Elizabeth J. Beckensall, single and aged 28 is in the household of her parents, James, a 60 year old Plumber, Painter and Glazier who was born in St. Helen's Parish, Abingdon and Ann J, 49, on Broad Street in St. Helen Parish, Abingdon (Dist. 4, page 13 or 41). Elizabeth is listed as a governess. Also in the household are her sisters, Ann aged 25 and Susan aged 16.)

In 1869 when Thomas Powell married Matilda Grace Shick, they both listed their address as 2 Palmerston Terrace, Lambeth. In the 1871 census, William Grace and his wife Elizabeth are living at 2 Palmerston Terrace, Lambeth St. Mary, Denmark Hill, London (Dist. 27, page 2 of 35). It is probable that they were living there in 1869 and that Thomas and Matilda used their

address as a convenience. The witnesses at the marriage were Joseph Grace and Elizabeth Grace, probably William's wife. The census for 1871 shows the family as follows:

|               |      |    |        |                       |
|---------------|------|----|--------|-----------------------|
| William Grace | Head | 36 | Draper | b. Wallingford        |
| Elizabeth J   | Wife | 37 |        | b. Abingdon           |
| Ellen         | Dau  | 1  |        | b. Camberwell, Surrey |

Ann Brown, a servant, completed the household.

In 1881, William Grace and his family have moved and are at 40 High Street, Bedford, Bedfordshire:

|               |      |    |        |                       |
|---------------|------|----|--------|-----------------------|
| William Grace | Head | 44 | Draper | b. Wallingford        |
| Elizabeth J   | Wife | 46 |        | b. Abingdon           |
| Ellen         | Dau  | 11 |        | b. Camberwell, Surrey |
| Marion        | Dau  | 9  |        | b. Camberwell, Surrey |
| William T.    | Son  | 6  |        | b. Bedford            |
| Elizabeth     | Dau  | 5  |        | b. Bedford            |
| Herbert A.    | Son  | 3  |        | b. Bedford            |

Sarah Woods, a servant completed the household.

In 1891 the family is still in Bedford (Bedford, District 10, page 5 or 20) but has moved to No. 1 Western Street:

|               |      |    |                    |                |
|---------------|------|----|--------------------|----------------|
| William Grace | Head | 56 | Insurance Agent    | b. Wallingford |
| Elizabeth     | Wife | 57 |                    | b. Abingdon    |
| Ellen         | Dau  | 21 | Draper's Assistant | b. Camberwell  |
| William T     | Son  | 17 | Chemist's Asst.    | b. Bedford     |
| Herbert A     | Son  | 12 | Scholar            | b. Bedford     |

The Grace family connection is affirmed by the presence of Marion Grace, noticeably missing from this record, as a visitor in John Powell's household (son of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell) in the 1891 census.

Marion is back in the family home in the 1901 census:

|                    |               |    |                     |                    |
|--------------------|---------------|----|---------------------|--------------------|
| William Grace      | Head          | 65 | b. Wallingford      | Retired Draper     |
| Elizabeth J. Grace | Wife          | 67 | b, Abingdon         |                    |
| Ellen Grace        | Dau           | 30 | b. Camberwell       | Draper's Asst.     |
| Marion Grace       | Dau           | 28 | b. Camberwell       | Draper's Asst      |
| Bessie Grace       | Dau           | 26 | b. Bedford          | Music Teacher      |
| Mary J. Grace      | Grandau       | 3  | b. Bedford          |                    |
| Susan Fortescue    | Sister-in-Law | 55 | b. Abingdon         |                    |
| William I. Smith   | Boarder       | 23 | b. London           | Shorthand & Typist |
| Annie E. Wells     | Boarder       | 27 | b. Todmorden, Oxon. | Dressmaker         |

(Susan Beckensall's marriage to Henry James F. Fortescue is recorded in the September Quarter of 1874, Abingdon District, Berkshire, Volume 2c, page 500.)

## The Clench Family

Two Powell women married men named Clench in the 1880's. Mary Ann Powell, granddaughter of John Powell of the Two Families, married Reginald Herbert Clench on 4 September 1880. The witnesses were Reginald's older brother, Walter Augustus Clench and his uncle, Edmund Clench.

Kate Powell, daughter of Thomas and Jane Grace Powell, married Henry Spurway Clench on 1 August 1882 at St. Mary's Church, Lewisham, Kent (recorded September Quarter of 1882 in Lewisham District, Greater London, Kent, Vol. 1d, page 1186). Henry Spurway Clench is listed as a 31 year old widower, banker's clerk of Abingdon, Berks. His father is Henry Clench, Silk Mercer. Kate Powell is listed as a 22 year old spinster of 17 George Lane, Lewisham, daughter of Thomas Powell, farmer, deceased. The witnesses were Walter A. Clench (his brother) and Jeannie Powell (a mystery at the moment because our family has no Jeannie. The only Jeannie Powell in the 1881 census is married to an Edward Foley Powell born in Tipton, Staffordshire – not one of ours – and her name actually turns out to be Sarah Jane. My guess is that Jeannie Powell may actually be Kate's sister, Jane, who was still unmarried and living at home in Crowmarsh Gifford at this time).

It should be noted that Mary A. Clench and Reginald H. Clench were the residents of 17 George Lane, Lewisham, in the 1881 census. Kate Powell was apparently married from the home of her groom's brother and his wife, her first cousin once removed, Mary Ann Powell Clench.

The Clench family has proved somewhat difficult to trace because the name is often mis-transcribed and because the place of birth for the two Clench men who married Powell women shifts interestingly within the greater London area. However, census and marriage certificate evidence confirms that Reginald Herbert Clench and Henry Spurway Clench were brothers.

The birthplace of Reginald's father helped to sort out a picture of the family. He was born in Poole, Dorset as was Edmund Clench who was a witness at Reginald's wedding. (There are only 8 people named Clench who were born in Poole, Dorset, listed in the 1861 census, so much can be assumed from these records.)

Edmund Clench, uncle of Reginald and Henry, remains something of a mystery but can be located in the 1871 census as Edmund Clonch living at 43 Fish Street in Clapham, Surrey (District 27, page 45). He is the head of a household, aged 42. His wife is named Eliza aged 50, born Middlesex, London, and an annuitant. There are two children: Edmund C., 19 and Frederick, 17. Edmund's niece, Ellen Clench, 18 years old, born in Poole is also in the household. It is difficult to read what Edmund's status is but it appears to be something like a manager.

In 1881, Edmund Clench is 52, living in Brunswick Lane, Thames Ditton, Surrey (District 4, page 11). He is the Managing Director of Army & Navy Stores and is married to a new wife listed as F. Draper, aged 37, born Halstead, Essex. They had a visitor on census night, John P. Cox, 57 years old, listed a Captain of the Surrey Militia. The household included one female servant.

The 1841 census gives a picture of the older Clench generation for we find on Hill Street in Poole (Dorset, St. James, Poole, District 3, page 10) the following (recorded as Clinch):

|                                  |    |                   |                       |
|----------------------------------|----|-------------------|-----------------------|
| William Clench                   | 45 | Tailor            | b. all born in Dorset |
| Sarah                            | 40 |                   |                       |
| George                           | 20 | Tailor            |                       |
| Sarah                            | 20 | Milliner          |                       |
| Henry (father of our Clench men) | 15 | Apprentice Draper |                       |
| Maria                            | 15 |                   |                       |
| Mary                             | 14 |                   |                       |
| Edmond (wedding witness)         | 12 |                   |                       |
| Augustus                         | 10 |                   |                       |
| Emily                            | 4  |                   |                       |
| Edwin                            | 3  |                   |                       |

By the 1851 census, Henry has married and has a baby son. His family appears in Lambeth (Kennington Second, Dist. 13, page 9) with the name recorded as Clinch. Henry Clench is head, aged 27, a linen draper born in Dorset. His wife, Jane, is 25 years old. Their son Henry is weeks old – the record is difficult to read and it is unclear how many weeks old. They have one female servant.

Henry Spurway Clench was born in the December Quarter of 1850 in Lambeth District (Vol. IV, page 267) which includes Brixton where he usually said he was born.

Reginald Herbert Clench was born in the September Quarter of 1858 in Wandsworth District, Vol. 1d, page (probably 557 but may be 337) which includes Clapham which he once listed as his birthplace.

The 1861 census shows the Clench family to which Reginald (future husband of Mary Ann Powell) belonged living at 8 Parsonage Row, Newington, Surry (District 9, page 29 of 41):

|               |        |         |    |        |                          |
|---------------|--------|---------|----|--------|--------------------------|
| Henry Clench  | Head   | Married | 36 | Draper | b. Poole, Dorset         |
| Jane Clench   | Wife   | Married | 34 |        | b. Bridgewater, Somerset |
| Walter Clench | Son    | Single  | 4  |        | b. Clapham, Surrey       |
| Reginald H.   | Son    | Single  | 2  |        | b. Clapham, Surrey       |
| Emily Clench  | Sister | Single  | 23 |        | b. Poole, Dorset         |
| Mary Clench   | Niece  | Single  | 15 |        | b. Wareham               |

Also in the 1861 census, we find Henry Clench (future husband of Kate Powell) as a visitor in Poole in the home of a couple who are probably his grandparents and who live in the High Street:

|                |         |         |    |                |                      |
|----------------|---------|---------|----|----------------|----------------------|
| William Clench | Head    | Married | 68 | Retired Taylor | b. Blandford         |
| Sarah Clench   | Wife    | Married | 64 |                | b. Longfleet         |
| Mary A. Clench | Dau     | Single  | 34 |                | b. Poole             |
| Henry Clench   | Visitor | Single  | 10 |                | b. London, Middlesex |

In the 1871 census Reginald's family is living in a house called Vale View in the Lyncombe & Widcombe section of Bath, Somerset:

|                    |      |         |    |                            |                 |
|--------------------|------|---------|----|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Henry Clinch (sic) | Head | Married | 47 | Commercial Traveler (Silk) | b. Poole        |
| Jane               | Wife | Married | 45 |                            | b. Bridgwater   |
| Walter Augustus    | Son  | Single  | 14 | Scholar                    | b. London, Mid. |
| Reginald Herbert   | Son  | Single  | 12 | Scholar                    | b. London, Mid. |
| Gertrude Jane      | Dau  | Single  | 9  | Scholar                    | b. London, Mid. |

One female servant completed the household.

Also in the 1871 census, we find Henry Clench as lodger, unmarried, aged 20, at #75 East Mill, Dartford, Kent (District 8, page 36 of 61) in the home of John Wells, carpenter. He is a bank clerk and listed his birthplace as Brixton, Surrey.

In the 1881 census, Reginald Herbert Clench is married to Mary Ann Powell and states his birthplace as Brixton, Surrey.

Also in the 1881 census, Henry S. Clench, 30 years old, widowed bank clerk, appears as a visitor in a household on Park Road in Abingdon St. Helen headed by Mary Lawrence. He had married Anne Foord (sic.) in the June Quarter of 1878 in Chertsey District, Surrey (Vol. 2a, page 72) and she apparently died young.

Finally, in 1881, the rest of Reginald Clench's family is living at 2 Alexandra Road in the same section of Bath as in 1871:

|             |      |         |    |                             |                    |
|-------------|------|---------|----|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Jane Clench | Head | Married | 55 | Wife of Commercial Traveler | b. Bridgwater      |
| Gertrude    | Dau  | Single  | 19 |                             | b. Brixton, Surrey |

There are also two nieces, Emily Clench 24 and Bessie Clench 23; three visitors, 2 of whom were born in India; a German born cook and a house maid.

Gertrude Jane Clench who was born in the Dec. Quarter of 1861 in Lambeth District (vol. 1d, page 37) married John Mason Lightwood in the September Quarter of 1884 in Bath (Vol. 5c, page 1023). In the 1891 census they are living at 3 South Park Hill Road, Croydon and appear as follows:

|                      |      |   |    |           |               |
|----------------------|------|---|----|-----------|---------------|
| John Mason Lightwood | Head | M | 38 | Barrister | b. Birmingham |
| Gertrude Lightwood   | Wife | M | 29 |           | b. Brixton    |
| Cecil J.             | Son  | S | 4  |           | b. Croydon    |
| Muriel G.            | Dau  | S | 2  |           | b. Croydon    |

They have two servants.

Jane Clench, mother of the family, apparently died at age 65 in the March Quarter of 1891 in the Bridgwater District. I have been unable to trace Henry Clench, Reginald's father.

### The Shick Family

James Shick was co-executor with Thomas Powell of Andrew Schwartz' will in 1853. The will of Andrew Schwartz with six codicils was proved at London on 22 September 1854 with James Shick and Thomas Powell serving as executors. James Shick was an original executor and is listed as of 22 Rahore Street, Goswell Road, Middlesex, London, and he is a fusee cutter.

Research indicates that a fusee or fuzee was the part of a watch or clock on which the chain was wound. From Shick family wills we know that James Shick's father had made fusee chains and his mother took over the business after his father's death. The business then passed to his brothers, Joseph and Frederick. James seems to have been in a related business and on the same street where his brothers worked.

James appears in the 1841 census (Middlesex, St. Luke, Old Street, District 3, page 5) on Rahore Street as a 30 year old fusee cutter born in Middlesex.

Andrew Schwartz mentions James Shick's wife in his will as Sarah Ann Shick and left her his copy of Bunyon's *Pilgrim's Progress*. According to Pallot's Marriage Index for England 1780-1837, James Shick married Sarah Jarvis at St. Luke Old Street in 1828. This church is now a ruin and the center piece of a public park. It served the area bounded by Goswell Road, City Road, and the northern boundary of the City – just the neighborhood that James Shick, Andrew Schwartz, and John Powell lived in at the time. It is now part of Finsbury in the London Borough of Islington.

In the 1851 census for Islington West (Dist. 17, page 29) we find one of only three men named James Shick in the census:

|             |      |         |    |                      |               |
|-------------|------|---------|----|----------------------|---------------|
| James Shick | Head | Married | 45 | Proprietor of Houses | b. Middlesex  |
| Sarah Shick | Wife | Married | 45 |                      | b. Bloomsbury |

They have two servants and a 26 year old male visitor described as a Parliamentary clerk. This is our man because of the other two, one is married to a Mary and the other is a three year old child. The James Shick who was an executor of Andrew Schwartz' will was married to a woman named Sarah Ann.

Sarah Ann Shick died in the September Quarter of 1857 in Islington (Vol. 1b, page 117).

There are only two men named James Shick in the 1861 census. One, James Shick, born London, aged 55, is listed as a widower and a Baptist Minister at Chapel House, Christchurch, Hampshire. He has one female servant. This seems to be our man. The other is a 31 year old plumber with a wife named Ellen and two young daughters.

Thomas Henry of the Letters mentions a poem which he had in his possession and at first thought it was written by Hannah Hussey Powell (his grandmother) but later revised this opinion. The poem was entitled "*Hymn to be Sung at the Farewell Tea Meeting Given to Mr. James Shick on Tuesday, September 20, 1859*". Thomas Henry reports, "He (Mr. Shick) was at Pangbourne for a time and they dodged the title deeds of the chapel by electing him year to year. Probably, therefore, he moved from Spencer Place (in London) to Pangbourne about that date and as Grandmother Hannah died in 1840, she was not the authoress." The Mr. James Shick of the poem was apparently a dissenting preacher and most probably our man.

James Shick married Matilda Grace during the June Quarter of 1862 in Wallingford District (Vol 2c, page 557 or maybe 337 or 537 or 357 –it's impossible to decipher). Their daughter, Matilda Kate Shick, was born on 13 February 1864 at 21 Albert Road, Dalston, London. James Shick died at 21 Albert Road, Dalston, London in the March Quarter of 1865 (Hackney District, Great

London, Middlesex, Volume 1b, page 354) leaving Matilda Grace Shick a widow who nursed her sister Jane in her last illness and married her widowed brother-in-law, Thomas Powell.

It is most likely that all these references are to the same James Shick who, although he practiced a trade early in life, became a Baptist preacher. James Shick certainly knew Thomas Powell from the time of Andrew Schwartz' death when they served as co-executors of his estate. They were probably also acquainted through their adherence to dissenting religious views and attendance at Baptist chapels in the Islington area. They then became brother-in-laws when they married Grace sisters.

### **The Lewis Family**

Seth Valentine Lewis was born in Llanelly, Breconshire, Wales, about 1813. In the 1861 census, he elaborated further and reported that he was born in Llanelly, Clydach, Breconshire, Wales. Esther, second wife of Richard Powell of Hale Farm in Benson, son of Richard the Tiresmith of Clerkenwell and brother of John of Pangbourne, was also born in Llanelly, Breconshire. (However, if there was any connection, we have yet to discover it.)

Seth Valentine Lewis married Matilda Shick on the 28<sup>th</sup> of August, 1882 (September Quarter of 1882, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 554). On the marriage record he is listed as a 65 year old widowed Baptist Minister of Abingdon. (He was more likely 68.) He stated that his father was Valentine Lewis, deceased, an Iron Master. It is probable that Valentine Lewis was an Iron Master in the Clydach Iron Works where Seth was born. This was a major facility employing over a thousand men in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century.

On the marriage certificate, Matilda is listed as Shick (not Powell), 54 year old widow of Crowmarsh Gifford. Her father is listed as Joseph Grace, deceased, Tailor. This was later corrected at the couple's request to read John Grace. (This makes it likely that her brother Joseph was present – otherwise the name would not have occurred.)

The witnesses to the marriage ceremony held in the Baptist Chapel in Wallingford were Jane Powell and John Powell, Matilda's niece and nephew (and step-children). Jane was resident in Matilda's home in the 1881 census and probably was at the date of the wedding; John was apprenticed in Reading and could have easily come to Wallingford by train for the ceremony. As to the other children, Kate was a governess in Southampton and Hannah and Katie Shick, too young to be witnesses and in boarding school in Reading, may have been present.

Seth Valentine Lewis died aged 80 in 1893 in June Quarter (Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 195).

To look more closely at his life, Seth V. Lewis appears in the 1851 census for St. Helens Parish, Abingdon (Dist. 6, page 18) as a 37 year old lodger, single, born in Llanelly, Breconshire. He is a Baptist Minister.

In the 1861 census he is still single, a 47 year old lodger on Oak Street in St. Helens Parish, Abingdon (District 3, p. 57 of 58). He is a Baptist Minister born in Llanelly, Breconshire.

Seth Valentine married Mary Hellis in 1867, March Quarter, Abingdon District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, page 392.

He appears in the 1871 census in Abingdon as a Baptist Minister of the Independent Chapel in The Square:

|                 |               |       |                  |                     |
|-----------------|---------------|-------|------------------|---------------------|
| Seth V. Lewis   | Head          | 58    | Baptist Minister | b. Llanelly, Brecon |
| Mary            | Wife          | 30    | Governess        | b. Clerkenwell      |
| Arthur L. Lewis | Son           | 2     |                  | b. Abingdon         |
| Ernest C. Lewis | Son           | 6 mo. |                  | b. Abingdon         |
| Mary Hellis     | Mother-in-Law | 66    |                  | b. Hants.           |
| Fanny Hellis    | Sister-in-law | 24    | Governess        | b. Clerkenwell      |

Lucy A. Bennett, a teacher  
2 pupils and two female servants.

In the 1881 census Seth Lewis is living in Sutton Wick near Abingdon and listed as the Minister of the Drayton Chapel:

|                      |         |    |          |                          |
|----------------------|---------|----|----------|--------------------------|
| Seth Valentine Lewis | Widower | 66 | Minister | b. Llanelly, Breconshire |
| Arthur Llewellyn     | Single  | 12 | Scholar  | b. Abingdon              |
| Ernest Crate         | Single  | 10 | Scholar  | b. Abingdon              |

By 1891, Seth has married Matilda Grace Shick Powell and is living in her home in Crowmarsh Gifford. His sons appear as follows:

|                 |         |        |    |                |             |
|-----------------|---------|--------|----|----------------|-------------|
| Ernest C. Lewis | Boarder | Single | 20 | Banker's clerk | b. Abingdon |
|-----------------|---------|--------|----|----------------|-------------|

Living in Luton, Bedfordshire

|                 |         |        |    |                         |             |
|-----------------|---------|--------|----|-------------------------|-------------|
| Arthur L. Lewis | Boarder | Single | 22 | Photographer & Vocalist | b. Abingdon |
|-----------------|---------|--------|----|-------------------------|-------------|

Living in Reading at 7 Penelope Terrace, Caversham Road. He has a visitor on census night, his cousin Harry V. Hellis, 20, born Bow, London who is a Pianist and Dancing Master.

### **Fifth Generation: George Powell (21 January 1822 – 12 February 1852)**

Son of John ④ and Hannah Hussey Powell

George Powell was born in 1822 in Clerkenwell, London. He was the third son and one of the five children of Hannah and John Powell who grew to adulthood.

Thomas of the Letters mentions that this George wrote his mother that he had been ‘listening to a sermon by Mr. Peacock.’ Mr. Peacock was the minister of the Tabernacle at Spencer Place in London where George’s older brother, John, also worshiped.

There are many George Powells and the 1841 census is not well indexed. Our George may appear in the 1841 census as a Journeyman draper in the household of Samuel Moore, Draper in Stepney (Middlesex, Stepney, Mile End Old Town Lower District, District 10, page 11.

George definitely appears in the 1851 census for Pangbourne (Dist. 6, page 18) as an unmarried 29 year old lodger in the house of George Parsons, shoemaker. He was born in Clerkenwell and is described as a proprietor of houses. Note below that the people he lodged with apparently witnessed his will.

George died on 13 February 1852 and is buried beside his father, John Powell, who died two years before. His tomb is exactly like the coped monument erected to his father (which also records his mother’s death and burial in Reading in 1840).

George drew his will on 24 January 1852 in which he is described as George Powell of Pangbourne. In it he left:

- (1) His 1/3 interest in the property called the Sotwell Estate - left to him and is brothers Thomas and Richard Ebenezer in third shares by his Uncle Thomas Powell of Bensington – to his brother Richard Ebenezer Powell.
- (2) To his brother Thomas Powell, he left “all of that dwelling house with all of the outhouses, gardens & appurtenances & assigns belonging thereunto situate in Pangbourne and now in the occupation of Edward Sherwood, Esq. & which were lately purchased by me of and from the Executors of my late Father John Powell deceased.”
- (3) Anything else he might own at his death, he left equally to his three brothers, John, Thomas and Richard Ebenezer Powell and to his sister, Mrs. Jane Webb.

George’s brothers – Thomas and Richard Ebenezer Powell - were to be executors.

The will was witnessed by George Parsons and Sarah Parsons. Sarah Parsons, wife of George Parsons, Shoemaker of Pangbourne appeared in court to swear to the will after George’s death.

**Fifth Generation: Richard Ebenezer Powell (19 December 1828– 29 September 1903)**

Son of John ④ and Hannah Hussey Powell

Richard Ebenezer was born in Clerkenwell, London.

In the 1841 census, Richard appears as a 12 year old in his father's household in Pangbourne.

In the 1851 census for Pangbourne, Richard appears living in the household of his step-mother, Maria Hope Powell. In the same census, Anna Allnutt Woolley his future wife appears in the household of her parents (Pangbourne, Dist. 6, page 20): as follows:

|                     |      |         |    |                                    |                  |
|---------------------|------|---------|----|------------------------------------|------------------|
| William Woolley     | Head | Married | 59 | Independent Minister/School Master | b. Staffordshire |
| Mary Alnutt Woolley | Wife | "       | 48 |                                    | b. Oxon          |
| Anna Alnutt Woolley | Dau  | Un      | 21 | Private Governess                  | b. Pangbourne    |
| Mary Woolley        | Dau  | Un      | 15 |                                    | b. Pangbourne    |
| William L. Woolley  | Son  | Un      | 9  |                                    | b. Chalgrove     |

There are two boarders, one of whom is a scholar, one an assistant and one female servant.

Richard was married to Anna Allnutt Woolley on 20 May 1851 (June Quarter of 1851 in the Reading District, Vol. VI, page 351).

Richard drew his will on 20 December 1851. He was living in Benson and described himself as a farmer. From Richard's will we have further evidence that Anna was the daughter of the Rev. William Woolley of Pangbourne who was a trustee under the will of Richard Ebenezer's father, John of Pangbourne. The Rev. Woolley is described as a dissenting minister in John Powell's will.

In Kelly's Director for 1854, Mr. Ebenezer Powell is listed under the Gentry while Powell, Richard is listed as a farmer. (I think the second listing is for Richard of Hale Farm who lived and died in Benson.)

In the 1861 census, the family is living at Chalmore Gardens in St. Leonard Parish, Wallingford and appears as follows:

|                  |        |                |      |                               |
|------------------|--------|----------------|------|-------------------------------|
| Richard E Powell | 32     | b. Clerkenwell | Head | Farmer 75 acres 2 men & 1 boy |
| Anna A Powell    | 31     | b. Pangbourne  | Wife |                               |
| Richard E.       | 7      | b. Benson      | Son  | Scholar                       |
| John W.          | 5      | b. Wallingford | Son  | Scholar                       |
| George           | 3      | b. Wallingford | Son  | Scholar                       |
| Anna             | 2      | b. Wallingford | Dau  |                               |
| Mary             | 6 mos. | B. Wallingford | Dau  |                               |

There is a female general servant, a nursemaid and a male general servant.

Mary Powell does not appear to have survived. Her birth is recorded in the December Quarter, Wallingford District of 1860. There is a death certificate for Mary Powell in the Wallingford District in 1864 (December Quarter Volume 2c, page 201) and it is probably this little girl since she does not appear in later census records. This is confirmed by Cousin Bruce's material which lists Mary as born 8 October 1860 and died 23 October 1864.

In the 1871 census Richard Ebenezer is living at Sotwell Farm in Sotwell, Berkshire with his wife and children and two female servants:

|                   |    |                        |      |                  |
|-------------------|----|------------------------|------|------------------|
| Richard E. Powell | 42 | b. London, Clerkenwell | Head | Landowner/Farmer |
| Anna A. Powell    | 41 | b. Pangbourne, Berks.  | Wife |                  |
| Jane Powell       | 7  | b. Sotwell, Berks.     | Dau. | Scholar          |
| Ernest Powell     | 5  | b. Sotwell, Berks.     | Son  | Scholar          |
| Ada Powell        | 3  | b. Sotwell, Berks.     | Dau. |                  |
| Eva Powell        | 1  | b. Sotwell, Berks.     | Dau. |                  |

The record indicates that he was farming 200 acres and had 10 men and 5 boys working for him. This is property that was left to him and his brothers, Thomas and George, by their Uncle Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window) in 1851. They each received a third interest. When George died in 1852, he left his third interest to Richard Ebenezer making him a 2/3's owner of the property.

In Harrod & Co.'s Director for 1876 R. E. Powell Esq. is named as one of the three chief land owners of Sotwell.

In the 1881 census, the family is listed at Well Springs Sotwell Farm in Sotwell as follows:

|                         |      |    |                |  |
|-------------------------|------|----|----------------|--|
| Richard Ebenezer Powell | Head | 52 | b. Middlesex   | Farmer of 208 acres, 9 men,<br>3 boys, 1 woman working for him |
| Anne Allnut Powell      | Wife | 51 | b. Pangbourne  |  |
| Anna Powell             | Dau  | 22 | b. Winterbrook |  |
| Ada                     | Dau  | 13 | b. Sotwell     |  |
| Eva                     | Dau  | 11 | b. Sotwell     |  |
| Rosa                    | Dau  | 9  | b. Sotwell     |  |
| Ina                     | Dau  | 6  | b. Sotwell     |  |

The family has one 21 year old female servant.

In Kelly's Director of Berkshire of 1887, Richard E. Powell is listed under Private Residents at *Brook Lodge*, Reading Road, Wallingford.

In the 1891 the family is living in St. Leonard's Parish, Wallingford on Reading Road:

|                  |    |                        |      |                     |
|------------------|----|------------------------|------|---------------------|
| Richard E. Powel | 62 | b. London, Clerkenwell | Head | Living on Own Means |
| Anna A. Powell   | 61 | b. Pangbourne, Berks   | Wife |                     |
| Eva Powell       | 21 | b. Sotwell, Berks.     | Dau  | No occupation       |

There is also one female servant.

In the 1901 Census this family is living at the same location and the house now has a number, 24 Reading Road, St. Leonard's Parish, Wallingford, Berkshire (this is in the Winterbrook area:

|                   |    |                        |      |                     |
|-------------------|----|------------------------|------|---------------------|
| Richard E. Powell | 72 | b. London, Clerkenwell | Head | Living on Own Means |
| Anna A. Powell    | 71 | b. Pangbourne, Berks.  | Wife | Living on Own Means |
| Jane Powell       | 37 | b. Sotwell, Berks.     |      |                     |
| Ada Powell        | 33 | b. Sotwell, Berks.     |      |                     |
| Ina Powell        | 26 | b. Sotwell, Berks.     |      |                     |

Richard Ebenezer Powell died on 29 September 1903 in Wallingford. His will with five codicils was recorded on 4 November 1903 with his eldest son, Richard Ebenezer Powell of 23 Tennyson Road, Penge, Surrey, builder, the son, and Charles Augustus Powell of 23 St. Swithins Lane in the City of London, solicitor, the nephew, the surviving executors named in the fourth codicil given administration. John Powell, Richard's brother, was the third executor but he had died in 1892. Richard Ebenezer's estate was valued at £19,069-19-1. His personal estate, including household furnishings etc. were left to his wife and the rest of his holdings were to be administered in trust for his wife during her widowhood and then for his children in equal shares.

Anna A. Powell apparently lived to a ripe old age because a Mrs. Powell is listed in the Post Office Directory for 1915 at Brook Lodge, Reading Road, Wallingford. Her death record can be found in the December quarter of 1916, Wallingford District (Vol. 2c, page 475). She was 87 years old.

### Sixth Generation:

**Richard Powell.** Richard Powell, the eldest son of Richard Ebenezer and Anna Powell, was born 28 April 1853 at Benson, Oxfordshire. This is the 'Cousin Richard or Cousin Dick' that Uncle Thomas of the letters writes about and whom he visited in the late 1920's when Richard was living in Tennyson Road in Penge (apparently Penge is part of the large district of Beckenham for census purposes because Richard remained at the same address – 23 Tennyson Road – from at least the 1891 census until the late 1920's when Thomas Henry was visiting him after the death of his wife).

In the 1871 census, this Richard Ebenezer Powell is 17 (born Benson, Oxon) and living as a Boarder in Lewisham, London, Surry, in the home of John King, an ironmonger. Richard is listed as the ironmonger's assistant.

In the 1881 census, Richard Ebenezer Powell is living at 25A North End, Croyden. His household includes two of his brothers:

|                   |      |    |              |                        |
|-------------------|------|----|--------------|------------------------|
| Richard E. Powell | Head | 28 | Ironmonger   | b. Benson, Oxon        |
| Ann L. Powell     | Wife | 28 |              | b. Lewisham            |
| Ann L. M. Powell  | Dau  | 5  |              | b. New Cross, Surrey   |
| Eleanor Powell    | Dau  | 3  |              | b. New Cross, Surrey   |
| Richard E. Powell | Son  | 2  |              | b. New Cross, Surrey   |
| Ernest Powell     | Bro  | 15 | Shop Assist. | b. Sotwell, Berks.     |
| George Powell     | Bro  | 23 | Dentist      | b. Winterbrook, Berks. |

In the 1891, Richard E. Powell, born Benson, is 38 and listed as a Gas Fitter. He is living at 23 Tennyson Road, Beckenham, Kent, with his wife, Ann, 38, born Lewisham, Surrey. They have the following children:

|                |    |                    |             |
|----------------|----|--------------------|-------------|
| Mabel Powell   | 18 | Draper's Assistant | b. Lewisham |
| Eleanor Powell | 13 |                    | b. Lewisham |
| Richard Powell | 11 |                    | b. Lewisham |
| Anna Powell    | 8  |                    | b. Lewisham |

|                |   |              |
|----------------|---|--------------|
| John Powell    | 6 | b. Beckenham |
| Robert Powell  | 4 | b. Beckenham |
| Dorothy Powell | 2 | b. Beckenham |

In the 1901 census the family is still at 23 Tennyson Road (Holy Trinity Parish) Beckenham, Kent and listed as follows (Richard is incorrectly recorded as 44 years old and his wife's name is recorded as Ama):

|                   |    |      |                            |                 |
|-------------------|----|------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Richard Powell    | 48 | Head | Gas Fitter (self employed) | b. Benson, Oxon |
| Anna L. Powell    | 48 | Wife |                            | b. Lewisham     |
| Richard E. Powell | 21 | Son  | Hot Water Fitter           | b. Lewisham     |
| Annie E. Powell   | 18 | Dau  | Stationers Assistant       | b. Lewisham     |
| John W. Powell    | 16 | Son  | Clerk Commercial           | b. Penge        |
| Dorothy Powell    | 12 | Dau  |                            | b. Penge        |

On May 17, 1928, Thomas Henry Powell (Uncle Thomas of the letters) went to visit "Cousin Richard" at 23 Tennyson Road whose wife has died of cancer and who is suffering from varicose veins and phlebitis. He is still living at the same house as he was in 1891 and 1901. Uncle Thomas reports "His two sons are married and both have two daughters, his own daughter looks after him but is in employment all day & from the condition of the room must be very inefficient." "He is living in a small private house. The place is very untidy and looked almost poverty stricken."

Uncle Thomas continued saying that "Cousin Jane has sent me details of their family. Strangely enough all her brothers have had daughters, the one son born to one of them being killed in the war. So that unless John, Uncle Thomas' son, has a son, Thomas Trevor is the sole living male member of the youngest generation." Thomas Trevor was Uncle Thomas' grandson.

**John W. Powell.** John William Powell was born 14 March 1856 and appears with his family in the 1861 census and with his brother George Powell and their cousin, Edwin Powell, as a scholar in the household of Ezekiel Meadows, School Master, in St. Mary the More, Wallingford, in the 1871 census. He is 15 years old and is listed as born in Wallingford.

In the 1881 census, John W. Powell is found as a boarder in the home of William Weston in Margate, St. John, Kent, at 17 Westbury Road. He is 25 years old, born in Wallingford, and listed as a Joine (?) and Naturalist.

John W. Powell of the proper age and birth place does not appear in the 1891 or 1901 census and it Cousin Bruce supplies the information that he died 24 April 1882.

**George Powell.** George was born on 8 August 1857 at Winterbrook. He is listed as a scholar in the household of a school master in Wallingford in 1871 with John W. Powell and his cousin, Edwin, and appears in the home of older brother, Richard Ebenezer in 1881 as a dentist. In 1891 and 1901 census he has moved farther afield:

In 1891 in Blackburn, St. Luke, Lancashire, at 25 Stansfeld Street we have:

|               |      |        |    |         |                        |
|---------------|------|--------|----|---------|------------------------|
| George Powell | Head | Single | 33 | Dentist | b. Wallingford, Berks. |
|---------------|------|--------|----|---------|------------------------|

In 1901 in Nottingham, St. Ann, at 134 St. Ann's Well we have:

|                  |      |         |    |         |                        |
|------------------|------|---------|----|---------|------------------------|
| George Powell    | Head | Married | 43 | Dentist | b. Wallingford, Berks. |
| Mary A. Powell   | Wife | Married | 30 |         | b. Blackburn           |
| Mary Jane Powell | Dau  | Single  | 6  |         | b. Blackburn           |

George Powell married Mary Ann Bamber in 1893, September Quarter in Blackburn (Vol. 8e, page 753).

**Anna Powell.** Anna was born 1 April 1859 at Winterbrook (June Births for Berkshire/Oxfordshire, Vol. 2c, page 308). She appears in the 1861 census as a 2 year old with her family at Chalmore Gardens, St. Leonard Parish, Wallingford. In the 1871 census she is at school in Wallingford as a 12 year old. The school is run by Sarah A. Lascom assisted by her niece Sarah A. Keen and two other teachers, Ruth Brown and Fanny Fanner. She appears in the 1881 census with the family in Sotwell.

Anna married William C. Dodd who appears to have been a widower with several children. The family appears in the 1891 census as follows:

Little Stoke Farm, Checkendon (Henley on Thames rural sanitary district), Oxfordshire

|                 |      |       |        |                        |
|-----------------|------|-------|--------|------------------------|
| William C. Dodd | Head | 59    | Farmer | b. Checkendon          |
| Ann Dodd        | Wife | 32    |        | b. Winterbrook, Berks. |
| Mary J. Dodd    | Dau  | 17    |        | b. Little Stoke        |
| Naomi Dodd      | Dau  | 7 mo. |        | B. Little Stoke        |

There are also three female servants.

In the 1901 census the family is still in Checkendon but a number of Mr. Dodd's older children are at home and there is a new son:

|                 |      |          |  |
|-----------------|------|----------|--|
| William C. Dodd | Head | 69       |  |
| Anna Dodd       | Wife | 49 (sic) |  |
| Mary J. Dodd    | Dau  | 27       |  |
| William D. Dodd | Son  | 24       |  |
| Herbert E. Dodd | Son  | 23       |  |
| Naomi Dodd      | Dau  | 10       |  |
| Charles F. Dodd | Son  | 3        |  |

There are two female servants and a male visitor, Cecil Potts, 23, born in Flintshire, Wales.

Anna clearly had two children by Mr. Dodd, a daughter Naomi and a son Charles F. Dodd.

From Cousin Bruce's charts, it appears that Anna may have been left a widow and married for a second time to Ralph Bitmead of Cholsey.

**Frank Powell.** Frank was born on 5 April 1862 (June Quarter of 1862). He appears in the 1871 census at a boarding school in Wallingford for young boys and girls along with his sister, Anna. He is eight years old, born in Wallingford, Berkshire. He cannot presently be located in any additional census.

Cousin Bruce's charts indicate that Frank immigrated to Vancouver and died in October of 1928. A Frank Powell died in Vancouver, British Columbia on October 25, 1928 at the age of 66 (Reg. No. 1928-09-400736, BC Archives Microfilm No. B13133, GSU Microfilm No. 1952312). This would match our Frank perfectly.

**Jane Powell.** Jane was born on 2 March 1864 at Sotwell Farm. Jane was a source of family information to Thomas Henry according to his letters in the late 1920's. Apparently, she did not marry. She appears as a 7 year old in her parents' home in the 1871 census. In the 1881 census, she is a 17 year old boarding teacher in the household of Elizabeth Joy, School Mistress, at Elms Alexandra House in Ramsgate, Kent. In the 1891 census, she is listed as only 25 years old but is the English governess in a school run by Mary A. Watson, School Mistress, at Sea View House, Canterbury Road, Herne Bay, Kent. By the 1901 census, Jane is once again at home as an unmarried 37 year old with her parents in the Winterbrook section of Wallingford.

**Ernest Powell.** Ernest Powell was born on 20 October 1865 at Sotwell Farm. He appears in the 1871 census as a five year old, born Sotwell, Berkshire in the home of his parents. In 1881, he is 15 years old and living with his oldest brother, Richard, in Croyden and working as a shop assistant. Also in the household are Richard's wife and two young children and his older brother George, a 23 year old dentist. Ernest does not appear in any subsequent census. Whether he immigrated or died is unclear. Cousin Bruce's papers indicate that he married and had two children: Frank Allnutt Powell (1 March 1898 – 191- killed in the Great War) and Kathleen (16 October 1899).

**Ada Powell.** Ada was born on 25 November 1867. Ada appears as a 3 year old in the 1871 census and in the 1881 census as a 13 year old in her parents' home. In the 1891 census, Ada Powell, aged 23, born Sotwell, is a Governess of Music in a school run by Jane Kemp at 5 Woodville Terrace in Gravesend, Kent. In 1901, Ada is once again in her parents' home as a single 33 year old. She remained single and lived at Ilfracombe with her sister Ina. They were alive in the 1930's and Steward John Powell visited them with his daughter Audrey who remembers these two ladies.

**Eva Powell.** Eva was born on 18 December 1869 at Sotwell Farm. Eva appears as a 1 year old in the 1871 census, born at Sotwell. She remained in her parents' home in the 1881 census as an 11 year old and in the 1891 census as a 21 year old. Eva married Emerson Gerrish in the March Quarter of 1897 (Vol. 2c, page 495, Wallingford District, Berks./Oxon). In the 1901 census, she appears with her husband living on Long Street in Wigston Magna, Leicestershire. She has adjusted her age to match her husband's age (she was actually 31):

|                 |          |      |                         |                |
|-----------------|----------|------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Emerson Gerrish | 28       | Head | Chemist/Manager at home | b. Bristol     |
| Eva Gerrish     | 28 (sic) | Wife |                         | b. Wallingford |

Emerson Gerrish appears in the 1891 census in the home of his parents:

|                   |      |    |                      |                            |
|-------------------|------|----|----------------------|----------------------------|
| Emerson Gerrish   | Head | 56 | Leather Merchant     | b. Bilton, Gloucestershire |
| Katherine Gerrish | Wife | 46 |                      | b. Farringdon, Berkshire   |
| Emerson Gerrish   | Son  | 18 | Chemist's Apprentice | b. Bristol                 |

**Rosa Powell.** Rosa was born on 9 November 1871 at Sotwell Farm. She appears in the 1881 census as a 9 year old in her parents' home. I have not been able to locate her in any later census but there is a death record that fits her perfectly. A Rosa Powell died in the March Quarter of 1886 at Reigate in Surrey (Vol. 2a, page 132) at the age of 14. Since Rosa was born in the December Quarter of 1871, she would have been only 14 in the March Quarter of 1886. Cousin Bruce's charts confirms that Rosa did die on 4 March 1886.

**Ina Powell.** . Ina was born 9 August 1874. She appears in her parents' home in the 1881 census as a 6 year old. In the 1891 census, Ina Powell, 16 years old, born in Wallingford, is a Boarder/Scholar in Stratford College in Stroud, Gloucestershire. She is back at home in her parents' household in the 1901 census as a single 26 year old. She lived with her sister, Ada, in Ilfracombe in old age.

**The complete list of children:** Richard Ebenezer is said by Cousin Bruce Humfrey on his chart to have had 12 children. With the 1861 census now available, we can construct the family to look like this:

|                  |                                     |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Richard Ebenezer | b. 28 April 1853                    |
| John William     | b. 14 March 1856 – 24 April 1882    |
| George           | b. 8 August 1857                    |
| Anna             | b. 1 April 1859                     |
| Mary             | b. 8 October 1860 – 22 October 1864 |
| Frank            | b. 5 April 1862 – October 1928      |
| Jane             | b. 2 March 1864                     |
| Ernest (Ben)     | b. 20 October 1865                  |
| Ada              | b. 25 November 1867                 |
| Eva              | b. 18 December 1869                 |
| Rosa             | b. 9 September 1871 – 4 March 1886  |
| Ina              | b. 9 August 1874                    |

We now also have access to Richard Ebenezer's will and settlement statements. Although the will does not list any children, the settlement statements name four sons who had been loaned money: Richard, George, Frank, and Ernest Powell. Either John William did not survive or he did not borrow money from his father.

### Third Generation: Thomas Powell (1756-1823)

Son of Thomas ② and Mary Bennet Powell

Father of *Thomas of the Window* and *John of Pangbourne*

Thomas is listed as a Wheelwright on his son John's wedding certificate in 1843 (his second marriage - to Maria Hope). He seems to be listed as a Pauper in 1794. He had a will according to Thomas of the Letters which left control of the 'business' to his daughter, Plessey. Thomas also reports that his estate was worth less than £450.

### Thomas Powell ③

Born 1756 at Benson, Son of Thomas Powell & Mary Bennet  
Died 1823 20 October at Benson aged 67 (Headstone read 5/2000)  
Married 1774 20 November at Benson, witness William Willis

### Mary Stockwell

Born c. 1753  
Died 1820 30 November at Benson (Headstone read 5/2000)

### Children:

1. Elizabeth ④ b. 15 August 1775 Christened 19 August  
d. 25 August 1775
2. *Thomas* ④ b. 5 September 1776 Christened 31 September "*Thomas of the Window*"  
m. Fanny Coles of Benson in London in 1805  
d. 23 November 1851
3. Peter ④ b. 12 January 1779 Christened 10 February  
d. 20 April 1812 (Headstone read 5/2000)
4. **John** ④ b. 17 March 1781 Christened 16 April "*John of Pangbourne*"  
m. Hannah Hussey in Reading and Maria Hope in London  
d. 15 August 1850 at Pangbourne where he is also buried
5. Ann ④ b. 8 June 1783 Christened 29 June  
m. Mr. Davis of London  
Had four daughters (Julia, Maria, Emily, Amelia)  
d. 14 April 1839 at Benson
6. Plessey ④ b. 22 January 1785 Christened 12 February  
m. James Hoare, widower in 1820 apparently at Nettlebed, Oxon.  
James d. 10 February 1860 (Headstone read 5/2000) In the 1861 census  
for Benson, Plessey Hoar, 76 year old widow is living on the High Street  
and is listed as a Fund Holder, born Benson.  
d. 3 December 1864, aged 80 (Headstone read 5/2000)
7. Richard ④ b. 30 April 1787 Christened June 7 "*Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell*"  
m. Jane Garvey at St. Bride's London in 1811  
d. 28 August 1839
8. William ④ b. 19 January 1790 Christened February 10  
m. Jane and had: William, Peter, George, Ann, Eliza.  
d. 1856 in London
9. James ④ b. 17 January 1792 Christened March 18

- d. 29 January 1816 (Headstone read 5/2000)
10. Jane ④ b. 24 June 1794 Christened July 20  
 m. Thomas Ball 29 May 1817, Bachelor of St. James, Clerkenwell  
 Had one son, Thomas, a 'scamp.'  
 d. 3 May 1821
11. Mary ④ b. 12 June 1797 Christened July 9  
 m. (1) Mr. Stevens of Littleworth  
 (2) N. C. Corsellis of Wivenhoe  
 d. 16 May 1862 and buried at Benson
12. George ④ b. 18 November 1799 Christened December 25  
 d. 21 February 1822 aged 21 (Headstone read 5/2000)

**From a Scrapbook of Mrs. Marjorie Heal and Mrs. Catherine James, members of the Benson W.I. who entered it in the county competition, 1955.**

**When coaches became a popular means of transport, Benson regained some of its lost importance and grew increasingly prosperous, as it was an established place for changing horses and all the contingent trades connected with coach travel flourished in the village. Between 1780 and 1840 the village was at the height of its prosperity. Eight inns, of which the largest were the Red Lion, the Castle, the Crown and the White Hart, all on the London Road, provided lodging for the night and there was stabling for more than 200 horses. Benson ceased to be merely an agricultural village and there was employment for saddlers, coachbuilders, ostlers and shoe-smiths. The Bensington Driving Club, founded in 1807 was one of the fashionable coaching clubs of the period. On June 1<sup>st</sup> 1840 the first train came to Wallingford Station. Travel by rail rapidly became popular so that coach travel died down and the main roads were not much used until the arrival of motor traffic.**

**Fourth Generation: Thomas Powell (15 August 1776 – 23 November 1851)**

***Thomas of the Window***

**Thomas married Fanny Coles, only daughter of Thomas Coles, Coachmaker of Benson, in 1805 at the church of St. George in the Borough, Southwark, London (Pallot's Marriage Index for England 1780-1837).**

Thomas Powell's marriage to Fanny Coles was pivotal in the family history. Fanny's father was Thomas Coles, a carriage maker of Benson, and apparently Thomas Powell learned the trade from him. By 1808 Thomas and Fanny Coles Powell were living in London.

Thomas Coles died 24 January 1809 at Benson at the age of 63. His will describes him as "*Thomas Coles the elder of Bensington in the new county of Oxford, Coachmaker.*" The will names 5 sons (Thomas, John Samos, Richard, William, and Stephen) and daughter Fanny, the wife of Thomas Powell. Property in Chalgrove and property in Bensington is left to his eldest son, the Bensington property being recently acquired from the trustees of Philip Padbury (Perhaps begins with a G?), a bankrupt. Other property is to be sold to provide an annuity for his wife, Frances, during her lifetime and she is to have the use of all his household goods and furnishings. These are, after her death, to be divided among the children equally. Each of the children is to receive £500 and the sons to be offered the right to buy certain property for £800, the eldest having first opportunity and then down the birth order. The executors were his wife, Frances Coles, and his sister, Martha Costar, widow of Bensington. The will was signed on 3 January 1808. He made a codicil on 22 November 1808 in which he left two small bequests to a relation named Jacob, daughter of William and Ann Jacob, and his oldest brother and specifically willed certain objects to his daughter Fanny Powell OF LONDON after his wife's death: "my silver teapot and stand and my silver soup ladle and 2 sauce ladles to be delivered to the said Fanny Powell after the decease of my wife Frances Coles. The will was proved on 25 Feb. 1809.

Fanny and Thomas' only child, Thomas, died at the age of 4 on 11 August 1810.

By 1826 Thomas Powell was a partner in the carriage making firm of Messrs. Wright & Co. of 39 Ray Street, Clerkenwell, London along with his brother, John Powell, and Mr. Joseph Wright and Mr. Meeks (probably Thomas Meakes who witnessed the will of Thomas Coles in Benson.)

Frances, widow of Thomas Coles, lived until 1826 when she died in Benson at the age of 83. Fanny Coles Powell, her daughter and wife of Thomas Powell, died the next year on 14 December 1827 at the age of 57.

Just when Thomas returned to live in Benson is unclear but Pigot's 1830 Oxfordshire Directory, page 638, lists Thos. Powell, Esq. under Gentry and Clergy in Benson.

Thomas Powell, Esq. is, according to the Benson history (*Benson: A Village through its History edited by Kate Tiller, The Bensington Society, 1999*), listed at Kingsford House on the High Street in Benson in the 1841 census. The census record for that year shows:

|                 |    |             |                |
|-----------------|----|-------------|----------------|
| Thomas Powell   | 60 | Independent | b. Oxfordshire |
| Mary Stevens    | 40 | Independent | b. "           |
| Pleasant Jacobs | 60 | Independent | b. "           |

|             |    |                |      |
|-------------|----|----------------|------|
| Sarah Spyer | 20 | Female Servant | b. “ |
| Rose Arthur | 20 | Female Servant | b. “ |

(This is clearly a record where the directions for the 1841 census, to round ages, was followed. This census also does not give relationships to the head of household as later census records do.)

Thomas Powell appears in the 1851 census of Benson (Dist. 10b, page 3) where he is listed as a 76 year old widower and retired coach maker, born Benson. In his household are his widowed sister, Mary Stevens, aged 52, born Benson and a ‘visitor’, Pleasant Jacob, unmarried, aged 70, born Ewelme.

Pleasant Jacob was also in Thomas Powell’s household for the 1841 census and she appeared to be a more or less permanent part of the household for many years. And, since Thomas left her an annuity of £30 a year and a legacy of £400 in his will, we were curious about the connection. Pleasant died on 6 September 1857 (September Quarter of 1857, Wallingford, Berkshire/Oxfordshire, Volume 2c, page 209) and is buried in St. Helen’s churchyard. Her headstone states she was the daughter of William and Ann Jacob who are also buried there as is her brother William. The inscription that sheds light on the connection to Thomas Powell is also there, that of Ann Coles, wife of William Coles and daughter of William and Ann Jacob. This shows that Pleasant’s sister, Ann, married Fanny Coles Powell’s brother, William, making Pleasant and Thomas connected through the Coles family. This does not really explain their relationship, of course, but it supplies a basic connection. What they truly meant to each other, we cannot know.

In this same census of 1851, Thomas’ sister, Plessey Powell Hoar is also living in Benson (Dist. 10a, page 7). She is 66, born in Benson and living with her husband, James Hoar, retired wheelwright, 71 years old, born Nettlebed. They have one female servant. Thomas’ brother William Powell, aged 61, born Wallingford, is living at 18 Waterloo Street, Dulwich (Dist. 9, page 44). He is listed as a coachman. His wife, Jane, 64, was born Middlesex.

Thomas, Mary, Plessey and William were the only four siblings still living in 1851. John had died in Pangbourne the year before. Thomas Powell, widower of Fannie, died in 1851. His will was signed on 14 October 1850. He is listed as Thomas Powell Esquire of Benson in the county of Oxford. The will is complicated and disposes of considerable property in Benson and surrounding areas. It is clear that Thomas is making provisions for his extended family, particularly his widowed sister Mary Powell Stevens and the children of his deceased brother Richard, the Tiresmith of Clerkenwell. He leaves:

The dwelling house where I now reside in Bensington plus 2 tenements in the High Street in the occupation of Mr. George Eyre and Mr. John Shrubb and the cottage adjoining in the occupation of Thomas Sutthings (?) Broad plus 3 cottages in Mill Lane in the occupation of Mrs. Stroud, William Goody, and Miss Sophia Strainge which I purchased of Mr. Richard Costar and of the trustees under the will of John Polson to my sister, Mary Stevens for the term of her natural life and after her decease to my nephew, John Powell, son of my deceased brother John, forever.

A cottage with gardens etc. in Littleworth in the occupation of George Binch which I purchased of James Polden to my sister, Mary Stevens & her heirs forever.

3 tenements (heretofore one holding called The Castle Inn) with the gardens, yards, stables and other outbuildings and appurtenances belonging thereto situate in Bensington and now in the several occupations of Mr. James Hoar, William Woodbridge and James Atkins and all other the hereditaments and premises if any which I purchased of the Trustees for sale under the will of John Francis Spoulove Esquire deceased unto my sister Plessey Hoar, the wife of James Hoar, for the term of her natural life and after her decease to my sister Mary Stevens.

Tenement in Bensington now in the occupation of John Bailey which I purchased of Mr. Henry Heyward and also my 4 cottages with barn, stable, garden orchards, etc. and all other tenements & premises situate in Bensington lately in the occupation of John Alder, John Cook, John Boshier and William Garding and all the other premises which I purchased of Robert Turner and Elizabeth Turner unto my sister Plessey Hoar forever.

My tenement & farm with cottage buildings etc. situate in the several parishes of Bensington, Berrick, Roke & Ewelme or such of them elsewhere in the county of Oxford which I purchased of the Rev. Joseph Sumner Brockhurst unto my nephew Richard Powell, son of my deceased brother Richard, forever.

All my tenements, land etc. in Berrick Salome, Ewelme, Roke, and Bensington or elsewhere which I purchased of William Avery West and Joseph Heath or one of them and also all my lands and cottages, etc. in Bensington, Berrick Salome, Roke, Ewelme, Berrick Prior and Newington which I purchased of Mrs. Phillis Greenwood & also land & etc. situate in Bensington, Berrick, Roke, & Ewelme which I purchased of Thomas Coles, together with the appurtenances to my nephew Thomas Powell, son of my deceased brother Richard, forever.

All my arable & all the arable meadow and pasture lands situate in Bensington, Ewelme which I purchased of Thomas Strainge and also the 2 acres by estimation of arable near Littleworth which I purchased of William Wells & also the 4 acres by estimation of arable land situate in the common field of Bensington, Berrick, & Ewelme which I purchased of William Molynoux & also barn stable & other buildings, yard, and appurtenances situate at Roke and the 8 acres situate in the common fields of Roke, Berrick, Bensington, and Ewelme which I purchased of Richard Townsend and also all those 2 tenements with outbuildings, yards, gardens, orchards, etc. PART WHEREOF WAS HERETOFORE USED AS A COACH MANUFACTORY situate in Bensington and now or lately in the occupations of Silvester Green and (blank)\_\_\_\_ Prior and also the arable land in the common fields of Bensington & Ewelme purchased at different times of Mrs. Kitty Burford and also the acre and a half by estimation of arable land at Roke aforesaid which I purchased of the Trustees for sale under the will of Joseph Cox and also all my holdings situate and being in the parish of Chalgrove in the County of Oxford and which I purchased of Thomas Coles, Mary Paine Widow and the Commissioners under the Chalgrove Enclosure Act or others together with all the rights, etc. to John George Powell, son of my late brother Richard forever.

All my leasehold estate commonly called Sotwell Farm in the parish of Sotwell, County of Berks. And the pasture ground of said farm in the parish of Brightwell, Berks. And also 5 freehold cottages in the parish of Sotwell lately purchased of Mr. John Lovegrove to my three nephews Richard, Thomas, and George Powell, sons of my deceased brother John.

All and singular my holdings, mill, farmlands, habitations and premises with their appurtenances commonly know as the Queenford Mill Estate which I purchased of the trustees under the will of Mr. John Faulkner deceased situate in the parish of Dorchester in the county of Oxford and now in the occupation of James Shrubbs unto my nephew John Powell, son of my deceased brother John, forever but nevertheless subject to and I do hereby charge the same with the payment of an annual sum or yearly rent of £30 sterling which I hereby bequeath to Pleasant Jacob of Bensington aforesaid, Spinster, during her life to be paid in equal half year payments clear of all conditions and legacy duty and property tax to begin within 6 calendar months after my death. (Thomas also gave Pleasant Jacob the right take from the property – its unclear how - directly if the annuity was more than 21 days late.) (It is interesting to note that in the 1861 census Queenford Mill is still in the occupation of James Shrubbs who is a 60 year old born in Benson who farms 340 acres and employs 25 men and 7 boys. He and his wife, son and two daughters have two servants, one of whom is a miller.)

Farm with lands in several parishes of Bensington, Roke and Ewelme which I purchased of William Read Greenward to my sister Mary Stevens for her life and after to my nephew George Powell, son of my brother Richard.

Dwelling in Bensington with offices, yards, gardens and appurtenances heretofore occupied by my deceased brother Richard Powell & now of Mr. Henry Joseph Corsellis and also the piece of arable land and hereditaments in Bensington purchased of Thomas Westall to my niece Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, wife of the above, forever.

My stock, provisions, wines and other liquors with the bottles and casks containing same and fuel which may be in or about my dwelling house at the time of my decease to my sister Mary Stevens absolutely and the use and enjoyment of all household goods to her during her life and after her decease to my nephew John Powell, son of my late brother John absolutely.

Legacies to:

Mary Stevens £6,000

Plessy Hoar £6,000

Mary Corsellis & Mrs. Plessy Wiggins (daughters of Richard Powell) each  
£3,000

To each of the children of William Powell who shall be living £2,000

Thomas Ball, nephew, son of my sister Jane £2,000

To each of the children of my sister Ann Powell Davis £2,000

Mrs. Jane Webb, daughter of my deceased brother John Powell £3,000

Pleasant Jacob £400

Brother-in-law Richard Coles £200

To each of his three trustees for their trouble £100.

,I devise all the real estate which at the time of my decease shall be vested in me as morgagee in fee or trustee unto and to the use of friends Robert Aldworth Newton of Fifield, Gentleman and James Burgis the Younger, Maltster of Bensington and my said nephew John Powell, son of my late brother John' to see that all value was to go to his personal estate. (These three men were appointed executors of the will and trustees under it.)

Of the balance of his estate including the residue of my monies, securities for money in the public funds and other personal estate and effects whatsoever, 1/5 part was to go to:

Plessy Hoar  
Mary Stevens  
The children of my late brother John Powell  
The children of my late sister Ann Powell Davis  
The children of my late brother Richard Powell

The will was signed on the 14 October 1850 and witnessed by Chas. Hedges, Solicitor of Wallingford and Thomas Hutchings, Broad, Bensington. It was proved at London on 7 Feb. 1852 before the judge by the oaths of Robert Aldworth Newton, James Burgis, formerly the Younger) and John Powell the nephew of the deceased, the executors to whom administration was granted having been first sworn by Counsel duly to administer.

Thomas Powell was clearly a very rich man, holding considerable property, much of it purchased recently and identified in the will as "lately of" an earlier owner. Cousin Bruce states that he left an estate valued at of £90,000. Note that his dwelling house in Benson was to pass, after the death of his sister Mary Powell Stevens, to his nephew John Powell.

Thomas Powell made very generous provision for all his living siblings and the children of those who had already died. It is little wonder that his family paid for the new east window in St Helen's church in Benson in memory of him and others of the family buried there. The inscription on the window reads:

*AD MDCCCLXVIII*

*This window was dedicated by the relatives in memory of Thomas Powell and other members of the family whose remains are deposited in this churchyard.*

There were at that date in 1868 many Powells of our line in the churchyard of St. Helen's including all of Thomas Powell's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents and many of his siblings. Many more have joined them in the years since.

**Fourth Generation: Richard Powell (30 April 1787 – 28 August 1839)**

Son of Thomas ③ and Mary Stockwell Powell

Younger brother of our John and Thomas of the Window

**Richard Powell**

Born 1787

Christened July 7 at Benson

Died 1839

August 28 aged 52 at Benson where he is buried  
(Headstone read 5/2000)

Married 1811 in St. Brides Parish, London

**Jane Garvey**

Born

Died 1841

February 11 aged 59. Will dated January and administration  
given to sons Thomas and Richard in March.

Children:

1. Thomas ⑤ b. 1817 Middlesex, London  
m. Emma Costar who was left a widow and is buried at Benson  
d.1862 June 9 and buried at Benson (was eldest son according to  
Headstone read 5/2000)
2. Richard ⑤ b. 1819 April 4, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, London  
m. 1839 December 31 Mary Ann Costar, age 19, at Benson  
Daughter of Richard Costar, Innkeeper (Thomas of the  
Window's will mentions him)  
m. 1856 He married 2<sup>nd</sup> Esther who d. 1905 aged 69. After she was  
widowed, she lived for many years in Benson with her sister-  
in-law Mary Ann Powell Corsellis at Colne House in Brook  
Street. Esther was born in Llanelly, Wales. Also in the  
household was Mary Ann's niece, Esther Isherwood who  
appears as a 1 year old in 1891, born Hammersmith, London.  
d. 1878 May 28 (listed in June Quarter deaths for Wallingford Dist,  
Berkshire/Oxfordshire, Vol. 2c, Page216. He was 59.)
3. Mary Ann ⑤ b. c. 1820 Middlesex, London  
m. 1842 Joseph Henry Corsellis  
d. 1905 April 22 aged 85 and buried Benson (Headstone seen 5/2000)
4. Pleasey ⑤ b. c.1822 Middlesex, London  
m. 1839 Richard Wiggins, bachelor, Sadler & Harness maker of  
Newgate Street, London. She was 17 and her father and  
uncle, Thomas Powell, were witnesses. (Berks/Oxon  
Marriages 1839, March Quarter, Vol. 6, Page 261)  
m. 1868 John Lane Franklin (Sept. Quarter 1868,  
Islington, Vol. 1b, page 500).  
d. 1875 At age 54 (Sept. Quarter, Wallingford District, Vol. 2c, p. 88.)
5. John George ⑤ b. c. 1823-4 Clerkenwell, Middlesex, London  
m. 1853 Mary Ann Wiggins  
d.1881 September 8 at age 58 buried Benson (Headstone seen 5/2000)

**Fourth Generation: Richard Powell (1787-1839)**  
*Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell*

Richard was christened June 7, 1787 in Benson. He was the younger brother of Thomas of the Window and of John of Pangbourne. He went to London along with his brothers and is characterized in this history as Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell. Richard married Jane Garvey in 1811 at St. Bride's London (Pallot's Marriage Index: 1780-1837). They had five children who survived; there may have been others: Thomas, Richard, Mary Ann, Plessey, and John George.

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of December 1828, Richard drew up a will appointing his wife as executrix and providing for the guardianship of his children should he die before they reached their majority. He leaves all his household goods to his wife and his five freeholds in Tamworth Lane, Mitcham in the county of Surrey to his children: Thomas Powell, Richard Powell, Mary Ann Powell, Plasey (Plessey) Powell, and John George Powell. Thomas Powell was to have his leasehold in Ray Street, Clerkenwell. He left other leaseholds situate in No. 68 Old St. in the County of Middlesex now in the occupation of Stevens Coppersmith to his son, Richard Powell. His 2 leaseholds situate at No. 7 & No. 8s William St. Spitalfield unto his daughter Mary Ann Powell and his son John George in equal shares. Jane Powell (his wife), Moses Kipling and Joseph Wright (of the Ray Street coach making firm) were to be executors and guardians of his minor children. The will was witnessed by William Gresham, St. Barnards Inn; John Arthur, Physic Gardener, Mitcham; and James Arthur, Physic Gardner, Mitcham.

Richard lived until 1839 and made a series of codicils to his will over the years removing Mr. Wright as an executor in favor of his brother, Thomas Powell in November of 1834. It was witnessed by G. Lanham, 30 Mansell St., Goodman's Field, and Thos. P. Langham, 10 Bartletts Buildings, Holborne. On January 20, 1837, he made another codicil expressing his wish that his son, Thomas Powell, have 800 pounds removed "from his share of the money named in this my will as he has had that sum expensed for his benefit." No witness. At Benson on May 4, 1839, the 800 pounds removed from his will against his son Thomas was reinstated "as I have received sums to my satisfaction" and he also stated that "the cottage No 9 Gallet Place, Spitalfields and the Spanish bonds form no part of my property but belong to my wife, Jane Powell." Witnessed on May 8, 1839 by Mary Goodey and Maria Hutton. In the final codicil, he removed Moses Kipling as executor in favor of Richard Costar, Innkeeper of Bensington along with 'my dear wife' and brother, Thomas Powell. He left an additional £500 to his wife and a bequest to the new executor. This was signed on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August, 1839. It was witnessed by Mary (Powell) Stevens (his sister), N. C. Corsellis, Surgeon of Ewelme, and H. J. Corsellis, Solicitor of Ewelme.

The will was proved, with four codicils, on 8 November 1839 with executors Jane Powell, widow, the relict of the deceased (named in the will during her widowhood), Thomas Powell the brother named executor in the first codicil, and Richard Costar the executor named in the fourth codicil.

## **Fifth Generation: Children of Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Ray Street**

**I. Pleasey (Plessey) Powell.** 1839 saw not only Richard Powell's death but also the weddings of two of his five children: On February 26, Pleasey (Plassey, Plessey) Powell aged 17 married Richard Wiggins of Newgate Street, London at Benson. He is described as a Sadler and Harness Maker and is listed as the son of William Wiggins, Farmer. She is listed as daughter of Richard Powell, Gent. The witnesses to the wedding are Richard Powell and Thomas Powell. (These were, I presume, her father and uncle, Thomas of the Window.)

Richard Wiggins is listed as a Saddler at 120 Newgate Street in the 1841 Post Office Directory for London (Part 1: Street, Commercial, & Trades Directory, page 801). In the 1841 census, Richard Wiggins aged 20, Harness Maker, appears in the Parish of Henden, Middlesex, District 1, page 9 with his wife Plessey aged 20 and, apparently, two Wiggins family members – Katherine Wiggins aged 5 and Edward Wiggins aged 20 who is a farmer. They have one female servant.

Just when Richard Wiggins died is unclear but Pleasey Wiggins appears in the 1851 census as a 29 year old widow in the household of her brother, John George Powell, in Ewelme, Oxfordshire, two doors from The Old Manor House where the Curate of Ewelme lived. She and John George, 27, are listed as being born in St. James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex. Also in the listing are three guests, Mary A. Wiggins aged 19, Catharine Wiggins aged 14 and William J. Wiggins aged 17 all born in St. Anne Blackfriars, London.

In the 1861 census, Pleasey Wiggins appears as a 39 year old widow and Fund Holder living in Ewelme with a male and female servant and a niece, Kathrine Wiggins who is 24, unmarried, and listed as born in Middlesex, London. By this census, Catharine/Kathrine has her name spelled differently and Mary A. Wiggins has married John George Powell.

Pleasey Wiggins married John Lane Franklin in London in 1868 (September Quarter 1868, Islington District, Vol. 1b, page 500) and in the 1871 census they are living in Ewelme next door to the national school:

|                    |      |    |           |                        |
|--------------------|------|----|-----------|------------------------|
| John Lane Franklin | Head | 45 | Landowner | b. Great Milton, Oxon. |
| Pleasey Franklin   | Wife | 48 |           | b. London              |

They have two servants, a cook and a housemaid.

Pleasey Franklin died at age 54 during the September Quarter of 1875 (Wallingford District, Vol. 2c, page. 188).

In the 1881 census, the widowed John Lane Franklin, 55, is living at 2 Preston Villas, Banbury Road, Oxford, with a housekeeper and two housemaids. He is said to be living on income from land, houses, and interest.

In the 1891 census, John Lane Franklin, widower, aged 65, is living in Castle Square in Benson and is listed as a retired farmer. He has two women visiting him, Mary C. Collinge, aged 64, (this is John Lane Franklin's sister who married Allen Blizard Collinage in 1859) born Ewelme, and her daughter Bertha, aged 25. He also has two female servants.

In the 1901 census, he is still in Benson, aged 75, retired farmer and still a widower. He is living on High Street with a housekeeper and a second general domestic servant.

### **The Wiggins Family**

The Wiggins were Londoners. The first William Wiggins is listed as a farmer but his son, William, was a Horse Contractor of Blackfriars in London and his son Richard was a Sadler and Harness Maker of Newgate Street, London. It is probably that the first William was a farmer in one of the communities very close to the City of London.

Several members of the Powell family married into this Wiggins family. As noted above, Pleasey Powell married Richard Wiggins of Newgate Street, London at Benson in 1839. He is described as a Sadler and Harness Maker and is listed as the son of William Wiggins, Farmer.

In the 1841 census, Richard Wiggins aged 20, Harness Maker, appears in the Parish of Henden, Middlesex, District 1, page 9, with his wife Plessey aged 20 and, apparently two members of his extended family – Katherine Wiggins aged 5 and Edward Wiggins aged 20 who is a farmer. They have one female servant.

Richard Wiggins had an older brother, William, who died young leaving several children. He and Pleasey clearly did their share in caring for them.

By the 1851 census, Pleasey appears as a 29 year old widow in the household of her brother, John George Powell, in Ewelme, Oxfordshire, two doors from The Old Manor House where the Curate of Ewelme lived. She and John George, 27, are listed as being born in St. James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex. Also in the listing are three guests, Mary A. Wiggins aged 19, Catharine Wiggins aged 14 and William J. Wiggins aged 17 all born in St. Anne Blackfriars, London and the children of Richard's deceased brother William.

By 1861, Pleasey Wiggins appears as a 39 year old widow and Fund Holder living in Ewelme with a male and female servant and a niece, Katherine Wiggins who is 24, unmarried, and listed as born in Middlesex, London. By this census, Catharine/Katherine has her name spelled differently and Mary A. Wiggins, niece of Pleasey, has married Pleasey's brother, John George Powell.

Pleasey Wiggins married John Lane Franklin in London in 1868 (September Quarter 1868, Islington District, Vol. 1b, page 500) and in the 1871 census they are living in Ewelme next door to the national school:

|                    |      |    |           |                        |
|--------------------|------|----|-----------|------------------------|
| John Lane Franklin | Head | 45 | Landowner | b. Great Milton, Oxon. |
| Pleasey Franklin   | Wife | 48 |           | b. London              |

They have two servants, a cook and a housemaid.

In 1863, James Parsons Franklin, younger brother of John Lane Franklin, was established firmly as a farmer in Ewelme and by 1869 has married Katherine (Catharine) Wiggins, niece of Pleasey Powell Wiggins, and is living in the Manor House in Ewelme.

## The Franklin Family

John Franklin of Little Haseley was the residuary legatee for all of the land in Ewelme and Bensington belonging to his relative, John Lane, after the death of his widow, Sarah Lane. John Franklin's connection to the Lanes was complicated. John Franklin's grandmother was Elizabeth Lucas of Watlington, born in 1688. John Lane's parents were Edward Lane and Anne Woodhouse. Anne Woodhouse was born Anne Lucas and had first married Richard Woodhouse of Pyton. Richard died a year later leaving a young widow who married Edward Lane. So, John Lane's mother Anne was sister to John Franklin's grandmother. Anne's son, John Lane, clearly kept up a close contact with his aunt Elizabeth Franklin and she watched this young man grow up and learn to cope as his family fell away and left him to make his own way into adulthood alone. John Franklin had been orphaned at the age of 15 and had handled his family tenancy and made a complete success of it.

In 1790, the young John Franklin, chosen from all John Lane's relations to inherit, moved from Haseley to Ewelme on John Lane's death, where he worked as the widow's farm and business manager until her death in 1802.

The holdings John Franklin inherited comprised the Fords Farm estate and New House (now The White House) on Cat Lane which may well have been John Lane's home before he acquired Fords Farm. John Franklin married to Mary Leaver, late of Gould's Grove, Benson, and at Fords Farm they reared a family of 11 children.

As the boys grew up, John Franklin sought introductions to professional farming for his children and the three eldest boys, John, Edward Lane and Thomas were sent back to Haseley, where they took on tenancies on lands of their father's old friend and mentor, John Blackall Esq. of Haseley Court. John Franklin died in 1824 at the age of 59 and John, Jr. took over much of the management of the family property. He may well still have been living in Great Milton where his eldest child, John Lane Franklin was baptized in May 1825 but they had moved to Ewelme by 1826 when he eldest daughter Mary Elizabeth was baptized in Ewelme Church.

John Jr. had two siblings who married into the Prowse family of Long Wittenham as did a daughter of Richard Ebenezer Powell of Hale Farm. Mary Franklin married Richard Prowse and William Franklin married Ruth Prowse.

John Jr.'s son, John Lane Franklin married Pleasey Powell Wiggins as her second husband in 1868 at the ages of 43 and 45. John Lane Franklin's younger brother, James Parsons Franklin, married Katherine (Catharine) Wiggins, niece of Pleasey Wiggins Powell making him a brother-in-law of Pleasey's brother, John George Powell who married Mary Ann Wiggins.

**II. Richard Powell (apparently another Richard Ebenezer).** Richard was born in Clerkenwell, London. On 31 December 1839, Richard Powell, Bachelor, Gent. and son of Richard Powell, Gent. married Mary Ann Costar, Spinster, aged 19, the daughter of Richard Costar, Innkeeper. They were married by license. (I assume this is the Richard Costar who was one of the executors of Richard Powell, Senior's will.) This Richard Powell died in 1878 at the

age of 60 and is buried at Benson with his widow (and second wife), Esther, who died in 1905 at the age of 69.

In the 1851 census for Benson (Dist. 10b, page 1) we find Richard Costar as head of a household. He is a 63 year widower, an Innkeeper, born Benson. In his household are his son-in-law Richard Powell, 31 years old, 'late innkeeper' born Clerkenwell, Middlesex; Richard's wife Mary Ann Powell, age 30, born Cholsey; and the couples' two eldest children: Richard, age 4, born Hampton, Middlesex; and Mary Ann, age 2, born Hampton, Middlesex. There are also two female servants.

Mary Ann Costar Powell died early. Two death records from 1855 which match headstone inscriptions in the Benson churchyard tell the story. Mary Ann Powell died on 8 March 1855 at the age of 33. Her death certificate lists her as the wife of Richard Powell, Farmer. She died of "Disease of Heart conjoined with Dropsy, treatment constantly for 2 years". Her death was reported by M. Kimbrey who is characterized as "in attendance, Bensington." On 25 February, M. Kimbrey was present at another death in the family - that of George Henry Powell, aged 9 days, son of Richard Powell, Farmer. He died of "Diarrhea eight days, convulsions." A headstone in the graveyard at St. Helen's church, Benson, commemorates "Mrs. Richard Powell and her son George Henry Powell." The date is hard to read – it appears to be 1833 or 1855 or 1888. From the death records, 1855 is the clearly the true date.

On October 31, 1856, Richard married Esther Peirce in the Parish church of Llanelly, Breconshire, Wales (Vol. 11b, page 251). Richard is listed as of full age, a widower and Gentleman of Bensington, Oxon, the son of Richard Powell, Gentleman. Esther Peirce is listed as of full age, a spinster, of Llanelly, the daughter of James Peirce, Gentleman. The minister was George Howell, Rector of Llangattock and Chaplain to His Grace, the Duke of Beaufort. The witnesses were:

- Lancelot Powell, Esq. of Aberclydach House. He was a Justice of the Peace and Managing Partner of the Clydach Ironworks.
- John Maund, Esq. of Duffryn-Mawr. In the 1861 census, he was 25 years old and Justice of the Peace, Deputy Lt., Captain of Volunteers, and a farmer of 200 acres employing 9 men and 5 boys. He and his wife and 1 month old daughter employed a footman, coachman, groom, nursemaid, housemaid, and kitchen maid. Their farm bailiff and his family lived in a cottage on the property.
- Mary Charlotte Partridge was the daughter of William Partridge of Beauford House. He was an Iron Master as was his son.
- Charlie (?) Firman (?). Both names are difficult to decipher and so we are unsure about this witness. However, considering the standing of the others, one assumes he, too, was an important member of local society.

Esther was born in Llanelly, Breconshire, which is in the Crickhowell District. Their only child, Esther Peirce was born 16 March 1858 at Benson.

In the 1861 census, Richard and Esther are living on Brook Street in Benson and the entry is as follows:

Richard Powell            Head   41   Farmer of 200 acres (10 men & 3 boys) b.Clerkenwell

|                  |      |    |                     |
|------------------|------|----|---------------------|
| Esther Powell    | Wife | 29 | b. Brecon, Llanelly |
| Esther P. Powell | Dau  | 3  | b. Benson           |

There are two female servants. This was apparently before Richard finished building the ‘villa’ at Hale Farm. In this census, Hale Farm is occupied only by agricultural laborers and their families. Benson: A Village Through its History, edited by Kate Tiller (1999) states that Richard Ebenezer Powell, brother of Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, lived at Hale Farm and built a brick villa there in about 1860. Also in the book, there is a list of farmers from the Oxfordshire directories for Benson, Roke and Preston Crowmarsh (1847-1915) which lists Richard Ebenezer Powell at Hall Farm in 1852, 1863, and 1876. This is rather tidy because he probably inherited the land in 1851 (from Uncle Thomas of the Window) and he died in 1878. He seems to have spent his adult life after about 1851 as a farmer in Benson.

The 1871 census for Bensington shows the following entry for Hale Farm:

|                 |               |            |                                  |                     |
|-----------------|---------------|------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Richard Powell  | Head          | 50 married | Yeoman, 200 acres, 8 men, 5 boys | b. Clerkenwell      |
| Esther Powell   | Wife          | 40 married |                                  | b. Llanelly, Brecon |
| Esther P Powell | Dau           | 13 single  |                                  | b. Bensington       |
| Fanny Brown     | Sister-in-law | 32 widow   |                                  | b. Llanelly, Brecon |

Plus 2 female servants.

There is also a cottage at Hale Farm with a family named Tanner. The head is listed as a farm steward. *Please note that this entry cannot be easily found in the on-line index (because the name is recorded as Troell) but can be found in the schedule for Bensington, District 10, page 19.*

After Richard Powell’s death, Esther lived with her sister-in-law, Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, who was also a widow. She is listed in the 1881, 1891 and 1901 census living at Colne House in Brook Street, Benson with her sister-in law. In 1891 and 1901 Esther Isherwood, her granddaughter is also in the household. Esther Powell, born in Llanelly, Wales is listed as a Fund Holder meaning she lived on the income from investments.

Richard Powell’s will was proved and administration given on 24 July 1878 in which he is described as Richard Powell, late of The Hale, Bensington, Oxon, Gentleman. He drew his will on 18 May 1878 and died on 25 May, 1878 at The Hale. His wife, Esther; his brother, John George Powell; and his son-in-law, John Henry Prowse of Bursledon, Southampton, Farmer, were the executors. He left an estate of less than £3000 and the will was drawn by Hedges, Son and Marshall, Solicitors of Wallingford. Richard left his wife £100, such of his plate “as belonged to her late father,” and the use of such part of his furniture and remaining plate “as she shall select within one month of my death the value thereof not to exceed One hundred and fifty pounds” during her widowhood, and the income from the residue of his estate which his executors/trustees were to invest and pay out to her during her widowhood. After her death, the income was to go to his children: 3/10s to his daughter Mary Ann Plessey Powell Prowse; 3/10s to his daughter Esther Pierce Powell; 3/10s to the support of his son Richard Powell “who is at present incapacitated by mental infirmity (the trustees are to pay for his upkeep and his funeral should he die – if he died his share was to be divided between the two daughters); and the remaining 1/10 to his son Thomas Powell.

We know a little about Richard's children, part of the Sixth Generation. It appears that he had three children who survived to adulthood by his first wife, Mary Ann Costar: Richard (born about 1846), and Mary Ann Plessey (born 1849) and Thomas (born 1852). By his second wife, Esther, he had a daughter, Esther Peirce Powell who was born about 1858 and was still a minor when he drew up his will.

Richard lists them as follows in his will:

**Esther Peirce Powell.** She was born in Benson in the June Quarter of 1858 (Wallingford District, June Quarter, Vol. 2c, page 291). She appears in the 1861 census as a three year old in the home of her parents in Benson. Esther appears in the 1871 census as 13 and in both census is the only child in the household of her parents, first on Brook Street and then at Hale Farm in Benson.

In the 1881 census she is a visitor in the household of George Cockburn and his wife Mary Ann Evelyn Braggins Cockburn in Harrow on the Hill. Their house is called "The Hale" and Esther is listed as 23 and an annuitant. By this date her father is dead and she is obviously receiving income from his estate. George Cockburn is listed as a gas engineer. He and his wife were both born in London as were their two small children, George 4 and Evelyn 2.

Esther married Thomas Frederick Isherwood in the September Quarter of 1888 (Wallingford District, Berks/Oxon, Volume 2c, page 517) and they had a daughter, Esther Mary Isherwood, who was born in the September Quarter of 1889, Fulham District, Greater London, Middlesex, Vol. 1a, Page 188. The daughter was living with her grandmother in Benson from the time she was 1 year old in 1891 and is recorded as an 11 year old there in 1901.

It is interesting to note that in Kelly's Directory of Oxfordshire in 1907 Frederick Isherwood is listed as a private resident living at Colne House in Benson. By that date, both Esther Peirce Powell Senior and Mary Ann Powell Corsellis were dead (Esther and Mary both died in 1905). By the Kelly's Director for 1911, Colne House is in the occupation of Cecil Stafford Northcote.

Thomas Frederick Isherwood was a clerk in the naval office according to the 1891 census when he and his wife Esther Pierce Isherwood (born Benson, Oxon) were living at 136 The Grove, Hammersmith, London. Thomas' mother, Esther Isherwood, aged 57, married, born Caversham was in the household. They had one female servant. In the 1901 census, the family is living in Ealing with a female servant and two daughters, Frances, aged 7, and Amy aged 9 months.

Mr. Isherwood was born in Southampton (St. Mary), Hampshire and appears with his parents in the 1871 census living at 38 Bellevue Road, St. Mary, Southampton as follows:

|                  |      |    |                  |                          |
|------------------|------|----|------------------|--------------------------|
| Thomas Isherwood | Head | 41 | Grocer's Foreman | b. Middlesex, St. Brides |
| Esther Isherwood | Wife | 38 | Dress Maker      | b. Caversham, Oxon       |
| Thomas Frederick | Son  | 7  | Student          | b. Southampton, Hants.   |

Mr. Isherwood's parents apparently married after 1861 when Thomas senior is listed as a 31 year old single grocer's assistant living at 19 Commercial Road in Southampton.

In 1881, Thomas Frederick is visiting the home of his aunt and uncle, Thomas and Mary A. Bennett of 14 Bonchurch Road, Kensington, London. (Mrs. Bennett was born in Middlesex, St. Brides as was Thomas' father.) His parents are at the same address in Southampton as in the 1871 census. In the 1901 census, Thomas Isherwood, 71 and Esther Isherwood, 67, are living at 34 York Street in Southampton and have two visitors on census night.

**Mary Ann Pleasey Powell.** She was born in the June Quarter of 1848 in Hampton Court, Surrey (Kingston District, Middlesex/Surrey, Vol. 4, page 207). She appears in the 1861 census as a boarding student with her brother, Thomas, in the home of Matilda Berry and her daughter Caroline Elizabeth Berry who are running a school on St. Martin's Street in St. Mary the More Parish of Wallingford. She is listed as a 13 year old. She married John Henry Prowse in the December quarter of 1870 in the Wallingford District, Berks/Oxon (Volume 2c, page 694).

In the 1871 census the couple is living on High Street at the Farm House in Long Wittenham, Berkshire. The listing is as follows:

|                |      |                 |  |
|----------------|------|-----------------|--|
| John H. Prowse | Head | aged 27 (or 21) | Farmer of 110 acres (4 men, 2 boys) born |
|                |      |                 | Long Wittenham                           |
| Mary A. P.     | Wife | aged 22         | Farmer's wife born Hampton, Surrey       |

They have a 21 year old general servant and a 54 year old nurse in the household.

In the 1861 census John Henry Prowse is found in his father's home. John Hopkins Prowse, 47 year old farmer, of Long Wittenham, Berks also has a daughter, Lucy aged 19 and a sister, Ann, aged 50. All of the family members were born in Great Rickmansworth, Long Wittenham, Berkshire. John Hopkins Prowse appears in the 1871 census at Long Wittenham with his daughter, Lucy Prowse aged 29 and his sister Ann Prowse, aged 62. In both records the family has two servants: 2 women in 1861 and a male and a female servant in 1871.

John Henry Prowse, son-in-law of Richard Powell, is listed as of Long Wittenham in Richard's will drawn in 1878 and as of Bursleden Southampton when the will was probated later that year. A check of the Bursleden and Long Wittenham census records for 1881 failed to turn up the couple.

**Richard Powell.** He was born in September Quarter of 1846 at Hampton, Middlesex, London (Kingston, Middlesex/Surrey, Vol. 4, page 207). He appears in the 1861 census as a boarding pupil in the establishment of James E. Millard at 57 & 58 High Street in the parish of Oxford St. Peter in the East. Mr. Millard is 38 and described as D.D. without cure of souls, Fellow of Magdalene College, Head Master of Magdalene College School.

In the 1871 census, Richard is listed as a medical student at St. Bartholomew's Hospital in St. Bartholomew the Less Parish, London.

Richard died 22 September 1879 at the age of 33 and is buried at Benson. Richard is characterized as mentally incapacitated in his father's will of 1878.

**Thomas Powell.** Thomas was born in 1852 in Benson (December Quarter Births, 1852, Wallingford District, Volume 2c, page 275). He appears in the 1861 census at as a boarding student with his older sister, Mary Ann Plessey Powell, in a school run by Matilda Berry on St. Martin's Street in St. Mary the More Parish in Wallingford. He was left 1/10 part interest in his father's estate as opposed to 3/10 part interest to each of the other three children. The income was to be paid to him 'until he shall sell or alienate the same or do or suffer anything whereby he could if absolutely entitled be deprived of the benefit thereof. And from and after that the said Trustees shall hold his said last mentioned share of the said residuary trust funds and the income thereof in trust for the child or children of my said son Thomas...' If Thomas had no children who reached the age of 21 years, the funds were to go to his sisters.

This Thomas Powell is mentioned in the will of his uncle John George Powell who died in 1881. John George died without children and the three surviving children of his brother Richard were to benefit after his wife's death: 2/4 part to Mary Ann Plessey Powell Prowse, 1/4 part of Esther Peirce Powell, and 1/4 part to Thomas Powell. Mary Ann Plessey Powell Prowse was also to have the two freehold cottages in Tamworth Lane, Mitchem, Surrey, which John George had inherited from his father, Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell.

#### The Peirce Family

Esther Peirce Powell and Fanny Peirce Brown were the daughters of James and Margaret Peirce. In the 1841 census for Wales (Breconshire, Llanelly, District 1, page 4) the family appears as follows:

|              |          |       |  |
|--------------|----------|-------|--|
| James Peirce | 30       | Agent | b. not in Breconshire                        |
| Margaret     | 30       |       | b. in Breconshire                            |
| Caroline     | 10       |       | b. All the children were born in Breconshire |
| Thomas       | 8        |       |  |
| Esther       | 7        |       |  |
| Frances      | 5        |       |  |
| Louisa       | 1        |       |  |
| Mary         | 5 months |       |  |

In the 1851 census the family is in Llanelly (Dist. 12, page 35) living in Navigation House and appear as follows:

|              |      |         |    |   |
|--------------|------|---------|----|---|
| James Peirce | Head | Married | 45 | Principal of the Brecknock and Abergavenny Canal Navigation |
|              |      |         |    | b. Merthry Tydval   |
| Margaret     | Wife | Married | 45 | b. Llangalhock, Brecon                                      |

|           |     |    |                       |             |
|-----------|-----|----|-----------------------|-------------|
| Rebecca C | Dau | 20 |                       | b. Llanelly |
| Thomas D. | Son | 18 | Apprentice to Surgeon | b. Llanelly |
| James E.  | Son | 8  |                       | b. Llanelly |
| David D.  | Son | 4  |                       | b. Llanelly |

There are also three female servants – a cook, housemaid and nurse.

In 1851, Esther is at school in Cheltenham (Dist. 1f, page 25) in the household of Eliza Howell, Governess at Marlborough House on Rhineland Street.

In the 1861 census for Llanelly (District 12, page 5 or 24), still at Navigation House we find the family listed as:

|              |      |         |    |                       |                        |
|--------------|------|---------|----|-----------------------|------------------------|
| James Peirce | Head | Married | 55 | Canal Agent           | b. Merthyr Tydval      |
| Margaret     | Wife | Married | 55 |                       | b. Llangalhoch, Brecon |
| Frances Ann  | Dau  | Unmarr  | 22 |                       | b. Llanelly, Brecon    |
| James Edward | Son  | Unmarr  | 18 | Articled to Solicitor | b. Llanelly, Brecon    |

There are two servants, a cook and a housemaid. Mr. Peirce was manager of the Brecknock & Abergavenny Canal Company (Slater's Directory for 1859).

**III. Mary Ann Powell.** According to the Benson history, Mary Ann Powell, niece of Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window) was living at Colne House in the 1841 census and the house was owned by her uncle, Thomas Powell. The 1841 census (Oxfordshire, Bensington, District 8A, page 5) shows Mary Ann as a 20 year old heading a household which includes her brother, John George, as follows:

|                 |    |                |                       |
|-----------------|----|----------------|-----------------------|
| Mary Ann Powell | 20 | Independent    | b. not in Oxfordshire |
| George Powell   | 15 | Independent    | b. “                  |
| Emma Greyson    | 30 | Nurse          | b. “                  |
| Susan Bilson    | 25 | Female Servant | b. in Oxfordshire     |
| Robert Wales    | 15 | Ag. Laborer    | b. in Oxfordshire     |

In 1842 (June Quarter Marriages, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 6, Page 305) Mary Ann Powell married Henry Joseph Corsellis, attorney. Mr. Corsellis was born in Walton, Suffolk, and was 14 years older than Mary Ann. The witnesses were N. C. Corsellis and Mary Powell Stevens.

In the 1851 census for Benson (Dist. 10b, page 32) we find the following record:

|                    |      |         |    |                     |                |
|--------------------|------|---------|----|---------------------|----------------|
| Henry J. Corsellis | Head | Married | 40 | Attorney practicing | b. Suffolk     |
| Mary Ann Corsellis | Wife | Married | 29 |                     | b. Clerkenwell |

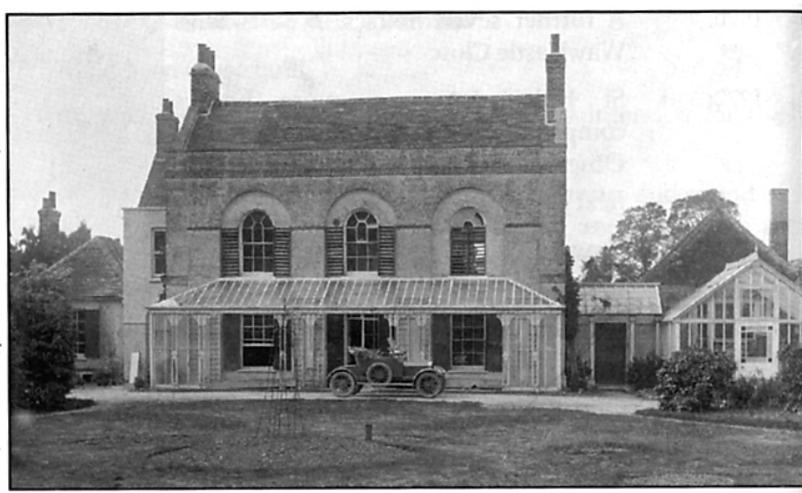
There are two female servants and a male gardener.

In the 1861 census Mary A. Corsellis appears as the head of a household with three servants. She is noted as the wife of H. J. Corsellis, solicitor. He is visiting his sister on census night and appears in the census of Wivenhoe (see section on the Corsellis family below). In the 1871 census Henry J. and Mary Ann Powell Corsellis are living at Colne House with two servants. He was then 65 and she 51. He died in 1873 at the age of 68 (September Quarter Deaths, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, Page 179).

In the 1881, 1891, and 1901 census returns, Mary Ann Powell Corsellis is living ‘on her own means’ at Colne House in Bensington with her sister-in-law, Esther Powell, widow of her brother, Richard Powell of Hale Farm. By 1891, the household also includes Esther’s granddaughter, Esther M. Isherwood. Mary Ann Powell Corsellis always has at least two female servants in her household.

Mary Ann Powell Corsellis died in 1905 at the age of 85 and is buried at Benson. According to *A History of Benson* by E. M. R. Ditmas, Mary Ann Powell Corsellis left a bequest of £200 – the Powell Gift – to the church at Benson so a gift of clothing could be given to the poor at Christmas each year. It is considered one of Benson’s five main charities which were brought under the aegis of the Charity Commission and in 1974 regrouped into a scheme by which the various funds were re-invested in the Charities Official Investment Fund and the ensuing income is now administrated by Trustees as one charity under the title of the Bensington Charity.

### **Colne House (Observatory House later Observatory Close)**



The 1841 census for Benson lists Mary Ann Powell living in what became known as Colne House – and later Observatory House – on Brook Street. The house was owned by Thomas Powell, her uncle, who was resident in what became known as Kingsford House in High Street.

Mary Ann Powell was the daughter of Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell and younger brother of Thomas Powell who made his fortune in London in the Carriage building trade. Richard Powell returned to Benson as did his brother Thomas and Richard died in Benson in 1839. In 1842, Mary Ann Powell married Henry Joseph Corsellis, Solicitor of Ewelme, who had been one of the witnesses to her father’s will. They apparently named the house Colne House after the River Colne that ran through the Corsellis family manor in Essex.

When Thomas Powell died in 1851, he left his niece, Mary Ann Powell Corsellis, the house she was then living in as well as other property and cash. Mary Ann lived in the house until her death in 1905. In Kelly’s directory for 1907, Mary Ann’s nephew-in-law Frederick Isherwood

who married Esther Peirce Powell, daughter of Mary Ann's brother Richard Powell of Hale Farm, is living at Colne House.

In 1914, W. H. Dines purchased and moved to Colne House which he occupied until 1939. He christened the house Observatory House because he was one of three generations of his family who were meteorologists and contributed much to the advancement of British Meteorology from the 1870's until the Second World War. Much of this work was done at Benson. (See write up on page 112 of *Benson: A Century of Change 1900-2000*.)

Above is a photograph of the house published in *Benson: A Century of Change 1900-2000* showing the house as it looked early in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The house was demolished in the 1960's to make way for what is now termed Observatory Close.

## The Corsellis Family

*“I may be in error about Dr. Corsellis’ wealth but I have certainly heard he was worth a lot of money & years ago I knew a Mr. Stopes (father of Dr. Stopes who became notorious a few years ago for books she had written). He was a well known antiquarian & he knew the Corsellis’ well. I may have got it from him. By the by, there is a Corsellis, a lawyer near Balham Station. I took an affidavit there to be sworn & saw his partner who was much interested when I told him about the 2 brothers. Another Corsellis was practicing as a lawyer just opposite the Huguenot Grave Yard at Wandsworth.”* Letter from Thomas Henry Powell to Charles Augustus Powell, November 29, 1928

Thomas Henry was right about the Corsellis family. The Corsellis family came from Roussilier in Flanders, and one of them is said to have worked under Guttenberg and introduced the art of printing into England in the fifteenth century – before Caxton. They settled in London where they prospered but they early acquired property in East Anglia, most notably the manor of Wivenhoe near Colchester and Layer Marney Tower. In the 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries Wivenhoe was held by the de Vere family, Earls of Oxford, but was sold to Roger Townshend, Esq. in 1585 and his family sold it to Nicholas Corsellis in 1657. In 1667, the son of that Nicholas, another Nicholas Corsellis, acquired the Layer Marney Tower for £7,200 with money he had made as a merchant selling indigo, lead and tobacco in London. Apparently the family ceased to live in Layer Marney Tower and made their primary seat at Wivenhoe Park, now a part of Essex University. Layer Marney Tower was sold out of the family in 1835. Wivenhoe remained in the family until 1888.

Nine generations of men named Nicholas from this Corsellis family owned the manor of Wivenhoe: Nicholas Corsellis bought the property in 1657 (died 1665); Nicholas Corsellis (1634-1674); Nicholas Corsellis (1661-1728); Nicholas Corsellis (1697-1761); Nicholas Corsellis (1845-1826); Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Elder (1763-1833); Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Younger (died 1878); Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton, nephew, the son of Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Younger’s sister Eliza, who bore his name, and this man’s son of the same name.

Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton appears in the 1871 census as a nephew in the home of Mark A. Lawton Vicar in Kilnwick Percy, Yorkshire. He is 31 years old and a civil engineer. He married later that year in York during the December Quarter, Georgiana Smithson. They appear in the 1881 census living at Wivenhoe Hall with a game keeper and helper in a lodge and a Coachman and his family at a second lodge plus five servants in the house as follows:

|                                  |      |    |           |                               |
|----------------------------------|------|----|-----------|-------------------------------|
| Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton | Head | 41 | Gentleman | b. Yorkshire                  |
| Georgiana Lawton                 | Wife | 31 |           | b. Yorkshire                  |
| Georgiana A. Lawton              | Dau  | 8  |           | b. Yorkshire                  |
| Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton | Son  | 6  |           | b. Sowerby, Thirsk, Yorkshire |

Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton died in 1881 in the Lexden District of Essex which includes Wivenhoe. In the 1891 census, his widow is living in Elmstead Essex on Wivenhoe Road at Ballask Quay Farm with two female servants as follows:

|                        |      |        |    |                     |                   |
|------------------------|------|--------|----|---------------------|-------------------|
| Georgiana Lawton       | Head | Widow  | 41 | Living on Own Means | b. Yorkshire      |
| Georgiana Annie Lawton | Dau  | Single | 18 |                     | b. Yorkshire      |
| Eleanor Lawton         | Dau  | Single | 14 |                     | b. Thirsk, Yorks. |
| George F. Lawton       | Son  | Single | 12 |                     | b. Bournemouth    |

Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton the second is found in the 1891 census as a Boarder of 16 years old at “The Cross”, once an Inn and in 1891 a residence hall for Repton in Derbyshire, a very famous public school. His trustees sold the property of Wivenhoe in 1888.

*“WIVENHOE, is a village and parish in the Colchester division of Lexden hundred, four miles south-east from Colchester, and about nine from Manningtree. It is agreeably situated on the acclivity and summit of a pleasant eminence, on the north side of the Colne, and is reckoned the harbour of Colchester for larger vessels than come up to that town; and is where large quantities of oysters are packed for exportation. It is, however, but a place of little trade when divested of its oyster fishery, and connexion and communication with its populous neighbour Colchester. The church is a large and rather handsome edifice: the living is in the gift of Nicholas Corsellis, Esq. the lord of the manor. The number of inhabitants in the parish, by the last census, was 1714.”* Pigot’s Directory, 1932-3.

The above entry refers to Nicholas Caesar Corsellis, the Elder. We now have his will. He is titled Esquire and Captain in the Royal Navy, late of Thirsk in the County of York and also of Wivenhoe in the County of Essex. He died in 1833. The executors of his will are his “natural sons, Nicholas Caesar Corsellis and Henry Joseph Corsellis, and my beloved friend, their mother, Sarah Plampin.” It names a number of other children including Caroline Matilda, Eliza, Frances, Emily, Mary, and Charlos Caesar. (Please see attached spreadsheet.) Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Elder was the son of Nicholas Corsellis who died in 1826 and his younger brother, J. G. Corsellis, was curate at Wivenhoe (his father holding the living). J. G. Corsellis became Rector on his father’s death and served as such until his own death in 1835. We have no information of other siblings of Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Elder or whether J. G. Corsellis had children.

The 1867 Post Office Directory for Wivenhoe states in regard to the church that “the living is a rectory, annual value of £440, with 50 acres of glebe and good residence, in the gift of Nicholas Caesar Corsellis, Esq.” It adds that N. C. Corsellis, Esq. who resides in Benson, in Oxfordshire, is lord of the manor. This is one piece of the abundant evidence that Nicholas Caesar Corsellis the Younger was an absentee landlord and an Oxfordshire physician living in Benson.

In 1839, N. C. (Nicholas Caesar) Corsellis, Surgeon, was living in Ewelme. In that year, he and H. J. (Henry Joseph) Corsellis, Solicitor of Ewelme, were witnesses for Richard Powell’s will in Benson (Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell and younger brother of John of Pangbourne) along with Richard’s sister, Mary Powell Stevens.

In the 1841 census for Ewelme (District 14, Page 8) we find:

|                    |    |                |                       |
|--------------------|----|----------------|-----------------------|
| Nicholas Corsellis | 40 | Surgeon        | b. not in Oxfordshire |
| Henry Corsellis    | 30 | Solicitor      | b. not in Oxfordshire |
| Sarah Corsellis    | 60 | Independent    | b. not in Oxfordshire |
| Elizabeth Simpson  | 20 | Female Servant | b. not in Oxfordshire |

In the 1851 census for Benson (Dist. 10a, page 14) we find:

|                    |        |    |         |              |
|--------------------|--------|----|---------|--------------|
| N. C. Corsellis    | Head   | 52 | Surgeon | b. Middlesex |
| Sarah Corsellis    | Mother | 7? |         | c. Essex     |
| Caroline Corsellis | Sister | 30 |         | b. Norfolk   |

There are also two female servants.

By the 1861 census Dr. Corsellis is living on High Street in Benson with his wife, Mary Powell Stevens, whom he married in the first quarter of 1853 (Wallingford District Vol. 2c, page 401). Comparisons with later census records confirm that they are living in what is now called Kingsford House, the property in which Mary Powell Stevens Corsellis had a life-estate through her brother Thomas' will and which at her death passed to John Powell (John of the two families).

The 1861 census listing for N. C. Corsellis on High Street in Benson as follows;

|                |      |         |    |                         |                      |
|----------------|------|---------|----|-------------------------|----------------------|
| N.C. Corsellis | Head | Married | 63 | Surgeon & MRCL & LLA    | b. Middlesex, London |
|                |      |         |    | Practicing Gratuitously |                      |

|      |      |         |    |                |           |
|------|------|---------|----|----------------|-----------|
| Mary | Wife | Married | 62 | Surgeon's wife | b. Benson |
|------|------|---------|----|----------------|-----------|

(There are also a 42 year old nurse and two young female servants.)

By the 1871 census, Nicholas C. Corsellis (born London), aged 72, is a widower (Mary Powell Stevens Corsellis died in 1862). He is listed as a surgeon and was living in Benson on Berrick Street with his unmarried sister Caroline Matilda Corsellis (born Caister, Norfolk) aged 63, unmarried.

As to N. C. Corsellis' brother, we have the 1861 census for Benson with:

|                  |      |    |                         |           |              |
|------------------|------|----|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Mary A Corsellis | Head | 40 | Wife of H. J. Corsellis | Solicitor | b. Middlesex |
|------------------|------|----|-------------------------|-----------|--------------|

There is a cook, a housemaid, and a groom-gardener. Apparently Mr. Corsellis was away. They are living three doors along Brook Street from Mary Ann's brother, Richard Powell. Henry Joseph Corsellis was visiting his sister, Frances Firman, in Wivenhoe when the census was taken. He is mistranscribed as Henry S Cersellis. Frances Corsellis Firman, 41, born Wivenhoe, is shown as the wife of Henry J. Firman, Gentleman. They are living on High Street in Wivenhoe.

In the 1871 census, Henry J. Corsellis, attorney, (born Walton, Suffolk) aged 65, the husband of Richard Powell's daughter, Mary Ann Powell, is living at "Colne House" on Brook Street in Benson. It should be noted that the River Colne flows through the Wivenhoe estate. We now have the wedding certificate of Mary Anne Powell and Henry Joseph Corsellis. It lists him as a bachelor, attorney, of Ewelme. His father is listed as Nicholas Caesar Corsellis, Captain, RN. Mary Anne is listed as a spinster and the daughter of Richard Powell, Gentleman. They were both of full age. The wedding occurred on June 16, 1842 and was witnessed by N. C. Corsellis, Richard F. Freeborn, and Mary Stevens (Mary Powell Stevens, Mary Anne's aunt).

In the same 1861 census, on Berrick Street in Benson we find (mistranscribed as Carsellis):

|                    |         |        |    |                      |                     |
|--------------------|---------|--------|----|----------------------|---------------------|
| Caroline Corsellis | Head    | Single | 48 | Fund Holder          | b. Norfolk, Mousham |
| Charlos Corsellis  | Visitor | Single | 58 | MD Licentiate of the | b. Suffolk, Himbley |

Royal College of Physicians  
Not Practicing

This visitor is Caroline's brother (please see Corsellis family chart).

It is clear that the two Corsellis men in Benson were brothers (as Thomas Henry stated), that an unmarried sister, Caroline Matilda, lived with the elder (Nicholas Caesar) after he was widowed, and that their aged mother came to live there in her widowhood. Sarah Plampin Corsellis died 10 November 1857 in Bensington (December Quarter of 1857, Wallingford District, Vol. 2c, page 204). She is listed on the death certificate as Sarah Plampin Corsellis 82, widow of Nicholas Caesar Corsellis, Captain RN. The cause of death was "decay of nature" and Eliza Lawton who was present at the death reported it. This was her daughter Eliza Corsellis Lawton. As noted above, Eliza Corsellis married a Lawton and it was to her son, Nicholas Caesar Corsellis Lawton, that N. C. Corsellis of Benson left his interest in the manor of Wivenhoe when he died. Please see details on his family above.

All the Corsellis brothers and sisters living in Benson appear in the 1871 census but are dead before the 1881 census. Henry Joseph Corsellis died in 1873 at the age of 68 (September Quarter Deaths, Wallingford District, Berkshire/Oxon, Vol. 2c, Page 179) leaving Mary Ann Powell Corsellis a wealthy widow. Caroline Matilda Corsellis, aged 66, died in the Wallingford district in 1874 (Vol. 2c, page 203). Nicholas Caesar Corsellis died in the December Quarter of 1878 in the Wallingford District Benson, aged 80 (Vol. 2, page 233).

As to the rest of the Corsellis clan - how they relate to the Benson Corsellis and/or to the solicitors Thomas Henry mentions in his letter - the following census records are interesting. There is a Corsellis family in Wandsworth in the 1871 census and they clearly feel a relationship to Layer Marney Tower since they call their house 'Marney Lodge.' Marney Tower was sold out of the Corsellis family in 1835 while Wivenhoe remained in the family until 1888; perhaps this group branched away from the Benson Corsellis line a generation or so earlier.

The Wandsworth family of Arthur Alexander Corsellis appears in both the 1871 and 1881 census. (The name is mis-recorded as Cardellis in 1881.) Arthur married Eliza Marsh Hamber in Islington in 1851. They are living at "Marney Lodge" on East Hill very near Wandsworth High Street. Arthur is a solicitor and a composite of records from the two census show the family as follows (the ages for 1881):

|                            |        |    |                           |                      |
|----------------------------|--------|----|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Arthur Alexander Corsellis | Head   | 52 | Solicitor                 | b. Mhow, East Indies |
| Eliza Marsh Corsellis      | Wife   | 57 |                           | b. Middlesex         |
| Henry Nicholas             | Son    | 25 | Solicitor                 | b. Wandsworth        |
| Rachel E                   | Dau    | 23 |                           | b. Wandsworth        |
| Helen Ada                  | Dau    | 21 |                           | b. Wandsworth        |
| Eliza Douglas              | Dau    | 20 |                           | b. Wandsworth        |
| George Caesar              | Son    | 18 | Solicitors Articles Clerk | b. Wandsworth        |
| Ethel Mary                 | Dau    | 14 |                           | b. Wandsworth        |
| Marion E.                  | Dau    | 12 |                           | b. Wandsworth        |
| Maria J. Corsellis         | Sister | 51 | Annuitant                 | b. East Indies       |

The family has three servants in 1881 and four servants in 1871.

In 1881, two of the daughters, Ethel and Marion, are boarders in the home of a Beal family on Florence Road in Islington. Mr. Beal is a “Commander Merchant”(commander of a merchantman?) but his two daughters are teachers. One of his children was born in Queensland, Australia and two of the boarders are girls born in Australia.

Arthur Alexander Corsellis died in the June Quarter of 1888 in Newton Abbot District which includes Cockington, Devon. His widow appears in the 1891 census living at Cockington, Devon, on Chelston Road in a house called “Layer Marney” as follows:

|                    |      |        |    |                     |               |
|--------------------|------|--------|----|---------------------|---------------|
| Eliza M. Corsellis | Head | Widow  | 67 | Living on Own Means | b. Middlesex  |
| Ethel M.           | Dau  | Single | 24 |                     | b. Wandsworth |
| Marion E.          | Dau  | Single | 22 |                     | b. Wandsworth |

There are three female servants, a cook, a parlour maid and a housemaid.

Female Corsellis family members disappear from the census through marriage as well as death. Eliza Douglas Corsellis married in 1889. Ethel Mary Corsellis married in 1895. Eliza Marsh Hamber Corsellis died in 1893 in Newton Abbot District, Devon.

In the 1891 census, another daughter, Helen A. Corsellis, 30, born Wandsworth, is living as a boarder at Meldon Hall in Chagford, Devon. She is said to be living on her own means. This woman appears in the 1901 census aged 40 as head of a household in Buxton, Derbyshire, in a house called “Corbar Tower.” She is listed as an employer and ‘Lady Superintendent Dietatic House.’ The household consists of Miss Corsellis, a cook, two housemaids and a nurse.

In regard to the above family with its head born in Mhow, East Indies, it is interesting to note that Thomas Corsellis who died 9 April 1845 is listed in his will as Sir Thomas Corsellis, Major General in the Service of the Honorable East India Company, of Upper Bedford Place, Middlesex. His death record is in Vol. 3, page 265, March Quarter of 1845, Kensington District. It is quite possible that Arthur Alexander Corsellis was a son of Sir Thomas Corsellis. Alternatively, it is possible that Arthur Alexander who named his son Henry was perhaps the son of Henry Corsellis who was an officer in the army in India and is mentioned as the commanding officer of Richard Burton in the 1840’s. How long he served in India is unknown at present.

The eldest son of Arthur Alexander Corsellis was away at school in Tonbridge, Kent at the time of the 1871 census and his name is mis-recorded as ‘Carselles’ but he is clearly Henry Corsellis, 15 years old, born Wandsworth, at the Grammar School under the care of James T. Welldon, Head Master. In 1881, Henry is living with his young family on Aspley Road in Wandsworth just around the corner from his parents. The 1881 census is almost unreadable but the 1891 gives a good account of the family although the name is mis-recorded as Canellis. By 1891, Arthur is dead and his widow living in Devon. Henry has apparently moved into the family home and business; he and his family are at 69 East Hill in Wandsworth:

|                    |      |    |           |                    |
|--------------------|------|----|-----------|--------------------|
| Henry N. Corsellis | Head | 35 | Solicitor | b. Wandsworth      |
| Ellen              | Wife | 34 |           | b. Dublin, Ireland |
| Arthur H. N.       | Son  | 12 |           | b. Wandsworth      |

|          |     |    |               |
|----------|-----|----|---------------|
| Kathleen | Dau | 11 | b. Wandsworth |
| Dorothy  | Dau | 9  | b. Wandsworth |
| Joyce    | Dau | 2  | b. Wandsworth |

The family has 5 female servants: nurse, cook, two housemaids and a kitchen maid.

In the 1901 census, Henry N. Corsellis, 45, Solicitor, is living in Charlwood at Southlands, Russhill Road. He has clearly prospered and has moved his family to the country although he may well still be practicing law in Wandsworth. The family appears as follows:

|                    |      |    |           |                       |
|--------------------|------|----|-----------|-----------------------|
| Henry N. Corsellis | Head | 45 | Solicitor | b. Wandsworth         |
| Ellen L.           | Wife | 44 |           | b. Ireland, Blackrock |
| Dorothy F.         | Dau  | 19 |           | b. Wandsworth         |
| Douglas Henry      | Son  | 4  |           | b. Nutfield, Surrey   |

The house, Southlands, has a stable with a living unit that houses 2 grooms. In the main house there are the following servants: a butler, a cook, a kitchen maid, a nurse, three housemaids and a boarder who is a professional dressmaker.

Henry Nicholas Corsellis married Ellen Letitia Bayley in the September Quarter of 1877 in Wandsworth. Arthur Henry N. Corsellis was born in the December Quarter of 1878 in Wandsworth. Kathleen's birth record appears in 1879 in Wandsworth. She married in 1900 at St. George Hanover Square. Douglas Henry Corsellis was born in the June Quarter of 1896 in Reigate. He married Helen M. Bendall in the September Quarter of 1917 in the Paddington District. Joyce Corsellis married William B. Pollard in the December Quarter of 1910 in the St. George Hanover Square District.

A visit to the world wide web shows that there are still prominent Corsellis in England today including a Nicholas Corsellis who is a QC prosecuting many cases of note and a graphic artist, Jane Corsellis.

**IV. Thomas Powell.** Thomas was born in 1817 in Middlesex, London. He appears in the 1851 census at 351 Albany Road, Camberwell, Surrey (St George, Dist. 5, page 31):

|               |      |         |    |                     |                |
|---------------|------|---------|----|---------------------|----------------|
| Thomas Powell | Head | Married | 34 | Licensed Victualler | b. Clerkenwell |
| Emma Powell   | Wife | Married | 35 |                     | b. Middlesex   |

There are two male servants, one called a potman.

Thomas appears as a 44 year old landowner in the 1861 census living in Shillingford, Warborough, Oxfordshire, with his wife, Emma Powell, aged 46, born Middlesex, London. They have one servant.

According to his headstone inscription and to his mention in his father's will, Thomas Powell was the eldest son of Richard and Jane Garvey Powell. He died on June 9, 1862 and is buried at Benson with his widow, Emma. Thomas died intestate with an estate of under £600. His widow, Emma Powell, was granted administration. Thomas was living at Shillingford, Oxfordshire at the time of his death.

According to *A History of Benson* by E. M. R. Ditmas, Thomas married Emma Costar in 1841 and is said to have bought the Castle Inn in Benson. However, Thomas Powell (of the Window) owned the Castle Inn at the time of his death in 1851 so I think Ditmas is in error, having confused the two Thomas Powells.

**V. John George Powell.** John George Powell was born about 1823-4 in St. James, Clerkenwell, Middlesex, London.

In the 1841 census, John George appears in the household of his single sister, Mary Ann Powell, living in Benson. Their mother had died in February of that year and one assumes she had been part of the household until that time. There were three female servants including a nurse. The recent Benson history shows him listed in the Oxfordshire directory of farmers in 1847. In the 1851 census for Ewelme, we find the following entry for the house located two dwellings down from 'the Old Manor house':

|                    |         |           |    |  |
|--------------------|---------|-----------|----|--|
| John G. Powell     | Head    | Unmarried | 27 | Farmer of 200 acres employing<br>18 laborers |
|                    |         |           |    | b. St. James Clerkenwell                     |
| Plessey Wiggins    | Sister  | Widow     | 29 | b. St. James Clerkenwell                     |
| Mary A. Wiggins    | Visitor | Unmarried | 19 | b. St. Anne Blackfriars                      |
| Catharine Wiggins  | Visitor | "         | 14 | b. "   |
| William J. Wiggins | Visitor | "         | 17 | b. "   |

There is one female servant.

Plessey Wiggins is the older sister of John George and the Mary A. Wiggins is probably Plessey's niece and certainly the future wife of John George.

On 3 August 1853, John George Powell, bachelor of full age, farmer, resident of Ewelme, Oxfordshire, the son of Richard Powell, deceased, married Mary Ann Wiggins, spinster of full age, resident of St. Pancras Middlesex, daughter of William Wiggins, deceased, at the parish church of St. Pancras by license. The ceremony was performed by L. W. T. Dale and the witnesses were Frederick Wiggins and Catherine Wiggins.

Mary Ann Wiggins was the niece of Richard Wiggins who married John George Powell's older sister, Plessey. She was the child of William Wiggins, older son of William Wiggins, father of Richard, who is listed as a farmer on Richard's marriage in 1839. On Mary Ann's marriage record in 1853 her father is listed as William Wiggins, deceased.

John George Powell appears in the 1861 census for Wales (Tretower, District 4b, page 9) as John George Powell, aged 38, born in Clerkenwell, Middlesex and termed a Land Proprietor living at "Great House" at Tretower, Breconshire, three miles northwest of Crickhowell with his wife Mary Ann, 29, born Clerkenwell. (This is not Tretower Court manor house which by this date had become the rented farmhouse and in this census was labeled as *Court* and occupied by Thomas Powell (not one of ours), a farmer born in Llanigar farming 150 acres and employing two men. Right next door at *Castle House* was William Herbert, listed as an under gardner.) They have three servants, two women and a man (John and Mary Davies and Gwenllian Jones).

John George is listed as John G. Powell in the 1871 census, aged 47, born in Clerkenwell, Middlesex and his wife is listed Mary A. Powell, aged 39, born Clerkenwell. They are living in Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, at No. 5 St. Margaret's Terrace and the rest of their household is composed of three servants – one born in Herefordshire and two in Wales. The two servants born in Wales are man and wife and they have a 2 year old son born in Crickhowell, Breconshire, Wales.

In Slater's Directory for 1880, John George is listed as George Powell, Esq. at Glasllyn, Nantmel, a parish of Rhayader. In the 1881 census he is listed as John G. Powell, 57, landowner living at the same address, Glasllyn in Nantmel, Radnorshire, Wales. His wife, Mary A., is 49 and there are two female servants, a housemaid and a cook. The next entry is for Glasllyn Cottage where a laborer and his family live followed by a cottage called level crossing and two dwellings farther on Doldowlod Station where the station master lived.

John George Powell died at age 58 on September 8, 1881 and is buried at Benson. His will describes him as formerly of Cheltenham in the county of Gloucester and formerly of Crickhowell in the County of Brecon but late of Glasllyn, Rhayader in the county of Radnor, Esquire. He named William Thomas Coventon of No. 8 Gray's Inn Square, Gray's Inn, Middlesex, Gentleman, as a executor and the original will named William Bartholomew Goodey of Benson, Postmaster, as the second executor but a codicil to the will removed Goodey in favor of his wife, Mary Ann Powell.

John George left his wife £300 and all his wines, liquors and other comestibles plus her selection of all his furniture and other household goods. He left his wife the income from his two freehold cottages situate on Tamworth Lane in Mitchem, Surrey. After her death these were to go to his niece Mary Ann Pleasey Powell Prowse (elder daughter of his brother Richard) for her absolute use and enjoyment. The residue of his estate was to be liquidated and invested, the income going to his wife during her lifetime and after her death – 2 equal fourth parts to his niece Mary Ann Pleasey Powell Prowse; 1 equal fourth part to his nephew Thomas Powell, the surviving son of his brother Richard; and the remaining equal fourth part to his niece Esther Pierce Powell, the younger daughter of his brother Richard.

John George Powell's will was witnessed by James L. Figg, 13 Upper North Street, Caledonian Road N., Solicitor's Clerk; and George Thomas Morgan of 61 Hilldrop Crescent, Camden Road, London, North on 14 January 1881. The codicil was witnessed by Martha Thomas and R. Richardson, Physician of Rhayader on 20 July 1881. He died on 8 September 1881 at Glasllyn, Rhayader, Radnor. His estate had a gross value of £1850.11.1 and net value of £1578.14.2. Since he left his worldly goods to his wife and then to his nieces and nephews, it seems certain that the couple had no children.

Thomas Henry of the Letters notes that a George Powell of Cheltenham gave £5 to the Free Church [in Benson] and wonders who this might be noting that his father (John of the two families) had a cousin George who lived in Crickhowell, Wales. Apparently, both these references are to John George, son of Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Ray Street, Clerkenwell, and first cousin of our John of the Two Families.

**Second Generation: Thomas Powell (Christened 24 February 1716 - 1773)**

Son of George ❶ and Jane Pinnell Powell

**Thomas Powell**

Born 1716 ❷ Christened 24 February at Benson  
Died 1773 at Benson  
Married 27 December 1747 at Benson by banns

**Mary Bennet**

Born 1720 Christened 25 September at Benson  
Daughter of William Bennet Christened 27 June 1689 at  
Benson & Mary Williams Of St. Mary's, Oxford  
William was the son of Thomas and Ann Bennet  
Died 17 May 1769 at Benson

Thomas of the letters indicates that Bennet is a very old family name at Benson, there being Bennets at Benson from at least from the time of Henry VIII.

Children born at Benson:

1. Elizabeth ❸ b. 1748 Christened 26 December  
d.
2. Anne ❸ b. 1750 Christened 24 June  
d.
3. Mary ❸ b. 1752 Christened 10 December  
d.
4. **Thomas** ❸ b. 1756 Christened 4 January  
d. 20 October 1823 at Benson  
m. Mary Stockwell in 1774 at Benson

### **The Bennet Family**

The Bennet family has a long history in Benson and its environs. There are Bennet's in the Benson parish register as early as the 1590's. The name is spelled either Bennett or Bennet.

Mary Bennet married Thomas Powell at Benson in 1747. She was born in Benson in 1720, the daughter of William Bennet and Mary Williams.

William Bennet was christened in Benson on 27 June 1689, the son of Thomas and Ann Bennet. He married Mary Williams of St. Mary's Oxford in Benson on 28 December 1712. William Bennet and Mary Williams Bennet seem to have had only two children christened in Benson:

Mary Bennet christened 25 September 1720

William Bennet christened 4 August 1723

It is probable that they had other children born away from Benson.

**Second Generation: John Powell (1713-1756?)**

Son of George ❶ and Jane Pinnell Powell

**John Powell ❷**

Born 1713 at Benson

Died

Married 1738/9 at Benson

**Mary Button**

Born 1712 at Benson Daughter of John Button of Fifield and Marie Hunt,  
Widow of Cholsey

Died

Children Born at Benson:

1. William ❸ b. 1740  
m.  
d.

2. Mary ❸ b. 1742  
m. 1764 Joseph Hobbs, Bricklayer  
d.

3. John ❸ b. 1746  
m.  
d.

## First Generation: George Powell marries into Benson

### George Powell

Born c. 1675 – 1690 (?) away from Benson  
Died away from Benson

Married 20 January 1711 at Benson

### Jane Pinnell

Born 1685 Christened 19 January at Benson  
daughter of Peter & Hannah Pinnell (Penill)  
Died away from Benson

### Children Born at Benson:

1. George ② b. 1712 Christened 22 June  
d. 1714
2. John ② b. 1713 Christened 12 September  
m. 1738/9 7 January Mary Button, daughter of John & Mary Button  
at Benson and had 3 children at Benson: William, Mary &  
John b. 1746  
d.
3. Mary ② b. 1715 Christened 1 May  
d.
4. Thomas ② b. 1716 Christened 24 February  
m. 1747 27 December Mary Bennet at Benson  
d. 1773
5. George ② b. 1718 Christened 10 August  
m. 1746 16 October Mary Neale at Benson  
d.
6. Peter ② b. 1720 Christened 15 May  
m. 1749 26 March Mary Floyd at Benson (She died 1773)  
d. 1815
7. Henry ② b. 1721 Christened 8 December  
d. 1729
8. Elizabeth ② b. 1722 Christened 17 March (born 9 March)  
m. 1744 7 October Thomas Sparks at Benson  
d.
9. William ② b. 1725 Christened 6 June (born 23 May)  
d. 1727
10. William ② b. 1727 Christened 15 October (born 19 September)  
d.

### **The Pinnell Family**

Jane Pinnell married George Powell in Benson in 1711. Her family name is spelled in several different ways – Penill, Penil, Pinnell for instance.

She was christened in Benson on 19 January 1686, the daughter of Peter and Hannah Pinnell. The Benson parish records provide some picture of the family with the following children being born to the couple:

Jane Penill christened 19 January 1686

Hannah Penill christened 8 March 1687

Peter Penil christened 6 December 1688 and died 27 November 1689

Sarah Penill christened 10 July 1690 and died 22 July 1692

Sarah Penill christened 9 April 1693

John Penill christened 2 May 1695

Peter Pinnell christened 31 July 1699 died 14 January 1719

Peter Pinnel, the father, died 11 January 1729. Hannah, his wife, died 13 December 1739.

Apparently, the Pinnell family was not originally from Benson. Peter Pinnell was not born there and we have been unable to find a marriage record for him.

## A Powell Family Atlas of England and Wales

### Oxfordshire

**Benson (Bensington), Oxfordshire** Residence of the earliest Powell family of our line recorded to date. St. Helen's church has a mid-19<sup>th</sup> century chancel window in memory of Thomas Powell (Thomas of the Window and brother of our John of Pangbourne) and other members of the family "deposited in the churchyard." There are many Powells buried there including the ashes of the mother and father of Audrey Ruth Daphne, Charles Keith and David John.

Bensington was an important royal holding from earliest historical records. It was a Royal Ville until Charles I sold it to developers to raise money for his conflict with Parliament. It was a coaching town, a major stop on the London to Oxford road during the last 18<sup>th</sup> and first half of the 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. It was famous for its watercress which grew in the stream that runs through the village and through the rear of the property of Kingsford House..

**Kingsford House, High Street** The home of Thomas Powell of the Window who apparently bought the house before 1841 because he is living there in the 1841 census for Benson. In the 1851 census, he is living there with his widowed sister, Mary Powell Stevens. After his death, she and her second husband, Dr. Nicholas Caesar Corsellis lived in the house and he apparently had his surgery there. Following Mary Powell Stevens Corsellis' death, the house passed to John of the Two Families who lived there with his family until his death. It was then occupied by Fanny Powell, his unmarried daughter who was left its 'enjoyment' in John's will. It is unclear when the house was sold out of the family since Fanny apparently moved out of the house by 1901 and rented it out to others. During the period when it was apparently being rented out by Fanny, the house was called *Chiltern Lodge* and Thomas Henry of the Letters remembered the date of 1812 in the kitchen. At this time, we do not know who built the house or if 1812 was the date of building.

**Colne House, Brook Street** The home of Mary Ann Powell Corsellis. It belonged to her uncle, Thomas Powell of the Window, in 1841 but he left her the house in his will and she lived there all her life. It was later torn down and replaced with Observatory Close.

**Hale Farm** The home of Richard Ebenezer Powell, son of Richard Powell, Tire Smith of Clerkenwell, and nephew of Thomas Powell of the Window. Richard was left the farm by his uncle in 1850 and appears to have lived there all his adult life.

**St. Helen's Church** The parish church of Benson where many Powells are buried and where the chancel window is dedicated to Thomas Powell (1775-1851) and other members of the family 'deposited in the churchyard.'

**Ewelme, Roke, Berrick Salome, Brightwell, Crowmarsh Gifford, Littleworth** Villages near Benson (Bensington) where Thomas Powell of the Window owned land and buildings when he died in 1851.

**Nettlebed** Home of the family of Hannah Hussey who married John Powell of Pangbourne.

**Upper Basildon** Later home of Hannah Hussey's widowed mother, Mary Hussey. She lived in a cottage owned by John Powell when he died and he directed that it should be sold. His ex-mother-in-law was then over 80 years of age.

**Somerton** Current home of Andrew Powell.

### **Berkshire**

**Reading** The town where John Powell met and married his first wife, Hannah Hussey, and where their first children were born and a number buried. Hannah is also buried here.

**Sotwell** The early home of Richard Ebenezer Powell and his family. He was left a third interest in farms here by his uncle, Thomas Powell of the Window in 1851. In 1852, his brother George left him another third of the property. The remaining third had been left to his brother Thomas (of the many wives). Thomas – or at least his wife, Jane, lived here in the late 1860's and Jane died here.

**Wallingford** Home of Richard Ebenezer Powell and his family. Thomas Henry (Uncle Thomas of the Letters) and Charles Augustus knew it well. Uncle Thomas of the Letters discusses *Chiltern Lodge*, (which was a name given the house occupied by Uncle Thomas of the Window on the High Street in Benson) which had a date of 1812 on a kitchen wall and which he traveled to Wallingford in connection with its sale. On that trip, he noted that the chapel in the Market Place where they worshiped had become a Roman Catholic chapel.

**Winterbrook** In his later years, Richard Ebenezer in the Winterbrook district to the south of Wallingford and worshiped in the same chapel with the John Powell family. He lived on the Reading Road and, from census records, apparently in the last house before the town line. He called his home '*Brook Lodge*.' Thomas, brother of John of the Two Families also was resident in Winterbrook when he married his second wife, Jane. Winterbrook (at least where Thomas lived) was actually part of the parish of **Cholsey**.

**Pangbourne** The retirement home of John Powell and place of his death in 1850 and burial. Uncle Thomas of the Letters comments on John Powell (John of Pangbourne) having "the taste to lay out the property at Pangbourne." John's son, George, and the first wife of his son Thomas, Eleanor, are both buried near him in the churchyard in identically marked graves. John Powell apparently owned two houses in Pangbourne. One was bought by his son George who died in 1852. In George's will, he leaves this house, which is apparently leased, to his brother Thomas. The other house was occupied by Maria Hope Powell, second wife and widow of John, until her death. Uncle Thomas of the Letters clearly had strong memories of visiting in this house. He discusses his father reading Dickens aloud 'at Pangbourne. Pangbourne was also the home of Anna Allnutt Woolley who married John of Pangbourne's son, Richard Ebenezer Powell.

## Greater London

**St. George in the Borough (St. George the Martyr) Southwark** Thomas Powell (of the Window) married Fannie Coles, only daughter of Thomas Coles, Coachmaker of Benson, here in 1805.

**Ray Street, Clerkenwell** Site of carriage making firm whose partners included Thomas and John Powell in 1826 and where John Powell the Younger was an apprentice in the early 1800's. (By coincidence, or maybe not, the current pub on Ray St is called "The Coach and Horses" !)

**St. James, Clerkenwell** John Powell the Younger married Sarah Schwartz here in 1833.

**No. 3 White's Row, Spitalfields** The business address of Sebastian Schwartz, uncle of Sarah Schwartz who married John Powell in 1833. Mr. Schwartz was a capillaire maker and lived at Beckford Park, Kennington, Surrey. When he died in 1832 he left his business to his brother, Andrew Schwartz, Sarah's father. John Powell was listed as a manufacturer of spirit colouring at this address when he appeared in court as an executor of his father's will in 1850. White's Row is famous because one of Jack-the-Ripper's victims lived at No. 8 White's Row.

**Spencer Place, Goswell Road** Address of the Rev. John Peacock, friend of Andrew Schwartz and the man who performed the marriage of John Powell and Mary Ann Keen at the Tabernacle. It was also said to be the address of Mr. James Shick, a Baptist minister, before he left London for Pangbourne.

**No. 63 Fore Street, City of London** The business address of Thomas Powell, Oil and Italian Warehouseman, in 1850 when he appeared in court as an executor of his father's will.

**Powell's Place, City Road, Middlesex** The home address of Andrew Schwartz, father of Sarah Schwartz Powell, when he drew his will and added six codicils between 1850 and 1854.

**Bulls Place, Shepherdess Walk, City Road, Shoreditch** The residence of John Powell (of the Two Families) when he married Mary Ann Keen in 1851.

**No 11 Bonner Road, Victoria Park** The home address of Thomas Powell when he was named an executor of Andrew Schwartz' will in 1853.

**St. Lukes, Middlesex** The district where John Powell married Mary Ann Keen in 1851 at the Tabernacle. The marriage was performed by the Rev. John Peacock who was the pastor of Andrew Schwartz (he received a bequest from him in his will in 1854).

**Islington** The London area where John Powell (John of the Two Families) and Charles Augustus Powell lived. It is also where Mary Anne Cumberpatch married Charles Augustus in 1880.

**Highgate** An area of north London where Thomas Henry (Uncle Thomas of the Letters) apprenticed as a Chemist to John Broad. John Powell, eldest son of John Powell of the Two Families was buried here in Highgate Cemetery according to Uncle Thomas of the Letters. Thomas Henry Powell was an apprentice to John Broad at 14 Hornsey Rise, St. Mary Parish, learning to be a Pharmaceutical Chemist. Here Stewart John Powell attended school at Highgate School.

**23 St. Swithin's Lane** The London office of Charles Augustus Powell, Solicitor, who was with the firm of Sheffield Sons & Powell.

**116 Denmark Hill, Surrey** Home of Thomas Henry Powell during his adult life. It was here that he reared his family.

**27 Endymion Terrace** Home of Emma Keen Bayne widowed sister of Mary Ann Keen Powell, who ran a boarding house and also the address of William Arthur Powell, 36 year old architect, when he appeared as an executor of his father's estate in 1892.

**20 Ashmont Road N19, Hornsey Lane, Crouch End, London** Home of Charles Augustus Powell and his family apparently from the time of Stewart John's birth. The address is on a piece of printed personal stationary in the family collection.

**44 Ritherdon Road, Balham** Home of John Henry Powell (Cousin John), son of Thomas Henry (Uncle Thomas of the Letters) and where Thomas Henry spent half of his time after his wife died.

**14 Underhill Road, Dulwich** Home of Thomas Arthur Powell, son of Thomas Henry (Uncle Thomas of the Letters) and where Thomas Henry spent the other half of his time after his wife died.

**23 Tennyson Road, Penge** The home of 'Cousin Dick', son of Richard Ebenezer Powell and visited by Uncle Thomas of the Letters.

**Muswell Hill** A North London area where Stewart John Powell lived when Audrey was young and prior to his second marriage.

**Forest Gate** West Ham area where the Stevens family lived and where Frederick Charles Freylach married Mary May Stevens.

**253 Thorold Road, Ilford** Home of the Freylach family when Ida Emma was born in 1907.

**24 Wyatt Road, Upton Cross, West Ham** Home of the Freylach family when Ida Emma married Stewart John Powell. They were probably living here when Frederick Charles Freylach died.

**Beehive Lane, Ilford** Home of Stewart John and Ida Emma Powell when first married. Charles Keith was born here.

**4 Exeter Gardens, Ilford** The home of Stewart John Powell and his family after his second marriage. It was here that David John was born in 1939 and that Ida Emma died in 1952. It was here that Tigg, a most remarkable dog, enriched the Powell family's life and that Mrs. Emily Corbett came to 'do' for the family.

**Theydon Bois** 21 Orchard Drive in Theydon Bois was the home of Stewart John Powell and Audrey Powell after they left Ilford, until his death.

### Others

**Alton, Hampshire and Ferring, Sussex** The places where Ida Emma Freylach Powell spent the war years with her mother, Mary May Stevens Freylach, and her two sons, Charles Keith and David John, when they evacuated from London. The boys participated (in an unauthorized fashion) in war games at Alton as the allies got ready to invade Fortress Europe and watch when the planes flew over hour after hour for D-Day.

**Charlton Marshall, Dorset** Retirement home of Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell.

**Cheltenham, Gloucestershire** The home of John George Powell, cousin of John of the Two Families and son of Richard, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell. He was resident there in the 1871 census and made a donation to the Free Church in Benson while living there.

**Dorchester, Dorset** Current home of Mark Powell.

**Gillingham, Suffolk** Home of the family of Mary Ann Keen, second wife of John Powell of the Two Families. Mary Ann Keen's sister-in-law, wife of her brother Henry, was born a Clark and her father was an undertaker. The Keen's were not proud of the Clarks according to Uncle Thomas of the Letters. This Henry Keen apparently had a son called Harry (I think the Edward H. recorded in the 1871 census) which whom Uncle Thomas of the Letters corresponded concerning the Keen family. It was from this cousin Harry Keen that Uncle Thomas had the story of Mary Ann Keen's father setting up an "opposition chapel" in Gillingham because of a feud with the minister of the established church who had been a good friend. Grandfather Keen swore to take away all the congregation from the established church and apparently did so. All this information is from Uncle Thomas of the letters.

**Horsham, Sussex** Charles August Powell and his wife retired to Craigmere, Rusper Road, Horsham. It was here that she died and he lived on alone with his son, Don, and during the late 1920's with his sister-in-law, Judith Cumberpatch (at the time of the Thomas Henry letters).

**Ilfracombe, Devon** Home of Ada and Ina Powell, spinster daughters of Richard Ebenezer Powell. Audrey Ruth Daphne Powell remembers visiting them with her father, Stewart John Powell. They were born in Sotwell, Berkshire, and were cousins of Thomas Henry and Charles Augustus Powell.

**Llanwarne, Herefordshire** Current home of Margaret Havell Humfrey

**Mitcham, Surrey** Site of property owned by Richard Powell, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell which he left to his children when he died.

**Newport, Isle of Wight** Former home of the Simon Powell family and birthplace of Katie Powell.

**Newton Abbot, Devon** Current Home of the Simon Powell family.

**Ropley, Hampshire** A village where Stewart John and his family rented a holiday cottage. Audrey reports that she loved it. It was here that Ida Emma went with her mother, May Freylach, during the Munich crisis in 1938 when she was pregnant with David John.

**Spetisbury, Dorset** Current home of Charles Keith and Joan Powell and of Audrey Powell.

**Worthing, Hampshire** The home of Miss Edith Bourne and the first place to which Ida Emma Powell, her mother and children, Charles Keith and David John, were evacuated at the beginning of World War II. Worthing was also the home of the Slade 'ladies' including Muriel, a particular favorite of Thomas Henry (of the letters). In addition, a number of Clara Powell Slade's sisters and brothers seem to have settled there in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, perhaps for their health.

### *Wales*

**Tretower, Crickhowell, Brecon** Home of John George Powell, son of Richard, Tiresmith of Clerkenwell, and first cousin of John of the Two Families. He was resident there in the 1861 census.

**Glaslyn, Nantmel, Rhayader, Radnor** Final home of John George Powell and site of his death.

**Llanelly, Wales** Birthplace of Esther, second wife of Richard Powell, son of Richard Tiresmith of Clerkenwell. Also birthplace of Seth Valentine Lewis, the third and final husband of Matilda Grace Shick Powell, widow of Thomas Powell.

**Mold, Flintshire** The home of David's godmother, Molly, where Ida Emma Freylach Powell and her two sons, Charles Keith and David John, went when they evacuated from the

Southeast. They could see the glow of the fires in Liverpool when the Germans bombed the docks and oil storage tanks on the Mersey.