

'M E C C A' N E W S

No. 16

August 1985

Dear Member,

I would like to add my welcome to the new members to that of our Secretary and hope that they derive much pleasure and help from belonging to the Society.

I regret to say that I received no "applications" for the job of Editor so the vacancy remains. If anyone feels they can take on this job I should be pleased to hear from them. In order to ensure the survival of the Society I feel that more people are involved, the better.

I received a plea from Mrs. Helen Offer who keeps the General Index for people to include return postage when they send her a request for help. This also applies to our new Keeper of the Index, Mr. George Buxton. It may not be generally realised what a large amount of time, work and expense went into the compilation of this Index and the Keepers would appreciate it if members recognised this. It is, after all, a free service by volunteers which can only continue if expenses are paid, so please, members, try to remember this!

Finally may I wish you all a happy holiday if you have not already had it and a successful summer family-historywise.

Best Wishes,

Vera Adams (Ed.)

SECRETARY'S NOTES

July 1985

Summer at last! I do hope you are all enjoying fine holidays and, if you manage to include some research, new discoveries.

Our advertisement in the Dalesman in April resulted in three new members but I must admit to a slight disappointment in the number of replies. Would an Autumn time advert bring an improvement I wonder? The more serious situation is the LOSS of 15 members who have not renewed their memberships. In an effort to try and find the reason behind this, I shall write to each one personally but as they have already received "reminders", I doubt if any will return to the fold at this late stage. We do welcome your criticisms and/or complaints so never leave it too late for us to correct our faults - let us know!

Our sincere thanks to all our members who very kindly sent extra donations at subscription time, these will be carefully nursed and held in reserve against future major expenses. The new edition of the Mormon I.G.I. which was due for publication this summer has been delayed by their errors and will not now appear until autumn at the earliest, but more than likely in spring 1986. The decision will then have to be made on whether or not we intend to buy "print-outs" as before your opinions would be appreciated.

Anyone hoping to visit Northallerton County Record Office will be relieved to hear that all charges have now been dropped. However, this has meant a large increase in attendance figures, so EARLY booking is advised. They have also introduced a self-service system which works extremely well - once you know the ropes, though don't let that put you off, help is at hand if required.

Nina Benson

NEW ADDRESS

89Mr. Douglas E. Metcalfe. June 1985 From Houston, Texas, U.S.A.
to: 545 Belmont Avenue W. Apt 1001, KITCHENER, Ontario, CANADA, N2M 5G7

G.L.C.

No! Not the Greater London Council, but the Genealogical Library Catalogue

This is the newest and largest catalogue. It is on microfiche and it lists records and materials located in the main genealogical library in Salt Lake City, Utah. The records have been gathered from all over the world. The GLC is used by Branch Genealogical Libraries to order records from Salt Lake City. This catalogue represents 10 times the number of names in the I.G.I. (international Genealogical Index). There are four sections in the GLC.

1. Author/Title Section: Used when author of title of book is known
2. Locality Section: used to discover records pertaining to the area in which an ancestor lived.
3. Surname: Used to discover family histories, newsletters, biographies etc. compiled by other researchers.
4. Subject Section. Used to find general items such as Huguenots, Polish Jews, English Abbeys etc.

A copy of the GLC is held in the library of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) at Exhibition Road, Kensington, London, and having found the reference, one can apply for the particular page of the microfiche to be obtained from Salt Lake City, free of charge but paying the postage costs.

DHO

The following article on "Southerscales George" was sent by Mr. H.E. Crossfield, Member No.58

SOUTHERSCALES GEORGE

Although for a long time I have know much about him, he really has been a problem. There were two marriages of George, whether of one person or of two different people for a long time was not clear. Then from the numerous baptisms of children of George in the Ingleton Fells area it looked as if more than one George was having children christened and these extended over a long period of years. There was a great temptation to assume that this George was brother to William Metcalfe, a copy of whose will made in 1747 I now have, or even brother to his two sons John and Robert, referred to in that will, particularly as this group seems to be associated with Southerscales as well as Weathercote. However, Mrs. Offer in Mecca 12 considering Metcalfes of Raisgill etc. asks what happened to George b. 27/3/1700 the son of the first Christopher, well I will try to tell her.

Those of us who have been researching the Metcalfes of the area have known for some time of a will made 1/8/1786 by George of Southerscales but if and how that fitted in was by no means clear, however, Miss Linda Huntington traced the will of Jonathan Batley made 6/8/1768 and that was the key which turned the lock.

Jonathan must I think have been either a bachelor or a childless widower, he appoints his sister, Elizabeth Metcalfe the wife of George Metcalfe of Southerscales as his sole executor and bequeathes her the residue of his estate, incidently Jonathan was yeoman of Southerscales which suggests that he was making his home with his sister and his brother in law George Metcalfe. Elizabeth proved the will 12/8/1772 which was some four years later.

Jonathan's will also provides for a number of legacies which are helpful in determining the family pattern. First there are bequests of £15 to his brother John Batley, £15 to his brother Joshua, and £15 to Joshua the son of his late brother James. The will goes on, £15 to his god-daughter and niece Catherine Metcalfe, £10 to his nephew Anthony Metcalfe, to his nephew Joshua Metcalfe £10, to his niece Margaret Metcalfe £10, to his niece Isabel Metcalfe £10, to his niece Elizabeth Metcalfe £10, and to his niece Agnes Metcalfe £10.

So, I think it is reasonable to presume that this will gives a complete list of the children of the marriage of George Metcalfe (his second) to Elizabeth Batley surviving at the time that he Jonathan made his will in 1768.

Except in two cases those receiving legacies in Jonathan's will can be identified with details collected from records, the baptisms being from Ingleton Fells, thus:

Catherine m Bibby, named after her grandmother and received a larger legacy possibly because she was a god-daughter
George later of Ivescar, p Bentham m 1 at Horton 6/5/1782 Isabella Greenbank of Gillgarth who was buried 25/1/1783, m 2 Agnes Burkit 23/5/1785 Ingleton Fell
Elizabeth b 20/2/1743 m Blant
Anthonly b 16/5/1744, d 4/8/1803 Thornton in Lonsdale m 1770 Margt. Jackson
..... Linda Huntington traces her descent 5 generations down this marriage
Margaret b 25/10/1747 m Swaites
Isabel b 11/6/1750 die d pre 1786 m 1771 Geo. Ward
Lawrence b 18/6/1753 bur 8/1/1773 Ingleton
Agnes b 12/5/1754 m Rawes, they had 13 children.
Joshua b 16/11/1757 m 1781 Agnes Brown, children George b 1782 and Betty b 1783

The baptism of Catherine has not yet been traced neither has that of George at a date which would make him offspring of Elizabeth and the 1739 marriage. There are however other baptisms at the small chapel at Ingleton Fells of children of George and these must I think be further children of Elizabeth so I list them:

Thomas b 29/10/1741
James b 23/4/1749, d 1750
Jonathan b 14/1752 d 1752
William b 24/4/1756 d 1757
Thomas b 3/10/1760 d 1763
Jonathan b 22/4/1763 d 1763

Jonathan made his will in 1768, so the children listed would then be deceased as the dates show although as yet no burial has been found for Thomas. Where names duplicate then obviously the first so names must have died by the time the same name was given to a second.

If what I have set out already is correct then Elizabeth had 15 children, she was buried 8/2/1788

Now let us turn to consider the will of George of Southerscales which he made 1/8/1786 which his executors, George and John, (sons) proved 21/12/1786, George admitted to being in 'a weak state of health'. The terms are difficult to grasp the full meaning.

He first bequeathes a legacy of £15 'to my son Christopher' to be paid at the end of one year (a quite usual provision) 'out of my Right and Mortgage upon my late Estate, known by the name of Southerscales aforesaid as will appear from my Security'. I will return later to the words 'my son' but note the reference to Southerscales as his late Estate. I submit that he was no longer the owner, having previously been such, and that when he had parted with the property he retained a mortgage over Southerscales probably to cover the part of the purchase consideration that the buyer could not provide or perhaps George did not wish him to provide in case it embarrassed him for cash and very probably the sale being an amicable arrangement amongst relations.

George's will goes on to provide that his wife Elizabeth (she did not die till 8/2/1788) should have interest at the rate of 4% per annum on the residue of his estate as long as she should live. Thereafter he directed that residue should be divided into nine parts, one to his son John, one to George, one to Agnes Rawes, one to Cath. Bibby, one to Eliz. Blant, one to Margt Swaites and one to Anty. Matcalfe 'all of whom are my lawfully begotten children'. This unusual wording I submit indicates something and that is that Christopher referred to in the will and above as 'my son' was not lawfully begotten, hence he does not share in residue and his benefit of £5 is immediate whereas the others have to await the termination of Elizabeth's life interest.

So far George has only disposed of seven of these one ninth parts. He goes on, one ninth to be divided amongst the three children of his late daughter Isabel Ward, and one ninth to the children of his son Joshua he does not say how many, it seems there were two, neither does he indicate that Joshua was deceased but I presume he then was. The actual words are 'children of my son Joshua Metcalfe lawfully begotten' so any illegitimate offspring of Joshua if such there were, are excluded but again it may be intended to emphasise that Christopher was not lawfully begotten. This will I submit serves to indicate which of George's children by his two marriages survived or had died leaving issue at the time that he made his will in 1786. He married Margaret Thompson 11/1/1726 and she was buried 7/11/1738. Between those dates George had baptised at Ingleton Fells children as follows:

Margaret, named obviously after her mother, b 16/1/1731 bur. 5/9/1736

Agnes b 13/10/1732

James b 8/9/1734

John b 4/10/1734 he married Eleanor Whaley from whom over five generations I trace my descent.

George b 25/2/1737 d 1737

These five baptisms must have been children of Margaret, so with the 15 to whom Elizabeth was mother, and the illegitimate Christopher who was baptised 5/6/1727 at Ingleton as son of George, he George must have had a total of 21 children. Was there perhaps another George having children baptised at the same period at Ingleton Fells which is one and the same as Chapel le Dale. These extracted records for Ingleton Fell for these early baptisms give neither the mother's name nor the parent's residence, reference now needs to be made to the original register if possible.

Agnes and James obviously must have died before those children of Elizabeth of the same name baptised in 1754 and 1749 respectively. As far as I can see George seems to have been haphazard in naming his children for legacies, but note that there was no benefit for Lawrence who was surviving when Jonathan Batley made his will in 1768, but who must have died childless in 1773 before George made his will in 1786. Also note there is only one child, John, of the first marriage who survived to share with the children of the second marriage under the will.

Much of this I realise is sketchy, but I have considerably more information which continues and adds at certain points. However I think it desirable to make known this outline of George's family as it may provide a base for others researching this group of Metcalfes. If the outline needs correction on any point then I would be glad to learn of the amendment needed, in the meantime my line back to Christopher is ascertained. The problem is who was the father of Christopher who in 1697 married Catherine Leake, and is it not odd that whilst Christopher had only two children (traced) Phebie and George, that George had 21, if Christopher's will could be traced then that might confirm his family.

H. E. Crossfield 4/2/1985

Thanks are due to Mrs. Margaret Metcalfe, our Treasurer, for the following list, which she thought might be of interest to someone. Mrs. Metcalfe has met a descendent of the family, Annie Hugill, who lives at Askrigg, and whose grandmother was either Jane, born 1843 or Margaret, born 1833.

Edward & Isabella Allen
of Widdale

↓
Thomas Allen
Born 30/8/1802

Died 4/2/1876

<-- Married -->
2/3/1826

Issue

John & Isabella Metcalfe
of Thwaite Swaledale

↓
Eleanor Metcalfe
Born 11/12/1803

Died 10/1/1860

Isabella born at Gayle	8/11/1826 died 6/4/1886	Marr. Thomas Metcalfe of Hawes sons Thomas, Edward, Isaac
Elizabeth born at Snaizholme	11/11/1828 died 1/9/1892	Marr. James Jackson of Appersett sons James, Thomas, Alexandra, Edward
Hannah born at Snaizholme	24/3/1831 died 27/12/1857	
Margaret born at Fossdale	22/11/1833 died Jan. 1915	Marr. William Metcalfe of Widdale sons Christopher, Thomas
Edward born at Fossdale	1/10/1835	Marr. Agnes Blenkorn of Gayle, son Thomas Edward, dau. Eleanor
Eleanor born at Fossdale	8/6/1838 died	1903 Marr. Edmund Peacock?
John born at Fossdale	6/2/1841	? son Thomas Edward
Jane born at Fossdale	21/6/1843 died 5/12/1900	Marr. William Metcalfe? Elizabeth, Jane, William, and Isabel
Thomas born at Fossdale	26/2/1849 died 11/11/1898	

The following letter was sent to us by Mrs. Josi Birkbeck, Member No. 120. It was inside a book which she bought recently in which there is a large printed pedigree of the Earl of Wiltes (Simon Conyers Scrope of Danby and Yore) (1899) by John Henry Metcalfe, the writer of the letter. The pedigree is from 1303 to 1869 and states every birth, death and marriage duly proved.

Mrs. Birbeck asks if any member would like a copy to get in touch with her. She also asks if anyone can tell her anything about The Porch House, Northallerton. Her address is Bell Cottage, Bell St., Feltwell, Norfolk IP26 4AL

**The Porch House,
North-Allerton,
Yorkshire.**

*The Porch House, North-Allerton, the
homestead of a younger branch of the Met-
calfes of Trapppa Hall in Wensleydale, is
of various dates from the time of Q. Eliz. (1584)*

to Geo. III. (1784). Upon an oak beam in the house is carved the date 1584 with the initials of Richard Metcalfe and Margaret his wife, in whose family the property is still vested, RM 1584. RM. 1584 MM. Over the porch entrance is the date 1674 with the initials WM-AM. for William Metcalfe and his wife Anna, daughter of Sir George Marwood of Little Busby, Baronet. WM. 1674 AM.

The same date and initials may be seen on an oak beam in the Tapestry room at the south end of the house to the right of the photograph.

In 1646 King Charles I. was detained by the Scots as a pledge for the £400,000 which they claimed as his ransom. Early in Jan^y 1647 the money, made up in bags of £1000 each, conveyed from York in thirty-six carts, under a strong escort, passed the Porch House, North-Allerton, on the way to Newcastle-on-Tyne. Half the amount was at once counted into the hands of the Scottish receiver at Newcastle and on the 30th of Jan^y the King was delivered up to the Commissioners of the English Parliament, three lords and six commons, of whom one was the notorious and worthless Earl of Pembroke, husband of the celebrated Anne Clifford, Baroness de Clifford, Countess of Dorset, Pembroke and Montgomery.

The Commissioners with their royal prisoner arrived at North-Allerton on their way to York in Feb^y, and rested at the Porch House, where the second half of the ransom was paid to the Scots & a receipt signed on Feb^y 3rd. Tradition says that the King made an attempt to escape out of a window at the south end of the house. In 1639-40 Charles I. when on the march to Scotland against the Covenanters was entertained at the Porch House, then the abode

of Geo. Metcalfe a Barrister of Gray's Inn & J.P.
for the North Riding. In 1641 the King is said to
have again stayed at the Parch House. In 1642
Geo. Metcalfe died leaving a family of young and
motherless children.

"Dorch House. Charles I. bivouacked here in 1639"
See Ordnance Map of North-Allerton. 1854,
scale 6 inches to a foot.

Ingle den's "His. of N. Allerton". Saywell's "Annals
of N. A.". Langdale's "His. of N. A.". Canon Rainey's
York &c. John Henry Metcalfe Aug. 1906

NEW MEMBERS.

Our welcome is extended to you all and we trust that everyone obtains
some benefit from their membership.

BIRTH BRIEFS

124 Mrs I.M. Hide, 30 Windy Hill Lane, Marske by Sea, Redcar, Cleveland.
TS11 7BN.

Mr & Mrs Hide are first cousins - descendants of Annie Mary MTE b 1881 Spofforth
Yks (and her husband John Parkin HIDE) and her brother Charles Elsworth MTE
b 1883 Spofforth (and his wife Annie May FALLISER). Annie & Charles were 4th
and 5th children of Charles & his wife Mary (Lockwood). Charles b 1851 at
Spofforth 6th of 9 children of James & Mary. James b 1810 Masham ? son of
James & Elizabeth (Cundall) who mar at Masham.

125 Mr L. Robertshaw, 11 Sussex Way, Darlington, Co. Durham, DL1 2LQ.

Related to Martha MT b 1788 Wakefield Yks, who mar Joseph Whiteley & lived
in Halifax. Martha was dau of Thomas & Hannah MT.

126 Mrs Rita Cawthra, 23 Belmont Rise, Low Moor, Bradford, West Yks: BD12 OPB.
dau of Jack Wallace METCALF & his wife Maud BURROW. Jack b 1908 Bradford Yks
son of Ephriam Wallace MT and his wife Constance Austerberry. Ephriam b 1882
son of George Watling MT and his wife Charlotte Ames.

127 Mrs Esther Rainey, F2/66 Waimairi Road, Christchurch 4, NEW ZEALAND.

Grand-dau of Esther MTE and her husband Ed:Thomas HACK. Esther dau of John
MTE and his wife Rebecca Withell and was born in New Zealand. John b 1837
Ainderby Steeple, Yorkshire, England, son of Thomas & Esther (Hall) who mar
23.11.1829 Danby Wiske, Yks. Thomas b 1809 Warlaby (near Northallerton) Yks
son of Elias & Mary (Hunter) who mar 22.11.1806 Ainderby Steeple. Elias
possibly b 1746 Thornton Watlass, Yks, son of Thomas & Ann (Meek) who mar
1728 Thornton Watlass. Thomas b 1705 T.W. son of Elias 'of Rookwith'.

128 Mrs Sharon Nicholson, RD2 Box 311, Gowanda, New York 14070. U.S.A.

husband is descendant of James William Nicholson b 1862 Low Whita, Swaledale,
Yks, ENG. who was son of William Nicholson and his wife Margaret METCALFE.
Margaret b 1836 Healaugh, Swaledale was dau of James & Margaret (Roathledge)
who mar 1827 Grinton. James b 1805 'of Crackpot' Swaledale son of William
& Margaret (Raw) who mar 1804 Grinton. William b c1781 Whitaside, Swaledale.

129 Mr Peter Metcalfe, 17 Bowness Avenue, Bromborough, Wirral. L63 0EY.
son of John Edward METCALFE & his wife Florence May Cherril who mar c1921
Darlington, Durham. John Edward b 1886 Darlington, son of James & his 2nd
wife Eliza GILES who mar 1883 ?Darlington. James b 1855 ?

130 Mr Christopher J. Metcalf, 18 Westfield Drive, Westaston, Crewe, Cheshire.
nothing known yet.

Notes from Mrs. Nancy H. Metcalfe, Hughes, Canberra, Aust. Member No. 115

1. There is a small town in the State of Victoria Australia named METCALFE
I was told by Latrobe Lib in Melbourne that it was named after "Baron Metcalfe"
one time Governor General of Canada.
2. Whilst visiting Ottawa, a few years ago, I noticed a street in the main part of the
city named METCALFE STREET.
3. Told by another Metcalfe, at a party in London a few years ago, that the Metcalfes
fought for Bonnie Prince Charlie. They were all over 6 feet tall and 100 were killed
afterwards Bonnie Prince Charlie said that all Metcalfes were entitled to wear the
Stuart Tartan. Is this true?

FAMOUS METCALF(E)S - BARON METCALFE, GOVERNOR GENERAL OF CANADA

Baron Metcalfe, the Governor General of Canada, (referred to above) was born 30th
Jan. 1785 in Calcutta and died in Hampshire on 5th Sept. 1846, second son of Major
(later Sir) Thomas Theophilus Metcalfe of the Bengal Army. Educated at Eton and in
1801 entered the Indian Civil Service where promotion was rapid. He was, for a year,
provisional Governor General of India, retired from the service in 1838 and served with
distinction as the Governor of Jamaica 1839-42.

His appointment as Governor General of Canada in 1843 came at a critical time.
His predecessor in office, Sir Charles Bagot, had conceded, in effect, the demands of
the Reformers, for responsible government, but the Colonial Office was not yet prepared
to accept the principle without reservations. In November 1843, Metcalfe, carrying out
the policy of his superiors, provoked the resignation of his ministers, headed by Baldwin
and LaFontaine, by failing to consult them about an official appointment. For nine months
he carried on the Government with the aid of a single minister; then, having formed a
Conservative Administration, he appealed to the country in November 1844 and was sustained
at the polls. However, he was already the victim of a malignant disease that obliged
him to retire in 1845. Sir Charles had succeeded to the baronetcy on the death of an
elder brother in 1822; in 1845 he was created Baron Metcalfe of Fern Hill. He was un-
married and the barony became extinct on his death. As an administrator he was
exceptionally able and upright; doubtless because of his identification with an unpopular
cause, justice has never been done in Canada to his self-sacrificing zeal and integrity.

From the Encyclopedia Canadana Vol.7 Grolier, 1965 Ottawa.

The above was sent by Miss Flora Metcalfe of Canada, Member No. 26

From Ex Member No. 115 Mrs. Nancy H. Metcalfe, Canberra, Australia

"The Jewel in the Crown", as a phrase describing how Britain regarded India at the high-noon
of Empire, has now become a cliché - but it does capture wonderfully and succinctly
that uncharacteristic emotional attachment which India did and still does exert for the
British people.

The allure of India during Britain's long stay (over 300 years) was felt not only by
those who served on the spot, but also reached into the hearts and imaginations of Britons
at home.

It may be nearly 40 years since the Somerset Light Infantry marched off through
the Gateway of India to formally end Britain's suzerainty, but the popularity of recent
films and TV programs attest to the undying appeal that tales of the sub-continent and
of the Raj still have.

But long after these programs have been forgotten the buildings which the British
erected in India will remain as more lasting memorials.

A timely reminder of this legacy has been compiled by Morris and Winchester in 'Stones of Empire', a handsome and generously illustrated chronicle, in both black-and-white and colour, of what the British left architecturally.

It is not just a dry guide to a clutch of monumental buildings. It covers the whole range of Britain's unrivalled construction in India, from up-country bungalow and railway stations to cantonments, churches and the more majestic civic and public buildings. For as Morris notes, "there were few villages in India where the empire-builders did not leave some physical sign of their passing" in a way that was unmistakably theirs.

With Morris's text and Winchester's photographs goes not just details about the buildings but the background, "the mingled emotions, at once so arrogant and so homesick, of British imperialism", that they express.

Probably the most stately of these imperialistic expressions is to be found in New Delhi, where the buildings in their style, dimension and form emphasise the ruling power and its might in a manner reminiscent of Rome and its empire.

It was intended to be an "organic partner" of the old walled city of the Mogul emperors but it did not work out that way. Though flawed in various architectural ways, it was still a great stroke even if the rising tide of Indian nationalism was already rocking the foundations of British tenure.

The building of New Delhi and the work of its principal architects Edwin Lutyens and Herbert Baker, is told in 'Indian Summer' a soft-cover reissue of Robert Grant Irving's book first published in 1981.

Morris, of course, also deals with New Delhi, but not in the great detail that Irving provides. His book is lavishly illustrated but it lacks the more general appeal of 'Stones of Empire'. It is interesting though, in putting on record the work of the obscure architects who also made a significant contribution in the building of the new city.

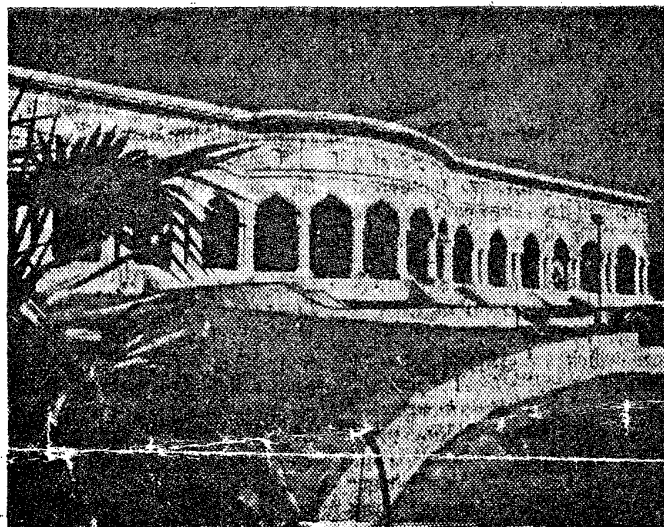
Lutyens and Baker in New Delhi worked in simplified and modernised classical forms which also embodied Indian influences although they broke no new ground in the sense that Frank Lloyd Wright and Le Corbusier were to do, particularly in functional design.

However, the Council House (now Parliament), the Viceroy's Palace (now the presidential residence), the government secretariat buildings and the wonderful vistas strongly project the imperial capital concept, even if Baker could not get his gradients right.

Bricks of Britain's raj

STONES OF EMPIRE: By Jan Morris, with Simon Winchester. Oxford UP. 234pp. \$45.
INDIAN SUMMER: Lutyens, Baker and Imperial Delhi. By Robert Grant Irving. Yale UP. 406pp. \$29.95 (paper).

Reviewer:
JOHN FARQUHARSON



Metcalfe House in Delhi, built in the 1830s, gutted in the 1857 Mutiny, now a science library for the Indian Ministry of Defence.

Mrs. Barbara Murray, Member No. 95, has sent the following ghostly account.

ACCOUNT OF THE APPEARANCE OF MR. PETER METCALFE, (of Brigg in Lincolnshire)
AFTER DEATH

It is first to be observed that Mr. Metcalfe died when his wife was on a visit to her friends in York, therefore he could not be prevailed upon to make a Will in her absence.

She was sent for by Express, but did not arrive in time, therefore 'tis conjectured that the reason for his appearance might be owing to his affairs not being properly settled. He died August 24th 1757 and ye following happened in Nov 57. Mr. Gifford (whose serv't Mr M appeared to) is Mrs. Metcalfe's Uncle, she being the daughter of the present Mrs. More of York, his own sister.

Mr. G. - was at Brigg with his niece when the affair happen'd; his Man had never seen Mr. Metcalfe, being taken into Mr. G's service, since his death. - Mr. Metcalfe had made a kind of verbal Will in the presence of three Witnesses - of some particulars mention'd in the following relation. Viz, a legacy to his Youngest Bro, & an Annuity to a Mrs. Dorothy Beeston, who had been housekeeper in the family in his Father's time - & by which 'tis judged he might be under some obligations to her, from the remarkable instance which ensued.

Copy of a letter from Jane Cliffe of Brigg (Daughter of the late Mr. Metcalfe's Brother) to Eliza Shuttleworth of Hodsock Woodhouse near Blythe, in the County of Nottingham Daughter of the above Mrs. Metcalfe's Sister.

THE LETTER FOLLOWS.....

Brigg Dec 11th 1757

My Dear Cousin,

Your kind favour I received and your next will be longer as you will have more subject to write upon.

I am in no want this time, having a very odd affair to relate, which I think you will be much surprised at. - It is in regard of disturbances that has lately been at Mrs. Metcalfe's - The first was taken note of by Mrs. M- & the maid who slept with her - who heard the doors unlock and lock again - & as they thought some one came up the stairs, it seemed to rush past her room door. The next night Mr. Gifford's Man heard a noise like that of a horse come up the passage into ye yard & someone alight from it, the back parlour sash was thrown up & as he thought some one got in and came up stairs, walked past his room door, gave three growns, & seemed to go out at a passage window on the same floor - which is two pair of stairs - and he judged by the sound, ye window must be broke in pieces, but in the morning was quite safe - the same night the cook heard a great noise in the kitchen, as the chairs were thrown about in a confused manner, a large do that lay in the house ran up the back stairs and in the morning appeared much frightened, ran out, & would not be tempted to come near the house for some time after -.

A day or two after this, the same Man was in the stable taking care of his horses which seemed unquiet, & there came terrible flashes of lightening into every standing, at which the horses were so affrighted they were with great difficulty kept in the stable - About a week after the first noise was heard, Mr. Gifford's Man saw Uncle Metcalfe standing by his bedside with white wands in his hands, the Man had not courage to speak, on which He gave three great shrieks & went away - they were still terrified every night for a fortnight - A priest was sent for viz Mr. Anderson, who examined the Man & directed him how to proceed in case my Uncle should appear to him again which He very soon did. The room door opened & his curtains undrew - there is two beds in that room: the curtains of the other bed undrew at the same time, and there came in a Man and a Woman. The Man in a shroud & face cloth - Ye Woman in a dark gown, checked apron, a white cloak, & clean chip hat on, they walked about the room, & seemed to talk a great deal, but in a language the Man could not understand - The room was as light as if many candles had been in it - They both sat down on ye other bed, & the Man said there must be many things settled before his Soul could be at rest - She got up and said We must go, the

Messenger is come for us. She went out first, & he followed her, then all the light disappeared - It was Thursday night.

The Man and Woman appeared on the Sunday after. The door opened and my Uncle came in in his own cloaths and stood by the bed which his hands held up - The young man then spoke as instructed and asked who He was and what he wanted? I am Peter Metcalfe. He replied. And am come to desire that my brother Nicolas's Money may be paid as soon as possible, & that Dorothy Beeston may be paid also, and tell Bridget Metcalfe to get three masses said for me at three publick Chapels. I also desire that she and my Brother Marmaduke would agree about their affairs, and that she will not disturb Mr. Knight, but be merciful.

Ne said he wished his Bro. Nicholas to be taken into?.....again if possible would never turn & that Bridget and the rest must do their endeavour for it - that he has been in purgatory till then on his own account, but was now on his Bro. Nicholas's account - that he should come once more before he went to Heaven, which he hoped would be soon, it might be the Thursday after or the Tuesday after that at farthest - He told many more things than I can now remember. I have told you the heads - Well - According to promise He came again on the Thursday after night, told the young man he was then going to Heaven, appeared in the same dress as before -

Mr. Metcalfe would not believe a word of anything the man had heard or seen, so he then desired him to leave a mark, to which at first he did not seem he could not be believed - But Clap'd his hand across the man's breast, who flinched. Uncle then bid him not to be afraid he would not hurt him, then clap'd his hand on again & said that would be sufficient mark. I have seen it, it very much resembles blood & is in the plain form of a hand upon his shirt - they have tried to wash it out - but it dont stir in the least - Mrs. M. now believes the whole (He was in the room half an hour this last time, Mr. Gifford heard him come, look'd at his watch was not in Bed, heard him talk all the while, knew his voice and saw a light when he went away).

Hesaid a great deal more, spoke of the glory of Heaven, that it would ravish all the eyes in the world to see it - & how sharp the pains of Purgatory are that all the pains that could be suffered in this World was nothing to compare with it. he seem'd to smile all the time, had a Glory around him which dazzled the Man's eyes to look at, and the longer He stay'd the more brilliant it appeared - He then told him the Woman that came into the room with him was Dorothy Beeston, that he should trouble him no more nor anyone else - that he had been three weeks about the house & nobody would speak to him - returned the man many thanks for what he had done for him, that was he in the world & had it all to give him, it would not be recompence - Commended charity and very much desired Bridget Metcalfe would never turn a poor person from her door without relief, & said pride was a sad thing - He made the sign of the Cross upon the young man told him he would do all in his power for him both in this world and the next - and when he went away repeated these words -

"I will take the wings of the Golden Dove & fly to my beloved Lord".

Since which there has been no more heard or seen. I forgot to mention the young man was directed to ask why He had appeared to him being an intire stranger? Was answered, Because he was the most innocent in the house -. The man is a convert - let me hear next week what you all think of this relation?.....would never believe such things but I think she will now, my Father never did before, but has no doubt of its being true - Mrs. Cliffe joins me in duty to Uncle and Aunt - ours with love to you all ye ever affectionate.

Jane Cliffe

NOTES:

The breaks in writing are due to damaged and illegable sections of the original letter. This typed copy was done by Bernard A. Creamer in the year 1977, in the interests of preserving the letter for as long as possible.

As far as is known this letter has survived through these many years simply because it was filed away and forgotten and only came to light when the above mentioned was sorting through his father's papers in 1961

Information from the Borthwick Institute, York.

4th August 1861	Sarah Ann Metcalfe, dau. of Geo. & Mary of Bramham. Baptism
6th April 1880	Marriage of Rhodes Metcalfe (a butler) aged 39 & Julia Williams aged 30 of Marylebone, Mddx. Widower and Spinster. Rhodes was the son of John Rhodes - a farmer and Julia dau. of John Williams a builder.
2nd April 1895	William Metcalfe of Shadwell buried aged 65
27th Feb. 1864	Laura Wilkinson aged 3 days, buried.
From the Calendar of Marriage Licences -	
Oct. 1917	Samuel George Wilkinson married Jessie Gray
Nov. 1944	Douglas Frederick Metcalfe married Frances Joan Dunn
26th Feb. 1865	Agnes A. dau. of Major and Mary A. Metcalfe (joiner) Baptised at Scarborough.

From Member 117 - Mrs. Jane Parker

September 1924

PRESENTATION TO MR. W. METCALFE
Great worker for his Church

On Thursday, Mr. William Metcalfe, one of the best known Penrithians for seventy years, left the town, and on Friday morning sailed from Liverpool in the Montrose, for Canada. he was accompanied by his daughter, and their destination is Winnipeg, Ontario, where they will reside with his other daughter. Mr. Metcalfe's decision to leave his native land was taken a few weeks ago after the death of another daughter. He has three sons in Canada. The veteran, still as active in mind and body as many people more than half his age, has taken a prominent part in the business and social life of Penrith and district for upwards of seventy years. he was formerly in a business partnership with Mr. James Bainbridge, an association which lasted for forty-six years. His interest in Wesleyanism, while principally affecting the Wordsworth Street Church since its erection some 51 years ago, was not by any means confined to Penrith; he was a wonderful influence in the country places, especially in the area know as East Fellside, his native place.

When it became known that Mr. Metcalfe had decided to take such an important step in life his many friends in town and country resolved that he should not be allowed to leave Penrith without his departure being marked by a tangible expression of the respect and regard in which he had been held. A committee was formed, with Messrs. T. Bakewell, T.L. Main, and I.G. Sim as joint secretaries, and in the circular they sent out to Mr. Metcalfe's many friends, was the paragraph: "Over a great part of Cumberland and Westmoreland no name is more familiar than his. His steady outlook upon life, his devoted service to his Church, his loyalty to every cause that touched the heart and satisfied his reason - these are well known to you and to us. It is not fitting we should permit him to leave us without showing some evidence of the place he has filled in our thought, and the happy suggestions to present him with a testimonial, part of which take the form of an inscribed album as a permanent souvenir is to be carried out".

It was to present this album, together with a purse of notes, that a large company gathered at the Wordsworth Hall on Tuesday evening. About 200 people were present, a good proportion being friends from the country, and the album which had been tastefully illuminated by Mr. Norman Richardson, contained the following address to Mr. Metcalfe: "This album together with a wallet of notes is presented by the signatories herein to Mr. W. Metcalfe on his departure for Canada. For seventy years he has served his Church and town with great devotion. He has been a trustee of the Wordsworth Street Wesleyan Church, Penrith, since its foundation 51 years ago, and a class leader for many years. As a businessman he has won respect and trust by his uprightness and in his public life earned esteem for his frank and fearless expression of convictions. His unswerving belief in the Divinity that shapes our ends has been an inspiration to all who have known him. With the passing of the years his religious experinece has mellowed, and he has attained an amazing breadth of vision, which has helped to keep alive our faith in the potency of love and right. In the difficult places of life he has shown by his bearing the reality

of that grace in which he ever puts his trust. it is with deep regret we part with him, but speed him with our affectionate good wishes and our prayers". Then followed the signatures of the bulk of the subscribers. The wallet contained just over £75.

Refreshments were served to the company at the outset of the proceedings and afterward the Rev. T. Smith Parr presided, being accompanied on the platform by the Rev. E.G. Kineen (who offered prayer), Messrs. J. Bainbridge, W. Johnston, I.G. Sim, T.L. Main, and J. Bakewell.

The Chairman said it was his unenviable experience to be present at many farewell gatherings. For 25 years, as every third year had come round he had had to say goodbye to many friends, but he had never been at a gathering like that: it was a unique experience. They were present to wish God-speed to a father in Israel, one to whom they all contribute their gratitude for his acquaintance and his work. There were men in that room who had known Mr. Metcalfe for over fifty years, some in very close association with him; and if no word was spoken that night the presence in that room of about 200 people would be sufficient to give Mr. Metcalfe an assurance of their great respect and esteem for him. Mr. Metcalfe had not only been a Wesleyan - though he had been a Wesleyan first - but he had been a good citizen, and the presence of so many people who were members of other denominations was surely a wonderful testimony to the great esteem which their friend was held by fellow townpeople (applause).

Mr. W. Johnston said he had been associated with Mr. Metcalfe for a good many years, especially on the local Education Committee. There were some who had a longer association particularly Mr. James Scott, whom he was glad to see present at that gathering (applause). He used to think Mr. Metcalfe was very narrow-minded, but when he became associated with him in public life he found him to have a very broad outlook. When things looked black a few years ago in regard to the proposed purchase of Penrith Castle property, when opposition was formidable and when those who favoured the scheme were threatened with dire pains and penalties at the election, Mr. Metcalfe was one of those who stuck to the scheme, and had the courage to become one of the guarantors of £1000 that the town would not be penalized (applause) and it must be a great pleasure to Mr. Metcalfe to see the Castle and park in such a flourishing state today. Mr. Johnston also referred to Mr. Metcalfe's work on the local Education Committee, and said he was always willing to do details work that others perhaps could not find time to do (applause).

Mr. J.W. Wilson said they were not doleful, neither were they exuberant, but they wanted to voice words of cheer and encouragement to their father in Israel. He had known Mr. Metcalfe for over fifty years. As a boy he looked up to Mr. Metcalfe, as a young man he was encouraged by him in his work, and as an older one he had been encouraged in his outlook. He (Mr. Wilson) believed that an all-wise providence was controlling and directing their lives and while they were sorry to lose Mr. Metcalfe they felt that it was not by chance Mr. Metcalfe was going away, but that there was some Providence working in it. They realized that Mr. Metcalfe had always been rich in essential things. He had not been a man to slacken off as he got older, leaving younger men to bear the burdens, but seemed to have become more abundant in good works as he got older. On the other side of the water, Mr. Metcalfe's three boys, his daughter and her husband would be waiting for him, and they all hoped that the rest of his life would be full of blessing and happiness (applause).

Mr. Bakewell after speaking of the wonderful response there had been to the testimonial said if there had been any organized solicitation they would have raised double or treble the amount. But their gift was considerably enhanced by the fact that it was a free will offering of his friends and neighbours. He thought it was very fitting that the local preachers whom he represented, should take part in that presentation because there was no man in their ranks who had done so much for local preachers as Mr. Metcalfe. Mr. Metcalfe never joined their ranks, though he would occasionally take the pulpit in an emergency, but he was very closely identified with them in connection with their keeping of appointments; and when the slightest reflection had been made upon their country churches, they had always found Mr. Metcalfe waiting to support the churches. They marvelled that Mr. Metcalfe was still so young, young not merely in the sense of being agile, but he had kept his mind young. Many men were ready to assent to anything before they were eighty years of age (laughter and applause). The way to the best thing in life was just as open in Canada as here and they would pray that the loosening of the ties here would only mean Mr. Metcalfe increasing his grip upon the things in which there was no losing and no parting (applause).

The Chairman then read the address from the album, and congratulated Mr. Sim on having drawn it up, and Mr. Richardson on the charming manner in which the illumination had been presented.

Mr. J. Bainbridge made the presentation. To him that meeting had a two-fold aspect - one of sorrow and one of gladness. It was about sixty years since Mr. Metcalfe and he became acquainted in Penrith - when he (Mr. Bainbridge) went to serve his apprenticeship at the place where Mr. Metcalfe was an assistant. Afterwards they went into business on their own account, and after 46 years' partnership they both retired. Since then their friendship had continued, and would continue till they both heard the call of their Heavenly Father to that land where there was no more parting and sorrow but joy and rejoicing evermore. He was sure Mr. Metcalfe was not taking that step without deep thought. He had been a very active member of that Church, ever ready to put his hand to the plough, never looking back, but always forward and upward. When Mr. Metcalfe promised to do anything he always did his level best to accomplish it, and they would miss him very much. That presentation was not a matter of £.s.d. to Mr. Metcalfe: that was the smallest part of it. Mr. Metcalfe would understand that the chief part of it was the good-will and love that accompanied it (applause). When their friend was crossing the deep water their prayers would be lifted up that "He will never leave thee". (applause). Mr. Bainbridge with a few touching words of farewell, then handed Mr. Metcalfe the album and wallet.

Mr. Metcalfe, speaking with considerable emotion, said he was thankful he was as well as he was, and also thankful for the many kind references that had been made by the speakers. He had been passing through a painful experience during the last few months. They could not understand those things, but they prayed for grace and strength from day to day to bear the burdens that were put upon them. he could assure them that the sympathy expressed and unexpressed, had been a great comfort to him in his sorrow. He had been very thankful indeed for that outburst of sympathy which came to him and which he felt as a real thing during the sorest time of his travail. During the last fifty years he had had a good deal to do with other people's business. he had been trustee for 9 or 10 wills, and in the settling up had never had any trouble whatever. he was very thankful for the testimony he had had from such a lot of people, not only members of his own Church, but of others. Canon Byard had been to see him, and he had had visits from the ministers of other denominations, while he was told that subscribers to the testimonial were from members of all denominations from all over the country. In conclusion he said there were earthly claims that did not reach beyond time, but there were others more enduring. He had been able to look to the spiritual aspect of life, and it had been his support and comfort (applause).

Mrs. T.L. Main, with a few words of farewell, presented Miss Metcalfe with a fountain pen and other articles, from a few friends. Miss Metcalfe briefly replied, and proceedings terminated.

A large company of friends assembled on the platform at Penrith Station on Thursday afternoon to bid a final farewell to Mr. and Miss Metcalfe who left on the 1.16 express for Liverpool. Mr. and Miss Metcalfe were met at Liverpool by several friends, who saw them off on the Montrose on Friday. These included the Rev. G.H. Bainbridge, Southport; Miss Muriel Main, Penrith; two nieces from Wrexham, and Mr. Craig, Manchester, a former employee with Mr. Metcalfe. There was an interesting incident just before the liner departed. Fellow passengers of Mr. Metcalfe's included another octogenarian, and two twin babies. The four - oldest and youngest - were photographed as a group, the gentlemen nursing the babies.

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