

'M E C C A' N E W S



Nº 8 December, 1982

Dear Member,

Thirteen has always been considered an unlucky number but this was far from the case when thirteen of us met for the first Clan Meeting at Claremont on 4th September. We would like to thank all who attended and brought their researches and family trees to display, and particularly Mrs Helen Offer who brought her four shoe boxes containing the Metcalfe Index. I think I can truthfully say 'a good time was had by all.' This is echoed by Mrs Helen Offer whose full account of the proceedings is included in this issue.

Our appeal for more items for the Newsletter has borne fruit and we do appreciate all the contributions we have received. May I say that any which do not appear in this issue will be kept for future, as several have been received after this Newsletter was put together. Do please continue to send in anything you think will be of help or interest to other members, otherwise there will be no Newsletter.

It has been suggested we hold another Clan Meeting sometime. Has anyone any suggestions as to where such a meeting could be held, as so far we have been unable to find a venue? We welcome any ideas you may have on the subject.

January is usually the time for paying bills and unfortunately our subscriptions are due then. Included with this issue is a subscription slip, which we would be grateful if you would return to our treasurer sometime in the New Year. We have also included a copy of the Balance Sheet for your perusal.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all, on behalf of our Treasurer Mrs Mary Metcalfe, our Secretary, Mrs Nina Benson and myself, a very Happy Christmas.

Sincerely yours,

Verue Adams

THE CLAN MEETING

SATURDAY, 4TH SEPT. What a marvellous day! As I set off the day before on my 300 mile journey, I had wondered whether it was all going to be worth it. It was. Every single mile of the long trek. Ruth Kay, with whom I stayed for the weekend, and I arrived just before ten at the Yorkshire Archeological Society's Claremont House, in Leeds, to be met with a very warm welcome from the organising triumvirate, Vera Adams, Nina Benson and Mary Metcalfe, and then to join members already arrived. We put up our Family Trees and then went to talk to other members who had already done the same. Eventually there were six trees displayed and many were the discussions thereon.

The Yorkshire Archeological Society had arranged a screen showing old prints of different rural pursuits and maps showing parishes. These, along with books on Metcalfe history and a file of McLaughlan short treatises, 13 in all, on different aids to genealogy such as Census Returns, Parish Registers, Bastardy Bonds, Apprenticeship Indentures, etc. etc. what information they gave, where to find them and the best way to use them for family research, helped many of those present.

When the 13 members - Marian Collins, Ruth Kay, Margaret Metcalfe, Helen Offer, Pat Russell, David Galloway, David Metcalfe, Joseph Metcalfe, and his son David, a visitor, David Lambert and the triumvirate could be induced to stop chatting, a short informal meeting was held with Mrs Benson in the chair welcoming us to this, the first meeting of the Metcalfe Clan. Mrs Benson gave a resume of the growth of the Society, which now has 52 members, six of whom are from overseas, and said that the Mormon Microfiches for Yorkshire, Cumbria, Northumberland and Lincolnshire had been acquired, and a very attractive letter heading had been designed by Mrs Mary Metcalfe, our resident artist, who had also designed the headings for the successive 'Mecca News.' Mrs Mary Metcalfe, as Treasurer, reported that the expense of acquiring the microfiches, which she was sure would prove a great asset, had been considerable and that, with increased postal and printing charges would necessitate the subscription being increased to £2.00. Mrs Helen Offer gave a very brief description of the Metcalfe Index and how it worked and finally there was a general discussion, principally about the need for the articles for the Newsletter and for more members. It was hoped that there would be four issues of the 'News' a year, to keep members informed.

Then we adjourned for lunch and not the anticipated cup of coffee and a few sandwiches, but a sit-down super spread, all home cooked by the gallant triumvirate, consisting of quiches, sausage rolls, vol-au-vents, sandwiches of great variety and salads of several kinds, helped down with apple or orange juice. A second course of flans or gateaux had us all surfeited. We finished with coffee to take us up again.

After this gargantuan meal we wandered round the Search Rooms of the Archeological Society and many of us were able to do some research, Mrs Marian Collins being overjoyed at finding a wanted marriage. Others consulted the Microfiches or the Metcalfe or Spouse Indexes and the meeting room sometimes took on an air of an examination room, so many members were writing diligently.

Another welcome break for more talk, tea and cakes at 3.30 and then at 4 o'clock we had, most regretfully, to take down our pedigrees, pack up our books, jottings and all we had brought, say our farewells and drive away.

A wonderfully successful meeting and our most heartfelt

thanks must go to Vera Adams, Nina Benson and Mary Metcalfe for their great organising ability and for all the trouble they took to make sure that we all enjoyed the day.

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Secretary's Notes

Our Mormon records now total 375 frames, besides Yorkshire we have now purchased the following counties :- CHESHIRE, CUMBERLAND, DERBYSHIRE, DURHAM, LANCASHIRE, LEICESTERSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, SHROPSHIRE and SCOTLAND. More will follow as soon as funds become available, and we have to thank our members Mrs. Marion Collins (£1) and Mr. Roland Metcalfe (£10) for their extra contributions. I have begun a SPOUSE INDEX which has now reached 5400 cards and which I trust will prove useful to us all in the future. Onto these cards I have noted children where it was possible to pin point their parents. It was interesting that whilst children were being baptised in one county the missing marriage of their parents was found in a neighbouring county. There is a high percentage of marriages listed in Lancashire and in Durham a very high percentage of Births are recorded with only a few baptisms, anyone know the reason ?

1539 is the earliest date noted, with 1945 the latest. The list of variations to the METCALF(E) surname is truly surprising, with some of the strangest being MAIDCALLFFE, MEDKIFF, METCKALFE, MEDCOUFT, METCAULK, METCALPH & METHCOFFE. Surnames aren't the only stange ones, we have a Miss Mackstone Nilly and then there are the Duke Duke, Easter Easter, Major Major, Prince Prince.....why the doubles ?

Perhaps the biggest thrill of all was discovering the marriage details of Ann Kirby and James Metcalfe at Watton in the old East Riding of Yorkshire for our Canadian member Mr. J. Clarence Metcalfe. Even finding what may turn out to be the missing marriage of my own George Metcalfe/Elizabeth Robinson took second place in the discovery stakes - in fact I had written out their card without realising it !

Adult baptisms have been listed separately as have all possible illegitimacies. An observation comes from member Mr. Roland Metcalfe of Durham City - "the Mormon Microfiche gives the parish of baptism, so do check with the Parish Registers as it usually gives a more precise address, which may be another village." Do please continue sending in your requests for information.. when time permits I don't mind undertaking long searches, from county to county, as long as you don't get impatient !

To those members who were able to come to our Claremont gathering we all say a big thank you for coming, it was lovely to meet you all and to be able to put faces onto all my files ! Thank you too for the nice letters of appreciation. At the meeting we discussed the desirability of becoming members of the One Name Guild and whilst we all sought membership, thought their prerequisites were too exacting. However after contacting their Registrar, Mr. Filby, I have been able to clarify many of our queries with the result that we shall be joining at the beginning of the new year.

NEB

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Change of Address

Mrs Ann Crabbe, Membership No. 16 has changed her address from 15, Balmoral Rd., Fleet Meadow, Didcot, Oxon. to 4, Fairways Drive, Chulmleigh, Devon, EX18 7AZ

NEW MEMBERS BIRTH BRIEFS

- 53 Miss Ethel Metcalfe 11 The Downs, Sandy Lane, Prestwich, Manchester.M258RB. Dau: of Anthony b Aughton Hall Farm Lancs: son of Edmund son of Anthony who was buried at Over Kellet Churchyard.
- 54 Mr. Roger Clough 28 Kentmere Drive, Cherry Tree, Blackburn, Lancs.BB25HF. Maternal gt Grandmother Margaret Ann Metcalfe b 1852 Bainbridge; dau; of William bpt 1816 Askrigg; son of John; bpt circa 1781 Askrigg; and his wife Margaret Blades.
- 55 Mrs.Dorothy Pope 1 Neville Grove, Guisborough, Cleveland. TS14 8BZ. Gt.gt.gt. Grandmother Peggie dau: of Lister Metcalfe Minister at Muker in the late C18th and his wife Isabell Simm. Lister was son of Anthony.
- 56 Mr. Norman Metcalfe 400 Holcombe Road, Greenmount, Bury, Lancs.BL8 4HF. Son of Stephen b 1884 Bury; son of Daniel b 1857 Bury; son of Stephen bc1818, Starbottan Yorkshire. son of Stephen, Shoemaker of Wharfedale/Wensleydale.
- 57 Mr.Richard J.Woolfall 156 Perth Road, Ilford, Essex. IG2 6EB. Gt.gt. Grandmother Eleanor Metcalfe b 1823 Swaledale.
- 58 Mr.Harold E.Crossfield 44 Brierdene Crescent,Whitley Bay.Tyne & Wear.NE26 4AB. His mother Mary Alice Metcalfe b 1880; dau of Thomas b 1853; son of Richard b 1822 Ingleton; son of Richard b 1796 Chapel le Dale; son of Richard b 1766; son of John of Gunnerfleet.
- 59 Mrs.Jean R,Bradley 31 Wheatley Grove, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley, West Yks.LS298SA. Dau: of Thomas Whitelock Metcalfe b 1889 son of Henry Whitelock Metcalfe b 1855; son of Isaac b 1825 Brandesburton E.R. Yks; son of William b 1799 Brandesburton; son of Christopher b 1758 Brandesburton; son of Isaac b 1718 Brandesburton; son of Jansen/Hyanson/Jenson.

EXISTING MEMBERS NEW BIRTH BRIEFS

- 3 Mr.George Buxton 36 Marlborough Road,Ashford,Middlesex. Gt.Grandmother Mary Ann Metcalfe b 1828 Swaledale; dau of George and Ann (Harker); George son of George & Jennat (Harker) of Satron, Swaledale.b1780; George b1749 son of Thomas & Mary (Cottingham) Thomas son of Thomas.
- 5 Mrs.Barbara Kent 17 Red Hill, Stourbridge, West Midlands.DY8 1NA.(Rejoined) Descentant of Elizabeth dau: of Richard Metcalfe son of Richard and Ann of Foston: Elizabeth's father married Jane Hunt 1725 at Escrick.
- 40 Mr.Roland Metcalfe 6 Westcott Drive, Durham Moor, Durham City,Co.Durham. Son of Joseph b 1913 Hunwick; son of George b 1880 Low Row, Swaledale, son of Edward b 1851 Whitaside,Low Row; son of George b 1816 High Oxnop, Swaledale; son of George b 1786 Oxnop; son of John.
- 52 Mrs.Margaret Metcalfe 17 Duxbury Street, Earby, Via Colne, Lancs: BB8 6RG. As Member No: 46. Also her Gt.gt.Grandfather George Appleton,a Whitesmith,marr: 5.6.1831 Elizabeth Metcalfe at Richmond.
- 50 Mrs.Eunice Herring 40 Park Way, Etwall, Derby.DE6 6HU. Gt.gt.Grandmother Isabella Metcalfe b 1801 Gayle nr.Hawes marr: 1820 at Bolton, Lancs to Henry Shepherd of Ecclestone, Lancs. Isabella Dau: of Anthony & Isabella nee Whelan b 1800

Mr David Lambert of Altrincham who contributed an article on Wills in our April issue (No.6) has kindly sent in an article on Intestacy which we are sure will be very helpful and informative to members. On behalf of the Society we would like to thank him for taking the trouble to research and send us all this useful information.

Intestacy

In an earlier article I explained briefly the legal position, in England and Wales, of wills during the period from the 16th to the mid 19th centuries. What happened when someone died without making a will? This was by far the more common occurrence than someone leaving a will.

Firstly, some definitions of words commonly used in connection with intestacies -

- INTESTATE: man or woman dying without making a valid will.
- INTESTACY: the legal word applied to describe the situation when someone died intestate.
- ADMON or GRANT OF LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION: the authority granted by the court to the next of kin of the intestate (or other proper person) who applied for permission to administer the intestate's estate (i.e. his property)
- ADMINISTRATION ACT BOOK: the book kept at the court in which the details of the Admon. were entered.
- ADMINISTRATOR: the person to whom the Admon. was granted.
- ADMINISTRATION BOND: the legal document completed by "the Administrator to be" whereby he/she agreed to duly administer the intestate's estate if a grant was issued by the court. This was retained by the court.
- BONDSMAN: a guarantor for the Administrator who also joined in the Administration Bond. There were usually two Bondsmen.
- THE RULES OF INTESTACY: the rules setting out details of how the intestate's estate was to be divided amongst those entitled to receive it.
- BONA VACANTIA: property (literally goods) which passed to the Crown (in Lancashire, the Duchy of Lancaster) when no one else was eligible under the Rules of Intestacy to claim the estate.

The Rules of Intestacy were laid down by the Statute of Distribution in 1670, the Statute of Frauds in 1677 and a second Statute of Distribution in 1685. They applied with little variation until 1925.

It should be realised at the outset that these Rules made a distinction between realty (i.e. land) and personalty (i.e. broadly, any property not being realty but including leaseholds).

The realty rules are complicated and since most researchers will probably find that their intestate ancestors did not own land, they will not be considered here. The rules applying in the case where no land was owned are by no means simple to understand, but the following summary will, it is hoped, assist.

To understand the law I will take an example in my own family. In 1824 Nanny, the wife of Thomas Metcalfe died. She did not leave any will being fairly young and married it would be unusual for her to do so.

Thomas, the widower, in January 1825, persuaded two local residents (strangely, both women) to act as "Bondsmen." He and his two Bondsmen completed the Administration Bond before an official appointed by the Bishop as his deputy for the purpose, he being called the "surrogate". This document was a printed form with spaces left for completion of details of the names, addresses and occupations of the putative Administrator and Bondsmen and particulars of the Intestate.

This Bond required Thomas, as Administrator of his wife's "goods, chattels and credits," to make "a true and perfect inventory" of them and to exhibit the inventory at the Court within 6 months i.e. July 1825. Furthermore, Thomas agreed in the Bond to "well and truly administer according to law" the goods, chattels and credits of his late wife and to account to those persons entitled to her estate. Moreover, if a Will was subsequently discovered which the Executor named in it produced to the Court, Thomas agreed to "render and deliver the said Letters of Administration" to the Court whereupon the Bond would become void and of no effect.

The Bond was duly produced to the Court and "passed" on 3rd March 1825. The Surrogate certifying that the estate of Nanny was worth less than £40.

The Bond is the document available to the researcher, with the entry in the Court Act Bond. The Bond can supply some evidence of relationships e.g. Administrator, with the Intestate, and his occupation. In addition, since the Bondsmen would often be relations of the deceased, this information can be gleaned. The Bond is certainly not as interesting or helpful a document as a Will, as the researcher will appreciate.

What the documentary evidence does not tell us is, what happened after the Bond was completed and the entry made in the Court Act Book.

After discharging the Intestate's debts the Administrator had to "well and truly" administer the "goods, chattels and credits" of the deceased as we have seen above. The Statute referred to above laid down fixed rules as to how this was to be done.

The Rules of Intestacy

1. If, as in my case, the deceased was survived by her husband, he took EVERYTHING, even if other relations, including children, also survived. In the cases where the deceased was married twice and had children by her first marriage, this could, and probably did, cause some hardship, since the children would receive nothing from their mother, their step-father taking everything that belonged to their mother. They would receive something on the death of their real father as appears below.

2. If the deceased was survived by a widow the following rules applied:

a) if the deceased left issue as well, then the widow took one third, outright, the rest going to the children. The children took equally, no preferences being given to male over female or elder over younger. If a child had predeceased the Intestate, then that dead child's children represented him and saved his share from going to his brothers and sisters.

An example might assist to explain this further. If the Intestate was survived by his son John and daughter Doris but predeceased by another son Robert and by a daughter, Eve, Eve being married with two children surviving her and the Intestate, then the personalty was divided into three shares one to John, a second to Doris and a third to Eve's two children, they "representing her" Robert, having no children and having predeceased his father took no share in his father's intestacy. If the Intestate was survived by his widow, then she would take one third and the remaining two thirds fell to be divided as indicated above.

b) if the Intestate had no issue then his widow took one half (not one third) outright. The remaining half share was divided between the deceased's next of kin. In default of issue the Intestate's father had a prior claim to this half share. If he was, however, dead, then the Intestate's mother, brothers and sisters all shared the half share equally, obviously, if only the mother survived, she took it outright and vice versa if only brothers and/or sisters survived. The children of a dead brother or sister took by representation their parents' share in a similar manner to the children of a deceased child of the Intestate as mentioned above. Another example might be useful. If the Intestate died survived by his widow, his mother, a brother and three nephews (being the children of his deceased sister) the personalty was divided in this way: the wife took one half, the other half was divided into three portions which went to the mother, brother and three nephews, the nephews taking their late mother's share between them equally.

3. If the Intestate had no widow then his personalty was divided between the same classes of relations as above i.e. his father, if alive, took everything, if dead the Intestate's mother took it all instead, although if the Intestate had brothers and/or sisters too, they shared with their mother.
4. If the Intestate had no such close relations living at his death the more remote relations shared his personalty. This depended upon their 'degree' of relationship to the deceased. This is a complicated concept but, put simply, required one to count the number of steps between the deceased and the person in question, counting directly for those in the direct line and through a common ancestor in the case of collateral ancestors. Therefore, a grandparent would take priority to an uncle or an aunt. The grandparent was two steps ("degrees") distant from the Intestate, whereas an uncle or an aunt was three steps. Why? The grandfather was two steps away from the deceased because one has to include (in the direct line) the deceased's father, VIZ: Deceased ----- father (1 step) ---- grandfather (2 steps) ---- uncle (three steps). The same method was used to calculate whether or not a collateral descendant was closer in degree than an ancestor.

A nephew was three stages away from the deceased,
 Viz - Deceased----father(one step)----brother of deceased
 (two steps)----nephew (three steps).

A grandparent would take to the exclusion of a nephew just as much as an uncle. If there was no grandparent but only uncles and nephews then all the uncles and nephews would take equally, being of the same degree.

5. If no next of kin could be traced then the Crown was entitled to the personalty as Bond Vacantia.

D.S.L.

CURIOSITIES OF THE CENSUS

I have recently been indexing the Metcalfes in the 1841, 1851 and 1861 censuses for Swaledale sent me by Mrs Nina Benson and they have revealed some interesting sidelights on our forbears when seen in conjunction, as here.

For instance, in the 1841 census, why did L.W.Metcalfe of Muker, aged 63, independent, not give the names of himself and the other male members of his presumed family but only their initials but gave the names of the two female members? This was the first census when persons were named and many people thought the whole idea blasphemous, and he, the son of the Vicar of Muker, as we know from a member's pedigree, may well have done so, and registered his protest thus. But then, why the names of the females? Was he a stern Victorian pater-familias regarding females of less account and therefore the recording of their names less blasphemous? It was lucky for our researches that he did so, for it identified beyond shadow of doubt his family and has added another marriage to a pedigree.

An even more reticent Metcalfe in the 1851 census is Henery (spelt thus even in the 1841 census when he was living at Muker, aged 24, lead miner, with his parents and family) still living at Muker having been born there, now aged 34, lead miner, married with a wife aged 28 and a daughter aged 6, both born in Muker, but Henery has refused to give their names. Again why?

In Kearton in 1841, John Metcalfe, aged 50, lead miner, lived with his presumed wife Elizabeth, five children and Jane Watters, independent aged 55. Mrs Benson has added a note that according to the Mormon microfiches John had married Elizabeth Watters on the 11th October 1814 at Grinton. His three younger children were Elizabeth aged 11, James aged 9 and Matthew aged 5. In the 1851 census at Kearton there is an entry for Elizabeth Watters, head, unmarried, aged 21, James Watters, brother unmarried aged 18, Watters Metcalfe, brother, unmarried aged 16 lead miner and Jane Watters, aunt, unmarried aged 67, pauper, all born in Melbecks. What is the story behind this change of name? George and John, the two older children, who were also born at Melbecks have not changed their surnames, but are living with their wives - George in Blades with their children and John still in Kearton. And why did Matthew rebel against the decision to the extent of keeping his father's surname but changing his christian name to Watters? One has the idea of an aunt who disliked intensely her younger sister's husband.

John and his wife Elizabeth, who were 50 and 45 respectively in 1841, did not appear in the 1851 census.

It is interesting to follow the progress of a family. John was a young farmer of 25 years living at Spring End with his wife Mary aged 20 and six month old son George. In 1851 John did not appear in the Swaledale census, but Mary described herself as a farmer's wife born at Gunnerside, aged 32 with son George aged 10 and four other children, the youngest being a daughter of 11 months, all born at Spring End, and a 16 year old servant. In 1861 John is still not there, but now we can see the reason. Mary is a cattle dealer's wife and George, aged 20 is a cattle dealer's son, and there is another daughter aged 8. In 1871 John is at home describing himself now as a farmer aged 59, farming 87 acres, with his wife Mary aged 52 and four of his six children, the two elder sons having left home. His travelling days are over and he is content to be a plain farmer.

Another all too familiar story is behind the following three entries. In 1841 Richard, born c.1816 in Hawes was a wool and yarn spinner, living in the Shepherd household at Crackpot Hall. By 1851 he was living at Whitaside, head of the household aged 36, hosemaker, married to Jane aged 41 and claims as his son Metcalfe Calvert aged 6, born Whitaside. This tells the usual tale. It seems as though Richard fell for the blandishments of Jane, nee Calvert, most likely a servant in the Shepherd household. She had to go to her home in Whitaside when found to be pregnant and to shame the putative father, christened her son with his name. He did the right thing however, married the mother and was found a home and work as a hosemaker in her village. By 1861 they had moved to Low Row and he had become a beerhouse keeper and labourer and his son is now Metcalfe Metcalfe aged 16, an agricultural labourer. This raises an interesting question. Was the son's surname changed by deed poll, or, as seems more likely, by common usage?

Although the birthplaces of Jane and her son are given in the 1851 census as Whitaside, in the 1861 census they are both said to have been born at Grinton. What is given in the censuses is not necessarily the gospel truth. Ages, birthplaces and even names change from census to census, sometimes because memories fade as people get older and sometimes because, as we have noted, usage has forced a change.

D.H. Offer.

Query. Could it be that Whitaside is in the parish of Grinton? Ed.

HELP OFFERED

Metcalfes mentioned in Margaret Batty's book 'Gunnerside Chapel and Gunnerside Folk' sent in by Mrs Marian Collins, Member No. 9

Methodists in 1796, Metcalfe Daykin, son of Joseph.
Class Leader 1856, Robert Metcalfe. Chapel Society Steward 1855
Leonard Metcalfe. Trustee, Joseph Metcalfe of Reeth, Cattle Dealer, 1891. Local Preacher 1871, J. Metcalfe.
List of subscribers at the 50th anniversary celebrations 1916,
George Metcalfe of Darlington and Mrs John Metcalfe of Hunwick.
Headteacher of Gunnerside School 1880 Thomas M. Metcalfe.
People living in Gunnerside about 1875, Leonard Metcalfe (farmer)
Mary Ann Metcalfe, and about 1966, Mrs J. Metcalfe and Miss Margaret Metcalfe.

Mrs Lucy Rowlands, Member No. 45 sent the following -
 Gravestone, Hampthwaite churchyard.
 George Metcalfe, died 2nd Feb 1855 aged 71,
 Schoolmaster at West Syke School in the township of Folliscliff
 for nearly 50 years.

Mrs Rowlands also sent the following story.

Browsing through an old book some years ago, I came across the following, explaining the Derivation of Names.

Once, when the country abounded with wild animals, two met and walked through the woods together at nightfall. Seeing a red four-footed beast coming towards them they could not tell in the dusk what it was. One said "Have you heard lions being in this wood?" The other said he had, but had not seen any. So they conjectured that this was one! As the creature advanced one ran away, the other waited to meet it. It was a red calf, so he who met got the name MET-CALF(E) and he who ran LIGHT-FOOT!

Mrs Dorothy Pope, (address Page 9) holds copies of Hawes Parish Registers from transcripts as follows -Baptisms and Marriages 1695-1760 and Burials 1695-1771.

HELP WANTED

Mrs L. Rowlands, 6 Linbery Close, Oakerthorpe, Derbyshire DE5 7NF asks if anyone has any information on Metcalfs of North Lincolnshire or Humberside. Her ancestor, Thomas Metcalf (c.1740) was not baptised at Elsham, Lincs. though he married and had a family there. Neither he nor his wife, Elizabeth (Manby) were buried at Elsham and some members of the family moved to nearby Hookstown and then to the Isle of Axholme.

Mrs Jean R. Bradley, 31 Wheatley Grove, Ilkley, LS28 8SA is trying to trace the date and place of birth of her great-great-grandfather, Jansen Metcalf, who married Elizabeth Hardy in 1710 in Brandesburton E.R. and died there in 1752. His children were Isaac b. 1825 (her great-grandfather) William b. 1799 and Christopher b. 1758.

Mrs Dorothy Pope, 1, Neville Grove, Guisborough, Cleveland, TS14 8BZ would be pleased to hear any news or mention of the use of Lister as a christian name.

NEWSPAPER CUTTINGS

Recently, whilst staying with my just found cousin Mrs Ruth Kay, I was shown the Visitor's Book of the Old Hall Inn, Threshfield, kept when one of our uncles had succeeded to the tenancy. The names and dates of the visitors and visits were interesting, but what was vastly more so was the collection of newspaper cuttings pasted in the end. Unfortunately, as happens so frequently, the derivation and dates were omitted but I think most came from the "Craven Herald" and they have made me realise what a potential source of great interest to the family historian the local papers could be. Local newspapers in England date from the early 18th century. There is a "Handlist of English and Welsh Newspapers 1620-1920" published by "The Times" in 1920. Actual newspapers can be seen at the paper's office, local library or record office, and I think, though I have not been able to verify this, at the British Museum Newspaper Dept. Collingdale.

11.
The items which will make such interesting additions to my own family history are:?

"TROTting - A well-known SPORTING GENTLEMAN in the Trotting Circle is anxious to MATCH Mr. Metcalfe's pony "YOUNG BETSY" to trot 16 miles in One Hour. To Trot on Leeming Lane and to be ridden by Mr. Metcalfe's son, 14 year old, for £50 a side. The "Craven Herald" is to be a stakeholder and time-keeper; or will Trot from Threshfield to Skipton against 28 minutes for the same sum."

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TROTting MATCH FROM THRESHFIELD TO SKIPTON - A trotting match between horses owned by Mr Robert Metcalfe and Mr Anthony Dean, both of Threshfield, was contested early on Monday morning, the route being from Threshfield to Skipton, a distance of just over eight miles. Mr Metcalfe's representative beat Mr Dean's by about three minutes, the distance over a somewhat rough road being accomplished in 28 minutes. The match was for £5 a side, and considerable interest was taken over the event. Mr Metcalfe's pony is named "Young Betsy" and Monday was her birthday, she being then three years old. She was ridden by Mr Metcalfe's son, who is 13 years old and weighs 78 lbs."

Dear great, great Uncle Robert didn't make as much on the race as was envisaged in the first article! And it would be interesting to know which of Uncle Robert's sons the rider was. Was it Robert Marsden who died 18th March, 1890, aged 14½ years in a riding accident or was it Walter, his youngest son, born 1886? Alas, without the date of the clipping we do not know. And here are two about that youngest son:-

"Walter Metcalfe, a pupil at Grassington National School, has been adjudged as the winner of a handsome paint box for proficiency in drawing in connection with the recent competition of 'Pearson's Weekly.'"

BICYCLE ACCIDENT - An accident of a serious nature happened to Walter, the younger son of Mr Robert Metcalfe, of the Old Hall Inn, Threshfield on Friday afternoon last, at a place known as the Bridge End Hill. He had cycled from Grassington on a Breakless (sic) machine, and not heeding the caution board at the place in question, he had ridden down the hill and was thrown. Two lads named Crowther found him lying on a heap of large stones close to this bridge wall, and moaning and unconscious. Mr. Wrathall Stockdale was passing at the time, and he rode off to inform the lad's parents. Mr. Metcalfe had him taken home, and Dr. Wilks summoned. The doctor found him very seriously injured and on the following day had a consultation with Dr. Thomson of Skipton and they reported that he was in very grave danger, though later reports are more hopeful. "

D.H.O.

Dorothy Pope,
Guisborough
Cleveland.

The kitchen sink is full of dishes
I mostly ignore my family's wishes
Under the bed, mice are nesting,
And up in the corners spiders are resting.

Beneath the carpets I've swept the dust,
The cooking pans are starting to rust.
Windows all are dark and greasy,
To look outside is far from easy.
The pantry is empty, not a cake to be seen,
Potatoes moulding in an unwashed tureen.

My husband glares and tears his hair,
For on his shirt not a button is there.
My daughter says it's like Peyton Place,
With Mum uncovering the human race.

At night I lay me down to sleep,
I'm counting Metcalfes instead of sheep.
"Where did James marry his mate?
Why did Alice leave it so late?
Could Anthony be the son of John?
Why was Lister's boy called Washington?
Was Booth Hay named for a General?
Alas, he only made Lieutenant Colonel.
Did William Pitt win his Brief,
And did he defend old Fagin the thief?"

Poor Isabella orphaned at eleven,
Sent into service, it can't have been Heaven.
Then she wed Grandpa and to my Father gave birth,
And that is the reason for all this mirth.

I spend all my time in the C.R.O.
And down to the Archives I must go.
Census and P.R.s are all grist to the mill,
I've dozens of notebooks still to fill.
To St. Catherine's London I am booked
YES, ITS FAMILY RESEARCH AND AM I HOOKED?!

Income & Expenditure for year ending 1st Dec 1982

Cash at bank 1.12.81 22 - 00

Cash in hand 1.12.81 13 - 15

Income for year ending 1.12.82:

Subs, back no. & donations

(Incl 4 subs for next year) 117 - 20

Surplus on Claremont meeting 1 - 00

Special donations for microfiche 11 - 00

Bank Interest 18

Expenditure for the year ending 1.12.82

Photocopying charges 28 - 70

Mormon microfiches

a/ Yorkshire 57.43

b/ Other counties 21.93

Postage 24.00

Stationery 23.86

155.95

Balance at 1.12.82

Bank 7.48

Cash 1.13

164.43

164.43

From the records examined this is a true account of the finances
of the Metcalfe Society 1982.

K. Bowman hon. auditor.