

Roots and Branches

The Official Journal of
The Plant Family History Group

Issue N^o 10. July 95

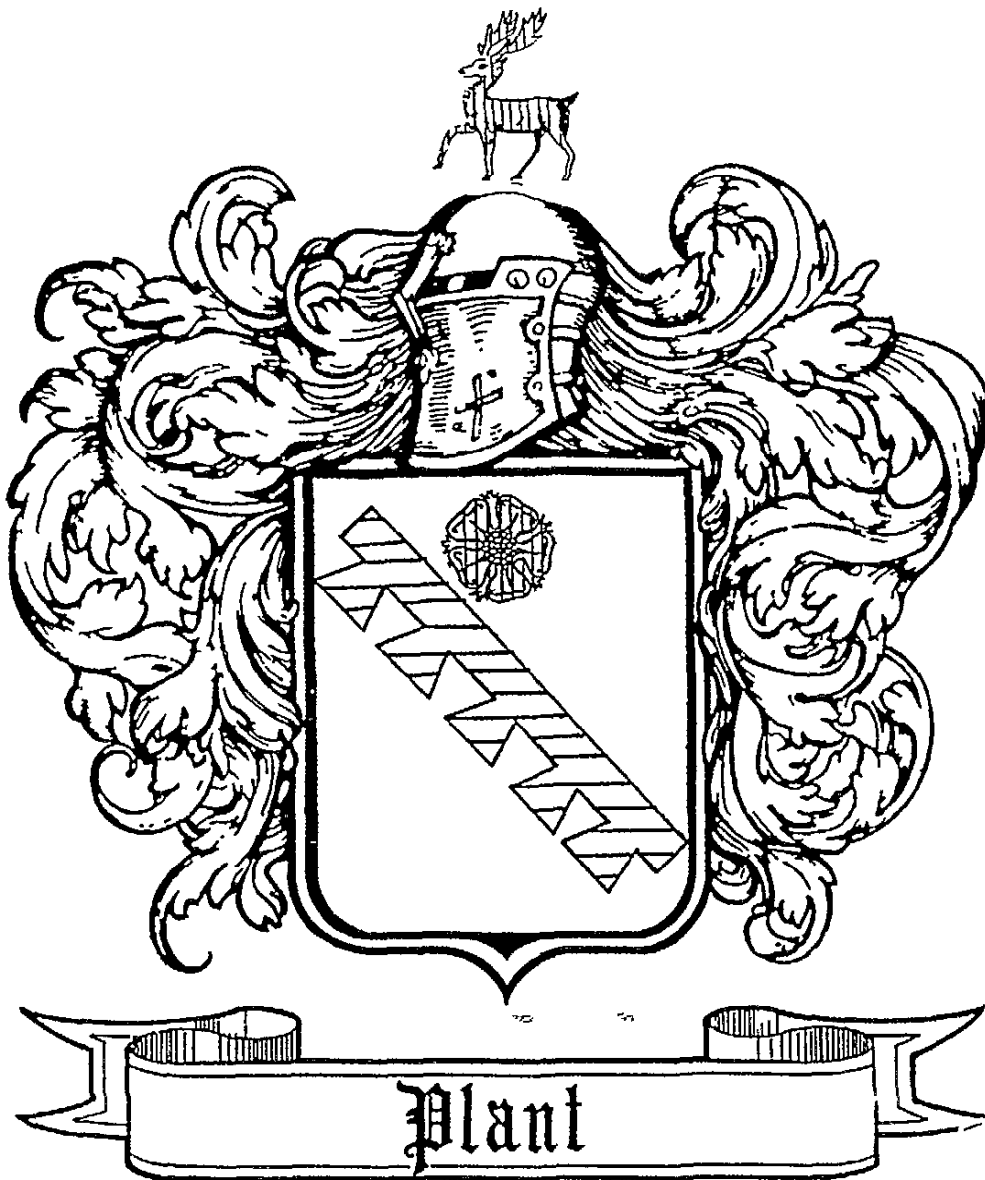
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From information given by members of the Group



THE PLANT COAT OF ARMS HEREBY ILLUSTRATED IS OFFICIALLY DOCUMENTED IN BURKE'S GENERAL ARMORY. THE ORIGINAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ARMS (SHIELD) IS AS FOLLOWS:

"AR. A LABEL IN BEND AZ. IN CHIEF A ROSE GU."

WHEN TRANSLATED THE BLAZON ALSO DESCRIBES THE ORIGINAL COLORS OF THE PLANT ARMS AS:

"SILVER; A BLUE LABEL PLACED DIAGONALLY IN UPPER THIRD A RED ROSE."

ABOVE THE SHIELD AND HELMET IS THE CREST WHICH IS DESCRIBED AS:

"A RED STAG WALKING."

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Comments by W Keith Plant

We have now reached issue No 10 of the Journal and I hope that you have found something of interest to stimulate you in 'unearthing' our Plant ancestors. It is difficult creating a balance between stories and statistical information and at this stage I would like to thank all members who have contributed articles. More articles are urgently required as I have nearly exhausted my stock pile of information.

From my correspondence it is apparent that a number of you with mutual interests have contacted each other connecting, in a number of instances, distant cousins not previously known.

You will see from the Members list that a considerable number of our members live overseas enhancing our position as a World wide group. In this issue there is an article by John Plant (member No. 111) taken from an account by his Great Grandfather, of his voyage to Australia in 1854. This account gives an insight into the conditions experienced by the early settlers and the difficulties that they experienced.

The article relating to The Plant Family of Cheadle Staffs is completed in this issue, the information for this article being provided by Denise Weston (member No. 89) whose late husband, Thomas Weston, was the son of Mary Theresa Plant. Thomas wrote an account of his early childhood in North Staffordshire, this account eventually being published under the title 'Nipper' by Pentland Press Limited. A number of copies of this book are still available either direct from Denise Weston or:

Pentland Press, Sales and Distribution Office
3 Regal Lane, Soham
Ely, Cambridgeshire CB7 5BA

I have received a letter from Judy Wallace (member No. 23) with a desperate plea for help. Her Plants originated in Nottingham and she is stuck relative to a Thomas Plant born approximately 1720 who married Elizabeth (surname unknown) and then Mary (surname also unknown). He died in 1789 in Nottingham and was a framework knitter as were several of his descendants - can anyone help?

You will recall that earlier this year I raised the question of a 'get together' to celebrate the Millennium. Well I am pleased to say that the initial response was very good and I am therefore proposing that the Plant Family have a reunion, probably in June 1999.

At this stage I am thinking of a weekend based in Chelford near Macclesfield, which happens to be where I live, and is close to one of the areas where the name originated. We could meet at the Village Hall on the Saturday morning to introduce ourselves and possibly have the local radio station and papers in attendance. The afternoon could be spent visiting Quarry Bank Mill (one of the best working museums in the North of England) or either Gawsorth Hall, Capesthorne Hall or Tatton Hall, all of which are in close proximity to Chelford.

It may also be possible to arrange a dinner in the Village Hall in the evening with an appropriate speaker and Sunday could be spent visiting Chester - a roman city and the County Town of Cheshire.

There is a reasonable hotel in the village for any of the 'family' who wish to stay over Friday and Saturday night plus extra nights if they wish - Jodrell Bank with its famous telescope is only 3 miles from Chelford.

I hope the above suggestions for the Millennium will whet your appetite and this preliminary information should enable you to do some long term planning. In due course further details will be included in the Journal. If anybody has any suggestions for this get together please let me know.

Finally it has come to my notice that John Plant, who has been contributing articles on the Plants in Sheffield and District has another claim to fame relative to his professional career and I quote -

"A recent issue of Neutron News (Vol 6, Issue 1, February 1995) has ascribed the 1994 Nobel Prize for Physics to Clifford Shull (USA) and Bertram Brockhouse (Canada), for

their role in the development of neutron scattering and diffraction techniques, though the publicised details so far are scant.

In 1989, Dr John Plant of Keele Information Services was awarded the 'Commemorative Medal of Honor' by the American Biographical Institute 'recognising the Nobel Prize (Physics) of Professor Bacon' with an accompanying 'International Cultural Diploma of Honor'. He has more recently been made a Knight of the German Lofsenic Ursinius Order, whose Knights and Dames include the British Prince Charles, and a member of the Akademie (Maison Internationale des Intellectuels), whose members have included such as Albert Einstein, American and French Presidents, the Pope, and many Nobel Prize winners."

Congratulations on behalf of The Plant Family History Group

I hope that you find the contents of this latest journal of interest and I look forward to hearing from you in due course and hopefully meeting you in 1999

No

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MEMBERS INTERESTS

<u>Membership No</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Interest</u>
1	Miss Linda Lowrey	e19c Macclesfield, Cheshire/m19c Hollingwood - Darwen Lancs/
4	Mr Colin W Plant	19c North Staffordshire/
6	Mr Michael Plant	Any period South Staffs/North Worcs/
10	Mrs Pamela Plant	e19c Stockport Cheshire/
12	Mrs Lois Webb	e19c Macclesfield Cheshire/m19c Hollingwood + Darwen Lancs/
13	Ms Helen Hill	e19c Ayrshire/m19c Rowley Regis Staffs/ L19c Cradley Staffs/
15	Mrs Winifred Stuart	Any period Cheshire/
16	Mrs C Reed	L18c e19c North Staffordshire/
23	Mrs Judy Wallace	18c + 19c Nottingham/
29	Mrs Shirley Hughes	L17c + 18c Rowley Regis Worcs/19c Dudley Worcs/L19c Sydney Australia/
32	Mrs Catherine Sproston	Any Period Cheshire/
33	Miss Aileen Plant	17c 18c 19c Stockport Cheshire/
35	Mr Arnold Plant	General/
37	Mr Patrick Pearson	Any period Stockport Cheshire/
38	Mrs Sian Plant	e19c Denton Lancs/19c Leicester/ 20c Rounds Northants/
45	Mr David Johnson	19c Kidsgrove/
47	Mrs S Robson	General/
51	Mr Gerald Plant	m19c Goostrey Cheshire/L19c e20c Salford Lancs/
52	Dr John S Plant	19c Sheffield Yorks/e19c Clowne Derbyshire/
59	Mr Nigel Burroughs	L18c 19c Burslem + Longton Staffs/
60	Mrs Rosemary Terry	19c Burslam + Longton Staffs/Any period RH + SL Plant Ltd/
65	Mr D J Plant	Any period Cheadle Staffs/
69	Mr Andrew Plant	M18c + M19c Little Bowden and Market Harborough/19c London

71	Mr G Brian Plant	Any period Cheshire/
74	Mrs Alice D Mercer	19c Leicester/L19c Nottingham/
75	Mr M J Plant	e19c Shropshire/e19c Cheadle Hulme Cheshire/
85	Mr John E Ransley	18c + 19c Staffordshire/
89	Mrs Denise F Weston	Any period Fenton + Cheadle + Longton Staffs/
90	Mrs M R Lake	m18c Suffolk/
91	Mr Fred Faulkner	Any Period Yarnfield + Stafford/
93	Cordelia R Shields	19c Stafford/any period Connecticut USA/
95	Linda Shields Wheeler	17c Stafford/any period Connecticut USA/
98	Deanne Richards	19c Eckington Derbyshire/
104	Mrs Liz Plant	17c + 18c + e19c Wolverhampton/
108	Mrs Stella Kornfein	L19c Wisbech Cambs/L19c Battersea London/
110	Mrs Myrtle Reid	L19c + e20c Darlaston + Walsall + West Bromwich, Staffs/
111	Mr Malc John Plant	Any period Sibsey Lincs/
113	Mrs Heather Plant	L19c Hackney Middlesex/
114	Mr John Russel Ingamellis	18c Lincs/
115	Mrs Pat Herring	e19c Ashley Staffs/L19c Wheelock Cheshire/
116	Miss Joan Plant	e19c Bristol/
119	Mrs Florence Plant	L19c Staffordshire/
121	Kathy Compagno	L18c + e19c Brierley Hill/e18c Old Swinford/ 17c + 18c Rowley Regis/
122	Elizabeth Messer	L19c Cheadle Staffs/
123	Dr Andrew Thomas Plant	18c + 19c Northants/19c Rutland/19c Hants + Cambs/L19c + e20c Bedfordshire
124	Mr Alan Plant	General Staffordshire/
125	Mr Ronald George Plant	e20c Rugeley Staffordshire/
126	Mr Bryan Alvey	17c Bakewell + Youlgreave Derbyshire/
127	Mr William T Plant	18c + e19c North Staffordshire/
129	Mrs Denise North	19c West Midlands/
131	Mrs Jean Walpole	m19c Wolverhampton Staffordshire/ L19c Camberwell, Surrey/
132	Miss Linda Wilks	Any period Potteries, Staffordshire/

133 Mr Nick Dykes

Any period RH + SL Plant Ltd/

134 Mrs Hillary Bell

19c Haslington, Cheshire/

• AROUND PLANT'S YARD •

HOW IT MAY HAVE GOT ITS NAME¹

The Sheffield shoemaker William is known to have been living by 1840 near the foot of The Moor, not far from Plant's Yard in Little Sheffield. There was some considerable development at the site of Plant's Yard around 1825 and this could conceivably have related to this shoemaker's father (*Wm*(1) of Chapter 9) though Directories show that from around 1790, there were two other Plants in Little Sheffield. These were apparently two of *Wm*(1)'s uncles from Duckmanton, which is about 10 miles to the south near Chesterfield, and more generally it may be supposed that there could have been a gathering, in the vicinity of Plant's Yard, of Plants of this Duckmanton Plant family from as early as the mid eighteenth century

10.1 South of Sheffield (1740-1800)

The township of Sheffield around 1740 extended little more than 0.25 miles from Trinity Church (now the Cathedral) to Lady's Bridge, which are shown as (5) and (9) respectively in Figure 10.1².

It was 1740 when the Sheffield cutler Thomas Boulsover first discovered the basic process of forming Sheffield Plant, involving the fusing of silver onto copper. This was also when the Doncaster clockmaker Benjamin Huntsman came to Handsworth near Sheffield where he invented crucible steel, though it was many years before this set Sheffield far along the route towards becoming one of the world's greatest steel cities, by the end of the nineteenth century³. As will be described later (Chapter 12) Huntsman's son, William, was to become an associate of the Plant family from Duckmanton. This Plant family was associated with Plant's Yard just to the south of Sheffield

10.1.1 South of Sheffield (circa 1750)

On Sheffield's southern edge, there was a slight spur of buildings extending along Coal-pit (or Cow-pit) Lane where Benjamin Plant from Duckmanton owned many properties (Chapter 11). Near to Coal-pit Lane was St Paul's Chapel (item (2) towards the left side of Figure 10.1), which was near the site of the present Town Hall. Coal-pit Lane was, despite its name, a desirable address at the head of Little Sheffield Moor with views across open land that led to Broom-hall (item (1) of Figure 10.1). Broom-hall, which will feature in Chapter 11, lay to the west of the common land of Little Sheffield Moor, which subsequently became known as The Moor (item (14) at the extreme left of Figure 10.1)

In 1756 the road to Chesterfield was the first in the area to be turnpiked. It led SSW from Sheffield down the gentle slope of Little Sheffield Moor, in the chapelry of Ecclesall in the parish of Sheffield, to a ford over the Porter Brook and then on into the separate small hamlet of Little Sheffield some 0.7 miles south of St Paul's Chapel. As the buildings of Sheffield spread, all the pasture gradually disappeared and the people took to manufacture instead of farming.

10.1.2 Little Sheffield Moor

Until 1779, Little Sheffield Moor (to the left of Figure 10.1) was a rather forlorn bit of heath with the deeply sunken turnpike road on the one side and a causeway raised above the mud on the other. As soon as the area had been cut up into 'allotments', most of the new owners let them out for building and the streets up to Button Lane on the west and Porter Lane on the east were filled with houses, shops and factories which were probably as mean as others in Sheffield at that time. The turnpiked road was then called South Street (it was later called The Moor and it is now a pedestrian precinct)

¹Including data supplied by Pat Clark of the Local Studies Centre, Sheffield City Libraries

²This figure shows (1) Broomhall, (2) St Paul's Chapel, (3) Road to Manchester, (4) the (Old) Town Hall, (5) Trinity Church (later The Cathedral), (6) the (old) road to London, (7) Hospital founded by Gilbert, Earl of Shrewsbury, (8) Castle Green Bowling Green, (9) Lady's Bridge, (10) River Don, (11) Bridge Houses, (12) Duke of Norfolk's Nursery Gardens, (13) Park Hill, (14) The Moor

³At first, crucible steel did not catch on with Sheffield's cutlers who found it much harder to work than blister steel and so Huntsman subsidised his business by exporting his superior steel to France

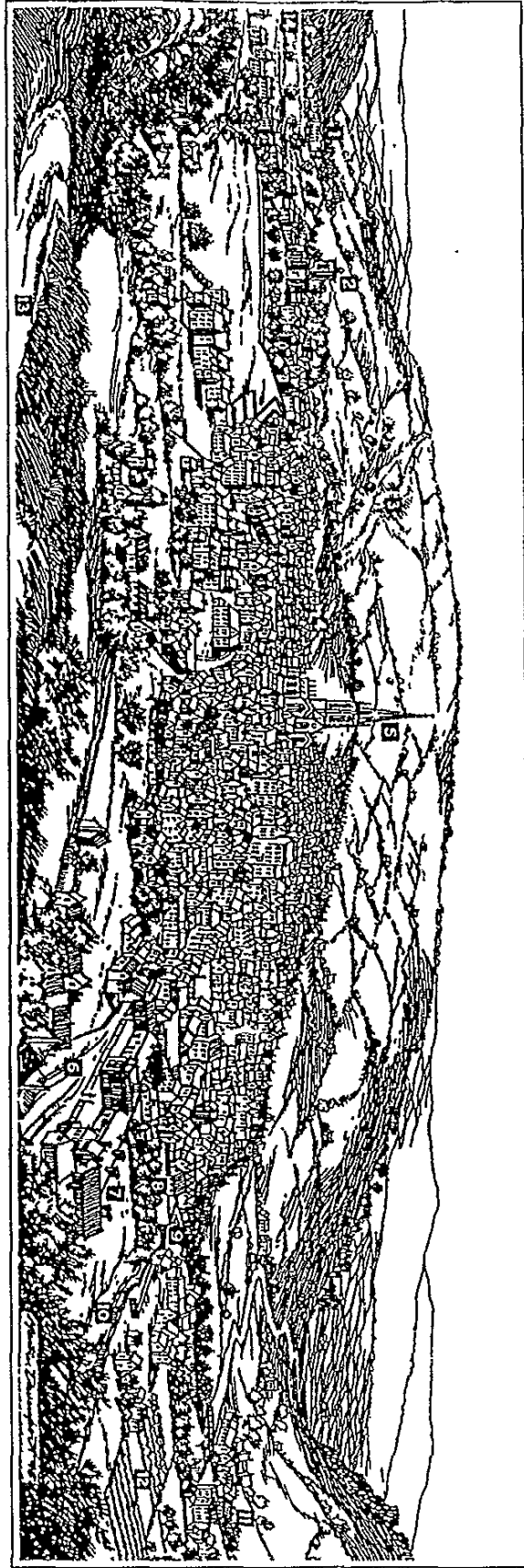


Figure 10.1. Sheffield about 1740 (Adapted by Martin Davenport from "The East Prospect of Sheffield in the County of York" by Samuel and Nataniel Buck)

By 1795 the buildings fanned out either side of South Street from the head of the Moor, forming a narrow wedge flanked by Button Lane and Porter Street where, some 40 years later, the Sheffield shoemaker William Plant (presumed to be *Wm(2a)* of Chapter 9) lived (in Porter Street) and apparently had a shop (in Button Lane) as will be described more fully later (Chapter 13)

10.1.3 Little Sheffield

South of where South Street crossed the Porter Brook at the foot of the Moor, it became London Road. Just 0.1 miles south of the Brook was the hamlet of Little Sheffield, which had long stood separate from Sheffield and the sparsity of its habitation, even by 1808, is apparent in Figure 10 2(a).

In Sheffield Directories⁴ there appears:

- 1787 John Plant, bricklayer, Little Sheffield
- 1797 Benjamin Plant, bellows maker, Little Sheffield

and these two Plants were in Little Sheffield just as it was beginning to be reached by Sheffield's spreading buildings

These Little Sheffield Plants will be described more fully later (Chapters 11 and 12) and just a few salient points are outlined here.

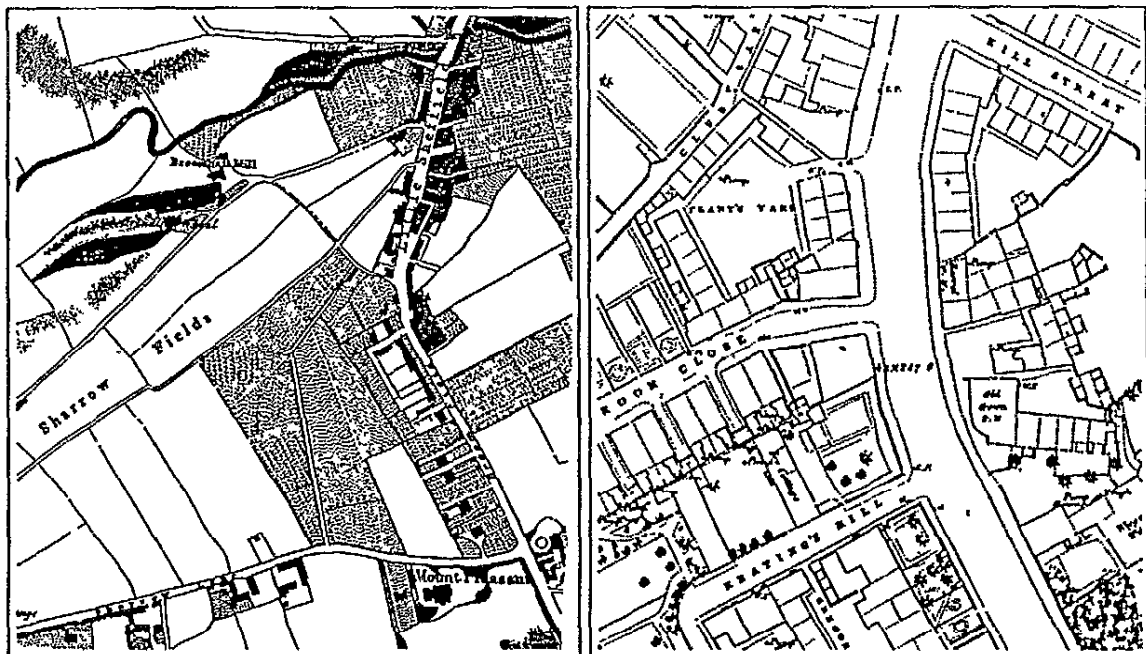


Figure 10.2: Site of Plant's Yard (a) in 1808, showing Little Sheffield to the south of the Porter Brook and (b) in 1850, showing Plant's Yard at the bend in the road

The relatives mentioned in the 1805 will of this bellows maker Benjamin leave no doubt that he was from the Duckmanton Plant family, as indicated in Figure 10.3. The 1816 will of his presumed brother, the bricklayer John, mentions his *'Household property situate in Little Sheffield'* and it can hence be pondered how near this may have been to the site of *Plant's Yard*⁵

⁴Directory published by Gales and Martin (1787) reprinted in facsimile by Pawson & Brailsford 1889 and Directory printed by J Montgomery – the Hartshead (1797) for John Robinson, Spring Street

Benjamin's 1805 will, which mentions widespread properties, names the first trustee of the will as '*my Friend Samuel Broomhead Ward*'. By 1794, this friend of Benjamin owned a large house called Mount Pleasant just 0.2 miles south of the (future) site of *Plant's Yard* (Mount Pleasant appears near the bottom right corner of Figure 10.2(a)). Moreover, in 1798, Benjamin's friend S.B.Ward was Master Cutler, the region's most authoritative official⁶.

Such indications of influential connections, as well as Plant property, in and around Little Sheffield can be taken as a sufficient basis of evidence for *starting* to understand how the name *Plant* may have come to be ascribed to a subsequent block of dwellings called *Plant's Yard*.

10.2 Plants around Plant's Yard

It seems that the name Plant had been associated with a yard earlier in the eighteenth century. A 1779 Rate Book mentions '*Late Plant yard*' in Ecclesall Bierlow, which suggests that the name had its origins in a earlier generation of Plants (Chapter 11) By the early nineteenth century, two isolated buildings appear on the site of Plant's Yard (Figure 10 2(a)).

Some late eighteenth century arrivals

It could be supposed that the bricklayer John or the bellows maker Benjamin may have been instrumental in developing a prominence for the name of *Plant's Yard* though there is less known evidence of the influence of the bricklayer John in this area than there is for the bellows maker Benjamin.

There is a 1797 deed (DZ-313-424) for Little Sheffield property involving John Plant '*late of Rotherham ... bricklayer but now of Little Sheffield*'. Rotherham is 6 miles to the NE of Sheffield. This is where John had been twice married and had had several children baptised, around 1760-85 (Chapter 13). John's children do not seem to have become established near Plant's Yard, as later records for this locality (1851 Census) have revealed only one of John's grandsons (Chapter 13) and he came from Beighton which is where his father Samuel (1785-1865) was a corn-farmer. Beighton is 6 miles SE of Sheffield. In his 1816 will, the bricklayer John is described as '*of Sheffield but... late of the Township of Beighton*'

On the other hand, a 1793 rate book for Little Sheffield mentions '*his Yard*' in connection with Benjamin Plant. There is a 1794 deed (DO-684-836) for Sheffield property involving Benjamin Plant '*late of Coalpit Lane otherwise Cowpit Lane in Sheffield but now of Little Sheffield, bellows maker*'. Although it seems that this bellows maker Benjamin had no sons of his own, his 1805 will mentions nephews Benjamin and Joseph (sons of his brother, yeoman farmer James 1740-1825 of Duckmanton) and nephew *Wm(1)* (eldest son of his brother, farmer Thomas 1745-1827 of Clowne). These three favoured nephews appear to have settled near Plant's Yard in Little Sheffield in the early nineteenth century. The name of *Plant's Yard* can be taken as evidence that this Plant family had become well established in this area, at least by 1825 in' as much as the name *Plant's yard* (sic) appears as an address in Sheffield Directories of 1825 and 1833⁷.

⁵One possibility, which may be considered in connection with the fuller information in Chapter 11, is that two houses on the (future) site of Plant's Yard had been occupied by John (1787 Directory listing) and/or Benjamin (1797 Directory) of Little Sheffield though there is evidence for example that Benjamin in particular had various other properties, including some about 2 miles to the west in Ecclesall Bierlow as well as some in other parishes

⁶The Company of Cutlers in Hallamshire was formed by an act passed by the Commons on 23 4 1624 '*for the good order and government of the makers of knives, sickles, scissors and other cutlery wares in Hallamshire and the parts neere adjoining*' Around the time of Samuel Broomhead Ward's year of office, there had been the 'thirteen to a dozen' controversy (Chapter 12) but the rulers of the Company were known in general less for their commercial efficacy than for their zeal for the public good and they were active in all the benevolent and administrative activities of the town, with the Master Cutler taking precedence over the Town Collector as chief citizen Their central base was the Cutlers Hall which stood (and still stands, though rebuilt in 1832) near the Trinity Church (now the Cathedral) in Sheffield

The three favoured nephews

The bellows maker Benjamin's nephew Benjamin appears to have been a carpenter and he will be denoted *Ben(carp)* as this serves to distinguish him from his uncle, the bellows maker Benjamin, who will be denoted *Ben(bellows)*. *Ben(carp)* appears to have been the most favoured nephew for the long term perpetuation of *Ben(bellows)*'s estate since, though only aged 15 at the time of the 1805 will, he and his *heirs male* were to receive the residue of the estate, following various bequeathals and life annuities to others. His brother Joseph, then aged 18, and *his heirs male* were to be substituted only if the eldest son of *Ben(carp)* died without *heirs male*.

The remaining nephew, *Wm(1)*, was a cousin of the other two nephews and older (aged 33) He was to receive immediately a simple gift of £10

The nephews Benjamin and Joseph

It seems that *Ben(carp)* was the Benjamin who appears in Dore parish records between 1817 and 1821, as was outlined in Chapter 8, and Dore is around 4 miles to the SW of the site of Plant's Yard *Ben(carp)* was buried even closer to Plant's Yard, at Ecclesall Church (aged 36) in 1827, apparently shortly after the development of Plant's Yard into a block of dwellings with that name⁸. Moreover, there are Little Sheffield property records involving (this) Benjamin Plant in 1816, 1818, 1822 and 1823, for example⁹.

Another potential beneficiary of the Will of *Ben(bellows)* was *Ben(carp)*'s brother Joseph (1787-?). However, the children of this Joseph were still being baptised at Duckmanton by 1831 and Joseph owned land there in 1832. Despite having owned land, he appears as a 'labourer' in the 1841 Census returns, near Plant's Yard. There are Little Sheffield property records involving a Joseph Plant in 1816 (in the same deed as the Benjamin who was presumably *Ben(carp)*) and later in 1834¹⁰.

The nephew *Wm(1)*, eldest son of Thomas (1745-1827) of Clowne

Despite there being doubts about the extent of *Wm(1)*'s influence, it seems likely that *Wm(1)* was one of the nearest Plants to Plant's Yard at the time of its development around 1825. He may have been a companion to his cousin, *Ben(carp)*, who may have been more directly associated with *Plant's Yard*. *Ben(carp)*'s brother Joseph may have held interests at that time mainly in Duckmanton, 10 miles to the south.

One might wonder if, by 1825, *Wm(1)* had attained some of the considerable influence of his uncle, *Ben(bellows)*, though this is not reinforced by *Wm(1)*'s description simply as an agricultural labourer in the 1841 Census returns. This 1841 description should perhaps not be given too much weight, however, as this was over 15 years after the development of Plant's Yard into a block of dwellings and *Wm(1)* was by then elderly, for whom the epithet 'labourer' could have been partly complimentary¹¹.

near *Ben(carp)*'s son who was by then living in the household of *Ben(carp)*'s brother Joseph. Thus children of all 3 of the 'favoured nephews' were living by 1841 about 0.4 mile NE from Plant's Yard, near the foot of Little Sheffield Moor

⁷The address *Plant's yard, Highfield* appears in the Alphabetic Street Indexes of W. White's Directory (1833) and a Sheffield Directory compiled by R. Gell and printed at the Albion Press, Manchester (June 1825). It does not appear in the indexes of three earlier Directories, namely R. Gell and R. Bennett's Directory (1821), W. Brownell's Directory of 1817 (secretary to the Sheffield Fire Office), and Wardle and Bentham's Commercial Directory (1814-15), though this does not necessarily mean that the site had not been developed beyond the original two buildings rather earlier than 1825.

⁸This burial was at All Saints Church, Ecclesall, and this was around 1.5 miles to the west of Plant's Yard. All Saints Church may have been regarded as the (sometime) church of Plant's yard, even though it was slightly further away from Little Sheffield than the nearest 'Sheffield' churches by 1825.

⁹Condensed Index 1801-18 and 1819-48, West Yorkshire Deeds Office, Wakefield

¹⁰Condensed Index 1801-18 and 1819-48, *ibid*

The precise date of arrival of *Wm(1)* in Ecclesall is uncertain but, as was discussed in Chapter 9, one could suppose for example that *Wm(1)*'s family may have settled here shortly after *Wm(1)*'s last known son had been born at Clowne in 1817 and before another son was married in 1826 at Ecclesfield. On the other hand, it seems *possible* that *Wm(1)* may have been a regular visitor to *Ben(bellows)*'s lands near Sheffield from before the time of *Ben(bellows)*'s 1805 will. This latter supposition can be regarded to be consistent with the fact that *Wm(1)*'s widow in 1851 had been born in Poltefract, to the north of Sheffield, which suggests, provided that we assume that this widow had been his first wife, that *Wm(1)* may have met her before the turn of the century, perhaps through early links with Sheffield.

Wm(1)'s known address of 1841 was a little over 1 mile W of Plant's Yard and near where his uncle, *Ben(bellows)*, had owned some land (Chapter 11). A supposition that a *close* relationship developed between the families of all 3 nephews mentioned in *Ben(bellows)*'s 1805 will is supported by the fact that, by the time of more detailed 1841 records, the shoemaker William (*Wm(1)*'s son) was living

10.3 An outline history of the Yard's development

An account of the structural developments, from around 1800, at the site of Plant's Yard can be pieced together largely from the information shown on various maps. A fuller account of deeds for Little Sheffield property held, for example, by the bricklayer John before his 1816 death and by *Ben(carp)* before his 1827 death will be given in a later Chapter

Map dated 1808

From as early as 1808 (Figure 10.2(a)) a track led from London Road across the north-eastern edge of the subsequent buildings of Plant's Yard. On later maps part of this track is labeled *Cross Walk* but, in 1808, the track continued further to the Broomhall Mill which was about 0.2 miles away on the Porter Brook.

On the 1808 map there is just a single building on the London Road side of the subsequent pentagon of the Yard and an L-shaped building at the subsequent southern edge.

Map dated 1832

On a 1832 map the structure seems perhaps to include the two original small buildings shown on the 1808 map but with substantial additions to form most of a pentagon though this pentagon was still open on one side. Certainly, the L-shaped building from 1808 still appears to remain in 1832 and the other original building may have been incorporated in buildings that extended, by 1832, along the whole of the eastern *London Road* side of the pentagon. These were supplemented by buildings along the north-eastern *Cross Walk* edge and along the north-western edge which was shown to be bounded by another track. On later maps this track is labeled *Club Garden's Walk*.

The 1832 map shows buildings on the other side of *London Road* from Plant's Yard, on the other side of *Cross Walk* but not on the other side of *Club Garden's Walk*

Map dated 1850

It seems that the L-shaped building may have been demolished around 1840 when the cul-de-sac *Broom Close* was added to form the southern edge of the final pentagon¹².

The three altered sides of Plant's Yard (western, southern, and eastern) are shown on an 1850 map (Figure 10.2(b)) in addition to the perhaps unchanged buildings from 1832 along the north-western _

¹²*Wm(1)*'s father, Thomas, was also described as a labourer in his later years even though he appears earlier to have been a farmer of some substance. Moreover, when *Wm(1)* was described as a labourer at his childrens' baptisms at Clowne in 1813 and 1817, he may still have been remembered there largely as a sometime assistant to his father, even though he was by then around 40. *Wm(1)* may have inherited *some* privileges following his father's 1827 death and, in general, it can be said that the use of the term 'labourer', which was quite widespread, does not *necessarily* preclude the possibility that *Wm(1)* may have held *some interest* in some property at *some stage* in Ecclesall

Club Garden's Walk and north-eastern *Cross Walk* edges Figure 10 2(b) hence shows a completed pentagon clearly labeled *Plant's Yard*. A double depth of buildings extended along the *London Road* edge and a single depth of buildings along the new western edge built at right angles to *Broom Close* joining up almost with the buildings that edged on to *Club Garden's Walk*.

This Yard was about 50 yards across, with a pump. It was on the west side of *London Road* almost opposite a Little Sheffield public house called the *Barrel* which was just a few paces north of another called the *Old Crown*. The pentagon of the Yard at that time was surrounded partly by 'allotments', without buildings, called *Club Gardens* and an 1851 map shows that the area was otherwise still open as far as the dams, a water-powered grinding wheel (called the *Broomhall Wheel*) and the adjacent *Broomhall Corn Mill* on the nearby *Porter Brook*

Census data 1841-81

Plant's Yard (sic) appears in the Census returns from 1841 to 1871 and, in 1861 for example, it is shown to contain 12 average households. A summary of the occupants is shown in Table 10.1. The occupations of the Heads of Household in 1841 are various, including 'Shoe M' and 'Ag Lab'. There are 51 occupants in 10 households in 1841 becoming 67 in 13 households in 1871. By 1871 most are engaged in metal crafts and almost half are listed as 'Spring Knife cutlers'. The conditions must have been remarkably cramped compared to the grandeur of the nearby home, *Mount Pleasant*, of Benjamin Plant's Master Cutler friend (Chapter 12). None of the inhabitants of *Plant's Yard* in these Census returns is called *Plant* and there seems little reason to suppose that any *Plant* continued to occupy this site long after its development, around 1825, into a block of dwellings.

Plant's Yard no longer appears in the *Street Index* for the 1881 Census though the same structure of buildings as on an 1850 map can still be seen, clearly labeled as *Plant's Yard*, on a map dated 1890.

1841				1871			
Head of Household	age	occupation	No in house	Head of Household	age	occupation	No in house
Joseph Redfearne	36	Comb Polisher	6	Charles Houseley	48	Knifescale presser	4
Joseph Stamford	45	Ag Lab	9	John Barlow	50	Brace bit forger	8
James Kelsey	35	Shoe M	5	Charles Brookes	26	File forger	3
George Rose	30	Scythe Grander	3	George Watts	32	Spring Knife cutler	6
Edmund ?Milbner	30	Cutler	4	Henry Allen	55	Saw smith	3
James Rodgers	27	?Penrald Cutler	6	John Awdas	76	Spring Knife cutler	3
John Francis	40	?M S	4	Peter Awdas	31	Spring Knife cutler	6
John Houseley	50		3	Harry Birtles	37	Edge Tool grinder	7
John Awdas	45	Spring K Cutler	6	Peter Colles	35	Spring Knife cutler	4
William Heath	40	Comb ?Fluter	5	James Wragg	35	Spring Knife cutler	7
				Ann North	73	Charwoman	4
				James Bradbury	50	File Cutter	11
				Daniel Houseley	49	Hornscale presser	1

Table 10.1: Inhabitants of *Plant's Yard*

¹²There are several possibilities for how the name *Broom Close* may have arisen. One might wonder, for example, whether it was inspired by the name of the ancient *Broom Hall* on the other side of the *Porter Brook*, or perhaps arose from the name of Benjamin's associate, the influential Samuel Broomhead Ward or, even more fancifully and less likely still, from the Anjevin connection of the name *Plant* to *Plantagenet* (derived from *planta genista* for the *spring of broom* that was their emblem). More generally it may be commented that the predominant vegetation in *Ecclesall* before Parliamentary Enclosure in 1788 is recorded to have been heather and broom.

Map dated 1890

On the 1890 map, the structure of the buildings of Plant's Yard is essentially identical to that on the 1850 map. One notable alteration however is that nearly all of the small 'blocks' that can be seen in Figure 10.2(b) had been removed (such as behind the buildings on the western side of the Yard). These 'blocks' may have been privy middens and their removal *may perhaps* signal an end to human habitation, in keeping with the evidence that Plant's Yard no longer appears as an address in the 1881 Census returns.

The surrounding area was more fully built up by 1890. In addition to the Barrel Inn and Old Crown (P.H.), which appear on the earlier 1850 map, there are two more public houses, which are on the same side of London Road as Plant's Yard. Just a few paces north of Plant's Yard is shown the Pheasant Inn and to the south, on the other corner of Broom Close, is shown the Tramway Hotel (P.H.). The Tramway Hotel, which is still adjacent to the site of Plant's Yard, no doubt relates to the tram tracks that are marked on the 1890 map along London Road¹³.

Amidst the few buildings between Plant's Yard and the Pheasant Inn there is one that is marked as a *Smithy*. On the opposite side of Club Garden's Walk from Plant's Yard is shown the '*Cross Walk Works, Augers, Screw Bits Etc*'. Otherwise, the general area seems to be mostly residential with, for example, houses shown by then along both sides of Broom Close and along Club Garden Road behind Club Garden's Walk.

Later Maps

The structure of the buildings of Plant's Yard remains apparently mostly unchanged on a 1930 map. However, by 1930, the few structures along the north-eastern *Cross Walk* edge of the Yard had seemingly been demolished and there is also evidence of some extension to the rear of the buildings that fronted onto London Road. The same pentagonal structure remained in 1955.

Plant's Yard today

The buildings dating from the 1850 map (Figure 10.2(b)) have recently been demolished and 19 inwardly facing lock-up garages for neighbouring properties now line the London Road, Cross Walk and Club Garden's Walk edges of the Yard leaving the pentagon open on two sides to the south and the west. In a sense this has returned the 'Yard' to its 1832 configuration but without the L-shaped building on the site of Broom Close.

There is now a children's play area diagonally opposite from the site of the Yard at the corner of Cross Walk and Club Garden's Walk. The public houses called the Old Crown, Barrel Inn, Pheasant, and Tramway, all remain.

It seems unlikely that any of the neighbouring residents, or the passers by on the busy London Road, know much of the former history of this site though its outline still remains. Some key historical events in the late eighteenth century, for the general region of Sheffield, can be associated with the bellows maker Benjamin Plant, who apparently lived at or near the site of Plant's Yard, and this Plant related history will be outlined further in Chapters 11 and 12.

¹³On 19.1.1852 Shortridge had started Sheffield's first horse bus service which operated down the Moor and past Plant's Yard to Heeley. The fare was 3d, there were no fixed stopping places and the return trip set off half an hour later. A horse tram service from the Moorhead to Heeley opened on 29.1.1877 and was run by the Sheffield Tramways Company. The Corporation had constructed the tramway and they took over the running of trams on 11.7.1896 introducing fixed stops which, along London Road, were at the Brunswick Chapel, Landsowne Road, the 'Coffee House' (near Plant's Yard and possibly part of the Tramway Hotel) and Sharrow Lane. Horse cars were replaced by electric trams along the Heeley route, reaching past Plant's Yard in 1899 to Lowfields on 1.8.1900 and to the Albert Road terminus on 1.11.1900, this route was later extended further.

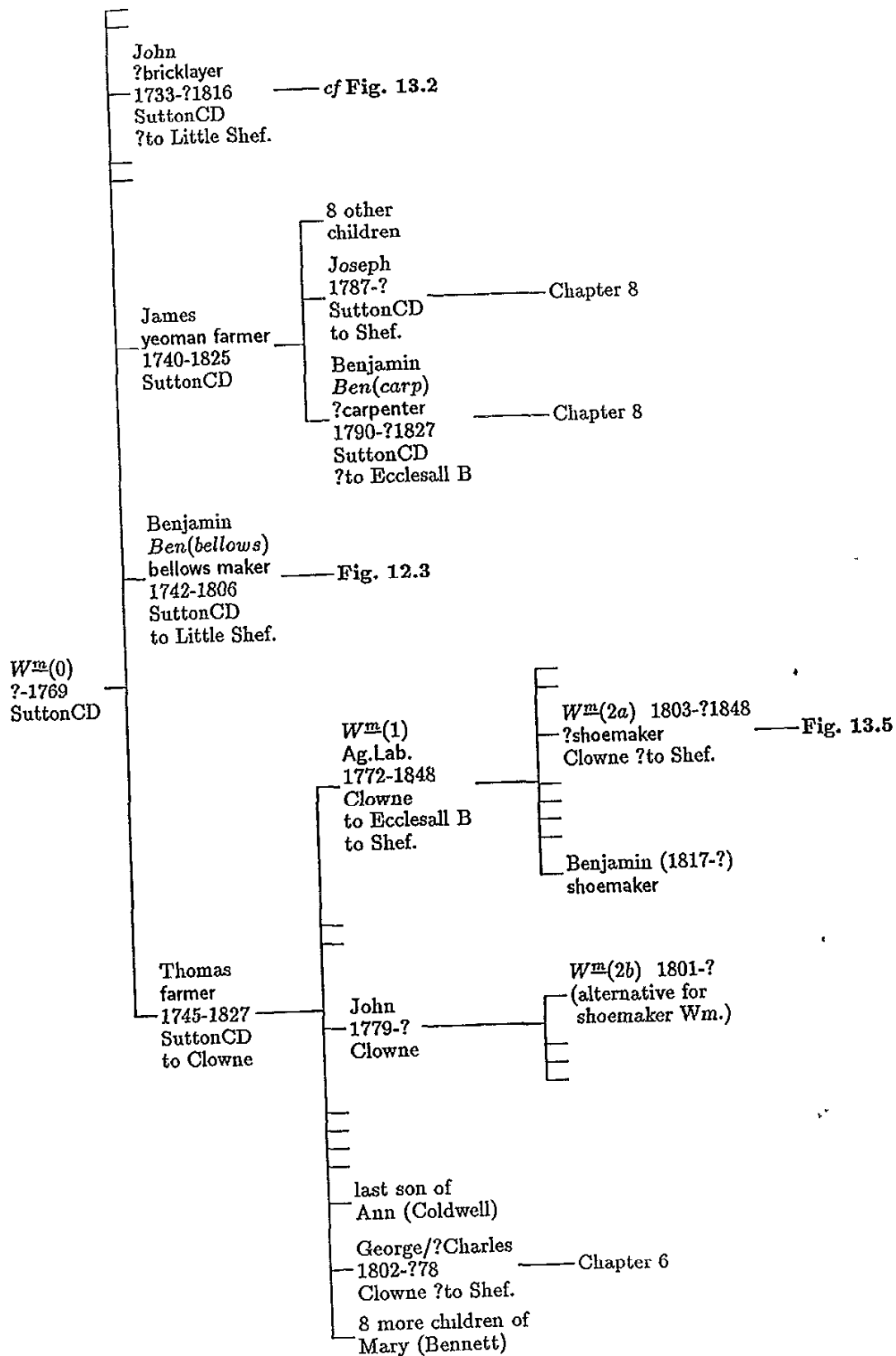


Figure 10.3: Outline ancestry of Little Sheffield Plants

• STAFFORDSHIRE BURIAL INDEX •

continued from Journals 3,4,6,8 and 9 covering Sarah to Susanna

1690	Mar	27	Sarah dau of John	Uttoxeter
1677	Sep	25	Sarah of Oncoat	Butterton
1720	Feb	27	Sarah dau of John and Elizabeth	Bramshall
1726	Apr	22	Sarah dau of Thomas and Margaret	Cheadle
1767	Oct	25	Sarah wife of Thomas	Cheadle
1777	May	18	Sarah widow	Burton on Trent
1780	May	8	Sarah dau of James, blacksmith	Burslem
1783	Nov	29	Sarah dau of Joseph and Elizabeth of Milton	Norton le Moors
1784	Mar	17	Sarah 14	Brierley Hill
1785	May	22	Sarah 8 weeks	Brierley Hill
1790	Apr	6	Sarah dau of Jno age 4	Newcastle under Lyme
1794	Jan	7	Sarah dau of John	Longton
1800	Apr	27	Sarah infant	Cheddleton
1809	Mar	22	Sarah 3 mths	Newcastle under Lyme
1811	May	12	Sarah widow 74	Biddulph
1812	Feb	2	Sarah age 45	Burslem
1814	Dec	27	Sarah 22	Burslem
1816	Mar	2	Sarah of Wheaton Aston 75	Lapley
1817	Jul	8	Sarah of Hooks Green infant	Stone
1818	Mar	15	Sarah of Penkhull 3	Stoke on Trent
1820	Aug	29	Sarah 2	Stoke on Trent
1821	Sep	2	Sarah of Brettell Lane 83	Brierley Hill
1821	Oct	15	Sarah of Old Hill 78	Rowley Regis
1823	Aug	20	Sarah widow of Weston Lane 67	High Offley
1823	Oct	14	Sarah of Oldcot 7	Newchapel
1825	Jan	23	Sarah of Bird St 66	Lichfield St Michael
1825	Dec	18	Sarah 92	Pattingham
1826	Aug	21	Sarah 1	Uttoxeter
1826	Dec	14	Sarah of Stone Heath infant	Milwich
1827	Feb	25	Sarah of Biddulph 55	Norton in the Moors
1827	Aug	2	Sarah of Forebridge	Stafford St Chad
1828	Aug	24	Sarah 53	Bilston Wesleyan
1829	May	20	Sarah of Hot Lane infant	Burslem
1829	May	28	Sarah Tipton 34	West Bromwich
1829	Jul	21	Sarah of Mill St 27	Leek
1830	Aug	11	Sarah of Spout St infant	Leek
1831	Mar	27	Sarah of Shelton 62	Hanley
1833	Jan	20	Sarah of Knutton Heath 17	Wolstanton
1833	Aug	16	Sarah of Ipstones Edge 82	Onecott
1833	Sep	1	Sarah 80	Ellenhall
1833	Sep	21	Sarah of Hollies infant	Gnosall
1834	Sep	3	Sarah 22	Willenhall
1835	Feb	21	Sarah of Paradise Lane 71	Cheadle
1837	Jan	24	Sarah of Ranscliffe 37	Newchapel
1837	Aug	9	Sarah Anne 1 yr 2 mths	Bilston
1837	Oct	29	Sarah infant	Longton
1837	Nov	26	Sarah of Buxton Road 59 yrs	Leek
1837	Dec	20	Sarah of Weston Jones 77	Norbury
1826	Apr	27	Selina of Misers Row 13 mths	West Bromwich
1671	Mar	8	Sibill uxer Robert of Newbera	Hanbury
1795	Jul	13	Silvia dau of Jno and Joanne infant	Brierley Hill

1836	Nov	8	Simon of Town End	85	Cheadle
1809	Oct	10	Sobieskeith wife of William	67	Brierley Hill
1833	Aug	1	Sobieski of Brockmoor	29	Kingswinford
1836	Jul	31	Sophra Birch Hill	9	Rowley Regis
1764	Nov	18	Stephen		Bucknall cum Bagnall
1809	Jan	12	Stephen	16	Hanley
1817	Jul	6	Stephen	10 mths	Stoke on Trent
1657	Mar	15	Susanie		Dilhome
1715	May	9	Susannah dau of Sarah		Cheadle
1820	Jul	17	Susannah of Heamies	24	Chebsey
1821	Jan	25	Susanna of Round Oak	1	Brierley Hill
1829	Jun	25	Susanna Tipton	1 mth	West Bromwich

• MY SUFFOLK PLANTS •

Lilian May Plant, my mother, was born in Ipswich, Suffolk on 5th May 1913, the third child of Ernest Richard Plant and Mary Elizabeth Beaton. On the 31st May 1913 a policeman came to the front door of the little terrace in Pauline Street, asked for Mrs Plant saying that there had been an accident on the railway at Lawford (Nr Manningtree) and she was required to identify the body. She was taken to Lawford where the body was laid in a ganger's hut with the head wrapped in cloth. It was Ernest Richard Plant aged 35. The body was brought back to Pauline Street and laid out in a coffin on the table in the front room. The room was small enough to make Marjorie (the 6 year old daughter) have to duck under the table with a penny to put into the gas meter when necessary. There was of course a coroner's inquest, reported upon in the local paper, which discovered that on finishing work as a platelayer, Ernest had dropped into the local pub for a pint before walking back along the track to his lodgings. It was Friday night when he would normally return home to his family in Pauline Street. As a result of the inquest it was decided that as he had finished work he was trespassing on the railway and because he had had a drink, no compensation was considered necessary. He had slipped on the gravel at the side of the track and hit his head on the rail, either before the train came along or whilst stepping out of its way. His funeral was a grand affair. His eldest daughter can just remember riding on the knee of an uncle in one of the funeral carriages.

This is all that was known of the Ipswich Plants except that the family of Plants of Felixstowe and Walton were not connected in any way according to my Grandmother!

Keeping that statement in mind I was very surprised to find that Ernest Richard Plant had been born in Felixstowe 27th July 1878 the son of Richard and Susan Plant whilst his father was working on the newly opened railway although by 1881 Richard was a coachman in Ipswich, having also been in Haverhill in 1880. According to the 1881 census Richard B. had been born in Walton.

The only marriage certificate of about the correct time was of a marriage on 20 June 1877 at Little Clacton, Essex between Richard Benjamin Plant aged 21 and Susan Spearman aged 28. Richard's occupation was Coachman and his father was Samuel Plant, a gardener. I knew my Richard had a second initial B., but was just 2 weeks past his 19th birthday, his wife had been called Susan and I had found the grave of a Samuel Plant at Walton and I had a photo of my Richard driving the Station Bus in the early 1900's. I eventually discovered that this was the correct marriage from evidence passed to me by the Spearman family. So this then was my Great Grandfather. (By-the-way Susan turned out to be 5 months short of her 30th birthday, this made her nearly 12 years older than her husband instead of just 7).

Richard Benjamin Plant had been born 7th June 1857 at Walton the son of Samuel Plant and Jane nee Nice. Samuel sometime Ag.Lab, sometime gardener, sometime chimney sweep, no doubt almost anything.

A trawl through the Felixstowe, Walton and Trimley 1881 Censuses revealed 8 separate heads of household named Plant with 3 called Samuel but only 1 was a gardener. These three Samuel Plants were an Ag Lab. aged 37, A Gardener age 63, and the third (hopefully retired) aged 85. Samuel aged 63 had a wife named Jane. Probably 3 generations (This turned out to be correct).

The Walton school Log Book between 1876-1892 records the Plant name twice.

Once in July 1876 "I was accused of beating George Plant black and blue, the father abused me and I sent for the policeman, Gildersleeves, to investigate in order to avoid trouble in the village."

The second time in February 1886, "2 boys, Branch and Plant, came into the yard and threw sods at the scholars. The Master had a narrow escape"

These boys were almost certainly Richard's nephews.

The 1871 census confirmed that Richard born circa 1859 was the son of Samuel and Jane and Walton Church Registers revealed that Samuel Plant aged 23 was married to Jane Nice also aged 23 on 11 April 1841 Their fathers were Samuel Plant and Robert Nice.

All the Plants so far found all claimed to have been born at Walton, except Samuel born circa 1797 who claimed to have been born at Bucklesham Here I should explain that Felixstowe was a fishing hamlet at the end of the Coiers Peninsula Within 5 miles of the coast are the villages of Walton, Trimley St. Mary, and Trimley St Martin all along the only road to Ipswich Next come Kirton, Falkenham and Bucklesham a mile or two to the east of the road with Nacton and Levington slightly further off to the West

I eventually found Samuel's birth recorded in Trimley St. Mary Church 27 February 1818 the son of Samuel (1797) and Elizabeth Plant Labourer of Trimley and the marriage, with consent of parents, of Samuel Plant (1797) and Elizabeth Barham 10 April 1817 at Walton. Walton also has two graves which record the death of Samuel Plant died 18 July 1898 aged 79 and his wife Jane Plant died 25 December 1903 aged 85 and also Elizabeth Plant who died 16 March 1844 aged 45 and her husband Samuel Plant died 3 August 1885 aged 87. Elizabeth died the day her daughter Mary was born and 2 months after Samuel's (1818) first son Samuel (1844) was born

Samuel Plant (1818) is supposed to have read the bible to the Empress of Germany while she was holidaying in Felixstowe in 1891 His wife was housekeeper to the house where the Empress stayed. I am not clear whether he was a "Holy Joe" or Senile but I like the story

In Bucklesham Church Parish Registers I found the Baptism of Samuel Plant 5 February 1797 the son of Richard Plant and Hannah his wife late Clarke. Richard Plant must have been a labourer on yearly hire as he also had children baptised at Nacton 1792, 1794, Trimley St. Mary 1799, Falkenham 1802, 1804, plus three who claim to have been born at Trimley St. Mary 1793, 1807 and Nacton 1804 whom I have not been able to find in the baptism registers yet.

Nacton was the Church where Richard Plant and Hannah Clark had been married 31 October 1791 but where had he come from? The name of Plant did not appear anywhere before that date Hannah Clark had been born in Levington.

I could not find any record of Richard or Hannah's burial in any of the local records. I found that he had not died until 1854 and eventually found him at the grand old age of 84 living with his son James at Nacton in the 1851 Census and claiming to have been born at "Eason". No such place, but determined not to be beat, my sister mentally took out her teeth and put on her oldest Suffolk accent and came up with either Euston or Easton, both of which are in Suffolk. With nothing to lose we calculated that he had been born around 1767 and looked up both the Euston and Easton Parish Records. To our amazement we found Richard had been baptised 18 December 1768 the son of Samuel and Elizabeth Plant. Easton is approximately 20 miles north of Felixstowe. We still have no idea what brought Richard to Nacton except that there were two large estates at Nacton on which perhaps he worked. The Easton Register was full of Plant including Samuel Plant's marriage to Elizabeth Flatman in November 1767 and Samuel son of Henry Plant and Mary being baptised 21 August 1743. One interesting thing was that there are 5 Plant graves in Easton Churchyard but not one of them appear to have been christened in the Church. One, Jemima, died in 1815 aged 70 was from Martley Hall which was on the corner of the Duke of Hamilton Estate By the time the Tithe Map in 1837 Mary Plant was a tenant of Duke of Hamilton and farming quite a large amount of acres

Here I have stuck for the present Henry and Mary Plant first appeared in the registers with a daughter Mary baptised at Easton in 1734 followed in 1735 by Henry so I think these must be the first-borns named for their parents. I have still to find their marriage, but I believe that Henry died in 1760

The workhouse book registers several Plants -

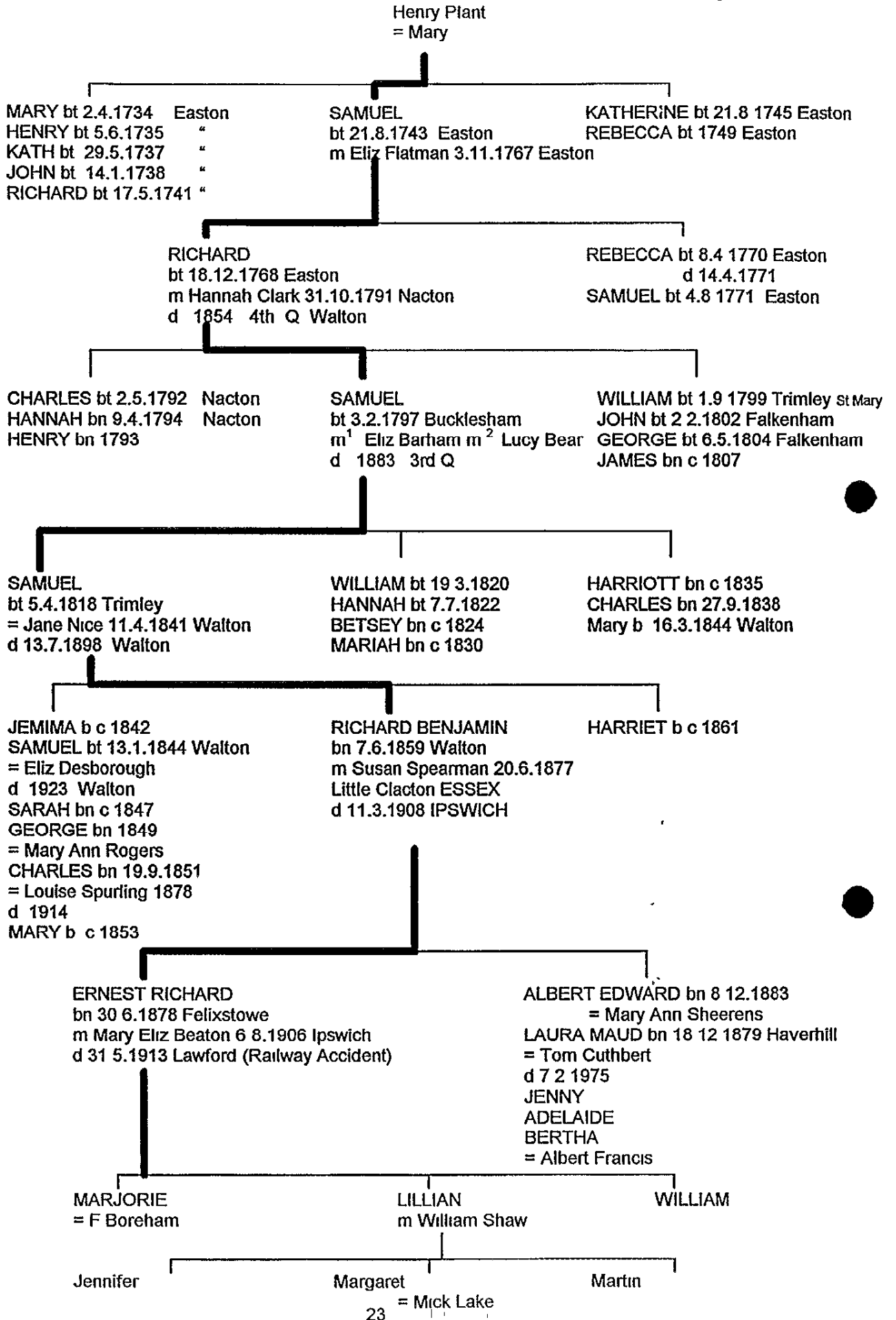
Elizabeth Plant admitted 1777 from Hacheston Poor person
John Plant Relief 1779 Easton, ill wife and 2 small children
Elizabeth Plant 17 January 1780 from Easton, Burial of child

Samuel Plant 31 January 1780 from Easton, Burial of wife
John Plant 3 December 1781 from Easton, Relief Himself, wife and 2 children ill
Widow Plant 9 December 1782 from Easton, Relief Ill with 1 child

I think that the above Elizabeth and Samuel could well be the parents of Richard Plant mainly because I only found children being baptised 1768, 1770 and 1771 and so far I have only searched a small part of the workhouse book

The Bunal register records 3 Mary Plants being buried in 1808 aged 40, 1863 aged 89 and 1839 aged 23, none of which fit the birth of the above Samuel, but I shall keep searching

I have a lot of sorting out to do and I have yet to find Samuel's burial but there are plenty of Plants in the area. I was once told that the name came from the name Pallant which is another fairly usual Suffolk name. I have lots of bits of Parsh Records copied out and would be pleased to look up any references at the Suffolk Record Office.



• A STRANGE TALE •

Why did all the family photographs have a part torn off? Why did my grandmother, Lily Plant, refuse to talk about her father? The answers to these questions seemed to have been lost when my grandparents died. However, undaunted, I decided to see if I could discover the truth behind the mystery. A trip to the local newspaper offices in Stourbridge revealed the answers and a few other surprises as well.

The County Express newspaper dated 31 August 1912 had an article entitled "Colliery Agents Sad End". George Plant, my great-grandfather had committed suicide. But why were all the questions asked at the inquest? My further investigations led me to believe that there is a lot more to the story than the newspapers told.

The facts surrounding the suicide of George Plant are amazing, but the biggest surprise was to discover that his wife, Mary Plant, had been married before and what had happened to her first husband?

The newspaper article relating to the suicide of George Plant, of Cradley Heath revealed that he had committed suicide at home by taking nicotine poisoning. His wife declared that he had come home at about 5 o'clock and had his tea. It was only when his daughter, Lily, shouted "Oh! Mother! Come to father, he's hurt himself", that she realised something was wrong. Was it because she had found the body of her father that my grandmother refused to speak of him, or were there other reasons?

His wife continued her statement by saying that he had been upset since the death of his master, who had died a month previously. She claimed that he had worked for him for seven years and "they were more like brothers than master and servant". A strange reason for committing suicide? The coroner attempted to ascertain the whereabouts of a bottle of nicotine poison, but all the police constable could say was that it had been given to him by the doctor. Dr Waugh stated that the bottle had been taken out of the deceased man's pocket by a neighbour. The verdict was suicide whilst of unsound mind.

I was determined to discover more as from Mary and George's marriage certificate it showed that Mary had been married before, and at the age of 24 in 1896 she was already a widow. What had happened to her first husband - Robert Ford?

Upon obtaining his death certificate date 1894 I discovered that he too had committed suicide this time drowned whilst insane. I had to discover the truth, so I made a return visit to the newspaper offices. The article entitled "Extraordinary Revelations at an inquest - an Old Hill man left to drown" gave me a further insight. It transpired that Mary's first husband, Robert Ford, had committed suicide in Pig Lane Pool, Old Hill. Why? What reasons did Mary give for his death? Robert Ford had set off in the morning to go to Birmingham to pay some bills. He had taken with him £28 which was later found on his body. At 7.00 pm he was seen by a local girl, Lily Emery, to climb a fence, put his hat on the ground, shout something and then throw himself into the water. Another person, Matthew Morris, heard the commotion and jumped into the water to rescue his body, whilst up to 500 people watched.

At the inquest the reasons for the suicide were investigated and his widow, Mary, stated that "3 years ago he had had brain fever and since that time he had not had good health. Five weeks ago he was walking along and bumped his head against a lamppost. After which he had complained about his head". Dr de Denne gave evidence to say that he was a "steady respectable man, who gave no signs of having any suicidal tendencies".

Once again it appears that Mary's evidence, that he had had brain fever and "would be all right one minute and queer the next", was the deciding factor for the jury to return a verdict of suicide whilst temporarily insane. This is despite being a chainmaker by trade, a person who had recently set his wife up in a tobacconists, and with £24 in gold, £5 5s 9d in silver and 1¹/₂d in copper in his pockets.

What would the papers have made of the story if they had connected the two stories when George Plant died? A further mystery was unearthed when the newspaper article referred to the widow and child. Further research showed that this was a girl, Jessie - never mentioned in the family. But could it be the same Jessie who acted as a housekeeper to my paternal great great grandparents?

Mary nee WOODHOUSE\FORD\PLANT knew more about the deaths than the documents reveal. She married a third time to Samuel Jones. No! he didn't commit suicide, but he did lose an arm! To think I have a photograph of this remarkable lady on my parent's wedding day in 1947 - if only I could meet her now and ask her a few questions.... ..

• THE PLANT FAMILY OF CHEADLE - STAFFS •

compiled by W Keith Plant from information provided by Mrs Denise Weston (Member No.89)

continued from Journal No. 9

See Family Tree page

Pen Pictures

(12) Job Plant



Mary Theresa Plant Job Plant

bn 1 Jan 1865 at Cheadle Staffordshire
m¹ 3 Nov 1884 Sarah Ann Mary Salt
 at St Giles Cheadle
m² Lydia Shaw
m³ ? Cashmore

Had 13 children to his first wife but only three grew to maturity

John Thomas bn 1889?

Harriet bn 1893?

Mary Theresa bn 28 July 1890

Occupations = Miner, Shop Keeper, Hawker

Lived at Majors Barn Cheadle

115 High Street, Cheadle

Town End, Cheadle

Shop was at 40 Anchor Road, Longton, Stoke on Trent.

Marriage Certificate was signed by Thomas Brunt (probably brother in law, husband of Job, sister Elizabeth).

When his daughter Mary Theresa died in 1911, Job, together with his second wife, took in the only grandson, Thomas Albert Weston, and cared for him to about the age of eight. (See page 10 Journal No. 9)

He kept ponies

Listed in 1932 and 1936 Directories as a Shop Keeper.

(13) Sarah Ann Mary Salt

bn c 1862 St Helen's Lincs

m 3 Nov 1884 Job Plant at St Giles, Cheadle.

Daughter of Thomas Salt a copper smelter.

Worked as a tape weaver.

(14) Philip Plant

b c 1875

m Rachel Critchlow

children

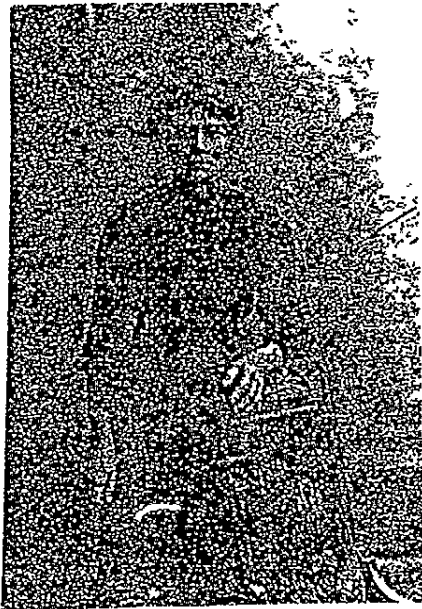
=	Hannah	m	Tom Marrow
	Rachel	m	Percy Heathcote
	Phylis	m	Sidney Geoffreys
	Clorinda	m	Frank Colclough
	Annie	m	Ernest Morley
	Philip	m	Elsie Chandler
	Norman	m	Marie Brunt
	Edward	m	Doreen Lavert

was a small holder and also a check weighman at new Aden Colliery.
Lived at Brookhouses, Cheadle
Died 1953

(15) Clarnda Plant

bn 5.20 a.m. 24 July 1876 at Majors Barn, Cheadle.

m Nathaniel Wood



Children

Ann

Harold m Kitty?

Jack m Rose Podmore

Liddy

Gladys m Arthur Wright

Occupation Tape Weaver

Lived at George St., Sandford Hill, Longton, Stoke on Trent

(16) Thomas Plant

bn 17 Jan 1863

m Louisa Nutt of Ilam

Children	Thomas m Gertrude? (from Sheffield)
	Lenard m ? Kindy
	Bertha
	Frederick m Elsie Sommerfield
	Harold m Doris Day
	Alice m Alex?
	Louisa m Amos Bentley
	Emily m Frank Millwood

Occupation - Started as a Miner but eventually owned Adley Mill which ground bones for making china.

Died 4 Sept 1944.

(17) Elizabeth Plant

bn c 1869

m Thomas Brunt

children Fred
Elizabeth m Alf Marshall
Ernest m Gertrude?
Enoch m Grace Shell
Tom m Gertrude Bentley
Cyril m ? Smith
Len m Pyllys ?
Percy m Sally Wright

3 daughters died in infancy.

Lived at 49, Queen St., Cheadle and together with her husband kept a pie and pea shop in Cheadle

(18) Hannah

b 1871 in Norton in Moors

m Amos Beardmore



children

Alice m ? Hewlet
Isaac m Lily ?
Amos m Ginny Foe
James m Lily Winters
Victor m ? Carr
Walter m ? Wright

(19) Joseph Plant

bn c 1874

m ?

children Jack m ? Silk
Joseph m ?
Gertrude m Frederick Pully

Gertrude died in childbirth and was buried in her wedding dress

(20) Isaac Plant

bn c 1879

m Bertha ?

Occupation - Miner

children Liza m ? Harris
Gertrude m Ernest Moseley
Ada m ?

Edith m Bernard Holmes
Isaac m ? Shaw
Trevor m ? Whewell
Elsie m Percy Whitehurst

(21) John Plant (known as Jack)

bn 18 Jun 1885
m Cecilia Thorley Oct 1908 at St Giles, Cheadle
Occupation = Miner
Lived at Brookhouses, Cheadle
Died 6 Apr 1969 at 42 Mackenzie Crescent, Cheadle - the home of his eldest son

children=

21/1	Dons bn 14 Jan 1909 at Lydd Lane, Cheadle m Norman Brassington 26 Dec 1936 at Caverswall Church Worked as a silk bobbin winder in Leek and later was the Canteen Manageress at Paramount Pottery Lived at 10 William Ave, Meir Died 16 March 1987
21/2	Aubrey bn 30 Apr 1910 at Lydd Lane, Cheadle m Nancy Wright 13 Mar 1937 Was a miner until he joined the Royal Artillery c 1926 Lived at Stewart Ave., Blythe Bridge Died 1953
21/3	Eric bn 29 Sept 1914 at Brookhouses Cheadle m Lillian Barker 2 Apr 1945 Played the violin at local shows and dances Lived at Brookhouses until 1962 then moved to 42 Mackenzie Crescent, Cheadle Died 24 June 1984.
21/4	Jack bn 9 Sept 1916 at Brookhouses, Cheadle m Florence Sanders 9 Dec 1939 Miner Lived at 25 Parkhead Crescent, Coney Grove, Weston Coney Died 1991

(12/1) John Thomas Plant

eldest son and second child of Job and Sarah
Ann Mary Plant
bn 1892
Joined the Army at outbreak of World War 1
Was Private 15515 8th Battalion, South Lancs
Regiment.
Wounded in Battle of the Somme, died 3 Jul
1916 and buried in Plot 12, Row C Grove 2 in
Connaught Cemetery, Thiepval, France.



John Thomas Plant

John Thomas Plant

(12/2) Mary Theresa Plant

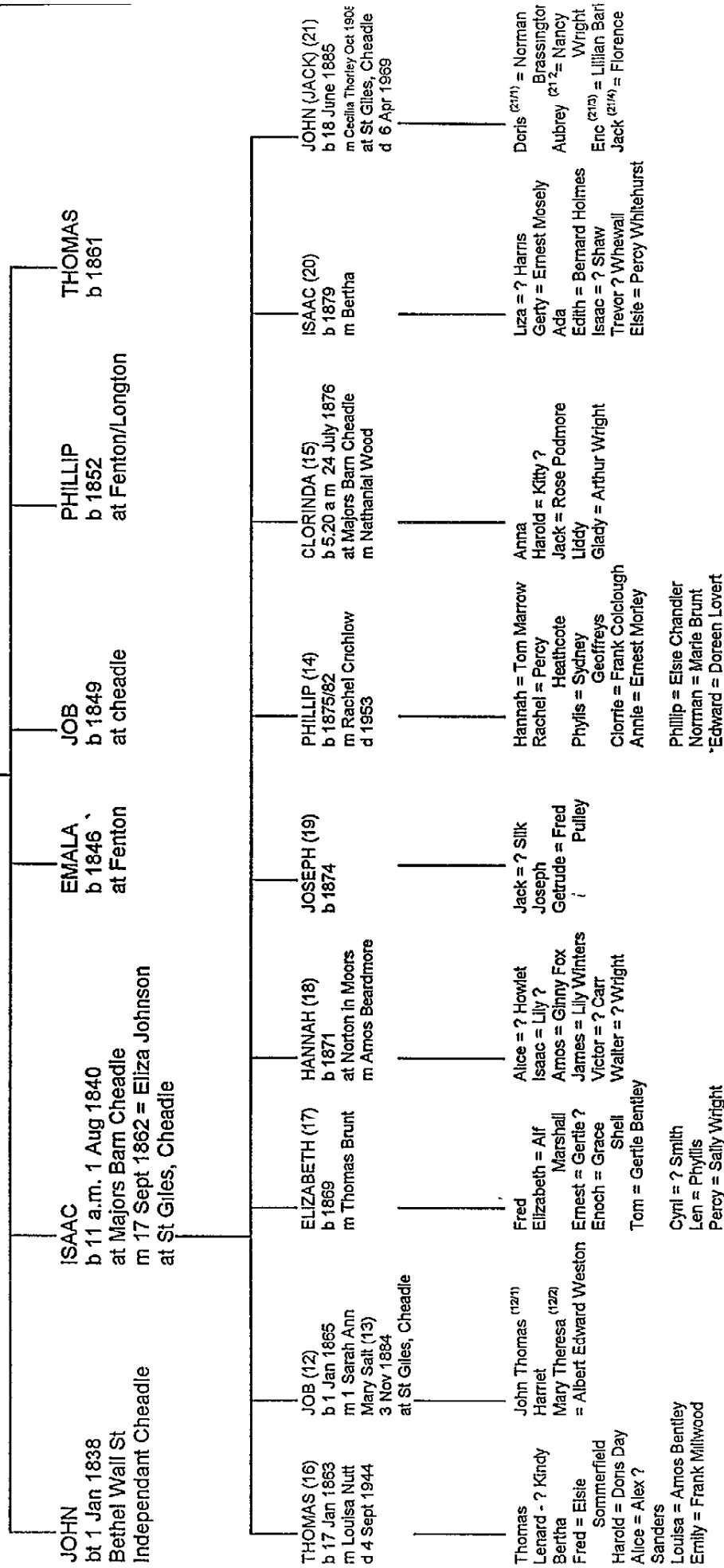


born 28 July 1890 at Majors Barn, Cheadle
one of two daughters who survived infancy
m Albert Edward Weston on 28 Aug 1909 at St
Giles, Cheadle
was the mother of Thomas Albert Weston - who
wrote 'Nipper' (see page Journal 9)
Lived at Majors Barn, Rindie and 52 Back St,
Cheadle
Mamage Certificate signed by her uncle, John Plant
and his wife Cecilia
Died 19 May 1911 at 5 Black Lane, Cheadle
Buned Grave 419 St Giles, Cheadle.

Mary Theresa Plant was a member of a family of 13 children, 12 of who died of consumption, the one survivor being killed in the First War. Mary Theresa herself died when her son, Thomas Albert, was 18 months old. Thomas Albert, then lived with his grandparents at Longton where he was given the nickname of Nipper by his grandfather. His subsequent adventures have been recalled in a book entitled 'Nipper' published in 1991 by Pentland Press, this book, according to the publishers giving an illuminating portrait of family life, work and treatment of children 70 years ago.

See also comments by W Keith Plant page 1

SEE FAMILY TREE
Page 11 Journal No. 9



• PLANTS BRUSHES - WOLVERHAMPTON •

Whilst looking through Commercial Directory Records for the County of Staffordshire I came across a number of references to the Plant Brush Making Factory and the name of a William Turner. I was therefore pleased to receive a letter from a William Turner Plant of Wolverhampton requesting details of The Plant Family History Group. It transpires that William Turner Plant was in fact connected to the Brush making 'Plants' and with his permission I am including the following information and Family Trees

William Turner was a brushmaker born in Stone in the County of Staffordshire in the year 1813. On 19 March 1836 he married Sarah Plant (the sister of the present William Turner Plant's Great Granddad Thomas) at St Michael's Church Stone.

Thomas Plant was born 13 June 1797 and married Ann Hassal at St Michael's Church Stone on 12 October 1826. Thomas was a Commissioner of Taxes of Stone Parish. Thomas and Ann had eight children, the youngest Thomas Plant, was born 29 July 1848 being adopted by William Turner in 1856 and apprenticed to him in 1863. (See page 35)

Subsequently on 1 October 1867 the apprenticeship was transferred from William Turner to a James Linfoot and by 1871 Thomas was a manager for James Linfoot in charge of six men at a dual premises in Lichfield St, Wolverhampton.

According to the Commercial Directories for Wolverhampton, Wm Turner is recorded in 1851 as a Brushmaker in Lichfield St (It is interesting to note that also listed in Lichfield St as Brushmakers were Jane Munday and Mary Green - maybe this area was the center for the brushmaking industry).

By 1860 both Jane Munday and Mary Green had disappeared from the records, the only reference to Lichfield St being Wm Turner. The 1865 directory also records Wm Turner at 12/13 Lichfield St. Between 1865 and 1869 Wm Turner must have moved as in 1869 12/13 Lichfield St is recorded as belonging to a James Linfoot, the subsequent records up to 1884 also referring to James Linfoot. In fact Wm Turner moved to Longhope in Gloucestershire where his daughter had an extensive timber and brushwood supply business. He did however retain ownership of the Wolverhampton premises.

Around 1880 as a result of extensive re-development of parts of Central Wolverhampton, James Linfoot and Thomas Plant parted and Wm Turner was paid £1,280 for the loss of his property

The 1884 records show.

Thomas Plant Brushmaker and basket dealer 13 Darlington St

James Linfoot Brush manufacturer 5 King St with a house at 102 Tettenhall Rd.

The remaining entries for the 1880's repeat the 1884 entry but by the early 1890's James Linfoot is no longer recorded and Thomas Plant referred to as a brushmaker at 18 Darlington St. (See photograph page 39)

Thomas Plant became very successful and all his family were engaged in the manufacture and selling of high quality products synonymous with the Plant name

Thomas married Catherine Keen on 24 October 1874 at St Marks Church and seven children were born between 1878 and 1892. The fourth son was christened William Turner Plant and each subsequent generation contained a William Turner

Towards the end of the 19th Century it would appear that Thomas Plant's business ran into hard times and his wife took in washing and attended the market selling groceries and brushes. However, by the turn of the Century the good times returned and Thomas moved to 38 Darlington Street (see photo page 40) the brushes eventually being produced in an ex-

cycle factory (see photo page 40) The present Wm Turner Plant recalls this factory with its early automatic machinery, tube telephones and exotic woods no longer seen

According to the present William Turner Plant the business closed in 1968 and he has in his possession DOCUMENTS AND MEMORABILIA including brushes dating back well into the last century. The brushes are of remarkable quality, the Plant factory and shops being noted for their high quality

Some time ago William forwarded a number of artifacts, passed down through the family, to The Society of Brushmakers descendants and in one of their subsequent publications they commented as follows

"Dear William

It is wonderful to receive a letter like yours! Even the fact that you were named in honour of William TURNER reinforces the old traditions of the brushmaking fraternity. This custom appears often amongst brushmakers! Regarding your two pictures, The 1839 Arms appears to be a monochrome copy of the coloured banner of the National Society

The 'crude painting' is one of the most exciting things I have seen!

If original it is a unique early C19 painting of a Badge of Arms of a local Brushmakers Society branch (Wolverhampton area?) Nothing identical is shown in Kiddier's books but it is very similar to the Independent Brushmakers Society Arms and those of the Staveley Brushmakers dating from about 1810/15. I have seen other originals and these too appear 'crude'. It is in all probability an item of unique value in Trade Union History! I suggest you have it professionally examined to establish its date and authenticity. It may once have hung on the wall of a Brushmakers Society Clubhouse and if so it symbolized the ideals of a whole section of the brushmaking industry and at some time and may well have been looked upon with reverence upon a national flag! Please take care of it!

The Family Tree for William Turner Plant is shown on Family 5/1, 5/2 and 5/3.

WKP note

Whilst looking through the 19th Century Commercial Directories for Wolverhampton and district I was amazed at the number of references to Plants with commercial interests. It is therefore my intention at some future date to list all references to the name of Plant.

His Majesty's Privileges
That James' Clerk's Office should be kept

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This Indenture Witnesses That Thomas Plant brother to Eliza Plant of Alderley Cheshire doth put himself apprentice to William Turner of Wolverhampton Brush Maker to learn his Art and with him after the Manner of an Apprentice to serve from the day of the date herewith February the 17th 1863

unto the full End and Term of Seven Years from the month next following to be fully complete and ended **During** which Term the said Apprentice his Master faithfully shall serve his secrets keep his lawful commands every where gladly do he shall do no damage to his said Master nor see to be done by others but to his Power shall tell or forthwith give warning to his said Master of the same he shall not waste the goods of his said Master nor lend them unlawfully to any he shall not commit fornication nor contract Matrimony within the said Term shall not play at cards or dice tables or any other unlawful games whereby his said Master may have any loss with his own goods or others during the said term without licence of his said Master he shall neither buy or sell he shall not haunt Taverns or Playhouses nor absent himself from his said Master's service day or night unlawfully. But in all things as a faithful Apprentice he shall behave himself towards his said Master and all his during the said Term **AND** the said William Turner in consideration of such service teach the said Apprentice in the Art of Brush Making which he useth by the best means that he can shall teach and Instruct or cause to be taught and instructed. Finding unto the said Apprentice sufficient Meat Drink Lodging and all other Necessaries during the said Term and the said's. Eliza Plant shall assist in anything needed if required and his Thomas Plants conduct shall prove desirous but under this Indenture shall such assistance be given hence. And for the said performance of all and every the said Covenants and Agreements either of the said Parties bindeth himself unto the other by these Parties. **An Witness** whereof the Parties above named to these Indentures interchangeable have put their Hands and Seals the 17th day of February 1863, day of _____ and in the twenty sixth Year of the Reign of our Sovereign Lady Queen Victoria by the Grace of God of the United Kingdom of **Great Britain** and **Ireland** Queen Defender of the Faith

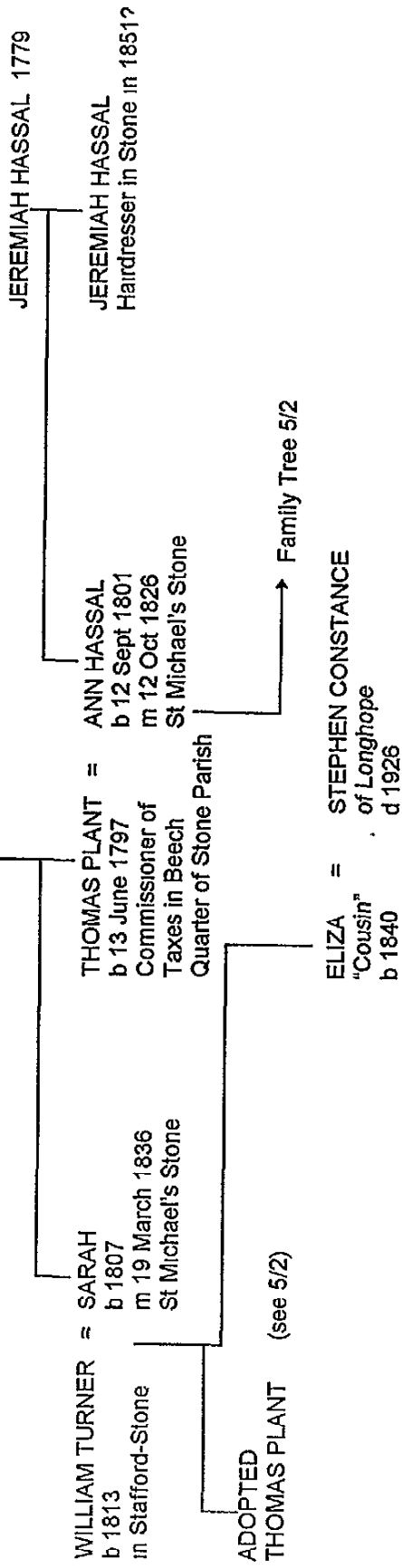
signed by

Thomas Plant
Eliza Plant
William Turner

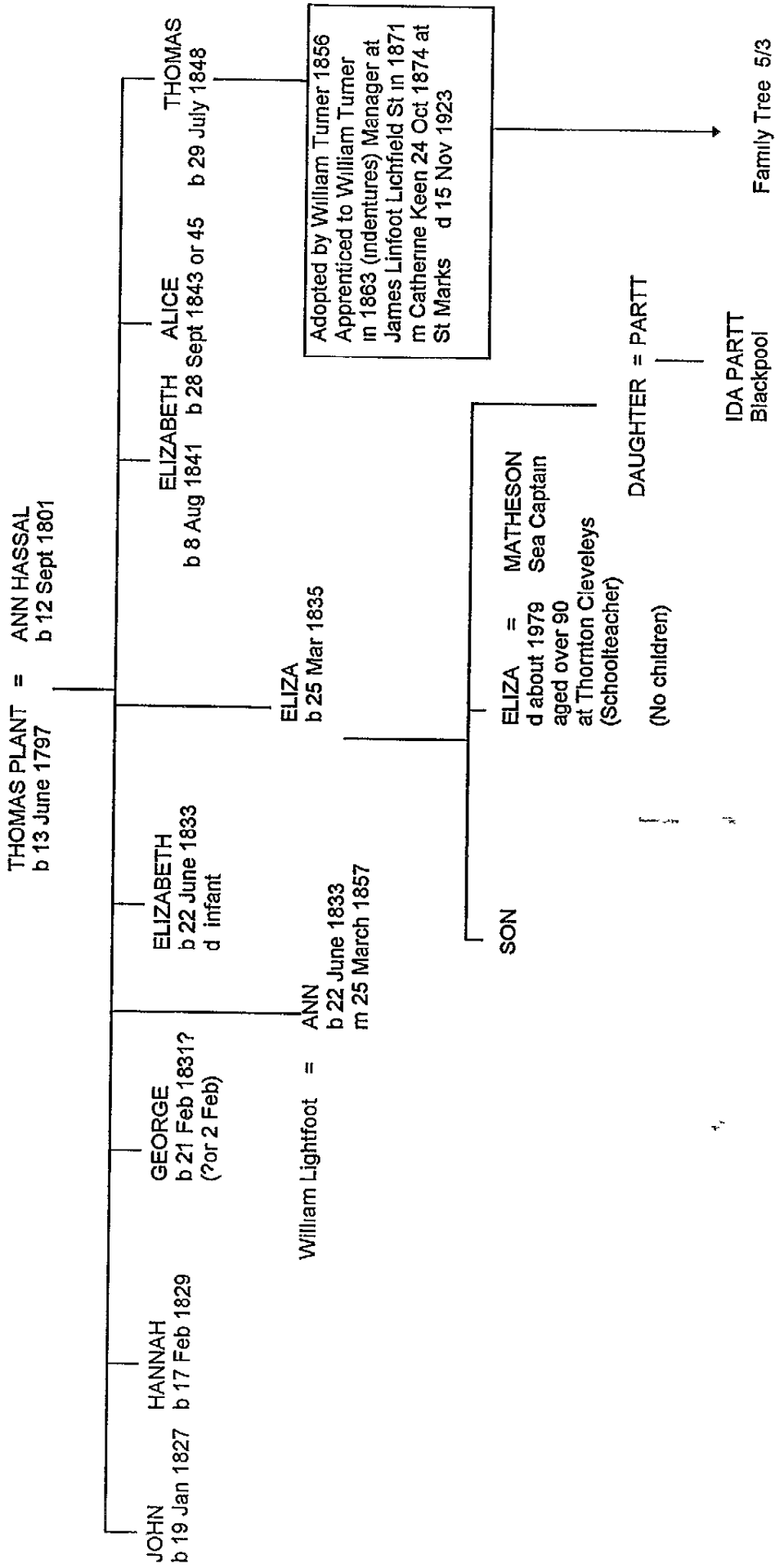
Note perhaps Thomas' sister Eliza was in service in Cheshire at the time when the Indenture was drawn up.

FAMILY TREE 5/1

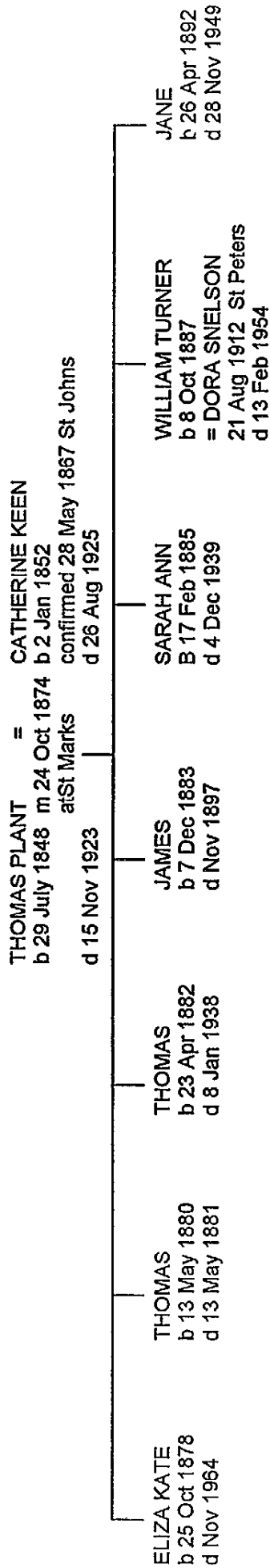
PLANT



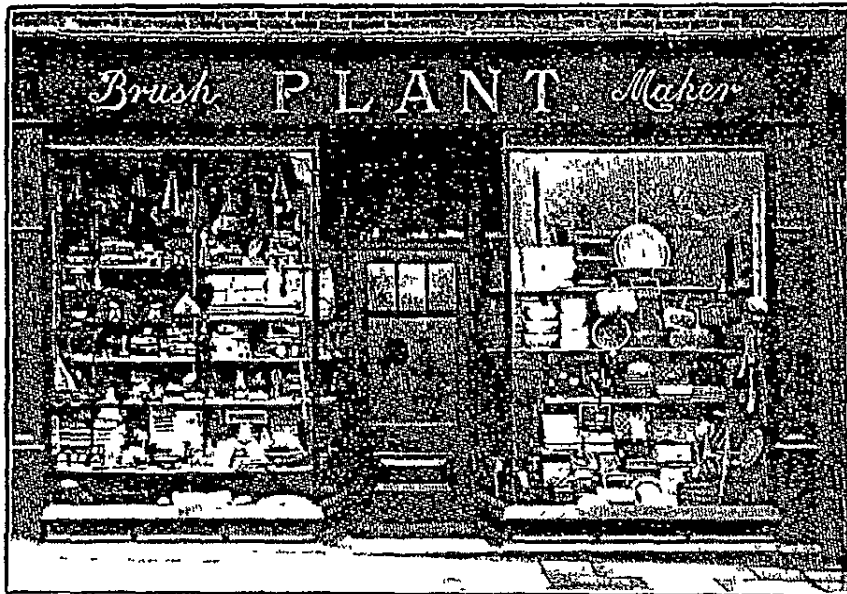
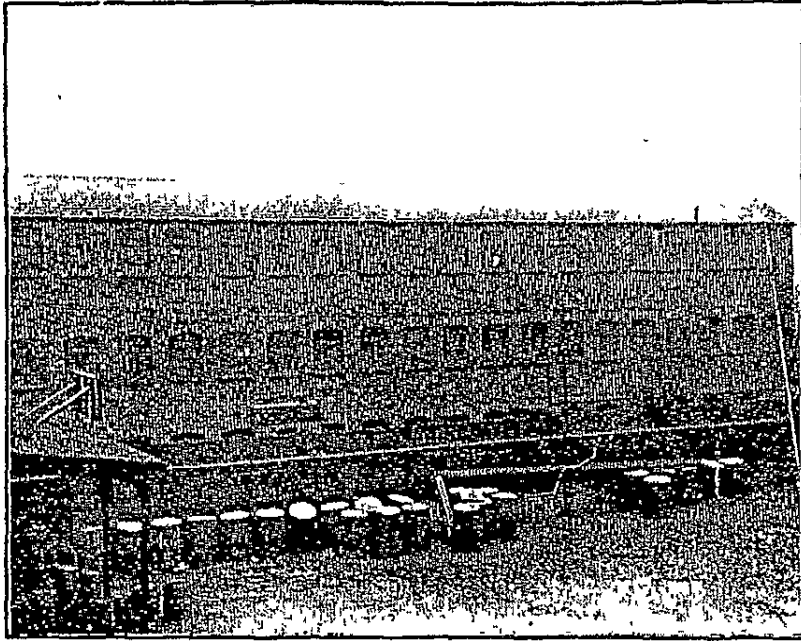
FAMILY TREE 5/2



FAMILY TREE 5/3







AN ACCOUNT OF JAMES PLANT'S VOYAGE TO AUSTRALIA 1854

Mr John Plant (Member No 111) has forwarded to me an account of his Great Grandfather's voyage to Australia in 1854. He copied the account from the original notes which at present are in the possession of an elderly Aunt who won't let it leave her hands.

James Plant was born at Sibsey in Lincolnshire on 24 March 1835 and travelled to Australia age 19 together with his mother, five sisters, two brothers and a Brother in Law, William Knight.

The account which has not been changed in any way is as follows:

JAMES PLANT ENGLAND - VICTORIA 1854-55

On October 10th 1854 I started from Tattershall to Australia arrived at Liverpool on 11th and went on board the ship "Golconda" on the 12th. Left the River Mersey on the 14th. We had a steam packet to tow us two days and then left us. There was also an old woman with a basket came on board to sell brushes and they took her away unawares and she was sailing with us until the steamer returned back. She was very much weakened because she had nothing to eat and no bed to sleep on but some of the passengers gave her something to eat.

When we came to the Bay Biscay, we then began to roll, the waves were mountainous high, one wave came with such force it knocked the ship right on her side. The water came over the decks which almost drowned some people. There was a very smart young girl was sat against one of the hatchways at the time. The water came pouring down on her which gave her a regular ducking. Some of the girls began to squak out, 'Oh dear we shall all be drowned'. The doors clapped too. The dishes rattled and there was such an uproar for a short time. Some rolling about, some pumping, while people could scarce get their meals. There was a pretty set out, I thought. I, myself was as bad as the rest for about three days, but when we got over the Bay of Biscay it was not so bad. The sea was swollen a great deal.

Those islands we saw before we crossed the line were Madeira islands, Sicilli islands, Canary islands, Cape Deverd islands or the Green islands on the coast of Africa

On the 5th November, we came alongside of a French ship and spoke to the captain. Normanda was the name of her, No. 3026. They inquired the name of our ship, the number and whether we was alright and well. It was on the western coast of Africa. The captain was a black man

We had very good winds to cross the line with then, so that we did not feel the heat so bad as if we had a calm

We was 22 days going from Liverpool to the Line, where we saw several curious things such as flying fish, porpoises, wales and a quantity of fishing boats. They was made of nothing but a few pieces of poles tied together. With the sail up, with two men on each of them, they had to stand up all the while on account of the water coming over it. The men was copper couler, natives of sth. America. They appeared to be very shy of us and kept at a safe distance as if they was afraid of us. The captain of our ship beckoned to one and he was bold enough to come to us. The captain bought all the fish they had caught after we cast a rope and tied it to their boat. Some of them was large ones and some was small. Two of them was red ones looked like goldfish. The captain kept the two red ones and the rest divided amongst the passengers for breakfast next morning. Which we thought was very kind of him. One of the fisherman came

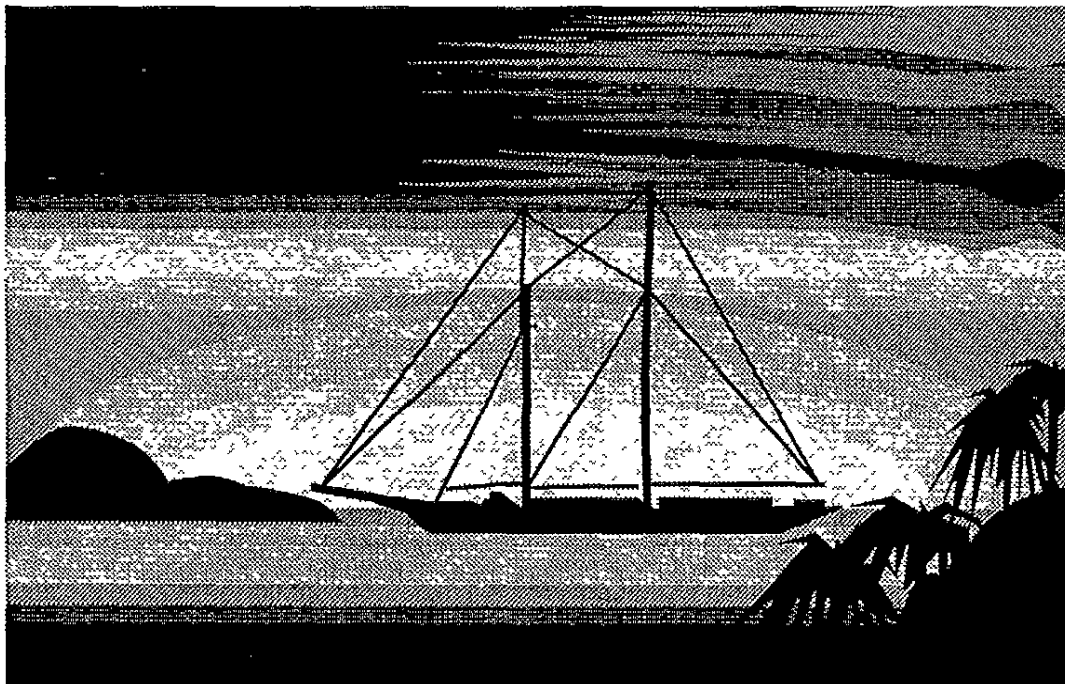
to our ship and went into the captain's house. They gave him about 17 shills. He did not know what to do with it., so they tied it up in one corner of his neck handkerchief and gave it him two bottles of whisky. He liked that very much, he popped them under his arm and every now and then he kept pulling out the cork and supping. He minded not to set his bottles down. Several of the passengers gave biscuits to him in the boat which he put into a wooden bottle and some he packed in the ropes. Some gave him some beef, then they gave him a penny, he looked very earnest at it and then put it among the biscuits. They remained with us about hour and a half and then left us, which we gave them a good hurragh.

The day we crossed the line, the sailors had a jolly spree amongst one another. Them that never crossed the line before had to be shaved. They dressed one with a red cap and white apron for a barber. He daubed their faces with tan and grease and then with a great razor about three feet long they scraped on the tan. Then another was dressed with a long blue coat, a high crowned hat with a number on it and a pair of spectacles made of tin. He looked in their mouth and gave them a pill as big as a walnut made of hards and tar, then he gave them a draught out of a bottle with a very large spoon. Then they let him smell of another bottle that was full of pins, so that when they used to smell on it, they pcked their nose. Then after this, they put him into a large tub of water and ducked them under the water three or four times. They was all brought prisoners, their hands behind them, a handkerchief over their eyes. Two police had hold of them, one on each side and two to clear the road. Their dress was some with long coat, blue, a tall hat and a belt on, white gloves and tassles, numbers on their hats, stripes around the arm, some with long blue slops and glazed cap numbered with staff in their hands. Neptune and his wife stood keeping garrison over them. Neptunes dress was a white wig, a very large beard, a red coat a staff in his hand and a crown on his head. His wife was one of the sailors dressed in womans clothes, she had her face painted, a bonnet with a cap inside it, a black gown and cape. After the shaving was amongst the sailors, there was one of the passengers that was very fast. They catched him and shaved him and put into the tub, which made him very cross indeed. He began to hose others with water. Then the captain and mates had a great long pipe fixed to the pump, the same to a fire engine. They spouted water into his face and about him which had him look like a drowned rat. They gave the passengers a good washing with the pipe. Them that was looking on which lasted all the afternoon. Then at night they set fire to the tar tub and put it overboard, which caused several people to go and look. They had the pump fixed in the readiness, so that when they went to look, spouted water about them. That was the end of the performance. They said Neptune went away in the tub.

We had a squall Wednesday night about 11 oclock. Most of the passengers had got to bed when the ship began to roll, first on one side then on the other. Away went the boxes into the middle of the ship. Down went the forms, the plates, the dishes began to rattle, water bottles upset. Lime juice running out of the births. People jumping out of bed to hold their boxes with nothing but their shirts on. Some parts of the ship there was rice, mustard, raisins, oatmeal flour and biscuits all laid in the floor, all mixed together. They was a pretty set out the next day. The wind broke one of the yard arms right in two and shattered one of the main sails all to pieces. Every man was on duty. The captain and mates and boatswain was all up bawling the whole of the night, so you may depend there was but little sleep to be got that night. Some person went down into the cabin and said they was getting the life boats down, which frightened one girl into fits. She was very bad a long time. When the wether was not so stormy, there was all sorts of gambling such as cardplaying, dominoes, raffling, fiddling, dancing etc. Some of the passengers used to go up the rigging to fasten their clothes up to dry as soon as they got up a short distance, the sailors used to go up and fasten them to the riggins and let them stop there untill they paid some allowance for the sailors. The day after they were shaving the sailors they made a collection for them. Some gave them a shilling each, some more, some less on purpose to spend when they go on shore.

When we came in sight of land, the passengers were all on deck reckoning on going on shore. Some of them did not go to their beds that night, but kept looking out for the journey's end. We had a pilot come on board to guide us safely into harbour, and then the inspectors to look us over. We arrived and dropped anchor in Hobsons Bay on the 5th January 1855, which made our voyage 82 days. We were on board until the ninth. We landed the same day in Geelong.

James died 25 November 1905 at Pyramid Hill, Victoria, Australia



The diary of John Plant of Hazzlewood House Farm on the Leekfirth in North Staffordshire 1849-1853

continued from Journals 6, 7, 8 and 9

1 January 1850 to 14 May 1850

1850

- January 1st T Brough paid the Blacksmith bill £2 12s 6d went by the Meadows both times.
Elizabeth and I went to Leek I went to see Mrs Brough and took her a 1/4 of tea.
Bought Thomas a shirt smock 3s 6d
- 3 I went to Tittesworth to see Ellen Ash. She was very poorly. She gave me a Lamentable account of the ill behaviour of her Husband during the 8 years she had been his wife she had been tide down to Day Slavery many times beaton without mercy and not allowed 6d of pocket money During the 8 years I gave her 1 sovrrn to purchase what she liked best. I cold relate a deal more both the Least said is best. Tho and Jesse Perkin Came with a letter from Mr Murfin Rushton.
- 7 John Brodehurst collecting road rate 1.1/2d in the pound. Paid him 8 1/2d.
Joseph Foster came at night to borrow a Black Vest of T Brough
- 8 George and Mica Armet came to the Far barn wished me to go into Rushton and see there bill settled for Building 3 chimneys and other repairs done at the royal oak Mr Hargreaves Paid them £21 I took his Savings Bank book which must go to Congleton for inspection. I borrowed of Mrs Sudlow £18.10s and he owed her £1.10s was to give her a note for £20.
- 9 T Brough went to the new market Leek Paid F Fineys bill 11s 2d.
- 10 T Brough went to the smithy he had a seraper made out of an old dung spaid a vew put on a can. He went to the cobblers called on William Brough he sent me 40lb of carrats.
- 11 Dina Brasinton at our house.
- 12 The roads very slippy T Brough went to see his mother and his horse sliped in the Cattle market and he fell and throed him of but he was not hurt.
- 14 T Brough took a pig in to the smithy to be hooped he brought 4 esses with him
- 15 We churned all day. Thomas Taylor collecting the property tax told us that Mrs Buxton of the High Forest was Delivered of 3 children on Sunday Lost 2 girls and 1 boy
- 16 T Brough went to Leek took his Mother a Rabbit she was worse he called at Fernihoughs to know whether the 2 Lads were at age that had not signed the Conveiance between Fernehough and hargreaves for the stock Meadows Mrs Fernehough told him that they had been for some months and that they had been residing in the Neighbourhood of whitemoore must enquire of John Fernehough an older brother a Farmer near Whitemoor.
- 17 He went to the abbey Green Cottage to see Mr Gaunt who made the convenience he told him that he or anyone might take the convenience and get them to sign the Bearer Witnessing the same He bought 2 Pigs of Mr Healin of the Abbeygreen inn at £1 6s and carried them on a bug
- 18 T Brough went to Macclesfield to inform Mr Geskill as He Had the Conveiances he took them to Mr Parrats office Mr Colville examined them and said that the 2 Fernehoughs that were not at age when Deeds werrre made there signatures are not Neeful there Legacy receipts were sufficient Snowed and blowed

in the Afternoon rained and thoded at night. Mr and Mrs Gaskell sent the girls a very handsome Present of Gingerbread and to me a Present of Losinges to Cure my Cold and congestion

- 19 T Brough went to the Isle to tell Samuel Clows to come on the 21st and Kill us a Pig. Sam Hulme came to consult me about a quantity of bare leg hill stone being get we agreed for him to order 60yds Rained and was a flood
- 20 Maria went to Hiforest to see Mrs Buxton she was as well as could be expected I sent her 5s Froze at night very slippery.
- 22 I went in to Rushton to Inquire of Mr Hargreaves whether he Bought the Stockmeadows he told me that Mr Gaunt had the selling of hit and bought it of him Caled on Mr and Mrs Sudlow Looked at the note Mr Hargreaves give them for the £20 I borrowed of them for him I did not Like it
- 23 T Brough took his Mother a bit of Pork She was rather pearter Mr Nadin invited him to his boon Feast on the 28th He seed Mr Gaunt and told him Mr Hargreaves wanted 2 legacy Discharges of the Fernehoughs he promissed to help them to Mr Hargreaves in a fortnight Hit thoud and very slippy
- 24 T Brough went to the Needle to enquire how James Halsall was Ned told him he had Died about 12.0'clock last night he had been ill of the Smallpox a Week He took the plow irons to the smithy in the afternoon.
- 26 William Bateman came to the far Barn Bidding and T Brough to the Funeral of James Halsall on Monday next at 11.0'clock the same day that we were both invited to John Nadins Boon.
- 28 T Brough went to the Funeral of James Halsall I did not go. John Nadin was bidden but did not go as he was Engaged in Keeping his Boon Feast he would not Put If Off to another Day tho many of his Friends cold not go.
- February 8 I asked William Beswick Leave to go to the Far Barn with the tits up the Mill Bank he told me I mite go any time I took the steel down and said we mite have one of his tits to help us
- 10 Elizabeth and I went to Chapel in the morning she took John Mountfords news to Kirkhams to get it changed for ours as there was a mistake in them William Yates brought a letter for Edward Halsall cald at night he had been at Tittesworth and told that Ellen Ash was worse
- 12 Snow in the evening shrove Tuesday Alica Arnett came to the far barn showed me a bill from Mr Ensworth to Mr Hargreaves for stone 14s. Martha Turnock brough a lease for the Houses in Macclesfield Mr Taylor came to our house wanted £160. The Girls and T Brough raised it
- 15 Plowing in Tinkers cote told of Ellen Ashes Death. I was at Brownssett to order with Mr Taylor about having some money of T Brough and the Girls Mr Taylor came and agreed with T Brough for £50
- 16 Ashes son-in-law came a bidding to the Funeral of Ellen Ash on the 18th at 11.0'clock being one week to the Day since James Halsall her Brother was Interred T Brough went at night to get John to give notice on Monday for some money out of the Leek Savings Bank for Mr Taylor
- 18 James Dawson agreed to Kill the mole at the same as Joseph Downs had done that was 2s the year. I went as far as Middlehulme to Ellen Ashes Funeral aged 32 yrs I agreed with William Brough for 24 measures of oats 50lb the measure Old Whites
- 19 My Birthday aged 65 yrs Downs came a trapping Thomas Maydew came

- with a note for me to attend the funeral of Joseph Ash at Wincle on the 20th at 4 O'clock in the afternoon. I called on Mr Maydew and went with him.
- 22 Ellen Halsall and Maria Evans came to see us Ellen Halsall wished me to get her a Fresh Will made.
- 23 Mr Boot caled had his tea with us he would sell me a Mare wanted £25
- 24 Went in the afternoon to see Hannah Oliver she was well I give her 1 sovrrn I called at Pheasants Clough (Ellen gave me a picture) and Brownsett and seed Mr Thomas ill of the Smallpox I had tea with Mr Taylor and the Miss and Mr William Taylors
- 27 Mr Taylor at our house with the draft of Ellens Will
- March 5 Maria at Macclesfield to call £60 for herself and £90 for Elizabeth to be received out in a fortnight Ellen Halsall came to our house to sign her Will
- 15 Miss Earlam and Miss Daws called on the missionary law.
- 16 A man called with a Letter he said it was from the Vicker of Leek and he must have an answer back there was enclosed in the Envelope a Letter of recommendation and a petition for a Widow by the name of Jackson he said he was his son I give him 5s but I doubted his tale
- 17 Maria went to greasly with Mary Halsall. T Brough to Chapel.
- 21 I went to Brownsett took £70 for Elizabeth £50 for Maria Shufflebotham and £50 for Thomas Brough. For Mr Taylor a note of Security to have 4 pr cent pr annum Interest and I had from Elizabeth £30.
- 23 A very big snow and frost with cold North wind. I went in the afternoon to Rushton for 3 Bunches of plants at 1d pr bunch
- 24 The snow lay in drifts verry frosty and cold No one went to Chapel.
- 25 T Brough went to swythamley for 2 Rabbets the Keeper brought them to the barn. J Barber shot Old Brush I asked him as the dog was Lame
- 27 T Brough went to Leek to have a new cart saddle that did not fit changed We had it by us 2 years had not tried it before. He came by Meerbrook and had Gilbert shod he went in the afternoon with Smiler took 2 Rabbets for William. I and Mr Gaskell went to Mr Ensworth made an agreement with him and Nathan Buxton for the Farm he was in his Possession. Mr Ensworth Mr Gaskell and I came to Rushton by the 3 O'clock train for to have the agreement signed
- 28 T Brough James Barber and John Hulme 2 Keepers Ketched 8 Rabbits and dined here I went to the Funeral of Thomas Fisher at Roach House. I called on Mr Turner and Paid the rent for Parks and tinkers cote I had my tea with Mr and Mrs Turner and some brandy prunes A week of Very frosty cold weather.
- 29 I and Joseph Hines measure 54 rood of Drains in the Meadow they measured 50 in the Middle field. I went to Chapel took Mrs Turner 2 rabbits.
- 30 John Chapmans Eldest son Jo and John Masons son John came to our house Went to the Grange for a paire of new shues.
- April 2 T Brough took Gilbert to the pool end for Mr Fyney to look at his Far Fore Foot he took the sho of and thought he had a crush or gibed with some steel not Deep but of Little consequence T Brough went to Leek and bought 2 strke of malt

7s 6d pr strike 2lb hops 2d pr lb 2 mart of Barm from Ernest Cooper of The Kings Head.

- 3 The Girls Browed.
- 5 Elizabeth found one of Botts cows dead in the comer of the rough meadow.
- 7 The Girls went to Dainbridge took a letter that John the Keeper Called with Directed to Joseph Shufflebotham and gave it to him they called at Swythamley and had tea with Mrs Hughes
- 8 Samuel Hulme came at night to show me his Road book accounts
- 9 T Brough took a cart saddle tree that George Rider had made and Thomas Rider had owned to Leek and got saddler Allen to make a new cart saddle and brought it with him I went to Buxtone Brow at night to Surveyors accounts. Sam Hulme and John Mill surveyors
- 10 T Brough went a harrowing to the old Smitheys for Samuel Smith He harrowed the upper Lands and the Overmeadow
- 11 Sold Joseph kidd and Mr Burnett 2 cows at £13.10s and 5s for luck.
- 14 I and the Girls were at Chappel there was a collection for Government account I gave 1 shilling
- 15 William Shufflebotham came to invite me and the Girls to his Wedding on Whitsen Monday with Miss Lockett.
- 17 I and T Brough went to Leek I bought him 2 1/2 yards of cloth at 11s pr yard 2.1/4 yard of cloth for trousers at 4s.6d pr yard with Linings pockets and vest back and bottons in all £2.1s 0d.
- 21 I went to chappel called on John Broadhurst told him to make the fence on the White Hill Brow he promised he would
- 22 John Findlow brough a pup from the Needles that T Brough has spoak for.
- 25 T Brough took the tits to the smithy T Rider gone to Manchester nothing done at them.
- 27 I went to a meeting with Smiler after I had him at the smithy.
- 28 Tiday Heifer calved a Bull Calfe it came hind legs first but Calved with little help after the feet were brough into the passage
- 29 We stretened the Body pins of the Carts. Wm Gibson came to bid the Girls to the Bunal of Matthew Dawson on the 30th Martha Turnock came to see us.
- 30 T Brough went to Grin J Findlow went a meeting the Girls went to the Bunal of Matthew Dawson. I was keeping house
- May 1 I went to Leek changed a £20 Bank of England at Mr Mountford she give me £10 towards it. Bought T Broughs clothes paid 11s for the making
- 2 T Brough went to Rushton station to speak for a truck of Lime the Clark was out nothing done We had our tea at Sudlows
- 4 Very cold hills covered with snow
- 9 I got up at 3.0'clock very fine and warm. Pall had calved a Cow Calfe

-
- 13 T Brough went to Congleton bought a bull stirk of Sherkley for £4.10s.
George Belfield and John Bessen assisted with him. I sold Roland Steveson 2 calves
for 7s Mall Heifer calved a bull calf. Sam Hulme brought his Bull down to have
bulled a cow but she was not a bulling
- 14 We took Nan to Sam Hulme bull she was shy so we Held her
I paid George Downs for mole Ketching 2s cold showry

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