



Anglo-Celtic Roots

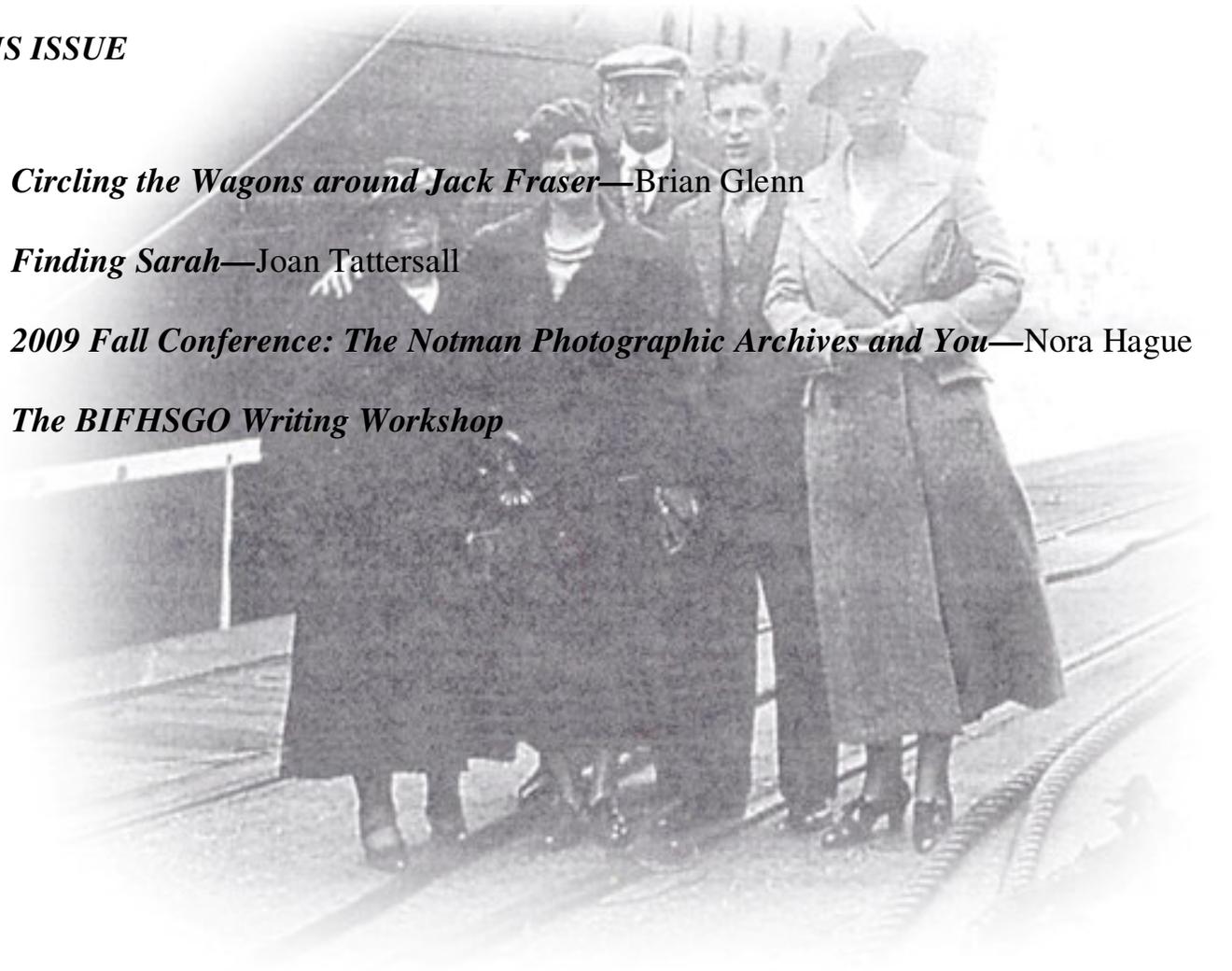
Quarterly Chronicle

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Spring 2010

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The Society

The British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) is an independent, federally incorporated society, and a Registered Charity (Reg. No. 89227 4044 RR0001). The purpose of BIFHSGO is to encourage, carry on and facilitate research into and publication of family histories by people who have ancestors in the British Isles.

The objectives of the Society are two-fold: to preserve, research and disseminate Canadian and British Isles family and social history for the benefit of current and future generations, and to promote genealogical research through a program of public education that teaches people how to do research and how to preserve their findings in readily accessible forms.

The activities of the Society include: publishing and disseminating genealogical research findings, as well as information on research resources and techniques; holding public meetings on family history; maintaining readily accessible reference facilities; encouraging volunteer participation in family history and genealogical research activities; and participating in the activities of related organizations.

Membership in the Society shall be available to persons interested in furthering the objects of the Society and shall consist of anyone who submits an application for admission as a member accompanied by payment of the applicable fees or dues. The 2010 calendar year fees for membership are \$35 individual, \$45 family, and \$35 institutional. Membership benefits include the year's four issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*; ten family history programs, each of two hours' duration; up to six free queries a year; friendly advice from other members; participation in special interest groups that may be formed.

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We invite readers to share family history articles, illustrations, letters, queries and similar items of interest by submitting them to *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. Manuscripts should be written in the style of story-telling or letter-writing, leaving it to the Editor to adjust. Preferably, articles should be submitted in electronic format using MS Word compatible software, and addressed to: The Editor, acreditor@bifhsgo.ca, or BIFHSGO, PO Box 38026, OTTAWA ON K2C 3Y7. Contributors of articles are asked to include a brief biographical sketch of up to 10 lines, and a passport type and size photograph. They will be asked to certify that permission to reproduce any previously copyrighted material has been acquired. Authors are encouraged to provide permission for non-profit reproduction of their articles. The Editor reserves the right to select material to meet the interest of readers, and to edit for length and content.

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Cover Image: Agnes Fraser leaving England—see description on p. 5

Message from the President, Mary Anne Sharpe

In December 2009, by a unanimous vote in the House of Commons, Canada's Parliament proclaimed 2010 the Year of the British Home Child. Canada Post will be issuing a commemorative stamp in October 2010. Many genealogical societies and other organizations across Canada are already announcing activities they will sponsor throughout the year to commemorate the Home Children who came here.

Between 1869 and 1939, various workhouses, sheltering homes, orphanages and child care organizations in Great Britain sent over 100,000 orphaned, abandoned or pauper children to Canada. It is estimated that some 12% of Canadians are descendants of the Home Children. Over 50 agencies were involved—some of the more well-known ones were the Misses Rye and Macpherson, Fegan, Quarriers, Barnardo's, Middlemore Emigrant Homes, the Catholic Emigration Society, the Salvation Army, and the Church of England Waifs and Strays Society.

Due to the economic conditions prevailing in Britain at the time, these agencies had devised the emigration scheme as a well-intentioned effort to save these children from living short, sometimes brutal, lives in poverty, disease, and possibly crime. When they came to Canada, they came to learn and to work; many of them were able to become educated, own property, raise families of their own and contribute in many ways to their adopted country and to their local communities—and Canada is the better for it.

BIFHSGO has played, and will continue to play, a strong role in making more accessible a variety of information so that Home Children descendants can trace their roots. Volunteers have indexed ships' passenger lists, as well as the records of the Middlemore Emigrant Homes. Soon to be added to these will be an index of the children sent to Canada by the Fegan organization. BIFHSGO usually receives a dozen or more enquiries per month for further information and guidance on researching Home Children, and these enquiries are often followed by letters of gratitude from their descendants. And all of this is due to the dedicated volunteers who do this work on behalf of BIFHSGO.

Speaking of volunteers, please consider volunteering for one of the many positions available, both 'behind the scenes' and on the Board. In June, at BIFHSGO's Annual General Meeting, we will be looking for new Board members. This year we are most urgently in need of people who would like to help with Communications and Publicity. As well, I will be stepping down as President. Please volunteer and help keep BIFHSGO the vibrant organization it is today.

Note from the Editor, Chris MacPhail

Mary Anne Sharpe has drawn our attention to the commemoration of the Home Children program that brought so many of our ancestors to Canada. Joan Tattersall has contributed the story of her search for a great-aunt who was one such Home Child. While some of the children did experience hardships, so did many of those born in Canada during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. And, there were many stories of immigrant children who found a warm welcome and support from their host families; an example is recounted in Betty Warburton's book review. Our hope is to feature more of these positive experiences in a future issue, and we encourage you to contribute your ancestors' stories.

In addition to the article on family research by Brian Glenn and an article based on a presentation to the 2009 Fall Conference by Nora Hague, we have a report on the Writing Workshop held in November, and anticipate that the interest shown at that time will result in more articles in future issues of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

SATURDAY MEETINGS

Circling the Wagons around Jack Fraser

BY BRIAN GLENN

Brian is currently Director, Research and Projects, and presented the account of the search for his grandfather to the Saturday meeting of 12 September 2009.

Some of you may remember my Great Moments presentation a few years ago when I first posed the question of “Who Was Jack Fraser?”

Jack, also known as John, Fraser was my grandfather, my mother’s father, but the only thing anyone ever said of him was that he died in Montreal during the Spanish Flu pandemic.

The family story was that after his death, my mother and her brother were sent to England in the company of Barbara Laird, a family friend, to be raised by my grandmother’s family in Edgware, London. Four cousins were also supposed to have been sent to England after their parents (my grandmother’s brother and his wife) also died of the Spanish Flu. My mother was the only one to return to Canada, where she met and married Thomas Glenn in Montreal.

That was the story I grew up with, and no one ever said anything about Jack Fraser: who he was, what he did, or when and where he married Margaret, my grandmother, even through the years when she lived with us and during numerous visits with my mother’s remaining cousin in Montreal. The only document I had of my mother’s history was a baptismal certificate dated 5 April 1919.

My search got off to a great start with an incorrect assumption. While our family attended the United Church, I always believed my mother had a history with the Anglican Church and so I assumed St. Matthews was an Anglican Church in Montreal.

The response to a letter I wrote to the Anglican Diocese soon set me straight—St. Matthews was a Presbyterian Church in Point St. Charles.

In a roundabout way, I learned of the Drouin Collection, which at that time was only available on microfilm in the LaSalle Room at the Montreal Public Library on Sherbrooke Street. So my wife and I went



off to Montreal to search for the baptismal records. Knowing the church and the date, it wasn’t difficult to find the baptismal records for my mother and her brother, who were baptized on the same day. The baptismal entries confirmed my mother’s birthdate and that of her brother Jack. The entries also confirmed the existence of Barbara Laird, as she witnessed the baptisms.

The puzzle of course was: where was their father? He didn’t witness the baptisms, and the fact that Margaret used her maiden name “Innes” to sign the entry opened a whole lot of speculation between me and my cousin Margaret (my mother’s brother’s daughter) in England.

The other curious thing about these baptismal entries was that they did not include the phrase “his wife” when referring to Margaret Innes as did all the other entries of family members baptized by the same and other Presbyterian ministers.

In my research I made extensive use of pay-for-use sites as well as documents from Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BAnQ). I eagerly watched the rapid growth of the *Findmypast.co.uk* fully indexed outbound passenger lists from the UK. Month by month they got closer to 1900–1920, the decades in which I was interested. Since the LAC’s passenger lists were not indexed by passenger name at the time, these UK outbound records were a very practical way of locating the immigration of the Innes family to Canada. Before *Findmypast.co.uk* did catch up to my interest, however, I did scroll through 18 of the 58 reels of passenger manifest microfilm for the years 1908–1918. Looking back at my research logs and the reels I did look at, I missed some important entries for this story—but found other family milestones, such as my paternal grandfather’s return from Scotland at the end of WWI; his is another story, however.

Before I describe what I found, it might be appropriate to provide an outline of the major players in the family story.

Henry George Innes and Mary Ann Sinclair Thompson, both born and married in Scotland, had six children: the first and the last two born in Paddington, London, England, and the middle three born in Aberdeen, Scotland. The records I have uncovered so far do not say why the family moved from Scotland to England, back to Scotland, back to England and again to Scotland, where they were enumerated in the 1901 Census. Henry George's occupation as a stationery clerk and bookseller might explain the movement if he was a commercial traveller.

The key elements of the story revolve around George Innes and his wife Christina, Arthur Innes and of course, Margaret—the three Innes children born in England.

The chronological order in which the family moved from Scotland to Canada is not the order in which I located the relevant documents. That was more haphazard and not in a nice clean genealogical progression—but isn't that the way of most of our research?

As mentioned earlier, Margaret and her two brothers were born in Paddington, London. Not long after Margaret's birth, the family moved back to Aberdeen and they were enumerated in Aberdeen at 3 Urquhart Road in the 1901 Census. In 1912, Margaret's two brothers, George and Arthur, immigrated to Montreal aboard the *SS Scotian*. George was listed as a butcher and Arthur as an electrician—trades they retained in Canada.

A year later, George's wife Christina emigrated with their three children aboard the *SS Letitia*. This is where I had my first little breakthrough in the family story. When I retrieved the inbound passenger list for the *Letitia* from the LAC's records, guess who I found? Margaret Innes. For some reason, she was not listed in the outbound passenger list from the UK, but was listed on the separate inbound manifest. She had accompanied her sister-in-law to Canada as a 16 year old, perhaps to assist with the children on the voyage and in Montreal. All of the known players are now in Montreal.

The earliest Canadian records I have are the obituaries and burial entries for George and Christina Innes in October 1918. The next are the baptismal entries for my mother and her brother at St. Matthews Presbyterian Church in Montreal in 1919. The Innes family frequented both Methodist and Presbyterian churches for baptisms and burials and within the Presbyterian congregation they attended both St.

Matthews and Calvin Presbyterian—two seemingly very different congregations.

Passenger records show that within eight months of their parents' deaths, the four Innes children were sent to Scotland to be raised by family there. Barbara Laird accompanied the Innes children to Scotland, but she didn't appear to return to Canada to take John and Agnes to England (at least she was not on the ship's manifest). Additional information shows that Barbara was more than a family friend; she was Christina Innes' aunt.

And the last record in this episode of the family story is the inbound passenger manifest listing John and Agnes arriving in Southampton 4 October 1923—five years after their father's death and apparently, unaccompanied. Agnes was 6 years old and John was 7 at the time.

Still, who was Jack Fraser? My strategy of circling the wagons had not paid off. I had found no reference to Margaret's husband in any of the research so far. So, where to go from here?

Another tried-and-true strategy is go back to the beginning and start over—at least have a closer look at material you have had for awhile—a lesson that I had not learned well enough the first time around.

So I went back to a piece of information I have had since uncovering the obituaries of George and Christina Innes in the Montreal Star: an obituary for a John Fraser. The interesting thing about this obituary is that it appeared on the same page of the Montreal Star as the obituaries for George and Christina, but without any direct reference to the family, I couldn't connect the two. Remember now that I have had these three obituaries for several years.

In response to an email to Mount Royal Cemetery, I learned that there was a John Fraser who was a tailor and was cremated there but not buried there. Over the course of a few years, I tried several times to solicit more information from Mount Royal about this John Fraser, but to no avail. In my email correspondence with them in April 2007, they cited "privacy" as reason for not telling me who paid for the cremation. I was tempted to play the "if I give you a name, will you say yes or no" game with them.

Last November, while passing through Montreal, we decided to drop in to Mount Royal Cemetery in the hope that a face-to-face visit (with a few tears perhaps) would encourage the staff to be more forthcoming with their information. Perhaps it was fate, but the

staff genealogist was too busy to see us, so the receptionist was asked to assist and was happy to respond to my enquiries.

I started by asking for the directions to the burial site for the infant Arthur William Innes.

This is an interesting side-story about how the Internet has affected family research: Through John Henry, an Innes cousin in Scotland, whom I have only “met” via email, I was introduced to another Innes cousin in Australia. One day she sent John and me an email about an Arthur William Innes born in Montreal to George and Christina Innes, and attached the baptismal entry from the Drouin Collection. She asked if we knew anything else of this Arthur William.

“No, nothing,” I responded, as did my cousins in England and Scotland, who knew more about the Innes family than I did (remember, this was the family that was sent to Scotland to be raised). I was curious. So one idle day, I started to look through the Drouin Collection and lo and behold, I found the burial entry for Arthur William. He had died as an infant at three months old. So, from a cousin in Australia, my other cousins in England and Scotland added yet another previously unknown ancestor to our tree.

After getting the instructions to Arthur’s grave site, I continued with “Oh, by the way, do you have any information on a John Fraser, died October 1918 and cremated here?” The receptionist called up the digitized record of the cremation and we compared notes. I had most of the information from the obituary, but still no link to the family. Then she asked: Did I want to see the signature on the back of the card?

75496	
FRASER JOHN Crem. 21 Oct. 1918.	
Name	<i>John Fraser</i>
mar.	Aged <i>33 yrs</i>
Died on	<i>18 Oct/18</i> of <i>ac. Pneumonia</i>
as per certificate of	<i>Dr. A. Lefebvre</i> To be buried in
Sec. No.	on <i>Sat</i> <i>19 Oct/18</i>
Church	<i>Pres.</i> Occupation <i>Tailor</i> Birth Place <i>Scotland</i>
Late Residence	<i>1700 Rue La Roche St</i>
Place of Death	"
Crem. 21 Oct 18	Signed <i>M. Margaret I. Fraser</i>

Signature on reverse

Mrs Margaret I. Fraser

Figure 1: Image of cremation card

Signature? Oh yes!

And to quote a famous Canadian: “and when I regained consciousness...”.

Mrs. Margaret I Fraser (Margaret Innes Fraser)—the missing link.

I had found my grandfather. Perhaps not yet with any genealogical proof standard, but certainly enough for a rather large jump for joy!

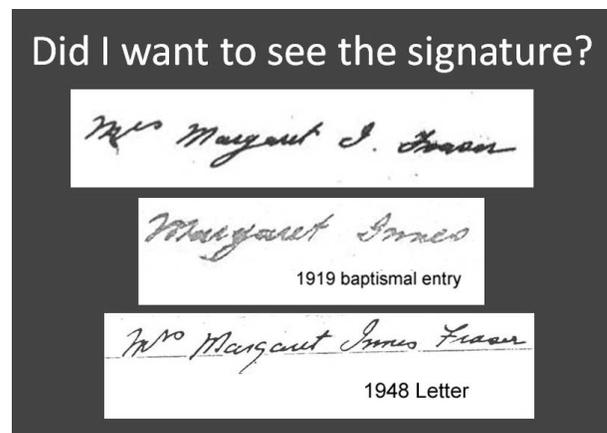


Figure 2: Signature of Mrs. Margaret I Fraser

When I got home, I compared this signature to two other samples of Margaret’s handwriting, on the baptismal entry for her two children in 1919 and on a letter she wrote in 1948.

There are a couple of differences, but to an untrained eye, there seem to be many more similarities:

- the lower swirl on the “g”;
- the capital “M” and “I”;
- the run together double “n”s in Innes; and
- the upward positioning of the “rs” in Mrs.

To me anyway, the similarities identified this John Fraser as Margaret’s husband, and my brick wall came down.

With the census information found earlier by John Henry in Glasgow, we can now develop a brief profile of Jack/John Fraser:

He was born 20 July 1886 in the parish of St. Nicholas, Aberdeen, Scotland, to John and Mary Fraser. He had an older brother, Samuel, who died in infancy in 1883, an older sister, Agnes, and a younger brother, Robert. He was an apprentice tailor in Aberdeen, Scotland, and a tailor working for R.J. Inglis of Montreal. He did die in Montreal during the Spanish Flu pandemic of acute pneumonia.

His father, John, was a tailor in Aberdeen from at least 1881 and in the 1901 Census he was listed with his family at 73 Union Grove, Aberdeen. As mentioned above, Margaret Innes was listed at 3 Urquhart Rd., Aberdeen, in the same census. Margaret was 5 and he

would have been 15 at the time, so they probably didn't know each other, even though they were not that far apart—or did they? According to Google Maps, it would be a 31-minute walk today.

John emigrated from Glasgow on 24 April 1909 aboard the SS *Ionian*, destined for Montreal. Unfortunately, the spaces indicating his status are all left blank.

John Fraser is first listed in the Montreal city directories in the 1917/1918 edition, living at 1698a de la Roche, and in the 1918/1919 edition living next door at 1700 de la Roche. In both editions he was listed as a tailor. In neither edition is Margaret listed as living at de la Roche, but that is not unusual. I understand that inclusion in these directories was optional, so they are not necessarily exhaustive records of who lived where.

So far I have not been able to locate John on the 1911 Census using *Ancestry.ca* (Montreal District 172, which should include de la Roche, nor wider searches).

We have seen a little of Jack and his immediate family, but there are some interesting things in his family history worth mentioning.

Between John Henry, my cousin in Glasgow, and me, we have put together the following family tree:

John had three siblings: Agnes, Robert George and Samuel, who died at age 3. His parents were John Fraser and Mary Diack. His father, John, was the illegitimate son of Agnes Fraser, who was a 35-year-old domestic servant in Banchory Ternan in 1857 when John was born.

Another interesting side note of the Fraser family is that John's brother, Robert George Fraser, married Christina Fraser from Glasgow in 1915. I suppose, given the common name of Fraser, it is not an unlikely event.

Jack and Margaret likely met and probably married in Montreal sometime after she arrived in May 1913 and the "usual" nine months before their first child was born: May 1915, a two-year period.

I have yet to find a record of their marriage in Montreal. The Drouin Collection has been reviewed extensively and the database of civil registrations held at the BANQ in Gatineau has been reviewed once.

Why did Margaret wait five years after Jack's death to send her two children to England, and apparently

unaccompanied? Their cousins were sent to Scotland less than a year after their parents' deaths. One reason may be that Margaret tried to raise her children as a single mother with the aid of her remaining brother, Arthur William, and his wife Clara. There must have been some pressure on the family to send them at all.

Jack/John Fraser was cremated at Mount Royal Cemetery, but not buried there. So where would he have been buried? In Montreal? Or were his ashes returned to Aberdeen? More research.

Other than the children being sent to England to be raised, there is nothing in the facts yet that suggests why nothing was ever said or known about Jack Fraser. That story may be buried in the social history of the times and the family and might never surface.

Before proceeding with further twists in the story, I would like to illustrate a simple timeline tool I used to help put the family history together. A spreadsheet was created for events in Scotland, England and Canada listing every birth, marriage, baptism, death, emigration event and city directory entry for every member of the Innes and Fraser families in chronological sequence.

The spreadsheet was built over time as new information was uncovered and it helped to demonstrate where the gaps might be and when certain events, like Margaret's marriage to Jack, should have taken place.

Timeline Tool				
Date	Scotland	England	Canada	Comment
1909-04-24	John Fraser, 22, emigrates		Arrives 05-03	
1912-03-29	Geo & Arthur Innes emigrate		Arrive 04-08	
1913-05-10	Christina Innes + 3 children & Margaret Innes emigrate		Arrive 05-19	Sometime between Margaret's arrival & conception of John, she meets & marries Jack Fraser
1915-05				
1916-02-17			John Innes Fraser born to Margaret & Jack	
1917-07			John Fraser listed as Tailor City Dir.	
1917-09-21			Agnes Mary Fraser born to Margaret & Jack	
1918-10-18			Jack Fraser dies, cremated at Mt Royal	

Figure 3: Timeline spreadsheet

The spreadsheet illustrated here is a simplified version showing only some key dates related to Margaret and Jack. The spreadsheet was also used to record the file names of the documents that supported each event (i.e. birth registration, ship's manifest).

While the story of Jack Fraser is not yet complete, I also wanted to finish telling you the story of my mother's return to Canada.

Some of you may remember my Great Moments talk in 2004 when I showed a picture similar to this one of my mother, her brother and mother on the Southampton docks upon my mother's return to Canada. This picture includes her Aunt Flossie (the short lady) and Uncle John (Margaret's brother), the couple that raised her and her brother Jack from age 6.

This picture, by the way, was given to me by a cousin in Tennessee, which only goes to show you that you never know where interesting family history material is buried.



Figure 4: Agnes Fraser leaving England

When *Findmypast.co.uk* finally reached the 1930s decade with their outbound passenger lists from the UK, finding her return was straightforward. Agnes and Margaret left Southampton on 13 July 1936 aboard the *Ausonia*.

Foreign Affairs still holds the passenger manifests from this period, so it took a formal Access to Information request plus some telephone convincing to shake the inbound passenger list information from the government tree. Even though my request used the term "passenger manifest," the ATI department initially assumed I was looking for immigration information and since my mother was born in Canada, she wasn't really an immigrant so she did not appear in their immigration files.

While these documents seemed final, they opened another mystery. Margaret listed her departing Canadian address as 1541 Crescent St., Montreal, but the city directories for 1936/37 and a number of years

either side of that indicate that 1541 was a studio occupied by Joseph Jacoby.

She did, however, list her employer as Cockburn-Brown & Co., Canada Cement Bldg. I know from letters she wrote later that she was a stenographer working for Cockburn-Brown, a large advertising firm in Montreal and Toronto. Curious about this firm, I Googled "Cockburn-Brown" and found some interesting material.

Beginning with the 1940 Federal election campaign, Cockburn-Brown provided the Liberal Party with newly developed opinion polls and political marketing strategies that changed the nature of Canadian politics. In 1945, Cockburn-Brown was designated the Liberal Party's sole national advertising agency and the relationship was so close that a senior partner in the firm served as the key national campaign organizer. All of this may seem a little irrelevant to family history but I found it interesting to discover that my grandmother worked for the firm that helped lay the groundwork for the Liberal Party's "sponsorship scandal" in 2005—a scandal which was to lead to its downfall. It was all the more fascinating for me because I uncovered this information in a CBC web bulletin during the height of the sponsorship scandal itself in which Cockburn-Brown is referred to as the "original Liberal-friendly ad agency". So if anyone was thinking at the time that some new dastardly Liberal tricks had been uncovered, think again. The practice was several electoral generations old.

To bring this article nearly to an end, here is a recap of three lessons I learned during this voyage of discovery:

1. Circle the wagons: learn as much as you can about other members of the family that might shed light on your "person of interest".

In this case, it didn't lead me to Jack Fraser, but it did help to put the family migration from Scotland into context.

2. If you think you're stuck, go back to the beginning. You may have some information that you collected some time ago that is more relevant than you think.
3. Talk to family members before it is too late. In the case of my mother's cousin in Montreal (the daughter of Margaret's brother who immigrated to Canada), whom I had met several times, I didn't act quickly enough. We had talked briefly on the phone but before I made plans to visit her, she

passed away and the remaining family was not as open to discuss their family's history. But, I did meet a cousin around the corner from me!

Now, if any of you think this is the end, not quite.

In reviewing all the material, I took a note from my second lesson: go back to the beginning—again. I decided to review some of the material I had left out, thinking it was repetitive. How wrong I was!

Remember that obituary for John Fraser from the *Montreal Star*? It asked Aberdeen papers to please copy—and they did. My cousin John sent me the obituary from the *Aberdeen Journal* several months ago but I paid only limited attention to it as it seemed to repeat the *Montreal Star* obituary. But upon closer examination I saw a problem: this John Fraser, tailor, late of Montreal, was married to a Bella Strachan.

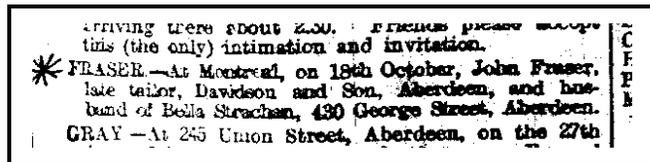


Figure 5: Aberdeen obituary for John Fraser

In fact he and Bella were married 29 June 1906, and had at least one child, John Strachan, born 7 December 1907, before John emigrated in 1909.

Now, does this mean the story of my maternal grandfather that my cousin in Scotland and I built up over several months was a mistake? Not necessarily, but it's probably a very common mistake that every genealogist makes at some point.

The fact that John emigrated alone and Bella remained in Scotland may suggest they were divorced—which is my next avenue to explore. If they were not divorced, and this John is my grandfather, it may explain the missing phrase “his wife” in my mother's and her brother's baptismal entries.

If John Fraser was not my grandfather, there is still a mystery. The signature on the back of his cremation card at Mount Royal Cemetery is, I am very sure, that of my grandmother, Margaret Innes Fraser. Also, the *Montreal Star* obituary was “inserted by his brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Montreal” which suggests to me that John had in-laws in Montreal (i.e. Margaret's surviving brother Arthur and his wife) or less likely, in-laws from Bella's side of the family.

The deal breaker of course would be the business records from the defunct *Montreal Star*, if they still exist somewhere, identifying who placed the obituary in 1918.

Anyway, that is my story. A few days ago I had a grandfather and had uncovered his family tree and now, I have an even bigger mystery to tackle. That's life—that's genealogy.

**THE ONTARIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY REGION VIII
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and FAMILY HISTORY FAIR**

Saturday, 10 April 2010 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
The Nick Smith Centre, 77 James St., Arnprior

Speakers: Ron Shannon, Mary Lynn Benz, Shirley Mask Connolly

Cost: \$ 20.00 Includes Lunch
Register before 1 April 2010
by

Sending a cheque or money order to:
U.O.V.G.G., P.O. Box 972, Pembroke, ON, K8A 7M5

FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCH

Finding Sarah

BY JOAN TATTERSALL

Having retired, and being fond of mysteries, Joan decided to delve into the shallow pool that passed for her family history and take on the official role of family history keeper. This tale of two sisters wrenched apart by the simple taint of poverty was eight long years in the unravelling.

It was June of 1901 when two young girls sailed from Liverpool on the SS *Tunisian* along with 42 other Catholic "Home Children." Little 8-year-old Mary Irene Redmond (my grandmother-to-be) and her 14-year-old big sister Sarah arrived together in Montreal, where they soon learned what their fate was to be: Mary was to stay in the city of Montreal, while Sarah was to be sent miles away and across the river to St. Lambert on the south shore. They would never see each other again.



My mother knew very little about her mother's early years, although she thought that she had been in the care of nuns in Ottawa. About eight years ago when I decided to start researching my grandmother with a few minimal, misleading pieces of information, I had the good fortune to have an enlightening chat with John Sayers. Thanks to his help and guidance, I learned of the possibility that she may have been a Home Child and sure enough, I found Mary listed on the Library and Archives Canada website.¹ This was one of those exciting moments in genealogy that keep us going through the more tedious times. Sarah was also on the same voyage, although at that time I didn't know they were sisters; I didn't even really know anything about Home Children.

Armed with the name of the Nugent Care Society in Liverpool (again thanks to John), I quickly sent off an email with my query and within a few weeks was gratified to receive a thick package of enlightening but also heart-rending information of the 10 years my grandmother was in the care of the Catholic Emigration Association. I won't focus on these details except to say that upon her arrival in Montreal, this little girl was placed in a boarding house, basically as an 8-year-old servant.

One note made a few years later by the annual visitor from the Association stated:

This is a fine little girl in a very good home. She wants to know the address of her sister in Edmonton, Alta. A very good girl.

These words, so ordinary and everyday on one level, spoke strongly to me of the longing that my grandmother Mary must have been feeling to see and be with her big sister. While reading all this material, I felt great sorrow for what my grandmother had been forced to endure as such a young child.

Several weeks later I received two more packages from the Nugent Care Society. One was all about Sarah and the other about a brother John who, in 1910, had also emigrated as a 14-year-old Home Child. Just to complete the family picture I soon learned that another brother, James, had also arrived in Canada via this program in July 1906, at the age of 15. Here I was, so early in this journey of searching for Sarah, and I had already learned that in fact there were four siblings who had arrived in Canada. Did my mother know about them and just not tell us? Too late did I wonder, for Mom had died several years before I developed a fascination with genealogy; her mother Mary had died at the young age of 35, long before any inquisitive grandchildren were on the scene.

As I read the annual visitor reports for Sarah, I learned that the family with which she had been placed in St. Lambert had moved out west to Wetaskiwin, Alberta, in 1904 and had taken Sarah with them. If possible, my heart ached even more as I read the following copies of several letters written by Sarah herself to the agency responsible for her and Mary and that showed so clearly her longing for her sister:

July 1903 (St. Lambert, Quebec) ...I would be very glad to know the right address of my sister Mary. I went to the place where you said she was living....but the people said they had never had a small girl living or working for them so I was very sorry to have to come away without seeing her....said that I never inquired about my sister at all, but as I don't want to say or contradict at all,

I will only say that...knows how often I have asked her but she would never tell me.....

August 1904 (Wetaskiwin, Alberta)... I am sitting before a campfire writing and it is just fine....I am enjoying myself very much indeed I only wish I had Mary with me then I would be happy....Dear Miss B. would you please tell me about Mary...

October 1904 (Wetaskiwin, Alberta)... I write you this note to tell you that I am simply discouraged. I have written to you twice...and I have not received an answer so far...please answer my letter and tell me about Mary...

The grief and frustration of Sarah were so striking that over the intervening years I continued to feel the need to find out more about what happened to her and her life in the west.

Because my extended family believed we had some Irish ancestors, and also because the Home Children lists for Sarah and Mary Irene indicated that all the children were from Ireland, my early research efforts were focused in that direction. Unfortunately this was not helpful. Contacts were then made with the Wetaskiwin local parish church, library and the town archives. Again, no success. The 1906 Census was “greek” to me when I first tried it some years ago, but recently, even with a little more experience, I was still not able to find Sarah. Previously, not neglecting the BMD registers for England, I had found Liverpool births for Mary, John and James—and finally in early 2008, after several fruitless purchases, I managed to find Sarah’s birth certificate listed under her mother’s maiden name. I realized that she was a half-sister to her younger siblings although she had emigrated under their surname. However, none of this information brought me any closer to finding Sarah in Canada.

In 2003, through the Nugent Care Society, I had been connected to the Nova Scotia family of James, who had lived there for many years. It was great learning about the two marriages and families my great-uncle James had had; I also found out a little about his brother John and his Vancouver-based family, but basically nothing about Sarah except that she had married (husband’s name unknown), had a daughter Germaine and may have lived in Canmore, Alberta. Sarah and John’s families had apparently had some contact but John had died in 1968 and James’s family didn’t really know John’s children.

Time marched on and I focused on other family members until recently, when I decided to once again look for Sarah. Her poignant letters about my grandmother Mary were always at the back of my mind. I wanted to know her and to be able to let her descendants know about this part of her life. Especially, I had hopes of perhaps finding a picture of her. By once again searching for John’s descendants, there was always the possibility that through them I might also find Sarah’s. So in November 2006 I put a message about John on the Vancouver message board of Rootsweb. Unfortunately there was no response at that time, but at last at the end of September 2009 a granddaughter of John’s put on a message saying she had just found this website and that John was her grandfather. Guess what? I had moved and changed my email address and never got her response! How frustrating but exciting to revisit the website and to find her recent message. My response to her has not yet elicited any reply but I’m still hopeful. Now I have more work to do and will try other message boards and maybe even some “blind” phone calls to Vancouver.

ATTESTATION PAPER No. 622151
 CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE Folio 16
 QUESTIONS TO BE PUT BEFORE ATTESTATION. (ANSWERS)

1. What is your name? JOHN JAMES REDMOND
2. In what Town, Township or Parish, and in what Country were you born? Liverpool England
3. What is the name of your next-of-kin? Sister Mrs. H.O. Cormier
4. What is the address of your next-of-kin? Wetaskiwin Alberta
5. What is the date of your birth? October 2nd 1895
6. What is your Trade or Calling? Farmer
7. Are you married? no
8. Are you willing to be vaccinated or re-vaccinated? yes
9. Do you now belong to the Active Militia? no
10. Have you ever served in any Military Force? no
11. Do you understand the nature and terms of your engagement? yes
12. Are you willing to be attested to serve in the CANADIAN OVER-SEAS EXPEDITIONARY FORCE? yes

John Redmond (Signature of Man.)
 [Witness Signature] (Signature of Witness.)

Figure 1: John Redmond’s Attestation Paper

Suspecting that I hadn’t been diligent enough when I first checked the WWI military records for John in late 2002, I recently went back to recheck these listings. As you all know, there are a few things we learn when doing genealogy and among them is the need to be patient and persistent. Well, these maxims finally paid off for me—I had found it! John’s Attestation Paper³ was dated December 28, 1915, and in of all places, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, the last known town of residence for Sarah in 1905. Quickly I scanned for the ‘Next of Kin’ and there it was, that precious bit of information: “Sister - Mrs. H.O. Cormier, Wetaskiwin, Alta”. To

say the least, I was euphoric! After all these years of searching, I had finally found Sarah.

My research into her life as Mrs. Cormier has just begun, but already several sources, including a detailed obituary for her daughter Germaine, who died in 1997, have given me an abundance of information and family names. I shall be happily busy for many weeks to come.

My great-aunt Sarah is no longer lost, but waiting to be more fully known.

Reference Notes

- ¹ "Home Children" (1869–1930) database, Library and Archives Canada
<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/home-children/00101> : accessed 28 January 2010.
- ² Quoted from printed copies of original annual visitor reports submitted by Cecil Arden to the Catholic Emigrating Association and forwarded to Joan Tattersall by The Nugent Care Society, Liverpool, Lancs., England, January 2002.
- ³ "Soldiers of the First World War – CEF," database, Library and Archives Canada
<http://www.collectionscanada.gc.ca/databases/cef/001042-119.02-e> : accessed 4 November 2009

2009 FALL CONFERENCE

The Notman Photographic Archives and You

BY NORA HAGUE

Nora Hague is Senior Cataloguer, Notman Photographic Archives, at the McCord Museum of Canadian History in Montréal. The article is based on her presentation to the 2009 Fall Conference.

The collection of the Notman Photographic Archives, in the McCord Museum of Canadian History, documents through its holdings the history of Canada from the 1840s to today—the land, the people, the places, activities, and events. The collection comprises over a million photographic prints, glass negatives, lantern slides, daguerreotypes and other works representing a range of photographic processes. Also in the collection are related archival documents, photographic equipment, and a comprehensive research library of approximately 2,000 books, pamphlets and catalogues dealing with the history of photography. At the core of the collection is the William Notman Collection of 400,000 photographs taken over a period of 78 years, richly documenting many facets of Canadian life. To this has been added the work of hundreds of photographers, both amateur and professional.



When the port of Montreal froze in the winter, commercial life slowed somewhat and William Notman asked for a leave of absence from his job to try his hand at photography. With the help of a loan from his employer, and equipment bought from E. & H. T. Anthony in New York, he set up a studio on Bleury Street and advertised in the local papers. By November he had saved enough to pay the passage for his wife and child, and the Notman family was here to stay.

The major part of the Notman Collection is the portraits. William Notman was widely respected as a portraitist and his premises were frequented by people of all walks of life. The prominent people of Montreal and visitors from abroad sought out his studio to have their likenesses committed to silver for posterity, some of them drawing on the talents of Notman's art department to render the image in colour as a painted photograph. As well, Notman's door was not closed to those of lesser station, as his prices were competitive with the popular market of the time. Thus in the Notman portraits we have a cross-section of Canadians and visitors to Montreal, and an impressive display of his artists' skills. What makes the Notman Collection unique among photograph collections are the records that he kept.

When William Notman emigrated to Canada in August of 1856 at the age of 30, he arrived in Montreal and quickly found employment with a dry goods company.

His earliest works were made using the wet plate (or collodion) process, in which the plate in the camera formed part of the finished product. The image was formed in negative on a glass plate, and when placed against a black background, such as velvet, black paper or black paint, appeared in positive form and was sold to the client, usually in a leather or thermoplastic hinged case lined with velvet or silk and clipped together with a gold-coloured metal strip folded over the edges. In this process, known as the ambrotype, there was nothing for the artist to keep on file; the plate was sold to the client, and if another photograph was wanted, the subject would have to be re-photographed. The same process was also used to produce tintypes, in which the plate was a piece of black enamelled iron instead of glass, and the image appeared reversed. Tintypes were frequently inserted in similar cases and were sold to the client.



Figure 1: William Notman, Montreal, QC, 1868

Source: Notman Photographic Archives, McCord Museum of Canadian History Reference Number I-30283

About 1860, William Notman gradually switched from ambrotype/tintype production to the negative/paper print system. There were several good reasons to do so, and the actual process was no different; the wet plate, instead of being underexposed to form a positive against black, was exposed slightly longer and used to print a positive image on sensitized paper using the light of the sun. Multiple paper prints could be made from one negative, without the subject having to visit the studio for another sitting. The paper print could be glued onto a card bearing the photographic artist's name (and perhaps some advertising) and placed in

family albums or mailed to far-off sections of the family without the risk of being shattered. Prints could be cut up and pasted together into composites, to commemorate events and groups too difficult (or impossible) to photograph *in situ*.

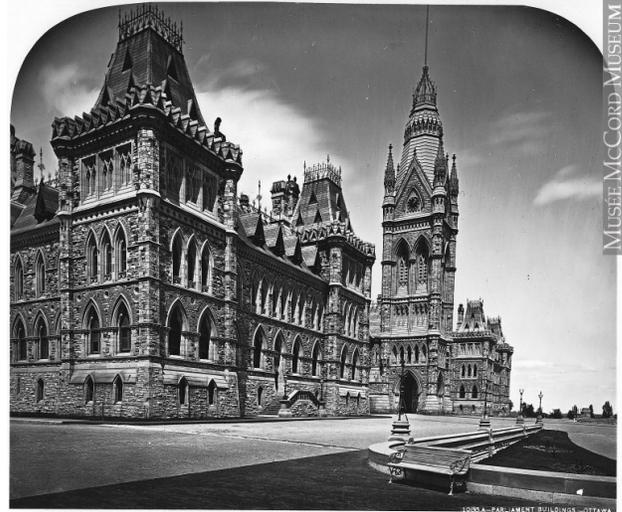


Figure 2: Centre Block, Parliament Buildings, Ottawa, ON, 1878

Source: Notman Photographic Archives, McCord Museum of Canadian History Reference Number VIEW-1086A

Several months into the new system, William Notman seems to have encountered a filing problem. The negatives, which he was now keeping on file, were accumulating and he was confronted by every photographer's nightmare: finding the negative when the client wants another print. Personal experience suggests that when more than 300 images are involved, a filing system becomes necessary, and in the front of the first Picture Book, dated 1861, is William Notman's solution to the problem. First, he began immediately to number his negatives, scratching the number and the sitter's name along the side of the negative, scratching the number and his name at the bottom within the finished area of the print, writing the number in pencil on the back of the paper print, and in red ink or pencil on the back of the print's mount, and entering the number under the sitter's family name in an alphabetical Index Book. The 300 or so images taken before the system was started were grouped by visual appearance and similar poses, such as one man standing, one lady sitting, a pair of babies on the floor, each section consisting of about 20 images, and were pasted into the first pages of his first Picture Book, numbered .1, .2, .3 and so on up to 0.300. After the last so-called "point-numbered" image, he pasted in his newly numbered portraits, writing the name of the

sitter and the number of the photograph under each image. The corresponding negative was placed in a numbered, identified envelope, and stored.

The majority of the portraits were of a size and format known as "carte-de-visite", measuring about 2 x 3, and were glued into the Picture Book between appropriately sized pre-printed lines. As the Notman Studio also offered a full range of sizes, such as stereos, cabinets, 6 x 6s, 8 x 10s, 10 x 12s, 11 x 14s and even 18 x 22s, a record of the larger sizes was needed. Since the carte-de-visite book could not accommodate them, a space was left, the size of the image marked, and the number and the name of the subject written under the space. In later years (after 1866) when the cabinets, later known as 5 x 7s, became extremely popular, they were glued into bigger books, four to a page, always with the name, date and number under the photograph, and the larger images marked by the spaces in the carte-de-visite books, with the size noted.

Numbering the photographs and creating a chronological record of the images was only part of the solution. Often the photographs sold to clients would be pasted into albums or cut up to form mosaics, or written on, obscuring or obliterating the number; one could not expect the client to keep the numbers of the photographs he had ordered on file. An alphabetical record was a necessary companion to the numerical file. When a photograph was taken, the number of the individual photographs was entered in an Index Book under the family name. The family names were grouped under the initial letter, so that the Smiths, Sicards, Stephens and Simards would all be found in the "S" section of the book, but within the "S" section, there was no order besides the chronological order in which the entries were made. Portraits of any subsequent people named "Campbell," regardless of any family relationship to the previous sitters named "Campbell," would also be entered under "Campbell" in the "C" section of the Index Book. Variations in spelling were ignored; if it sounded like Campbell, even if it lacked the "p," it would be entered under the "Campbell" section, and sometimes the heading for the section would have a note saying "or Cambell." The identification under the photograph in the Picture Book would be spelled as the sitter wanted. The Index Books were not linked to any particular year; when one section of the Index Book became full (usually under "Smith") and there was no space to enter another Smith, a new Index Book was started. Any photographs taken that were not portraits, such as

Mr Thompson's house or a view of Victoria Square, were entered in a separate section called "Miscellaneous" at the back of the Index Book.



Figure 3: Cook shanty on lumber raft, Ottawa River, ON-QC, about 1890

Source: Notman Photographic Archives, McCord Museum of Canadian History Reference Number VIEW-2982

And so life continued. In studying the Picture Books, of which we have about 200, various anomalies can be found, the reasons for which are not always evident. In 1874, probably the spring, the studio took the 100,000th image, a carte-de-visite copy of a portrait, Mr. Hart. For unknown reasons, the studio numbered the next image 5000, thereby starting what has come to be referred to as Series II (represented by the Roman numeral for 2, II.) By default the previous 100,000 images came to be known as Series I. Both Series have several gaps that are obviously planned, as the numbers missing start at logical points and continue to a round number. For example, the first gap in Series II runs from II-25000 to II-39999, so the two numbers appearing in the Picture Book are II-24999, a copy of a carte-de-visite of a lady for Mr Gibson, immediately followed by II-40000, a blank with the message "Numbers left for Halifax Branch" written on it. The Halifax studio opened in June, 1869, which corresponds to one of the earlier gaps in the sequence (I-49999 to I-60000). The theory for these gaps is that the Notman studio headquarters in Montreal were probably trying to maintain a central registry of numbers, but given the communication methods of the nineteenth century it was an almost impossible task, and the studio was to have 23 branches, which would have been unmanageable.

And so it continued. The studio took and processed photographs, documenting the development of Canada and continuing to use its system. Branch studios came and went, photographers came as apprentices, learned their trade, and left to found their own studios, often employing the same type of numbering scheme. In 1893 the studio reached II-100000 for the second time, with a portrait of Miss Miskel on Jan 14th. By that time, William Notman the Founder was dead, and the studio was being run by his son William McFarlane Notman, who seems to have had no objection to continuing on with the same series of numbers. Possibly to conserve paper and space, the Picture Books after 1903 contain a print of every photograph no matter what size, but since the space in the Book was only 2 x 3, the larger sized prints are cropped to fit, leaving us with a tantalizing glimpse of the images for which negatives no longer exist. II-200000 was reached in 1920 with a copy of C.B. Thorne on Dec 1st, and II-300000 in 1930, with a 6 x 8 of D. Wilcox, for which we have no image as the negative no longer exists. The last recorded Picture Book photograph is II-295,438 in an unfinished Picture Book, and the last recorded number is II-311602 in the negatives of 1936.

In 1935 the Wm Notman & Son studio was sold to the Associated Screen News, the still photography and news reel arm of Canadian Pacific, and run as a separate division with Charles Notman as vice-president of the historical section. The commercial Wm Notman & Son studio continued taking photographs; it was housed in a building known as the Associated Screen News building, just west of Holt Renfrew's on Sherbrooke Street. The system of numbers continued, but the Index and the Picture Books were replaced by a 3 x 5 card system, arranged alphabetically in file cabinets, and the prints were dry-mounted onto the back of the appropriate file card.

On the death of Charles Notman in 1955, the ASN offered the whole Notman part of its operation for sale; both the commercial photographic studio and the historical section. The historical section, which we tend to consider the "original" Notman fonds (1856–1936), was obtained by three concerned Canadians and given to McGill University, and the Notman Photographic Archives was born. The Notman fonds contains over 400,000 photographs, 200,000 glass and film negatives, 200 Picture Books and 43 Index Books; images taken by William Notman and his sons and staff over a period of 78 years, covering many facets of Canadian life.

The commercial studio continued to function under the name of "William Notman & Son" through the 1950s until the end of 1993, when the owner of the name and the studio retired, and generously gave the Notman Photographic Archives the negatives and files for the period from 1939 to 1993. This gives the Notman fonds an almost complete run, fully indexed, from 1861 to 1993, and makes it possible to trace and identify almost any Notman photograph taken in the Montreal studio. Over 200 Picture Books and 43 Index Books cover the 78 years that the firm was in business and the two file cabinets of cards cover the later part of the collection.



Figure 4: Miss Ethel Bond, Montreal, QC, 1886

Source: Notman Photographic Archives, McCord Museum of Canadian History Reference Number II-81334

The system which worked for William Notman also works for us. As all the photographs are numbered and dated, it made little sense to apply one of the standard archival numbering systems to the Notman fonds, so we are using Mr. Notman's system, despite its idiosyncrasies. We have an extensive computerized database, but because Notman's system is so useable, the concentration has been on the other collections

within the Notman Photographic Archives. Eventually when staff, time, storage media and money become available, one of the easiest projects would be to systematically enter Notman's numbers into the database, which would make searching for a name much easier. The finding aids at this time consist of an alphabetical card file, covering the whole of Series I (1861–spring 1874) and part of Series II (spring 1874–1885), Notman's Index Books (1861–1936), and the later extension's card files, covering 1939–1951 and 1951–1993.

Many of the Notman Photographic Archives' images are accessible and can be ordered from our web page, www.mccord-museum.qc.ca. The entire holdings of the Notman Photographic Archives are accessible by the public by appointment, email, telephone or letter. The preferred method is to arrange an appointment and consult the files in person. The Index Books have been photocopied and bound, and the Picture Books are on microfilm. If a visit is impossible, a volunteer researcher, upon receiving a description of the material needed, can make a selection for the client, and send the results by email or letter, but due to budget and staff cuts, this could take a long time. The Notman fonds is arranged using the original numbers assigned

by Mr. Notman, and any numbered Notman photographs found, for example, in a family album, can be identified easily by using first the database, then the card files, both numerical and alphabetical.

These card files cover the collection up to 1885. Anything dating after 1885 entails a search in the Index Books and microfilm. Besides students, teachers and professors, the photographs are used for a wide variety of purposes, with requests coming from many different countries, made by anyone needing a photograph showing Canadian subject matter, and those searching for the likenesses of their ancestors. With the Notman fonds, Canada is indeed fortunate that most of the Montreal studio's work survived. It would be remarkable if such a fonds survived in the first place, but Notman was not just any photographer, he was Canada's first internationally recognized photographer, with a world-wide reputation for excellence. I'm sure he would be both pleased and surprised that his work, and that of his studio, started out of necessity, shows every sign of continuing into the future digitally, and I know he would really appreciate the ease of finding specific photographs that our rendition of his records into a database affords.

BIFHSGO NEWS

Minutes of the BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting 13 June 2009

The 15th Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa (BIFHSGO) began at 9:35 on 13 June in the Library and Archives Canada auditorium at 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, Ontario. The notice of the meeting and its agenda were published in the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Spring 2009 issue.

A quorum of at least 25 was declared, with attendance estimated at approximately 135. Roy Thomas was appointed as the Recording Secretary for the meeting.

Call to Order and Opening Remarks:

The President, Mary Anne Sharpe, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting:

The minutes of the 2008 Annual General Meeting (AGM) were also published in the *Anglo-Celtic Roots* Spring 2009 issue. No comments or corrections were received either prior to or at the AGM. Moved by Brian Glenn and seconded by Glen Wright that the minutes as published be approved. MOTION CARRIED.

Reports of the President and Directors:

Reports of the President and each of the Directors were published as a yellow insert in the Summer 2009 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*. The President summarized some of the highlights of the past year. She noted that fortunately BIFHSGO's membership remained steady, as did the Society's annual membership fee, at a time when many volunteer

organizations were not doing so well. The President remarked that BIFHSGO's financial situation remains strong, largely due to the continuing success of the Society's annual Fall Conference. She stated that the Society would continue to innovate and would once again offer online registration for the 2009 Conference. About 37% of attendees registered online for the 2008 Conference. The President mentioned recognition received by BIFHSGO from peer societies. The Society was honoured this year with an award from The Federation of Family History Societies for the best website for an overseas society in 2008. BIFHSGO's publication, *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, was First in the National Genealogical Society's competition for 2008 in the major genealogical society category. The excellent program of monthly talks, the "Before BIFHSGO presentations" and courses were all well attended. The Society's Home Children projects have been progressing well with thousands of new names extracted and added to the online databases. The BIFHSGO library collection is growing and will soon be moving to the new City of Ottawa Archival facility at Tallwood, near Centrepointe. Construction has already begun. The President attributed these successes to the volunteers who give freely of time and effort without much recognition. She thanked everyone who worked to make the Society the vibrant community that it is today especially those who aren't in the limelight because of the nature of what they choose to do for the Society.

Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2008:

The Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Statement of the Society for the fiscal year from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008 were also inserted in the Summer 2009 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, available to members before the meeting. Regarding the Profit and Loss Statement, the Treasurer drew attention to the Society's sources of income in 2008. Membership fees for 522 members accounted for \$17,845.00. Donations to BIFHSGO totalled \$1,877.75. The Society's 2008 Fall Conference generated a surplus after expenses of \$4,300.90. Income from courses conducted by BIFHSGO brought in \$631.87 while sale of publications totalled \$364.10 and other income such as bank interest generated \$474.04. He also highlighted the items found under "Administration" and "General Expenses" as well as noting the costs associated with the Society's award winning publication. BIFHSGO's membership as a society in the UK-based Federation of Family History Societies and the US-based National

Genealogical Society are reflected in the item Membership and Subscriptions.

The Treasurer reminded members that the Society was a charitable organization and thus was required to make contributions with a percentage of surplus monies. The total under the heading of "Contributions" reflected contributions of \$1,000 to the Friends of Library and Archives Canada, \$1,000 to the Friends of the City of Ottawa Archives, \$500 to the Friends of the Anglican Archives of Canada, and \$200 to the Council of Heritage Organizations of Ottawa. BIFHSGO also awards a prize of \$100 for the best genealogical project at the annual Historica Fair.

With respect to the Balance, the Treasurer drew attention to the fact that books in the Society library are shown as totalling \$12,502.82 as an asset but that this figure is balanced by the entry for the same amount for "Books in Trust" as a liability.

Auditor's Report:

The auditor, Darrel E. Kennedy, reported that he had been given thorough access to the financial records for 2008. From these he determined that the funds that he expected to have been available were found to be available. The auditor concluded that the financial statement for the fiscal year 2008 prepared by the Treasurer represented a fair statement of the financial status of BIFHSGO. Moved by Tom Rimmer and seconded by John Reid that the financial reports be accepted. MOTION CARRIED.

Appointment of Auditor:

There being no other nomination for auditor it was moved by Tom Rimmer and seconded by John Reid that Darrel Kennedy be nominated as the Society's auditor for the 2009 fiscal year. MOTION CARRIED.

Awards and Presentations:

Valerie Monkhouse, membership number 14, received a Certificate of Excellence for consistently volunteering from the inception of the Society starting with the very first informal conference held by the Society in the Old City Hall to, at time of writing, helping distribute name badges at the monthly meetings. She has volunteered across a wide range of BIFHSGO activities from the Welcome Desk at Fall Conferences, to the BIFHSGO library, to greeting newcomers and helping with the Middlemore project.

Stan and Kathleen Magwood were awarded a Certificate of Excellence for their efforts in producing

name badges for the BIFHSGO monthly meetings and then distributing them in a friendly welcoming manner for over half a decade. They have been the “face” of BIFHSGO for many newcomers arriving for their first meeting. They also produce name badges for the Fall Conference.

John Reid was named to the BIFHSGO Hall of Fame in view of his contribution not only to the Society but much wider communities of genealogy and heritage. As an innovative leader John Reid served the Society well as Past President, President, Director of Education, as well as co-chair for programming for the 2008 Fall Conference and Marketplace coordinator for 2006 Fall Conference. He was the project leader for *The Ottawa Sharpshooters* book published by BIFHSGO. Beyond BIFHSGO, he served on the LAC Services Advisory Board and was Chair of the City of Ottawa’s Arts, Heritage and Cultural Advisory Committee. John Reid also shared his knowledge by resurrecting the Beginner Genealogy Courses in partnership with OGS while serving frequently as an instructor not only for BIFHSGO but other societies. John organized county interest groups as well as initiated the BIFHSGO electronic newsletter, established co-operative relations with other genealogy and heritage organizations. He established and still operates an internet blog called Anglo-Celtic connections. He lectures, most recently at the May 2009 BIFHSGO monthly meeting. John also has written and still writes on a variety of genealogical topics in addition to authoring a book on researching Home Children.

Carol Annett received the Award for the Best ACR article in 2008 for “Remembering Brockville’s Scottish Orphans” which appeared in the Fall 2008 issue.

Alison Hare received the Award for the Best Presentation by a member at the monthly BIFHSGO meetings, September 2008–May 2009 inclusive for her talk, “The Time of Cholera” delivered at the 14 February 2009 BIFHSGO meeting.

Chris MacPhail, as editor of the *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, was asked to accept a framed copy of the National Genealogy Society’s First Place 2008 Award for best newsletter in the major genealogy society category.

Report of the Nominating Committee:

Willis Burwell, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reviewed paragraph 13 of the Society’s By-laws which

specifies that the eight directors who are not the president shall be elected by the members at the AGM for two year terms with four being elected each year. He noted that three of the current directors, Margaret Gervais, Roy Thomas and Brian Glenn, had completed their two year terms. In addition he noted that there were two vacancies on the Board. Roy Thomas and Margaret Gervais indicated that they did not wish to stand for election for another term. The following members in good standing were nominated for the Board of Directors; Brian Glenn, Lesley Anderson, Jane Down, and Ron Elliott. Further nominations were solicited three times from the floor. There being no other nominations, these four nominees were declared elected by acclamation. This left one position on the Board still vacant. The Board will consider filling this position by appointment for one year.

Other Business:

The President responded to a question about the disposition of the favourable bank balance by stating that as a charity the Society was required to contribute to other non-profit organizations as noted by the Treasurer. She also said that the Board was considering a number of projects which might require start-up monies so that surplus funds of this year might be put to good use in future years.

The President responded to a concern about the photographs of individuals appearing on the Society’s website by promising a review of the Society’s policy on privacy considering this specific issue.

In response to a question from the floor, the President and the Membership Director replied that this year’s numbers were based on paid memberships as reflected in the Treasurer’s report, which in turn is based on a calendar fiscal year. The Society has, at time of speaking, 533 members, 400 of whom are estimated to live within the National Capital Region. Numbers from previous years are also based on paid up memberships as reflected in the annual Treasurer’s report.

Adjournment: 10: 21 am

There being no further business it was moved by David Jeanes and seconded by Jane Down that the meeting be adjourned. MOTION CARRIED.

PREPARED BY ROY THOMAS

Notice of the 2010 BIFHSGO Annual General Meeting Saturday, 19 June 2010 9:00 a.m.

Take notice that the Sixteenth Annual General Meeting of the British Isles Family History Society of Greater Ottawa will take place on Saturday, 19 June 2009, at Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington Street, Ottawa, to receive and conduct business in accordance with articles 37–41 of the bylaws. Members are reminded that, in accordance with Article 40 of the bylaws, they may appoint a proxy to attend the meeting and act on their behalf. The proxy holder must also be a member.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. Call to order | 7. Appointment of the Auditor for 2010 |
| 2. Approval of the minutes of the 2009 Annual General Meeting | 8. Amendments to the bylaws (if any are proposed) |
| 3. Summary of the Directors' reports | 9. Awards and presentations |
| 4. Presentation of the financial statement for 2009 | 10. Report of the Nominating Committee |
| 5. Report of the Auditor | 11. Election of Directors |
| 6. Approval of the financial statement for 2009 | 12. Any other business |
| | 13. Adjournment |

The normal monthly meeting will follow after a short break.

The BIFHSGO Writing Workshop

BY IRENE K. IP

Pursuing an ancestral trail brings surprises and thrills but can also be addictive; one can get caught up in the thrill of the quest for just one more piece of information, while the stories behind the material gathered and information unearthed never get written. Some people, sadly, never make the leap from research to writing, leaving their families to make sense of a mountain of files and a hard drive filled with data.



Figure 1: Group members Irene Ip, Marg Burwell, Wendy Croome

To help procrastinating genealogists avoid that fate, six members of the BIFHSGO Writing Group decided, in the spring of 2009, to offer a writing workshop. The six were: Carol Annett, Margaret (Marg) Burwell, Wendy Croome, Irene Ip, Margaret Turner and Betty Warburton. After consultation with the organizers of the 2009 conference, we decided to give an introductory seminar, as part of the pre-conference program, and a full day workshop on 28 November.

Our first task was to develop an approach to writing that we called “The Framework,” comprising six key elements that would lead to story writing. The elements were presented as a Ferris wheel, illustrating that one could start with any one of them, as long as all were eventually in place, and that one should be prepared for several iterations among them. (See illustration.) The September seminar was devoted to explaining and illustrating the application of “The Framework,” and, immediately after, our group of six began planning the workshop.

Very soon we were up to our eyes in research and reports, which we needed to share with each other. To facilitate communication, Margaret created a website,

where we posted comments and drafts of handouts or presentations. Whenever a new item was added to the website, we would get an email notifying us. These messages arrived fast and furiously as the countdown to the workshop drew close to zero. Throughout the fall, we needed to have several meetings, which were not without their occasional dramas: one Saturday morning, we arrived at LAC to find that we could not get across Wellington Street because of a parade of motorcyclists; another time our access was delayed by the fire department, complete with hoses. The final meeting was a dress rehearsal of the workshop.

Early in the planning stage, we all agreed that the theory of writing would be presented in small chunks and that the emphasis of the workshop would be on writing at least part of a story. However, we soon realized that to achieve that goal, we would have to ask everyone to work on four of the elements ahead of the workshop. We thus asked all registrants to choose a subject, think about what inspired them, review the material they had and create a timeline for their story and to bring this work to the workshop. To get an idea of how much time might be required to do these exercises, we six committed ourselves to do the same and to make the results available at the workshop.

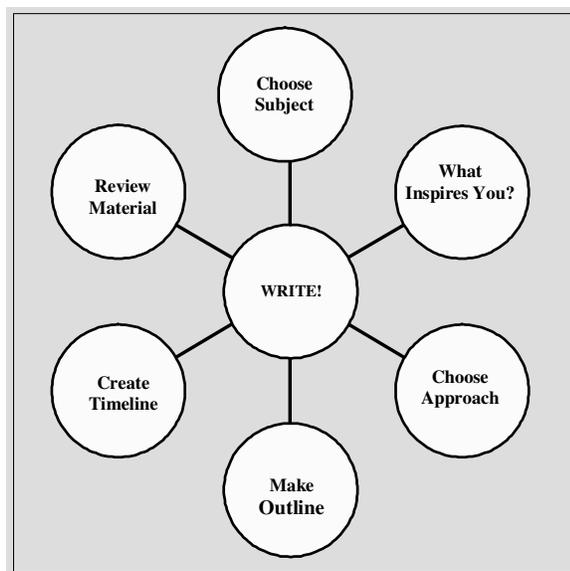


Figure 2: The Framework

We decided that we would restrict the registrations to 20, to allow for the maximum interaction but, as the weeks wore on, we began to worry that that we might have been too optimistic about the numbers. We had set the fee at \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members. While 20 registrants would enable us to easily cover our expenses, if there were only two or

three, not only would the enterprise be declared a flop but we would also be in the hole financially. In the end, we need not have worried, as 14 registrants turned up on the day.

We even managed to start on time, in spite of having to deal with various glitches in the arrangements: the absence of promised flip charts; fewer tables than had been ordered; the room not set up as requested.

The day was organized around three sessions: two in the morning dealt with the application of The Framework, while the afternoon was devoted to “Just Write.” As presenters introduced each session, they occasionally had to compete with various noises: Betty had brought along a beeping timer to keep us all in line, which appeared to have a mind of its own; Marg had organized a coffee cart to make sure that no-one nodded off and the percolator bubbled with enthusiasm; from time to time visitors to the Karsh exhibit in the next room expressed their enjoyment rather loudly.

Margaret introduced the day’s program after welcoming the registrants. She explained the goals of the workshop and asked each person to introduce themselves and provide some relevant information, such as writing experience, and their favourite ancestor.



Figure 3: Group discussion with Carol Annett (far right)

The first session reviewed the homework. Irene presented the theory behind the elements and suggested that, to overcome feeling overwhelmed by many generations, beginning writers could view their family history as a collection of stories about individuals. She reminded them of the importance of published historical and social accounts of the period to provide context for their stories. She emphasized the necessity of arranging all the material in chronological order, to facilitate the preparation of a timeline. People then broke into four groups, each with one of the

organizers acting as a facilitator. The following three questions were listed as a guide for feedback on each other's work:

Is there enough material for a workable outline?

Does the timeline match the subject?

Is there a balance between personal and external events?

After 25 minutes the groups reconvened and unresolved issues were discussed.

The second session dealt with "Choosing an Approach" and "Making an Outline," with Marg presenting the theory. Although there are many genres of family history writing, Margaret explained that, for the workshop, the focus was to be on life-story writing, family history narrative or life-story memoir. The stories



Figure 4: Margaret Turner

would be mainly chronological or a variation of chronological such as flash-forward or flashback. She explained why writers should make an outline and gave examples of possible approaches to this exercise, such as listing the facts or identifying high and low points in the story and arranging the facts around them.

Everyone worked individually on their outlines and then returned to their small groups to discuss their efforts. Most people found making an outline to be the most difficult element. Some people found that they drifted into writing the story itself, while others found that the subject that they had defined was too unwieldy for a workshop exercise. A common problem was how to treat relatives of direct ancestors and how to separate the process of researching the story from the actual story.

An hour for lunch followed and participants were encouraged to check out the various resources that we had displayed: books on writing; three binders that held the examples of using The Framework that had been presented at the September seminar, the planners' writing homework and examples of good beginnings and endings.

After lunch, Carol and Wendy moved the group onto the final stage of writing their stories. To get everyone

started, they had the group go through a question and answer exercise about their story with a partner. Carol then presented the key points about non-fiction writing; beginnings, middles and endings. As Carol went through her presentation, Wendy gave illustrations. They drew on many sources, particularly work by Sharon DeBartolo Carmack and William Zinsser. Then everyone got down to the job of writing their stories. For the next 45 minutes, the only sound came from the tapping on a couple of keyboards. Some participants managed to write almost an entire story, while others got as far as the first few paragraphs, but all actually did write and seemed to be pleased with what they had achieved. The final session dealt with refining one's writing, eliminating unnecessary modifiers, avoiding the passive tense and checking grammar, etc. Everyone then went back to their small groups to share their writing and get feedback. We six were impressed with the efforts, which demonstrated a large variety of approaches. Everyone had obviously tried very hard to come up with an attention-grabbing opening and, as we had all agreed, that is often the hardest part.

Before the workshop ended at 4 p.m., Margaret did a wrap-up and answered questions. When she asked for comments on the organization, we were delighted to receive mostly positive feedback. One participant later wrote:

The presentations were focused, interesting You had clearly done amazing homework. The information was very well organized and aimed just right. I think everyone came away having learned something useful which was quite an accomplishment as there was a spectrum of abilities in the room.



Figure 5: Group discussion with Betty Warburton (far left)

For ourselves, our worst fears did not materialize—that there would be dead time requiring extra activities; that people would be unresponsive or, at the

other extreme, get carried away. Surprising for us, the planners, was how much we learned from the exercise. The hours of intensive research, the meetings and rounds of checking our presentation material were all worthwhile when we saw how much the workshop had been appreciated.

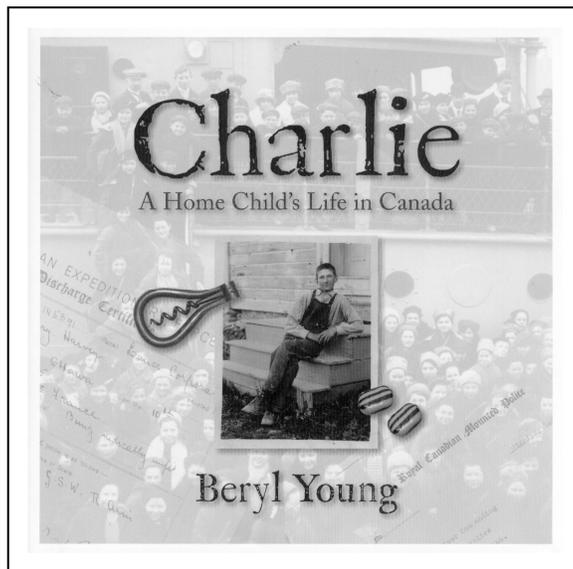
The next step is to organize a follow-up workshop, when we hope that those people who came in November will return with completed stories to be shared; hopefully some will be published in *Anglo-Celtic Roots*.

Book Review

BY BETTY WARBURTON

Young, Beryl. *Charlie: a Home Child's Life in Canada*. Toronto: Key Porter Books, 2009.

Beryl Young was 20 years old when she learned from a relative that her father had been one of 100,000 British children brought to Canada between 1860 and 1934 by charitable organizations to work on farms or as domestic servants—known as Home Children. He hadn't told her because he was afraid she would broadcast it up and down the street. She thought the story of his childhood was "dramatic and even romantic;" like many Home Children, Charles Harvey did not. Now many years after his death, in a book for children, she tells of his life as a Barnado Home Child in Canada, of his service with the Canadian Expeditionary Force in France in 1916 and as a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police.



13-year-old boy at being separated from his recently widowed mother, his sisters and younger brother Arthur. The reader shivers with Charlie, freezing under his thin blanket in an icy bedroom through his first winter in Canada; then sighs with relief when a Barnado's inspector moves him to another farm and chuckles at the good-natured teasing he gets from the Corbin twins during his second placement. Charlie's later war service is told simply and factually, as observed by a private in the trenches.

Charlie served almost thirty years with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. He worked hard, married, had children and enjoyed a fine life in his adopted country. In 1951, while stationed in Victoria, B.C. Inspector Charles Harvey had the honour of being the RCMP escort for Princess Elizabeth and Prince Philip on their first visit to Vancouver Island. In

Writing a biography for children is not an easy task. It must be a story worth telling about a real person with whom a child can identify. Lillian Smith, in her book *The Unreluctant Years: A Critical Approach to Children's Literature*, says that:

A child's approach to biography is objective. He wants to know what the central figure of the book did and how he did it. It is the *adventure* of his life that holds a child spellbound. It follows then, that the lives of many of those whom adults call "great" seem unadventurous and uninteresting to children.

That is not the case with this book. Mrs. Young concentrates on Charlie's early years: with carefully chosen anecdotes, she shares the bewilderment of a

recounting this later period of Charlie's life, Mrs. Young continues to write of experiences her young readers can understand and appreciate—Charlie tracking down safecrackers or speaking to an assembly at his children's school about his life as a Mountie.

In order for the story to move swiftly and keep the attention of the reader, background information, such as an explanation of English money, has been left out. That difficulty is overcome by frequent sidebars. Many sepia-coloured photographs, personal and archival, make this is an attractive book to introduce children to an important aspect of Canadian social history.

FAMILY HISTORY SOURCES

The Bookworm

BY BETTY WARBURTON

Have you ever wondered what life was like in Elizabethan London? Or what it was like working in a grand house as a footman or skivvy in nineteenth century England? Somewhere, among the books about social history, social life and customs at the Brian O'Regan Memorial Library, you should find some answers. Here is a sampling of what is available.

**General**

Arkell, V. T. J. *Britain Transformed: the Development of British Society since the Mid-Eighteenth Century*. London: Penguin, 1973. 941.07 ARK

Burke, Thomas. *Travel in England From Pilgrim and Packhorse to Light Car and Plane*. London: B. T. Batsford, 1946. 914.2 BUR

Hartley, Dorothy. *Lost Country Life*. New York: Pantheon, 1979. 390.0942 HAR

Laslett, Peter. *The World We Have Lost: England before the Industrial Age*. New York: Scribner's, 1965. 306.0942 LAS

Smith, Frank. *The Lives of Our English Ancestors*. Logan, Utah: Everton Publishing, 1969. 942 SMI

Trevelyan, George Macauley. *English Social History: Survey of Six Centuries, Chaucer to Queen Victoria*. London: Longmans, Green, 1942. 941 TRE

Anglo-Saxon Period

Fell, Christine; Cecily Clark; Elizabeth Williams. *Women in Anglo-Saxon England and the Impact of 1066*. New York: Basil Blackwell, 1984. 305.420942 FEL

Whitelock, Dorothy. *The Beginnings of English Society (the Anglo-Saxon Period)*. London: Penguin, 1952. 942.01 WHI

Medieval Period

Bennett, H. S. *Life on the English Manor: a Study of Peasant Conditions, 1159-1400*. Cambridge: Cambridge at the University Press, 1965. 305.563 BEN

Hilton, R. H. *The Decline of Serfdom in Medieval England*. Don Mills: Macmillan & the Economic History Society, 1960. 942 HIL

Trueman, Dawn Cline & John H. *The Peasant's World: the Manor*. Toronto: McGraw-Hill Ryerson, 1974. (Ancient & Medieval Series) 305.563 TRU

Virgoe, Roger. *Private Life in the Fifteenth Century: Illustrated Letters of the Paston Family*. New York: Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1989. 929.2 PAS

Sixteenth Century

Rowse, A. L. *The England of Elizabeth: the Structure of Society*. New York: Macmillan, 1951. 942.055 ROW

Stow, John, edited by H. B. Wheatley. *The Survey of London*. London: J. M. Dent, 1987. 942.12 STO

Youngs, Joyce. *Sixteenth Century England*. London: Penguin, 1984. (The Pelican Social History of Britain) 942.05 YOU

Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries

Porter, Roy. *English Society in the Eighteenth Century*. London: Penguin, 1982. (The Pelican Social History of Britain) 942.07 POR

Stone, Lawrence. *The Crisis of the Aristocracy 1558-1641*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 1967. 942.06 STO

Stone, Lawrence. *The Family, Sex and Marriage in England 1500-1800*. London: Penguin, 1979. 306.08 STO

Stone, Lawrence. *Social Change and Revolution in England 1540-1640*. London: Longmans, Green, 1965. 942 STO

Wilson, Charles. *England's Apprenticeship, 1603-1763*. London: Longmans, Green, 1965. 330.94206 WIL

Nineteenth Century

Avery, Gillian. *Victorian People in Life and Literature*. Newton Abbot, Devon: Victorian (& Modern History) Book Club, 1970. 390.941 AVE

Burnett, John. *Plenty and Want: a Social History of Diet in England From 1815 to the Present Day*. London: Penguin, 1966. 942 BUR

Burton, Elizabeth. *The Early Victorians at Home 1837-1861*. Newton Abbot, Devon: Victorian (& Modern History) Book Club, 1972. 390.0942 BUR

Dawes, Frank. *Not in Front of the Servants: Domestic Service in England 1850 to 1939*. Newton Abbot,

Devon: Readers Union Group of Book Clubs, 1975. 640.46 DAW

Hey, David. *How Our Ancestors Lived: a History of Life a Hundred Years Ago*. Kew, Surrey: The National Archives, 2002. 390.0942 HEY

Jackman, Mark I. *In Repose: Victorian Funeral Customs and Practices*. [The Author] n. d. 393.9 JAC

MacColl, Gail and Carol McD Wallace. *To Marry an English Lord*. New York: Workman Publishing, 1987. 974.71041 MAC

Describes the lives of American heiresses who married English aristocrats and how they dealt with the customs of their adopted land.

Autobiographies

Hughes, Mary Vivian. *A London Girl in the 1880s*. London: Oxford University Press. 1946. B HUG

Hughes, Mary Vivian. *A London Home in the 1880s*. London: Oxford University Press. 1946. B HUG

Raverat, Gwen. *Period Piece: a Cambridge Childhood*. London: Faber and Faber, 1960. B RAV

The Printed Page

BY GORDON D. TAYLOR

In my column in the Winter 2009 issue of *Anglo-Celtic Roots*, I referred to two offers of free access to data in the United States. In both cases, Footnote and World Vital Records reported an overwhelming response. Now comes an item from England that was headlined in the newsletter of the Federation of Family History Societies *The Federation*: "Free access to 1911 Census has proved too popular." The experience in England paralleled that in North America.



The subject was the topic of a very thoughtful article by Dick Eastman in the January 1, 2010, *Eastman Online Genealogy Newsletter*. After a review of the many ways of accessing data and of paying for it, he concluded:

The only practical method of placing large amounts of genealogical information on the web is to have someone pay the expenses of acquiring, digitizing and providing the data. In most cases, this means that the customers who benefit will pay. If the genealogical public does not wish to pay the expenses of "piping" the information to our homes, we can always do what all the genealogists of yesteryear used to do: travel to the repositories where the documents are kept.

The topic requires a thoughtful and in-depth study. How can the vast amount of data for family history be made readily accessible to a wide range of users? The needs of the hobbyist and of the full-time researcher set the outer limits. How do we apportion fees that are fair to both extremes? The hobbyist may access data

bases once a month while the full-time researcher has daily needs.

Is there a role for the many family history societies in the setting up and execution of a study such as I have proposed?

An item in the Daily Online Newsletter of *Epoch Times* is worth more than passing notice. The item is headlined: "Census Tour Kicks Off In Times Square" (January 1, 2010). In the U.S.A., 2010 is a census year and in an attempt to encourage Americans to fill out the census questionnaire, a community outreach program will visit some 800 events. In addition, 12 smaller regional tours are planned.

The year 2011 is a census year in Canada. Is any planning underway that will focus on bringing the census to the attention of all Canadians with the goal of encouraging them to participate in the census by completing the questionnaires when they are distributed?

The 2011 Census should be of interest and concern to the many family history societies of Canada. A few years ago, prior to the 2001 Census, there was a threat that the census data would not be released. The family history societies, of which BIFHSGO was one, worked very hard and successfully to ensure the release of the census data 92 years after the date of collection. We should be working now to develop a plan that will draw attention to the value of the census and of the desirability of recording all Canadians.

In another item in the same January 1, 2010, edition of *Epoch Times Online Daily* commented on the rapid growth in the past few years of technology and the

access to information that has become possible. The growth in the technology will make the issue of access and cost even more critical and the census will be one of the great databases that we will want and demand access to.

The current events in family history foretell an interesting few months coming up as we cope with the question of access and price, and the attainment of the full potential of the census.

BIFHSGO LISTINGS

Membership Report

BY SHARON MOOR

New BIFHSGO Members from 17 October 2009 to 18 January 2010					
Member No.	Name	Address	Member No.	Name	Address
1327	Georgie Bracken	Gatineau, QC	1332	Larry Orton	Ottawa, ON
1328	Gerry McMahon	Ottawa, ON	1333	Carole Myles and Barbara Quesnel	Ottawa, ON
1329	Barbara Newbegin	Ottawa, ON	1334	Joanne Kingsley	Nepean, ON
1330	Jean Bragg	Ottawa, ON	1335	Mary Armstrong	Ottawa, ON
1331	Dorothy Kinkaid	Russell, ON	1336	Ross Pilley	Stittsville, ON

WELCOME to ALL our new members!

Please extend a warm welcome if you see them at a meeting.

YORKSHIRE FAMILY HISTORY FAIR

SATURDAY 26 JUNE 2010

**YORK RACECOURSE
KNAVESMIRE EXHIBITION CENTRE
10.00am to 4.30pm**

ALL THE USUAL STALLS WITH SUCH A MAJOR EVENT

FREE CAR PARKING - ADMISSION £4.00 - CAFETERIA FACILITIES

Further Details From:-
**Mr A. Sampson, 1 Oxgang Close, Redcar,
Cleveland, TS10 4ND, England
Tel/Fax:- (01642) 486615**

Semaine de généalogie/Genealogy Week

Ottawa Branch of the Ontario Genealogical Society and La Société de généalogie de l'Outaouais announce the second annual **Semaine de généalogie/Genealogy Week** to be held in Ottawa and Gatineau from 11-17 July 2010.

Semaine de généalogie/Genealogy Week will bring out-of-town family historians to Canada's capital for an intensive one-week hands-on program, modeled after the Toronto Branch OGS's successful Genealogy Summer Camps. Researchers will travel daily with the group to a resource centre to participate in tutorials and lectures on specialized topics. The rest of the day will be devoted to research. Evenings may be used for further research, when facilities are open, or to enjoy the Ottawa/Gatineau sights.

The group will be kept small to allow for lots of help from the local experts. Registration is limited! Deadline for applications will be 14 May 2010.

Celebrate Your Anglo-Celtic Roots!



**Annual BIFHSGO Family History Conference
10 – 12 September 2010**



Featuring *Ireland*

- ◆ Expert lecturers
- ◆ Pre-Conference seminars
- ◆ Research room
- ◆ Marketplace

**And special presentations to mark
*2010 - Year of the British Home Child***

**Library and Archives Canada, 395 Wellington St, Ottawa
www.bifhsgo.ca / conference@bifhsgo.ca / 613-234-2520**

**BRITISH ISLES FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY
OF GREATER OTTAWA
Calendar of Events**

Saturday Morning Meetings

at
**Library and Archives Canada
395 Wellington Street, Ottawa
Contact: 613-234-2520**

Free parking on the east side of the building only

13 March 2010	<i>Constable George Johnston's Road to Recognition</i> —Gibson Glavin will describe the journey of oral and documentary research taken by the great-grand-nephew of Constable George Johnston (North-West Mounted Police) to see the tragic death of Constable Johnston, in 1882 at Fort Walsh, officially recognized by the RCMP.
10 April 2010	<i>Getting Them Back to England—What I did on my "Somers" Vacation</i> —Jane Down, currently Program Director, describes the tools and sources that she used in her search for her great-grandmother's family in England. <i>Before BIFHSGO—Why you should visit the Family History Center!</i> —Lesley Anderson
8 May 2010	<i>Changing Canadian Attitudes to the Settlement of British Home Children, 1869–1928</i> —Patricia Roberts-Pichette, coordinator of the Middlemore Project, will discuss how world events, Canadian policy and the evolution of social understanding, provincial education and labour laws signalled the demise of the Home Children program.
19 June 2010	Annual General Meeting (Note that the meeting starts at 9:00 a.m.) followed by <i>Great Moments in Genealogy</i>

Schedule:

9:00 a.m. Workshops: Check our website for up-to-date information.
9:30 a.m. Discovery Tables
10:00–11:30 a.m. Meeting and Presentation
12:00–1:00 p.m. Writing Group

For up-to-date information and news of other special interest groups (Scottish, Irish, DNA, Master Genealogist Users), visit the website www.bifhsgo.ca

Articles for Anglo-Celtic Roots

Articles and illustrations for publication are welcome. For advice on preparing manuscripts, please email the Editor, acreditor@bifhsgo.ca. The deadline for publication in the next issue is 17 April 2010.