File 12 of 21 files on descendants out of Kingswinford, Staffordshire.

SKIDMORE COLLIERS OF AMBLECOTE BANK AND THE DELPH,
KINGSWINFORD PARISH, STAFFORDSHIRE 1750-1910

by Linda Moffatt © 2013

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Please report errors and omissions to the author at skidmore@one-name.org

This was originally part of the book Skidmore Families of the Black Country and Birmingham 1600-1900 by Linda Moffatt, published in 2004.

For an Introduction to this branch of the family and an account of the first five generations of this branch, see Skidmore Families of the Black Country, the first five generations on the website www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

This account begins at Generation 6, denoted by superscript 6 next to the name of the head of household.

DATES

• Prior to 1752 the year began on 25 March (Lady Day). In order to avoid confusion, a date which in the modern calendar would be written 2 February 1714 is written 2 February 1713/4 - i.e. the baptism, marriage or burial occurred in the 3 months (January, February and the first 3 weeks of March) of 1713 which ‘rolled over’ into what in a modern calendar would be 1714.
• Civil registration was introduced in England and Wales in 1837 and records were archived quarterly; hence, for example, ‘born in 1840Q1’ the author here uses to mean that the birth took place in January, February or March of 1840. Where only a baptism date is given for an individual born after 1837, assume the birth was registered in the same quarter.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Databases of all known Skidmore and Scudamore bmds can be found at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com

PROBATE

A list of all known Skidmore and Scudamore wills - many with full transcription or an abstract of its contents - can be found at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com in the file Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study Probate.

PRIVACY

The Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study does not, as a matter of course, publish any biographical detail from the last 100 years, unless with permission of descendants.
The Skidmore families described here are descendants of the two surviving sons of Thomas Skidmore [26];

Henry Skidmore [53] 1740-1810 and
Jeremiah Skidmore [54] 1743-1801.

These brothers married sisters Phoebe and Joanna Cartwright.

Henry and Jeremiah were colliers who lived in the areas of Kingswinford parish called Amblecote Bank and the Delph, which border on Oldswinford parish. Readers unfamiliar with the district can find maps in Skidmore Families of the Black Country, the first five generations.

The following account includes moves to:

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The sons of Henry Skidmore [53]:

Thomas Skidmore [99],
John Skidmore [100]

99. THOMAS⁶ SKIDMORE, coal miner of Amblecote Bank, was, judging by his age when he died, the son of Henry [53] and Phoebe (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 6 May 1781².

Two men called Thomas Skidmore married ladies called Sarah in 1803. I think this Thomas Skidmore married Miss Sarah Hill on 17 July 1803 at St Giles, Rowley Regis; J. Darby was a witness. He and his cousin Thomas Skidmore [101] are almost certainly the men found in Fowler's survey of Kingswinford parish of 1822, tenants of crofts and gardens in The Delph, Brierley Hill³. On 26-27 May 1826 Thomas Skidmore of the Delph, parish of Kingswinford, collier, and Sarah his wife, leased a house to Thomas Kirk of Symonds Inn, Chancery Lane, London, gentleman. This had been built by Thomas Skidmore's grandfather, Thomas Skidmore [26], on part of

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¹ The code numbers of the heads of household found in my 2004 book are retained here. There are modifications to the numbering in Generation 9, but changes are indicated, allowing readers who have the book to cross-reference.

² Thomas [99] is easily confused with Thomas [78], collier of Netherton, who I believe married Mrs Sarah Dowler on 26 December 1803 in Dudley. See Skidmore Families of Netherton, Dudley, Worcestershire by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

³ See Appendix 2 of Skidmore Families of the Black Country, the first five generations by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
the land bought by him in 1755 in Mill Lane, Stourbridge. On 4 August 1826 Thomas Skidmore of The Delph, and Dudley Stevens of Cliers Plain, parish of Kingswinford, miner and Sarah his wife (Thomas’ cousin, daughter of Jeremiah [54]), leased the same property to James Pitman of Stourbridge, leather dresser. This messuage adjoined premises leased on 3-4 August 1826 by Thomas Skidmore of Amblecote, skinner, to James Pitman[4,5].

The address of Thomas and Sarah Skidmore is usually given as Amblecote Bank, occasionally as the Delph. The 1841 census describes the area in which they lived as ‘all the road from Mount Pleasant (Jos. Darby’s) to Amblecote Bank not including Sidonia Cartwright’s, comprising Turk Street, road to the pits [apparently present-day Amblecote Road] and all houses on Bank’. Thomas and Sarah were around sixty years of age and had no children with them at this time.

Sarah Skidmore died aged 68 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 26 April 1848. At the time of the 1851 census Thomas was still in Amblecote Bank, and two visitors are listed at his home, his daughter Rosa and her husband Edward Shaw. He died on 13 January 1860 aged 79 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. The executors of the will of Thomas Skidmore of the Delph, Kingswinford, (not seen) were Thomas Green and Zechariah Deeley.

The children of Thomas and Sarah (Hill) Skidmore,

i. Benjamin, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford 7 August 1803. He is not to be confused with Benjamin Skidmore [180][6].

ii. [perhaps] Thomas, buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill 14 February 1808, an infant. He could be the child, son of Thomas and Sarah Skidmore, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 23 February 1806.

baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill,

iii. Sophia, baptised 14 February 1808 (recorded in error as the daughter of Thomas and Mary Skidmore). She married Jonathan Curtis, a boiler maker (born about 1802 in Staffordshire) at St Anne’s, Liverpool on 4 October 1845[7] and lived in Burlington Street, Liverpool with the children of Mr Curtis’ first marriage to Ann _____. I have yet to find this family after the 1851 census, though a Jonathan Curtis died in Liverpool in 1865Q3.

Children, as known - William, Mary Ann, Elizabeth, Thomas.

iv. Phoebe, baptised 23 September 1810. She married John Barrand, butcher (born about 1806 in Kelby, Lincolnshire), at St Peter and St Paul, Aston, Birmingham on 11 May 1829, witnessed by Thomas Skidmore and Sophia Skidmore. The Barrands had two known children, Sophia (baptised at St Thomas’ as Barron in 1841) and Emma (born 1849 and baptised as Barrend in 1853). Thomas Barrand aged 15[-19] was part of their household in Cheapside, Deritend in 1841, perhaps a younger brother of John or a son by a first marriage. They spent at least some time in Mr Barrand’s native Lincolnshire - living in 1861 in North Kyme; their daughter Sophia married local farmer Joseph Pinder and raised a family there. Phoebe Barrand died in Birmingham in 1881Q1 aged 70.

v. Emma, baptised Amy at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 28 February 1813. She married George Horsley, gardener of the Delph, Brierley Hill, on 1 November 1838 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill. Zephania Geary and Thomas Skidmore were witnesses. George was born on 3 November 1812 or 1813, baptised 28 November 1813 in Aston Cantlow, Warwickshire, son of James Horsley, stonecutter, and his wife Phoebe (Quinton). At first a gardener, George Horsley farmed about 26 acres at Greenhill in Stourbridge, their address in 1841 and 1851. They lived, with Emma’s sister Dinah, in Church Road in 1871 and Station Road Farmhouse in Stourbridge in 1881. A stone in Oldswinford churchyard reveals that Emma Horsley lived to be 79 (died 17 June 1892) while George died on 9 February 1904 aged 91.

vi. Dinah, baptised 25 December 1815. In 1841 she was a servant in the house of Thomas Banks, ironmaster of Ettingshall. She remained unmarried and lived, at least until 1881, with her sister

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[4] Transactions regarding this land and its premises (tannery, tan pits, etc.) are to be found in deeds of W. J. Turney & Co., leather dressers of Stourbridge, held by Dudley Archives and Local History Service.

[5] ibid. Appendix 4. James Pitman appears to be father or brother to Joseph Pitman, fellmonger and tanner of The Hill, Holloway End, the man referred to in the family bible of Jeremiah Skidmore of Amblecote [115] ‘1841 Sep 15th when the cow went to Pitmans Bull Amblecote’. He is described in other deeds as a parchment manufacturer.


[7] Liverpool Mercury, 10 October 1845.
Emma and family. By the time of the 1891 census she was housekeeper to 90-year old Miss Sarah Parr at 19 Baylie Street, Stourbridge. Miss Skidmore died at the age of 77 and was buried at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 4 January 1893.

192. vii. HENRY7, baptised 12 March 1820, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

viii. Sarah, born 1821 or 1822 in Brierley Hill and not yet found in the censuses of 1841 and 1851.
Sarah daughter of Thomas Skidmore, miner, married Thomas Foden, a coal miner of Brewhouse Bank, Brieryhurst, Staffordshire (born about 1811 in Wolstanton, son of Thomas and Ann (Longshaw) Foden) on 24 January 1854 at St Margaret’s, Wolstanton. (Thomas Foden married firstly Elizabeth Spond / Spode in 1834 and had a daughter Annis(e) Foden in 1845 at White Hill, Brieryhurst, Staffordshire). The Fodens were Primitive Methodists. Sarah Foden died at the age of 52 in 1873Q2, her husband at the age of 66 in 1877Q2.

Children, as known - Annise; Stephen, Thomas, Leah.

ix. Rosa, born at the Delph and baptised 22 February 1824. In 1841 she was a servant to Joseph Hoper Dixon, a solicitor in the High Street, Stourbridge. She probably continued there until the time of her marriage, when she said she lived in Stourbridge. She married Edward Shaw, a servitor or currier and later a cotton porter (born in Dudley and baptised there on 11 February 1827, son of William Shaw, glass cutter, and Ann) on 13 April 1850 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. The witnesses were her sister Dinah and brother-in-law George Horsley. Edward and Rosa were in Liverpool by 1864 – when their daughter Sophia Shaw was born there and baptised at St Peter’s. Like Rosa’s sister Sophia they lived in Burlington Street, at no.168. Mr Shaw died in 1895Q4 aged 68 and his wife in the early part of 1901.

The surviving son of Thomas and Sarah (Hill) Skidmore,

192. HENRY7 SKIDMORE, born in Amblecote and baptised 12 March 1820 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He was perhaps the Henry Sidmore, an iron puddler aged 20(-24), staying in a tavern in Trougate, Glasgow at the time of the 1841 census, though this man was said to have been born in Scotland.

An iron forge labourer of Knutton, Staffordshire, he was married at St Margaret’s, Wolstanton, Staffordshire on 1 December 1849 to Maria Brittall (born about 1826 in Brierley Hill, daughter of Joseph Brittall). After lodging with other iron puddlers in Clay Hills, Tunstall, Henry and his wife settled in Church Street, Knutton, where they remained until the time of Henry’s death at the age of 62 in 1881Q4.

Mrs Skidmore went to live with the family of her daughter Rosannah in Albert Street, Silverdale. She died in 1900Q1 aged 74.

The children of Henry and Maria (Brittall) Skidmore, born in Silverdale, Staffordshire,

365. i. JOSEPH8, born 1851Q2 in Tunstall. An iron worker of Manchester and Warrington, he married Ann Green (born in Silverdale about 1852, daughter of Daniel Green) on 25 December 1873 at St Margaret’s, Wolstanton. After spending time in the 1870s in Openshaw, Manchester, they moved in the late 1870s to Warrington, where at the time of the 1881 census they shared their home at 74 Longford Street with Ann’s sister Alice Green. Joseph and his brother Caleb were both ‘bolters down’ at the iron works.

Ann Skidmore died in 1917 aged 65, her husband in 1936 aged 84.

Children of Joseph and Ann (Green) Skidmore,

Ann Skidmore reported in 1911 that she had had nine children, of whom eight were then living.

i. Mary Ann, born 1876Q4 in Manchester. She and her daughter Elsie were living with her parents in 1911.

ii. Harry, born 1 April 1898 and baptised at St Anne’s, Warrington on 9 June. He died later that year.

ii. Elsie Alice, born 22 August 1900, baptised 6 September.

ii. William Henry, born 1878Q3 in Openshaw, Manchester. A blacksmith’s striker in 1911. Mr Skidmore died in 1938 aged 59.

born in Warrington, baptised at St Anne’s,

iii. Maria, born 7 November 1880 and baptised 25 November. A housemaid in to surgeon Charles E. Richmond in Warrington in 1901. She married Henry Lawton, a
labourer for a soap manufacturer (born about 1879 in Warrington) in 1904Q4 at St Peter's, Warrington and was living at 12 Neston Street, Warrington in 1911.

Children, as known - Inez, Henry, Joseph and Lily.


v. Rose Hannah, born 14 December 1884 and baptised 1 January 1885. An 'ender and mender of fustian' in 1901. She married George Capper, a boiler rivetter, in 1905Q1 in a civil ceremony registered at Warrington and was living in 1911 at 50 Longford Street, Warrington. Information on this family is available at Ancestry.co.uk. Rose Capper died in 1955 aged 70.

vi. Alice, born 23 December 1886 and baptised 13 January 1887. A wire winder, she married in 1907Q3 Joseph Blackburn, a machine man at a loco works (born in Manchester about 1883) and was living in 1911 at 21 Manchester Row, Vulcan, Newton Le Willows, Lancashire


viii. Joseph, born 26 October 1890 and baptised 1 June 1893. He is presumably the 5-month old 'nurse child' found at the time of the 1891 census in the home of George and Martha Seymour at 52 Longford Street, Warrington. He was an apprentice boiler rivetter in an engineering works at the time of the 1911 census.

ix. Sarah Ellen, born 10 May 1893 and baptised with her brother Joseph. She died in infancy later that year.

ii. Mary Ann, born 1852Q4 at Goldenhill and baptised in Tunstall on 25 September 1853. She appears to have married, as Mary Skidmore, Elisha Grindley, a coal miner (born about 1849 in Madeley, Staffordshire) on 1 July 1872 at St Margaret’s, Wolstanton. (The marriage register records her father as Joseph Skidmore, a forgerman and it would be helpful to verify her father's name from the marriage certificate or Bishop's Transcript.

Their home was in Werrington Road, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent, where Mrs Grindley died in 1888Q2 aged 35. Elisha married secondly Catherine Sargeant in 1892Q4.

Children, as known - Frances, Elizabeth, William, Edith, John, Rosa, Elisha.

iii. Rosannah, born in Knutton on 17 January 1855. She married Jabez Whalley, a coal and stone miner (born 1850 in Chesterton, son of John Whalley, a stone miner) on 28 April 1873 at St Margaret's, Wolstanton and lived until at least 1911 in Albert Street, Silverdale.

Children, as known (of ten)- Caleb, Mary, Elizabeth, Arthur, Kitty, Herbert, Joseph, Collie, Sarah A. and Martha Seymour at 52 Longford Street, Warrington.

365a. iv. HENRY8, an iron mill worker in 1881, was born in June 1857. He married Mildred A. Howell (born April 1870 in England) and went around 1890 to Canada and then Wisconsin. Called Harry in the 1900 US census, when he was a carpenter living with his family on Emerald Street, Madison City, Dane County, Wisconsin. In 1920 his family was living at 225 State Street, Madison. Henry Skidmore died in 1938, his wife in 1958.

The children of Henry and Mildred A. Skidmore,

i. Stanley, born 29 June 1890, in Canada.

ii. Dorothy E., born October 1894.


v. Herbert, born 1859Q2. An iron forgeman, he lived after his father's death with his sister Roseannah's family in Silverdale. Mr Skidmore died in 1922 aged 62.

vi. Caleb, born 1864Q3. An iron forge mill fur man in 1881. He was a bolter down at an iron works in Warrington, Cheshire and boarded for many years with Thomas and Mary Ann (Taylor) Attwell in Winwick Road and later West Street there. He was living in 1911 in Warrington in the home of his sister Maria Lawton and died in 1913, said to be aged 45.

vii. Sophia, born 1866Q3. She married, as Sapphira Skidmore, James Tomkinson, an ironstone miner (born about 1861 in Alsagers Bank, Stoke-on-Trent) in 1883Q1 at St Mary's, Knutton. They lived off Bridge Street, Silverdale and, following her husband's death in 1897Q4 in Albert Street there. Mrs Tomkinson died in 1912Q4 aged 45.

Children, as known - Emma, Rose Hannah, Fanny E., Richard, James, Eliza, Harry, Elizabeth, Joseph.

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8 The St Anne's baptism register gives his birth as 26 October 1891 but he was 5 months old at the time of the census of 5 April 1891.
9 www.findagrave.com
100. **JOHN**

**SKIDMORE**, colliery engineer of Amblecote, is perhaps more likely, on the basis of names given to his children, to be the son of Henry [53] and Phoebe (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised on 26 January 1783 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, than of Henry’s brother Jeremiah [54]. He married Elizabeth Thompson (born about 1793 in Kingswinford) on 4 June 1809 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. Joseph Turner and Elizabeth Parish were witnesses. John and Elizabeth Skidmore lived in Amblecote, where he began his working life as a collier. In 1821, 1835 and again in 1841 he is called an engineer, presumably a mining engineer. They worshipped for at least some of their married life at the Baptist Chapel in Brettell Lane, where their son James was named. Although his home was given consistently as Amblecote in the 1820s and 1830s, John appears to be the man who was a tenant at the time Fowler made his map of Kingswinford in 1822, of a house and garden listed in Plot 1160 in the Delph, Brierley Hill. See Appendix 2. This was perhaps because he lived in the area around Turk Street commonly known as Amblecote but which was, in fact, in Kingswinford parish.

John died aged 60 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 14 June 1843. Elizabeth lived in Turk Street in 1851 with her daughter Esther and son Benjamin. By 1861 they were in Amblecote Road and had been joined by her widowed son Joseph. Elizabeth Skidmore died late in 1870 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 4 January 1871, said to be 85 years of age.

**The children of John and Elizabeth (Thompson) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill,**

iii. Mary, baptised 30 November 1813.
iv. Esther, baptised Hester 3 March 1816. A laundress, she remained unmarried, living with her mother and then her brother Joseph in Amblecote Road. She died aged 59 and was buried on 10 January 1875.

v. **DAVID**, baptised 23 September 1818, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.
vi. Sarah, baptised 20 April 1821. She married Charles Fletcher, miner of Pensnett (born about 1829 in Cradley Wood, Madeley, Shropshire, son of William Fletcher, bricklayer) on 9 January 1848 at St Mary’s, Kingswinford. William Williams and Sarah Fletcher were witnesses. Charles and Sarah began their married life in Hart’s Hill but by 1871 he had become publican of the Three Horse Shoes in Brick Kiln Street. Later he became a bill poster and they were living by 1881 at 12 Cottage Street, Brierley Hill. Apparently no children.

vii. James, named at Brettell Lane Baptist Chapel on 6 May 1823. He died a year later and was buried on 27 July 1824 at St Michael’s.

193. viii. **JOSEPH**, baptised 10 March 1826, OF WHOM MORE LATER.
ix. Phoebe, baptised 6 December 1835, TO WHOM WE WILL RETURN.

194. x. **BENJAMIN**, baptised 6 December 1835, TO WHOM WE WILL RETURN.

195. **DAVID**, born in Amblecote and baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 23 September 1818. At the time of the census of 1841 David was an iron puddler, living at Mount Pleasant with his wife. He married Ellen Lashford (born about 1816 in Hagley or Clent, daughter of farmer Benjamin Lashford) in 1840 at St Peter’s, Kinver. Their child John was born in Amblecote on 30 September 1841 and by the time he was baptised in December 1842 David had taken to mining. David and Ellen then spent some time in Rotherham, Yorkshire, returning just before the 1851 census to Quarry Bank, where he had returned to his original trade of puddler of iron. They lived later in Brierley Hill (in Rock Street and Albion Street). Mr Skidmore appears to have died in 1872, said to be aged 60.

Mrs Ellen Skidmore married secondly widower James Millington, a miner born about 1816, the wedding being by licence at St Thomas', Dudley on 20 April 1874. Richard Purdey and Sophia Purdey were witnesses. I have so far not found James and Ellen Millington in later British censuses.

**The children of David and Ellen (Lashford) Skidmore,**

i. [perhaps] Esther, born late in 1840 and buried, as Hester Skidmore, infant of Mount Pleasant, at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 10 January 1841.

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10 Two girls named Sarah Fletcher and daughters of William Fletcher were baptised in Madeley: daughter of William and Mary, baptised 8 May 1824; daughter of William and Susannah, baptised 28 May 1826.
ii. **JOHN**, born 30 September 1841 and baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 25 December 1842. He married Martha Jones (born in Pensnett about 1843) in 1863Q1 in Sheffield and moved around in search of work, as the birthplaces of his children testify, spending time in the mid-1860s in Garston (now near Liverpool airport) in Lancashire, then living in Carlisle Street, Brightside, Sheffield before settling in the 1870s at 4 Florence Street, Seaton Carew. In their latter years, they lived with the family of their daughter Mary in West Hartlepool. Mr Skidmore died in West Hartlepool in 1910Q2 aged 68, his wife in 1921 aged 77.

**The children of John and Martha (Jones) Skidmore,**

i. Margaret Ellen, born 5 October 1863 and baptised on 14 February 1864 at Brightside, Sheffield. She married John William Laverick (born 1860Q1, apparently the son of George and Mary Jane Vincent (Colling) Laverick) in 1883Q3. They lived in Duke Street and later Stephenson Street, Hartlepool. Margaret Laverick died in 1916 aged 52, her husband in 1918 aged 58.

Children, as known - Lily, Mary Jane, John George, William, Martha Annie, Thomas Alfred.

697. ii. **DAVID**, [was 573.] born 1865Q3 in Garston, Lancashire. At the time of the 1881 census he was a labourer in the iron works in Seaton Carew, Durham. He married Ellen Matilda Blumer (born about 1866 in West Hartlepool) in 1886Q3 in Hartlepool registration district and they were living at 7 Burn Road, West Hartlepool in 1901, when he was a fitter's labourer in the shipyard. David Skidmore died in 1941 aged 75, his wife the same year aged 76.

**Children of David and Ellen Matilda (Blumer) Skidmore, born in West Hartlepool,**

12 children, of whom 9 were living in 1911.

i. Dora, born 1887Q2. A servant to grocer and confectioner Robert Hanby in Elwick Road, West Hartlepool in 1901. She married Thomas Gilbey (born 1890 in Hartlepool) in 1909 in Macclesfield, Cheshire. At the time of the 1911 census she and her baby son William Roy Gilbey (born in Macclesfield) were living with her parents in West Hartlepool. Thomas and Dora emigrated to the US in 1915 with their sons William and Richard and lived on E64th Street in Chicago, where they were joined by Thomas' brother-in-law Charles Hensen.

i. i. WALLIAM, born 1888Q3. A fitter's machinist in the shipyard in 1911. He is perhaps the man who married Eleanor Rowley at St Paul's, Hartlepool on 3 August 1914. Mr Skidmore died in 1945. A son,


**Children of David and Florence (Harrison) Skidmore** (according to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.co.uk),

i. Irene, born 1915, died 1994.

ii. Stanley, born 1921, died 1942.


v. Charles, born 1893Q4. A gardener for a timber merchant in 1911. He enlisted, along with his brother Arthur, on 30 January 1911 with the Durham Royal Garrison Artillery. He was promoted to Corporal in December 1915 and to Sergeant in July 1916, being described in his Army Service Records as 'sober, honest and reliable'. He was posted to France on 18 January 1917 but in September 1917 was admitted to hospital in Rouen and sent a few days later to Sherlock Street Auxiliary Hospital, Liverpool.

vi. Josephine, born 14 December 1894, baptised 8 January 1895 at Burbank Street United Methodist Chapel. She married Charles G. Hensen in Hartlepool in 1916. They emigrated in 1919 and lived in
Chicago. They had, as known, three daughters.

vii. ARTHUR\(^{10}\), born 27 November 1895, baptised 17 December at Burbank Street United Methodist Chapel. He was a fitter with W. Gray & Co. at the time he enlisted with the Durham Royal Garrison Artillery on 30 November 1911. He remained on home duty with the RGA, receiving annual gunnery training but remaining in employment, for 5 years 126 days, before discharge in April 1917. In 1916 he was attached to William Doxford & Sons, shipbuilders in Pallion, Sunderland\(^{15}\).

He became a merchant seaman and received First World War Mercantile Marine Medals and the British War Medal\(^{12}\).

New York Passenger Lists reveal that he was a ship’s engineer (and perhaps wireless operator) whose career spanned at least 30 years at sea. He became a Canadian citizen and lived in Toronto. He married Eglantine Marie Eva LeBlanc (1897–1955) and had two sons and four daughters.

viii. Ivy, born 2 April 1897, baptised 27 April at Burbank Street United Methodist Chapel. She married Archibald Plant in 1923 and had a daughter. She died in 1986.

ix. Harry, born 6 September 1898, baptised 27 September at Burbank Street United Methodist Chapel. He was a clerk for Samsing[?] & Co. in Hartlepool at the time he enlisted on 13 September 1916. He was trained as a ‘field lineman’ (telegraphist) with the Royal Engineers Signals. In January 1918 Pioneer Harry Skidmore left for Italy. This little-known campaign and the role of the signallers can be found at various websites, including The British campaign in Italy 1917-1918 - The Long, Long Trail www.1914-1918.net/italy.htm, and http://greatwarphotos.com/tag/royal-engineers/.

He is perhaps the Harry Skidmore who married Amy Lancaster in 1921.

iii. Martha Ann, born 1866Q3 in Garston. A nurse maid, living at home, in 1881, Miss Skidmore died at the age of 21 in 1887Q3.

iv. John Richard, born 1869Q1 in Sheffield. He died aged 20 in Hartlepool in 1889Q3.

698. v. WILLIAM\(^{9}\), [was 574.] born 1873Q2 in West Hartlepool. In 1898Q1 he married Catherine Dolan. She was born 18 February 1877 at 18 Nielson Street, West Hartlepool, the daughter of John and Eliza (Newall) Dolan. William worked in a saw mill in Seaton Carew, Durham and at the time of the 1901 census was living with his family at 14 Hill Street there, before settling in Sarah Street in West Hartlepool.

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\(^{11}\) British Army Service Records 1914-1920.

\(^{12}\) Registry of Shipping and Seamen: Index of First World War Mercantile Marine Medals and the British War Medal National Archive reference BT 351/1/129628.
I am grateful to Cheryl Milburn, great granddaughter of William and Catherine Skidmore, for additional information on this family.

**Children of William and Catherine (Dolan) Skidmore, born in West Hartlepool,**

i. William, registered with the surname *Dolan* in 1897Q4 at Hartlepool. He served in World War I as a Private in the 10th Battalion of the Durham Light Infantry and died on 10 April 1917. He appears on the Arras Memorial, Pas de Calais, France, which commemorates almost 35000 servicemen from the UK, South Africa and New Zealand forces who died in the Arras sector between the spring of 1916 and 7 August 1918, and have no grave. William perhaps was one of those who fell in the Arras offensive of April-May 1917.

ii. Margaret Ellen, born 1899Q2. She died in Hartlepool in 1924.

iii. Mary Ann, born 31 January 1901 at 14 Hill Street, Seaton Carew. She married William Quinn (1897-1928) in 1923 and had three children.

iv. Sarah, born 13 August 1903 at 14 Hill Street, Seaton Carew. She married George Oliver Yarrow (1900-1963), a brick burner, in 1925 and had six children. Mrs Yarrow died on 27 November 1985 and is buried with her husband in Farcet Cemetery.

v. Catherine, born 22 September 1906 at 48 Wensleydale Street, Hartlepool. She married John Gayton (1906-1950) in 1929 in Hartlepool and had two sons. She died in 1990.

vi. **JOHN**10, born 1909Q2. He married Eva and had three sons.

vii. **DAVID**10, born 21 December 1911. He married Hannah Elizabeth Croft and had a daughter and a son. Mr and Mrs Skidmore both died in 1991.


vi. Phoebe Maria, born 1874Q4. She married Henry Jones, a shipyard labourer (born about 1878 in Brierley Hill) in Hartlepool in 1899Q4. They lived at first in Catharine Street there, next to the home of her sister Mary, before moving to 43 Ramsay Street. Henry Jones became a wagon repairer for North Eastern Railway.

Children, as known - Martha Ann, Frederick, William, Albert.

vii. Mary, born 1877Q3. She married Charles Garbutt, a shipyard labourer (born 1876Q2 in Stockton, Durham) in 1897Q1. They lived at 45 Norfolk Street, Stockton.

Children, as known - John R., Charles, William, Thomas, Mary, Doris, Norman, Harry.

viii. Sarah Elizabeth, born 1879Q2. She married William Maltman Hamilton, a carriage cleaner for the North Eastern Railway (born 1879Q2 in West Hartlepool) in 1902Q3. They were living in 1911 at 39 Hilda Street, West Hartlepool.

Children, as known - William Maltman, Lily, John R.

ix. Harriet, born 1881Q1. She married Thomas Elsdon, a shipyard labourer (born 1882Q1 in West Hartlepool) in 1899Q4 and lived at 2 Knowle Street and later 24 Freville Street, Hartlepool.

Children, as known - George Robinson, Harriet, Thomas, Norman, Thomas.

iii. Elizabeth, born in 1847Q3 in Rotherham. She married Joseph Whild [Wilde/ Wylde], puddler (born 1844Q2 in Round Oak, Brierley Hill, son of William Whild, puddler) on 2 September 1866 at St Mary’s, Kingswinford. The witnesses were Joseph Skidmore and Sarah Skidmore, perhaps Elizabeth’s uncle and aunt. They began their married life in Albion Street, Brierley Hill, next to the home of her parents and moved later in the 1870s to Brockmoor. By 1880, when their daughter Gertrude was born, they were living in Round Oak (presumably Joseph was employed at the works there). They were living by 1911 at 14 Cottage Lane, Brockmoor. Elizabeth Wylde died in 1914, said to be aged 65, her husband in 1924, said to be aged 80.

Children, as known - Alice, Joseph, Fanny, Gertrude, Jesse. [Only 4 of their 13 children survived].

iv. Benjamin, born in Rotherham in 1849Q3.

**born in Brierley Hill,**

v. Mary, born 1851Q4. She appears to have married firstly Elijah Habberley, a factory engine driver (born about 1849 in Brierley Hill) in 1874Q2 at Netherton. They moved in the late 1870s to
Queen Street, Walsall, where Mr Habberley died in 1887Q3 aged 41. Children, as known - Mary Jane, May, Harry.

Mary married secondly in 1888Q3 Harry Hill, licensee of the Falcon Inn in Lichfield Street, Walsall (born about 1858 in Birmingham). Mr Hill gave up the licence trade to become a zinc worker in Cape Hill, Smethwick. Mary described herself as a shopkeeper of a hardware store at the time of the 1911 census. A son William.

vi. Sarah, born 1854Q1. Not found at home in 1871. A young lady Sarah Skidmore aged 15 died in 1869Q1 but her death was registered in the West Bromwich registration district, not Stourbridge.

vii. Esther, born 1856Q1. She was a general servant in 1871 in the home of Joseph Grove, a cabinet maker in the High Street, Brierley Hill. She married Thomas Chilton, furnaceman (born about 1855 in Tipton, son of Robert, a miner, and Mary Ann Chilton) on 27 June 1875 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. The witnesses were Joseph and Elizabeth Wild, Esther’s sister and brother-in-law. Thomas and Esther lived at first in New Cross Street, Tipton, later moving to Blackheath and then settling in Halesowen Road, Netherton. Thomas Chilton’s death appears to be that registered at Dudley in 1909, said to be aged 52.

Children, as known (of 13, 11 living in 1911) - Thomas, Ellen, Joseph, John, Esther, Robert, William, Mary Ann, Lucy, Elizabeth, David.

viii. Maria, born 1860Q2. Buried 9 March 1862 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill.

ix. Eleanor, whose age was recorded as 10 years in the 1871 census, though the only Eleanor Skidmore birth registered in the Stourbridge registration district around this time was in 1862Q4. She is presumably the Eleanor who died aged 17 in Bank Street and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 8 January 1881.

The second surviving son of John Skidmore [100],

194. JOSEPH⁷ SKIDMORE, born in Amblecote and baptised at Brierley Hill on 10 March 1826. An iron puddler, he was a resident of Woodside when he married firstly Eliza Westwood (born in Cradley, daughter of Thomas Westwood, chain maker) on 9 March 1851 at St Thomas’, Dudley. The witnesses were Esther Skidmore his sister and Samuel Webb. A family which might be that of Eliza is found in Derby End, Cradley in 1841, consisting of Thomas Westwood 38, a nailer, his wife Maria 40 and daughter Eliza, a nailer aged 12.

Shortly after their marriage, at the time of the 1851 census, they were living in Quarry Bank but the couple separated before 1861. Thomas Skidmore lived at his mother’s house in Amblecote Road and he and his sister Esther appear to have kept the house on after his mother’s death. Joseph’s second common-law wife Sarah ______ was born about 1842 in Burslem, Staffordshire and they were living in 1871 in Amblecote Road with a son Charles (born about 1862 in Burslem). Joseph Skidmore died in 1878Q3 aged 52.

Mrs Eliza Skidmore and son Daniel Skidmore were boarding at the time of the 1861 census with the Borason family in Caledonia (between Brierley Hill and Lye, to the west of Thorns Road). She reverted to her maiden name and, describing herself as single, was a charwoman in 1871, living with her son Daniel in Gad’s Lane, Dudley.

The children of Joseph and Eliza (Westwood) Skidmore,

i. Daniel Joseph, born 1857Q3 and raised by his mother. He appears to be the Daniel Skidmore, aged 23 and born in Stourbridge, who was in Dartmoor prison for theft in 1881. By 1891 he was a railway labourer, living in Glasgow Poorhouse, where he is recorded in the Poor Register as a labourer and having ‘no friends’.

ii. [perhaps] Thomas, an infant of Caledonia, buried at Quarry Bank on 27 February 1860.

One child known to Sarah Skidmore,

iii. Charles, born about 1862 in Burslem and called Skidmore but not registered as such. Not yet found in the 1881 British census, he appears to be the Charles Skidmore who travelled at the age of 18 to America, arriving via New York in April 1880, a smith.
195. BENJAMIN7 SKIDMORE, puddler of Brierley Hill, was the son
of John [100] and Elizabeth (Thompson) Skidmore, born in the spring
of 1834 in Amblecote and baptised at Brierley Hill on 6 December
1835. He married Prudence Wall in 1869Q3 at St Andrew’s,
Netherton. She was born 1849Q2 at Island Pool, Wolverley,
Worcestershire, daughter of James Wall, forgeman, and his wife
Ann, who moved into William Street, Brierley Hill before 1861.

At the time of the 1881 census Benjamin and Prudence lived at 49
Cottage Street in Brierley Hill, moving, probably around 1887-88, to
Bank Street.

Benjamin emigrated to Maine, USA (through Boston) in October
1894. His passage was paid by a daughter who lived in Hollowell,
Maine. He was followed soon after by his wife and their four
youngest, Bertha, John Thomas, James and Alfred, leaving three girls
behind. Benjamin died in Hollowell, Maine in 1895, his widow in
1931.

The children of Benjamin and Prudence (Wall) Skidmore,

i. Ann Maria, born in Brockmoor in 1869Q3. She had a daughter Lydia Skidmore in 1892Q1,
   presumably by her future husband, ‘the boy next door’ Thomas Clarke, miner of Brettell Lane
   (born about 1868, son of John Clarke, miner, and his wife Catherine). They were married on 10
   September 1893 at Amblecote. The witnesses were James Houlding and Lydia Houlding (née
   Clark, Thomas’ sister). Thomas Clarke’s family were living at 51 Cottage Street in 1881. The
   family later lived at 17 or 18 Brickkiln Street, Brierley Hill.
   Children, as known - Lydia S., Phoebe M., Samuel M., Bertha, Katherine, Doris Mary, Florence
   May.

ii. Sarah, born 1871Q3. She appears to have married Alfred Wall, a coal miner (born 1862Q4 in
    Brierley Hill) in 1890Q3 at St Thomas’, Dudley. They moved from Brierley Hill around 1895 to
    South Kirkby, Yorkshire. Mr Wall died in 1910Q2 aged 47.
    Children, as known - Elizabeth, Phoebe, Alice, Alfred, James, John, Lawrence, Dora, Thomas.

iii. Phoebe Jane, born 1874Q1. She married Thomas Field, a house painter (born about 1874 in
    Langley Green, Oldbury) in 1894Q3 at St Michael and All Angels, Langley. They moved around
    1897 to Cotteridge, Birmingham. Phoebe Jane Field died in 1959 aged 85.
    Children, as known - Alice, John Thomas, Gladys, Reginald, Fred, Walter.

iv. [probably] James, born 1878Q2. Died aged 9 months, buried 9 December 1878 at St Michael’s,
    Brierley Hill, of Cottage Street.

v. Mary, born 1879Q4. Died aged 2, buried 18 February 1882 at St Michael’s.

vi. Bertha, born 1882Q3. At the time of the 1900 US census she was a servant to Patrick Lynch in
    Augusta, Kennebec County, Maine. She married Harold Trask and had a son Donald. She died in
    1947 and the family are buried in Portland, Maine.

366a. vii. JOHN THOMAS8 SKIDMORE, born 28 August 1884. He moved to Maine with his parents in
   October 1894, where he was a factory worker at The Commonwealth Shoe factory (Gardiner)
   where they made Bostonian shoes. He married Helen Susan Randall (born 3 May 1886 in
   Richmond, Maine, died 10 May 1955) on 26 August 1915 in Gardiner. They lived in Augusta,
   Maine until about 1920 and then moved to 24 Clinton Street, Gardiner. Mr Skidmore died in
   Gardiner on 20 February 1959.
Children of John Thomas and Susan Helen (Randall) Skidmore,

699. i. **JOHN RANDALL**\(^9\), [was 574a.] born 1917 in Richmond, Maine. He married Dorothy Catharine _____ at the Minister’s house in Gardiner, Maine. He was drafted into the Army for WWII and was stationed in France, returning in October 1945 after being wounded and receiving the Purple Heart Award. After returning home, John went to school through a nine-month military training program to learn watch repair at Seavey’s Island, Maine. They lived in Gardiner, Maine on Spring Street and later Washington Avenue. In 1949, they moved to Dilla Street, Milford, Massachusetts until 1951 when they had a home built at 176 Purchase Street. John worked at Cormier Jewellers in Spencer, Massachusetts until retirement in 1979 when he moved to Florida. He was often referred to as ‘Randall’ or ‘Skid’. Dorothy worked at the Yarn and Fabric Shop in Milford until 1979.

Children of John Randall and Dorothy Catharine Skidmore,

i. Patricia Ann, married Donald John _____. They have daughters Margaret Elaine and Kelly Sue and son John David.

ii. **THOMAS RANDALL**\(^10\), married Shirley Ann _____. A son Stephen Thomas and daughters Kimberly Sue and Catharine Ann.
iii. Robert Paul, married Donna _____.
iv. Susan Elaine, married Richard Lawrence _____.
    A son Thomas John and daughter Lori Lee.

700. ii. PAUL FRANKLIN⁵, [was 574b.] born 1919 in Gardiner, Maine. He married Louise Mary _____.
    They built a home in 1949 on Adams Street, Farmingdale, Maine and lived there until their deaths.
    Paul was an electrician for the York Town paper mill and retired in 1981. He served in the US Navy in WWII
    and the Korean War. He died at home in Farmingdale on 22 August 1999. Louise was a florist for 25 years
    and was then an administrative assistant for 14 years, retiring in 1986.

Paul Franklin Skidmore in 1942.

Children of Paul Franklin and Louise Mary Skidmore,

i. Kathleen “Kay” Louise, married David ______.
   A daughter Lisa Jo and son Lorne David.

   James Peter _____ she has Holly Victoria and Crystal Lynn.

iii. Janet Susan, married Robert Archie _____ and has a daughter Marcie Jean and a son Paul Benjamin.

viii. [probably] James, born 1886Q1. Died aged 3 weeks, buried 23 February 1886 at St Michael’s, of Cottage Street.

ix. James, born 1887Q4, baptised 25 April 1888 at Brierley Hill. He appears to be the man who registered
    in 1917/18 at Brockton, Plymouth County, Massachusetts for service in World War I. He was a caretaker
    for a doctor in Connecticut, USA. He died on 7 May 1964 in Norwalk, Connecticut.

366b. x. ALFRED⁷, born 7 March 1891. Alfred acquired scarlet fever on the boat coming to America from
    England which took away his hearing for the rest of his life. He worked at the Commonwealth
    Shoe factory with his brother John Thomas. He married Ruby Kidder but was later divorced in 1928.
    He lived with his brother John at 24 Clinton Street. In 1947 he retired to Jacksonville, Florida
    to live with his son, Ralph. He died on 6 December 1965 in St Augustine, Florida and is buried
    next to his parents and brother in Hallowell, Maine.

The son of Alfred and Ruby (Kidder) Skidmore,

i. Ralph Wall, born 1925 in Randolph, Maine. He was in the US Navy from 1943-1946 and
    was stationed in Jacksonville, Florida where he met his future wife at a USO Dance.
    He married Claire Poland (born 1924 in St. Augustine, Florida) in 1946 at St.
    Mary’s Church in Augusta, Maine. Both workers in the banking industry, they
    moved from Augusta, Maine in January 1947 to Jacksonville, Florida and in 1987 to

continued
101. THOMAS⁶ SKIDMORE, coal miner, was born in 1766 or 1767. Judging by the names he gave to his children, he is more likely to be the son of Jeremiah [54] and Joanna (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 1 February 1767, than the son of Job Skidmore [36]. Banns for his marriage to Mrs Elizabeth Higgs were read at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 23 July 1797, though they did not marry until 3 October 1803 at All Saints', Sedgley, John Fullwood being a witness. Elizabeth Higgs was born about 1769 or 1770 and Thomas Skidmore could have been her third husband. She appears to be Elizabeth Bate, the widow of Daniel Higgs (married 4 August 1788 at All Saints', Sedgley, died aged 26 in March 1795) and originally the wife of Enoch Skidmore [69].

We know from the birthplaces given by their children to census enumerators that Thomas and Elizabeth lived for the early years of their married life in Dudley parish; they were in Woodside in 1806 and 1808 and in Dudley Wood in 1811. He is one of the men found living to the SW of the road called Mount Pleasant in William Fowler's plan of Kingswinford of 1822. Elizabeth Skidmore died aged 66 in Amblecote and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 22 April 1836. Thomas was still at Mount Pleasant in 1841 with his daughter Susannah, son Joseph and Joseph's wife Ellen. He died in Amblecote in 1846 aged 79 and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 15 November.

The children of Thomas and Elizabeth (Bate) Skidmore, baptised at St Thomas', Dudley,

1. Benjamin, glass cutter of Wordsley, said in censuses to have been born about 1803 in Kingswinford but whose baptism has not been found. He married Louisa Beddard at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 7 May 1826. She said in 1851 that she was born about 1809 but the only baptism I have found was on 20 July 1806 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, daughter of Francis Beddard, a builder, and Mary (Walker). The witnesses to Benjamin and Louisa's wedding were Thomas Weaver and Mary Ann Hill.

In 1841 they lived in the area of Wordsley referred to as Tack (near Tack farm), with Louisa's father. They remained in Wordsley until Benjamin's death on 19 February 1853. In his will, made on 30 November 1852 (proved at Lichfield 2 May 1853), Benjamin Skidmore left to his wife all his household goods, plate, linen, china, books, prints and consumable household stores. His friends and trustees, Eli Billingham, blacksmith of Brettell Lane, Kingswinford, and Elijah Smith, accounting clerk of Wordsley, were to sell his real estate, for the benefit of his wife and after her death his brothers James and Joseph, his sister Susannah, and two nieces of his wife, Susannah Morom and Eliza Simmonds (daughter of Joseph and Maria (Beddard) Simmons). Elijah Smith appears to be the clerk who married Sarah Hardwick Skidmore daughter of Thomas Skidmore [168].

Benjamin's widow married secondly Joseph Westwood, a schoolmaster and widower of Netherend, Cradley, Worcestershire (born about 1800, son of Samuel Westwood, a locksmith), at Stourbridge Unitarian Chapel on 10 October 1853, witnessed by Thomas and Maria Wright. She

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14 See Appendix 2 of Skidmore Families of the Black Country, the first five generations by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.
15 This will need to be checked to establish the names of the brothers to whom Benjamin made provision.
married thirdly Joseph Billingham, a chain manufacturer (born about 1807 in Kingswinford) in 1864Q4 and they were living in 1871 in Union Street, Reddal Hill, Rowley Regis. Mr Billingham died in 1876Q1 and by 1881 his widow was living with her sister-in-law Susannah Kennar in Brettell Lane. She died in 1882Q2.


iii. Susannah, born in Woodside and baptised 6 July 1806. Sometimes in censuses called Susan or Susan Ann. She had two daughters Eliza Ann Bunce (born about 1843) and Elizabeth Bunce (born about 1845). Susan Skidmore married, at the age of 31, widower Thomas Kennar, a glass maker, (born about 1819, son of Michael Kennar, glass maker) at St Thomas', Dudley on 24 December 1848. Sarah Hingley and Joseph Skidmore were witnesses. Mr Kennar died in 1849 and Susannah and her two daughters (called Kennar), then lived with her brother Joseph in Amblecote Bank until at least 1871. At the time of the 1881 census she shared the home of her sister-in-law Louisa Billingham in Brettell Lane, Amblecote. She died in 1889Q2, said to be aged 89.

iv. Joseph, born in Woodside, Dudley, and baptised on 17 July 1808. He was a glass blower in 1841, living with his wife, his father and his sister Susannah in Mount Pleasant (between the Delph and Quarry Bank). In 1851 he was a flint glass maker of Amblecote Bank. He married Ellen Oldroyd (born in Dewsbury, Yorkshire, about 1813) on 25 March 1837 at Dewsbury and remained with her in the same area of Amblecote Road for the next thirty years and probably until their deaths. At the time of the 1851 census Ellen Skidmore was visiting the home in Lees Moor, Thornhill, Yorkshire, of bottle crate maker Robert Wilkinson and his wife Sarah (perhaps a sister of Ellen). Joseph is perhaps the man aged 73 whose death was registered in the Dudley registration district (Amblecote was in Stourbridge registration district) in 1884Q3. Ellen Skidmore died aged 67 in 1885Q3.

196. v. JEREMIAH7, glass cutter of Portobello, Stourbridge, was born in Dudley Wood and baptised at St Thomas', Dudley on 20 January 1811. He perhaps did an apprenticeship in his trade of glass cutting, for he was resident in Oldbury at the time of his marriage to Phyllis Millward, a pipe maker, on 30 June 1838 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. John Bullock and Ann Cooper were witnesses. Phyllis was born about 1815 in Lye, baptised 16 July 1815 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, the daughter of John Millward, bricklayer of Lye, and his wife Elizabeth (Grainger). Phyllis Millward had a daughter Rachel, born in Lye and baptised 28 June 1835 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. Rachel was living with her mother and stepfather Jeremiah Skidmore in 1841, but in 1851 was part of the household of her grandfather John Bullock, a pipe maker of Bott Lane, Lye, and his wife Elizabeth (Millward). Others in this household were Mr Bullock’s stepson David Millward (born about 1823 in Lye, apparently Phyllis Millward’s brother) and his grandson Jeremiah Skidmore Davis (born 1844Q1 in Lye, son of Aaron and Elizabeth Davis).

Jeremiah and Phyllis Skidmore lived in Wordsley until at least 1846. Their son Joseph was born in Stambermill in 1855 and by the time of the 1861 census they had settled in Birmingham Street in the Portobello area of Stourbridge. Mrs Skidmore died aged 48 and was buried at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 8 May 1864, her husband on 9 March 1870 aged 56.


i. Elizabeth, born in Wordsley and baptised at Park Lane Presbyterian Chapel, Cradley, on 27 December 1846. She was a servant in 1861 at the home in Steelhouse Lane, Birmingham, of Edward Millward, corn dealer (born about 1831 in Shropshire) and his wife Susannah. Elizabeth was a glue factory worker in 1871, living in Bedcote, Stourbridge, with her brother Joseph and her son, Corneliu
Neither mother nor son appear as Skidmore in the GRO birth index, nor can I find a marriage of a Skidmore man to a lady called Maud in the 1890s.

Olivia Skidmore died in Kidderminster in 1939 aged 71.

**Children of Cornelius and Olivia Rose (Harris) Skidmore, born in Kidderminster**

1. Mary Elizabeth, born 1894Q3. She married in 1922.

Elizabeth married Henry George Jones, groom of Audnam Bank (born about 1830 in Stourbridge, son of John George Jones and Sarah) at Holy Trinity, Wordsley on 22 October 1871. John Harris and Rachel Harris were witnesses. Mr Jones was by 1881 a rope finisher and later became a tree finisher in the spade-making trade in Stourbridge, where they settled at 10 Mamble Road. He is perhaps the Henry Jones whose death at the age of 72 was registered at Stourbridge in 1902Q3.

Children, as known - John George, William George, Sarah, Clara, Joseph, Nellie.

102. **HENRY 6 SKIDMORE**, collier of the Delph, was the son of Jeremiah [54] and Joanna (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 22 September 1771. He married Mary Hammonds (thought to be a daughter of Henry and Mary Hammonds, baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 3 December 1775) at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 24 February 1794. The witnesses were Henry Hammonds, perhaps her father, and Nancy Skidmore whom I believe to be the wife of John [93]. A Henry Hammond leased property in Wordsley from Charles Skidmore (son of Joseph [43]).

Henry Skidmore is probably the man with his name found in 1822 a tenant of a house and garden close to Delph Road, on the SW side of the road near its junction with Turners Lane. Mary Skidmore died aged 47 and was buried at St Michael’s. Brierley Hill on 6 January 1823. Henry Skidmore remained in the area and was a labourer at the Delph in 1841 and lived with his son James and family. Henry died in 1849 aged 78 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 16 October.

**The children of Henry and Mary (Hammonds) Skidmore, baptised and buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill**

2. Mary, baptised with her brother Joseph. She married David Fradgley, engineer (probably baptised 25 January 1795 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, son of Joseph and Sarah Fradgley), at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 16 May 1815. The witnesses were William Baker and Susannah Baker. David and Mary were living in Brockmoor in 1841 and, by 1851, in Brierley Hill next door to their son James Fradgley and his wife Lavinia. Mr Fradgley’s death was perhaps that registered in 1854Q2, after which his widow lived in Netherend, Cradley with their son James until her death in 1876Q1. Seven children of this marriage were baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill to 1833.
3. Sarah, baptised 19 February 1797. She appears to be the lady who married Job Whittaker, a roller in an iron mill (baptised 26 August 1798 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, son of Job and Sarah Whittaker), at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 7 May 1821. The witnesses were Solomon Whittaker, Job’s brother, and Henry Skidmore. Assuming the second witness to be Sarah’s father, this probably distinguishes her from the daughter of Benjamin Skidmore [71]. One child Louisa was...
baptised in Brierley Hill in 1821, when the family lived in the Delph. They were still in the Delph in 1841 and at 121 Pit Street in 1851. Mrs Whittaker's death is probably that registered in 1851Q3, her husband's in 1860Q1.

197. iv. [probably] **THOMAS**, born about 1802, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

v. Phoebe, baptised 24 July 1805. She married Jeremiah Thompson, a glass cutter of Rowley Regis (perhaps baptised Jeremiah Brettell Thompson at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 28 December 1800, son of Samuel and Sarah Thompson) at Clent on 21 September 1823. The witnesses were Henry Skidmore, presumably her father, and David Fradgley, her brother-in-law. They lived in 1841 at 7 Dwellings with Samuel Thompson aged 70[-74], presumably Jeremiah's father, in their household. By 1851 they were still in the Delph with eight of their eleven children, next door to the family of Jeremiah's brother Thomas Thompson. Mr Thompson's death could be that registered in 1866Q3. His widow lived in Moor Street, Brierley Hill and died in 1877Q4.

Children, as known - Mary, Thomas, Celia, Rowland, John, Emma, Ann M., James.

198. vi. **JAMES**, baptised 18 January 1807, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

vii. Hester, baptised 16 April 1809. Esther Skidmore married John Parkes, a boiler maker, at St Thomas', Dudley on 23 December 1827. Maria Parkes was a witness. The family lived in Round Oak. I have not been able to find this family in UK censuses.

Children, as known - David 1828, Mary 1832.

viii. Benjamin, baptised 27 October 1811. Died aged 8, buried 3 February 1820.

ix. Hannah, baptised 18 June 1815. She married Richard Williams, a coal miner (born about 1811 in Tipton) at St Thomas', Dudley on 7 July 1833, witnessed by James Skidmore, her brother. The family lived in Tipton - at Spring Vale in 1841 and Watery Lane in 1851.

Two children of their marriage were baptised at St Thomas', Dudley in 1837, though more are known.

**The eldest surviving son of Henry and Mary (Hammonds) Skidmore**

197. **THOMAS**, collier of Mount Pleasant, was born about 1802; his baptism has not yet been found. Of the colliers in this area at this time, he is most likely a son of Henry [102] and Mary (Hammonds) Skidmore. He married Sidonia Higgs (baptised 19 January 1808 at St Mary's, Oldswinford, daughter of Hezekiel and Joan Higgs) on 27 September 1824 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. The witnesses were William Matthews and Elizabeth Knowles. Thomas Skidmore died in Mount Pleasant at the age of 30 and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 18 November 1832.

His widow married widower Godfrey Swift, a puddler (perhaps baptised 30 April 1809 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill, son of Godfrey and Mary Swift), on 25 December 1833 at St Thomas', Dudley, with Joseph Ashton acting as a witness. Godfrey and Sidonia Swift were living by 1841 at Ford Brook, Pelsall with Sidonia's three surviving sons (called Swift). Mr Swift died in 1849Q3, his wife in 1853Q4.

**The children of Thomas and Sidonia (Higgs) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,**

367. i. **THOMAS**, baptised 26 June 1825. He was a puddler of Kingswinford parish and later Wednesbury and Birmingham. His father died when he was seven and he was raised in the home of his mother and stepfather Godfrey Swift in Pelsall.

He married Mary Cramer (daughter of Thomas Cramer, a miner) at St Michael's, Rushall on 18 November 1844. Both were minors and the marriage was witnessed by Godfrey Swift and Eliza Mills. In 1851 Thomas' widowed brother John Skidmore was living with them in Meeting Street, Wednesbury, along with Napthely Pope, a 14-year-old iron puddler apprentice born in Oldswinford. Mary Skidmore died aged 26 and was buried at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury on 22 November 1852.

Thomas married secondly Harriet Naish of Swallow Street, central Birmingham (born about 1829, daughter of John Naish, a well sinker) on 10 September 1855 at St Philip's in Birmingham. Ann Turton was a witness. At this time Thomas was a brass caster and also lived in Swallow Street.

I have yet to find Thomas and Harriet Skidmore in the census of 1861 or later (the Thomas Skidmore who died in Birmingham aged 44 in 1870Q3 was probably the husband of Sarah (née Hood).

**A child of Thomas and Mary (Cramer) Skidmore,**

i. Sidonia, baptised 28 December 1845 at St Lawrence, Darlaston, daughter of
Thomas Skidmore, puddler of Wednesbury, and his wife Mary. She was a servant in 1861 at the Malt Shovel in Palmer Street, Deritend, Aston. She married Thomas Keeling, a pottery worker from Stoke on Trent in 1865Q4 at St George’s, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire. They were living by 1871 in London Road, Stoke on Trent.

368. ii. JOHN SKIDMORE, born in Mount Pleasant, Brierley Hill and baptised 1 July 1827. He was called John Swift in the census of 1841, when he was living with his mother and stepfather Godfrey Swift in Ford Brook, Pelsall. His first wife was Elizabeth Hampson (perhaps born about 1829, daughter of Amos Hampson, coachsmith of the High Street, Wednesbury, and Sarah (Rhodes)). They were married at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 5 April 1847 (note that her father was called a gun lock filer in the marriage register). The witnesses were Godfrey Swift and Mary Skidmore. Neither bride, groom nor witnesses were able to write their names, instead making their marks.

Elizabeth Skidmore died in 1850 and John was living at the time of the 1851 census, a widower, with his brother Thomas in Wednesbury. His first child Demarius was born in late 1847 in Wednesbury. At the time of the 1851 census she was a visitor aged 3 at the home in Waste Bank, Wollescote, of Thomas Hughes, nail forger (born in Clent and baptised Thomas Nelson Hughes there in 1807), his wife Sarah and three children (all born in Lye).

John Skidmore is apparently the man (son of Thomas Skidmore) who married Elizabeth Rubery (born about 1831 in Dudley, daughter of Thomas Rubery, potter of Amblecote Bank, and Jane), on 17 July 1852 at All Saints’, Sedgley. From at least 1853 until 1857 John was a puddler in Netherton, but by 1860 had moved to the Delph. At the time of the 1861 census the family were at Amblecote Bank, Brierley Hill but by 1865 John obtained a position as manager of a mill and forge in Oldbury and they lived in Titford Road there. This family continued to use Brierley Hill Church even when they lived in Netherton and Oldbury. Elizabeth Skidmore died at 30 Titford Road, Langley, Oldbury, on 8 September 1899 aged 69, leaving a will (not seen). John died on 20 September 1903 aged 76.

A child of John and Elizabeth (Hampson) Skidmore,

i. Damarius, born in Wednesbury, registered as Demurus in 1847Q4, and baptised at St Lawrence, Darlaston on 26 December 1847. Damarias Skidmore married John Chambers, a brass founder of ?Cryor Street (son of Thomas Chambers, butcher) on 5 June 1871 at St Thomas’, Birmingham. William Wilkins and Hannah Wilkins were witnesses. I am unable to find Damarius Chambers in the British 1881 census or later.

Children of John and Elizabeth (Rubery) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill,

702. ii. JOHN THOMAS, [was 576.], born in Netherton on 21 May 1853 and baptised on 3 July. An iron mill roller of Oldbury, he married in 1877Q1 at St Giles, Rowley Regis, Emily Griffiths (born about 1850 at Churchbridge, [Oldbury] Worcestershire). They were living in 1881 in Junction Street in Oldbury. Emily Skidmore died at the age of 49 in 1900Q1 and John is found with his children at the time of the 1901 census at 19 Cheshire Road, Smethwick.

He married secondly Jessie Maria Fulwood in 1901Q3.

The children of John Thomas and Emily (Griffiths) Skidmore, born in Langley, Oldbury,

i. Obedience Elizabeth, born 1879Q1. She married Harold Alfred Burton, a baker (born about 1877 in Oldbury) in 1900Q4 at Smethwick Old Church and they were living in 1901 at 16 Highfield Road, Smethwick. Obedience Griffiths married Charles Worsey, a plate shearer (born about 1879 in Oldbury), in 1907Q2 and they were living in 1911 with their son Charles Worsey at 32 Wood Road, West Smethwick.

ii. Alice Emily, born early in 1881. A servant in Acocks Green in 1911.

iii. Amy Maude, born 1882Q4. A shop assistant to a draper, boarding in Balsall Heath in 1911 with her sister Ada May.

iv. CALEB JOHN FRANK, born 1885Q1. He was boarding in Charles Street, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, where he worked in an iron foundry. He married Elizabeth Lloyd in 1917 in Monmouthshire and
had a son. Mr Skidmore died in 1966 aged 81.

i. Frederick R., born and died in 1919 Q3.


vi. Lilian Ethel, born 1890 Q2.

Mary Ann, born in Netherton on 29 May (baptised 8 July) 1855. She was a general servant at the time of the 1871 census to Samuel Lawton of the High Street, West Bromwich. She married Samuel Parkes, a commercial clerk (born about 1853 in Oldbury, son of George Parkes, clerk of Birmingham Street, and his wife Mary) in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich in 1877 Q3. They were living at the time of the 1881 census, together with her cousin Louisa Skidmore, at 8 Watton Street, West Bromwich. Mrs Parkes died at the age of only 28 in 1883 Q3 and Samuel Parkes married Frances Mary Bates in 1885 Q1.

Elizabeth, born in Netherton on 8 June (baptised 30 August) 1857. She married in 1878 Q3, in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich, Thomas William Brooks (born about 1857 in West Bromwich). Mr Brookes was a clerk whose work took the family some time around 1890 from their home in Oldbury to live in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. However, by 1901 they had returned to live in Rutland Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham, where he was clerk to a brewer. Elizabeth died before 1911, perhaps in 1910 Q1 aged 52 and registered at Kings Norton (Mr Brooks was a widower living in Smethwick in 1911).

Children, as known - Elizabeth Rubery Brookes, Percival J. Brookes, Mary Skidmore Brookes.

Sarah Margaret, born in Netherton on 16 (baptised 22) January 1860. She married Charles George Pigott (born about 1860 in Oldbury) in 1882 Q3. He had a steam-engine machine making business in Oldbury and their home was at 11 Albion Street there.

Children, as known - Alice Julia, Margaret Kathleen.

JAMES9, born 3 August 1861 at the Delph and baptised 22 September. He was a brewer’s traveller, living with his family in 1901 at 142 Regent Road, Fenton, Staffordshire. James Skidmore married Alice Knox (born in Fenton and baptised there 11 December 1862, daughter of John and Eliza Knox) at Christ Church, Fenton in 1891 Q4. He died in 1906 Q2 aged 45, his wife apparently in 1946 aged 83.

Children of James and Alice (Knox) Skidmore, born in Fenton,


ii. JAMES ALEXANDER10, born 1894 Q2. He was apprenticed to an electrical engineer at the time of the 1911 census. He married Sarah Tyson in 1924 and had a daughter.

Alice Jane, born in Amblecote Bank on 7 October (baptised 15 November) 1863. She married Abraham Nurse, a commercial clerk (born about 1866 in Gresley, Derbyshire, son of ____ and Catherine Nurse) in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich in 1895 Q3. They were living by 1901 in Highbury Hill, London.

A son, Edgar Branson Nurse.

WILLIAM HENRY9, born 25 January 1865 and baptised on 16 April. An ironworks clerk of Smethwick, he married Ann Holland (born about 1868 in Oldbury) in 1890 Q3 and they lived in Bearwood Road, Smethwick. Mr Skidmore was general manager of an ironworks.

Children of William Henry and Ann (Holland) Skidmore,

i. Clarence Holland, born 1891 Q3, died an infant in 1892 Q2.

ii. Dora Rosalie, born in Langley in 1893 Q2. She appears to have married Baron T. Rose in 1923 and had a son.

iii. Isaac, baptised Issachar on 14 March 1830. Buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 21 September 1831.

iv. HENRY8, born in Mount Pleasant, Quarry Bank and baptised 29 July 1832. He was called Henry Swift in the census of 1841, when he was living with his mother and stepfather Godfrey Swift in Ford Brook, Pelsall. Henry was a puddler and probably at the Victoria Iron Works, which are
mentioned in the description of the part of Wednesbury where in 1851 he lived with his mother - 'all houses below the Eagle in the neighbourhood of Victoria Iron Works and north side of Dudley Street from John Handley's to Lea Brook Bridge'. Their home was in Monway Field. He married Sarah Evans (born in Wednesbury and baptised at St Martin's, Tipton 25 March 1832, daughter of Eli Evans, engineer of Lea Brook, Wednesbury and Sarah) on 27 June 1852 at St Thomas', Dudley. Emma Stockhouse and James Stackhouse were witnesses. The family lived in Chapel Street and, by 1861, in Meeting Street, Wednesbury and Mr Skidmore died there in 1880Q3 aged 49.

His widow later made her living as a cook and lived in Trinity Street and Titford Road, Oldbury with her daughter Sarah Jane and son-in-law George Kimberley. Her death was perhaps that registered at West Bromwich in 1901Q2 aged 71.

The children of Henry and Sarah (Evans) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury, baptised at St James',

705. i. **THOMAS**9, [was 578.] baptised 24 October 1852. He was a puddler in an iron works, along with his father and his brother Edward. He married Sophia Kendrick (born 1854Q4 in Wednesbury, daughter of Samuel Kendrick, blacksmith) on 21 December 1873 at All Saints', Moxley. His sister Sidonia Skidmore was a witness. He was living with his wife and daughter in 1881 at No.5 Court, Holyhead Road in Wednesbury. They emigrated soon after to the US. Thomas Skidmore (said to have been born September 1853 in England) was living in 1900 at 25 Lynch Street, Rome, Oneida County, New York, with his wife Sophia K. Skidmore (born January 1851 in England). They were living by 1910 on Lawrence Street, Rome, where Thomas was a saloon keeper; two of their three children were then living.

The children of Thomas and Sophia (Kendrick) Skidmore,

i. Lois, baptised 1 December 1874 at St James', Wednesbury.

ii. **Sidonia**, born 18 September 1854 and baptised 1 October 1867 along with her brother Edward and sister Mary. She married John Hammonds, a coal miner (born about 1846 in Park Lane, Shropshire) in 1891Q1 at St Paul's, Blackheath, Worcestershire. Nothing found so far after this date. She had a daughter,

i. Lois, baptised 1 June 1874 at St James', Wednesbury. She was living in 1881 with her mother's parents and, by 1891 (called Lois Hammond), was a dressmaker living with her mother and stepfather in Oldbury. The death of a Lois Skidmore was registered in 1899Q4 aged 25, and, since Thomas her uncle was by this time in the US, this death was probably that of the daughter of Sidonia and not the daughter of Sidonia's brother Thomas.

706. iii. **EDWARD**9, [was 579.] born 5 October 1858. He was an iron puddler of Oldbury who married Alice Powell (born about 1856 in Harborne) in 1886Q2. They were living in 1901 at 1 Back of 21 Engine Street, Oldbury. In 1911 a grandchild Marion Skidmore, born 1910, lived with them.

Children of Edward and Alice (Powell) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Sarah Jane, born 1888Q2. She appears to have married William Hinton in 1911 at Christ Church, Oldbury.
ii. Lydia, born 1890Q2.
iii. William Henry, born 1894Q2.

iv. Mary, baptised 1 October 1861. She is presumably the infant of Wednesbury who died in 1862 and was buried on 17 January at St Bartholomew's.

v. Louisa, born 1864Q1. In 1881 she was living in West Bromwich in the home of her cousin Mary Ann Parkes. She appears to have married George Potter, a labourer at first at an alkali works and later at a brewery in Oldbury, in 1885Q2 at Rowley Regis. He was born about 1860 in Romsley or Hunnington, Worcestershire. Children, as known (of six) - George H., Alice E., Elsie M.

vi. Sarah Jane, born 1868Q1. She married George Kimberley, a glass shade cutter and later glassworks warehouseman (born about 1865 in Oldbury, probably son of Edwin Kimberley, coal miner, and Harriet) in 1887Q4 at St Paul's, Blackheath, Worcestershire. They lived in Titford Road and later Old Park Lane, Oldbury.
Three children, of whom a daughter Sarah Jane was living in 1911.

198. JAMES7 SKIDMORE, baptised on 18 January 1807 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He was a coal miner of the Delph and later Willenhall and stone miner of Wednesbury. He married Hannah Mogg (born in Amblecote and baptised on 10 June 1810 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill, daughter of Samuel and Frances Mogg) on 4 November 1832 at St Thomas', Dudley. Hannah Skidmore, James' sister, was a witness. James and Hannah lived at the Delph until at least 1844. They continued to use Brierley Hill Church after moving some time before 1846 to Portobello, Willenhall. They were in Wednesbury in 1848 and remained there. The 1851 census finds them at 96 Vicarage Road, their daughters Maria and Emma still scholars at this time. James Mogg, a stone miner’s apprentice born about 1833 in Brierley Hill, lived with the family.

By 1861 they were living in Mesty Croft and at census time in 1871 at 7 Alma Street. When his daughter Emma married, she described her father as a charter master. James Skidmore died in 1871Q3 aged 64. Hannah was living with son Titus at Oakeswell End in Wednesbury in 1881, when the enumerator recorded her birthplace quaintly as Homblecot, Worcestershire. She lived to be 89 and died in 1899Q3.

The children of James and Hannah (Mogg) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,

i. Mary, baptised 14 July 1833. She was a servant to Jane B. Holloway at Four Ways, Rowley Regis, in 1851. She married John Billingsley, a gas tube fitter (born about 1832 in Wednesbury, son of Thomas Billingsley, a gas tube fitter) on 2 January 1854 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. They settled at 55 Elwell Road, Mesty Croft, where Mrs Billingsley died in 1899Q4 aged 66.


ii. Ann Maria, baptised 22 March 1835. She and her sister Emma went into service in households in Walsall. Before her marriage Maria was a cook in Birmingham Street, Walsall to governess Ann L. Pratt. She married Henry Frost, a stirrup maker (born about 1845 in Walsall, son of William Frost, a carpenter) on 29 February 1864 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury, and lived in Sutton Road, Walsall. No known offspring.

iii. Emma, baptised 12 March 1837. She and her sister Fanny were servants to the family of the vicar of St Mary's, Bilston - Henry Francis Newbolt - and Emma moved with Mrs Emily Newbolt to Birmingham Road in Walsall. She married James Evans, a chain manufacturer (born about 1841 in Walsall, son of George Evans) on 11 March 1872 at St John's, Walsall. They ran the Fountain Inn in Lower Foster Street, Walsall. Emma retired after the death of her husband to 52 Victor Street, Walsall and died in 1916.

A son Henry Charles.

iv. Job, born 28 August (baptised 22 September) 1839. Buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 1 August 1848 aged 8, of Wednesbury.

369a. v. HENRY6, born in the Delph on 13 December 1841 and baptised 9 January 1842. A coal miner, he married Caroline Challinor (born 1845Q1 in Wednesbury, daughter of William Challinor of Holloway Bank, coach smith, and his wife Angelina) in 1869Q1 at All Saints', West Bromwich. By the time of the 1871 census (when Henry's birthplace is recorded as Deepfields, Coseley) they were living at 16 Piercy Street, Wednesbury. Henry Skidmore was described as a charter master of West Bromwich at the time of his daughter Janet's baptism in 1876.

I have been unable to find Mr Skidmore in the UK census of 1881 or later, though his wife was not recorded as widowed until the census of 1901.

His wife and children went to live with Mrs Skidmore’s parents at Holloway Bank, West Bromwich, his wife apparently working at times as a monthly nurse. Her mother Angelina Challinor died in 1891, and by the time of the 1901 census Mrs Skidmore (now a widow) and daughter Florence had moved to 50 Barker Street in Aston Manor, Birmingham. Mrs Skidmore died in 1919Q1 aged 74.

Children of Henry and Caroline (Challinor) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,

i. Florence Ada, born 1871Q2. She was, by 1911, head teacher for Handsworth Urban Council and living with her husband and mother at 21 Mostyn Road, Handsworth.

She married, on 5 August 1905 at St James', Handsworth, Joseph Chambers Yeomans (son of David Yeomans), manager of a foundry producing brass gas fittings.
Janet, born 1874Q1 and baptised at 2 years of age on 13 September 1876 at St John's, Wednesbury. She was a kitchen maid at Cavern? Hill House in Moseley but by 1901 was a patient in an asylum in Burntwood, Staffordshire. Miss Skidmore died in 1903Q3 aged 29.

vi. Fanny, born 15 March 1844, her birth registered at Wolverhampton, and baptised 7 April, daughter of James Skidmore, miner of the Delph. She married John Munslow, an agricultural labourer (born about 1847 in Gattern, Shropshire) in 1870Q2 in Walsall. Mrs Munslow died in 1872Q1 aged only 27.

vii. Titus, born 10 June (baptised 16 August) 1846. He remained single, living with his widowed mother in Wednesbury (at Oakeswell End 1881, Friar Street 1891, Wood Green 1901). He appears to have worked always at the tube works in Wednesbury, starting as a tube finisher and becoming stocktaker there. Mr Skidmore died in 1907Q1, aged 60.

370. viii. JAMES SKIDMORE, born 21 February 1848 in Wednesbury and baptised 7 May. A factory labourer of Wednesbury, he married Jane Disturnal (born about 1849 in Wednesbury, daughter of John and Jane (Hampson) Disturnal) in 1871Q1 at All Saints', West Bromwich and lived in Alma Street, Mesty Croft.

James Skidmore died in 1879Q1 aged 31 and his widow made a living as a laundress before marrying secondly Joseph Lees, a coachsmith (son of Joseph Lees, coachsmith) on 3 April 1882 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury. Their home was in Holloway Bank, where Mr Lees was employed at the axle tree works, and, by 1901 they lived in Crookhay Lane.

The children of James and Jane (Disturnal) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,

i. Emma Jane, born 1871Q4. She married Edmund Sedgley, a coach axle heater (born 1869Q4 in West Bromwich) in 1894Q3 at St James', West Bromwich and they were living in 1901 in Tyndal Street, West Bromwich. However, by the time of the 1911 census Mr Sedgley had moved his family to Leeds, where they were living at 22 Autumn Street.

Children, as known - Emma Elizabeth, Bernard, Gladys Annie, Hilda Jane.

707. ii. HENRY, born 1874Q2. A smith at the coach axle works, Harry Skidmore married Elizabeth Bibb (born about 1874 in West Bromwich) in 1895Q2 at St James', West Bromwich. They spent time in Leeds from around 1898 but Elizabeth was running a
grocer's shop from their home at 14 Glover Street, West Bromwich at the time of the 1901 census. Albert, too, was born in Leeds in 1906, though by 1911 they had moved to 31 Castle Street, Hill Top.

Children of Harry and Elizabeth (Bibb) Skidmore,

2 other children did not survive to 1911.

i. Harry, born 1897Q3 at Hill Top, West Bromwich.

ii. John, born 1899Q2 in Leeds.

iii. [perhaps] Florence Maud, born 1903Q4, died 1904Q2, in Leeds.


708. iii. JOHN, born 1878Q2. An axle maker, he married Louisa Lemm (born 1875Q2 in West Bromwich) in 1900Q4 at a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich and they were living at the time of the 1901 census at 33 Crookhay Lane, West Bromwich. Like his older brother, he took his family to Leeds but had returned by 1911 to live at 31 Tunnel Road, Hill Top.

Children of John and Louisa (Lemm) Skidmore,

4 further children who did not survive to 1911.

i. Mabel, born 1902Q1 at Hill Top.

ii. John, born 1903Q2 in Leeds.

iii. Florence Amelia, born 1905Q2 in Leeds.


370a. ix. BENJAMIN, [was 386.] born 6 March 1850 in Wednesbury. A labourer, he married Phoebe Fellows (born about 1855 in Wednesbury, daughter of Isaiah Fellows, wood screw forger and blacksmith of Wednesbury, and his wife Maria) in 1873Q1 at West Bromwich. Benjamin and Phoebe appear to have separated some time after the birth of their son. Mrs Skidmore (married, not widowed) was, along with her son Henry, a visitor at the time of the 1881 census, in the home of her mother Mrs Maria Fellows at 11 Albert Street, Wednesbury. I have been unable to find Benjamin Skidmore in this census but by the time of the census of 1891 he was lodging (married, not widowed) with his son Henry in Piercy Street, Wednesbury. Nor have I located the registration of the death of Phoebe Skidmore but Benjamin Skidmore would appear to be the widower (who said he was 54 and born in Wednesbury) lodging at the time of the 1901 census with the family of Maud Wheeler in Crankhall Lane, West Bromwich.

The son of Benjamin and Phoebe (Fellows) Skidmore,

i. Henry, born 1876Q1 in Walsall. A tube furnace lad in 1891. He appears to be the Henry Skidmore whose death at the age of 15 was registered at West Bromwich in 1891Q3.

103. BENJAMIN SKIDMORE, coal miner of the Delph, was the son of Jeremiah [54] and Joanna (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 11 March 1776, his father's surname recorded in the register as Scudmore. He married Jane Ashton (born in Kingswinford and baptised Jenny on 31 July 1785 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill, daughter of Thomas and Mary Ashton) at St Thomas', Dudley on 16 May 1802. Witnesses were Richard Devey, and her brother Anthony Ashton who in 1822 owned a piece of land between Brettell Lane and Lower Delph Road and was probably the man who managed the Round Oak Inn. Old coal shafts appear on this plot on the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of western Brierley Hill. Benjamin and Jane's address is given as Gossy Bank in 1813, Brettell Lane from 1816 until 1821, thereafter as the Delph or Brierley Hill. He is probably the man who occupied a croft close to those of Thomas Skidmore [101] his brother, and Maria, widow of James [105].

Benjamin died at the age of 63 and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 26 June 1839. Jane was in Delph Lane in 1841 with four of her children, Benjamin, Theophilus, Maria and Susannah. Her address in 1851 is given only as Brierley Hill. It is possible she had moved by this time to Hill Street (which connects Delph Lane to Brierley Hill High Street), where she is found in 1861, with son Edwin and Maria's daughter Mary. Jane Skidmore died aged 79 at Rocks Hill and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 19 June 1864.

The children of Benjamin and Jane (Ashton) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,


ii. Thomas, buried 7 January 1805, an infant.
iii. Elizabeth, baptised 1 April 1806. She married (as Eliza Skidmore), on 10 December 1838 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, James Abberley, coal miner of Brierley Hill (born about 1817 in Butterley, Shropshire, son of Francis Abberley, miner). Her brother Theophilus was a witness. The family lived in Rock Hill Street, Brierley Hill, and in 1841 were adjacent to the family of Isaiah [216]. The death of Eliza Abberley at the age of 75 was registered in 1881Q1, that of her husband in 1888Q1 aged 74.

Children, as known - Francis, Thomas, Eliza, Maria, Benjamin.


v. Benjamin, baptised 19 May 1811. He was raised in the Delph and was living at his mother's home in Delph Lane in 1841, when he was a stocktaker, apparently at a local iron works. He married Eliza Whitehead, a dressmaker from Brettell Lane, at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 11 December 1842. She was born in Lower Penn and probably the daughter of James and Elizabeth Whitehead, baptised 8 September 1815 at Penn. Abraham Guest and Sarah Bayliss were witnesses.

Benjamin and Eliza lived in Brettell Lane until the late 1840s. By 1847 they were in Wolverhampton and are found in St James Street at the time of the 1851 census. They then spent some time in Sedgley, where Theophilus was born in 1852 and by 1861 were at Commonside, the road between Brockmoor and Pensnett. Benjamin Skidmore died aged 57 at Bent Street and was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 24 January 1869.

Mrs Skidmore continued as a dressmaker, living in Church Lane, Brierley Hill but, as a result of chronic rheumatism and general ill health, she was admitted to Wordsley Workhouse, where she died on 26 October 1884, aged 68. (Her death certificate states in error that she was the widow of George Skidmore of Brierley Hill).

The children of Benjamin and Eliza (Whitehead) Skidmore,

i. Maria, baptised 15 November 1843 at Holy Trinity, Amblecote. She died in Wolverhampton in 1848 aged 4 and was buried on 9 April.

ii. Mary Jane, born at the Delph on 21 September 1845 and baptised at Brierley Hill on 19 October of that year (on the same day that Benjamin's brother Theophilus had a child baptised). She married firstly John Walters, tin worker of Brierley Hill (born about 1843, son of Evin [?Evan] Walters, copper worker) at Holy Trinity, Wordsley, on 5 July 1868. Her brother Theophilus was a witness, along with Hannah Quarry and was his widow by 1871. She married secondly James Millward (born about 1831 in Bristol), a sheet iron roller, and they were living in 1881 in Bankes Row, Weston, Runcorn, Cheshire, with their daughter Florence Millward. James Millward died at Heath Road in Runcorn on 24 December 1887.

Mary Jane was married twice more; to widower Thomas Riley, a stationary engine driver (born about 1829 in Norley, Cheshire, son of William) on 24 November 1890 in Runcorn, and to widower James Booth (born about 1852 in Runcorn, son of John), a labourer in the alkali works, on 17 May 1899 in Widnes, Lancashire. She died at 5 Pritchards Row in Runcorn on 20 February 1934. This information was kindly provided by Ian Godfrey Earp, the grandson of Florence Millward and Thomas Lloyd.

iii. James Whitehead, born in Wolverhampton on 17 September 1847 and baptised at Sedgley on 7 November of that year. He appears to be the James Skidmore who died in 1868Q1 aged 20.

iv. Alfred, born 30 March 1849 and baptised twice, firstly at St James', Wolverhampton on 15 April and secondly on 27 May at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He died in Wolverhampton later that year and was buried on 7 September.

v. Theophilus, born in Sedgley and baptised there on 10 June 1852. He was living in 1868 when he witnessed his sister Mary Jane's wedding, but I have been unable to find him in UK censuses of 1871 or later.

vi. Elizabeth, born in Brierley Hill, perhaps in 1855Q2. She was a dressmaker with her mother and sister Mary Jane and might be the Elizabeth Skidmore (born 1855Q2 in Round Oak, Brierley Hill), living alone, a seamstress, at 10 Church Street, Dudley. Judging from its position in the census, this house was at the end of Church Street which is nearer to King Street and the back of St Thomas' churchyard. Note that she
lived only two doors away from John the son of James [144].
She appears to have married Joseph Young, a pipe maker (born about 1852 in Dudley) on 17 May 1885 at St James’, Dudley. They were living by the time of the 1891 census at 25 Short Street, Middlesbrough, north Yorkshire. So far not found after this date.

vi. Theophilus, baptised 26 December 1813. Buried 7 March 1819 aged 5.

200. vii. ELIJAH7, baptised 3 November 1816. He married Phoebe Perry (born about 1817) on 25 December 1836 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. The witnesses were James Hodgkiss and Elizabeth Skidmore, probably Elijah’s sister. Elijah, Phoebe and their baby son all died in 1838. Elijah was buried on 4 June aged 21, his widow on 4 November, also 21.

One child of Elijah and Phoebe (Perry) Skidmore,
   i. Elijah, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 6 September 1838 and buried there on 13 December of that year.

viii. Mary, baptised 26 September 1819, on the same day that a child of Benjamin’s brother James [105] was baptised. Buried 27 July 1823 aged 4.

202. ix. THEOPHILUS7, baptised 18 November 1821, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.
x. Maria, baptised 28 March 1824. She married Daniel Skidmore [216a].
xii. James, baptised 21 March 1830. A labourer in the iron works. He died at the age of 29, and was buried 11 March 1860.
xiii. Edwin, baptised as Edward on 17 February 1833. Called Edwin in the censuses. He was a coal miner, unmarried in 1861. Not found in the British 1871 census or later under either name.
xiv. Mary, born about 1836. Not found after the time of the 1841 census.

**The 7th son of Benjamin and Jane (Ashton) Skidmore,**

202. THEOPHILUS7 SKIDMORE, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 18 November 1821. He was a collier, and is found living at the family home in Delph Lane in 1841. He said he was of Wordsley when he married on 7 July 1844 at Holy Trinity, Wordsley. His wife, Zipporah Cartwright of Moor Lane, Brierley Hill, was born on 5 March 1820, daughter of Job Cartwright, collier, and his wife Ann. The witnesses were Theophilus’ sister Maria and Daniel Skidmore, presumed to be his future brother-in-law. Theophilus and Zipporah began their married life in Rocks Hill but moved to Brockmoor between 1846 and 1848. He died in Brockmoor aged only 29 and was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 26 November 1850.

Zipporah was living in Holland (the area so called to the south of Brockmoor High Street) at the time of the 1851 census with her three sons David Cartwright, Benjamin Skidmore and Job Skidmore, her other two children having died in February of that year. She married widower John Mullett, an ironworks labourer of Brettell Lane (baptised 13 January 1822 at St Mary’s, Kingswinford, son of Joseph Mullett, labourer, and Honour (Homer)), on 19 April 1858 at Holy Trinity, Amblecote. Ezekiel Mullett and Sarah Mullett were witnesses. John Mullett was able to write and his family Bible has survived and was in the possession of the late Mrs Margaret Wimmer of Pennsylvania, great granddaughter of Theophilus and Zipporah Skidmore. It is supposed the Bible is now cared for by one of her sisters in Pennsylvania. On 16 June 1861 in Brockmoor Mr Mullett entered the birth dates of his wife Zipporah and her six children. Her first child, David Elijah Cartwright, was born on 30 January 1843 (baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 2 April). She had four children by
Theophilus Skidmore, then the birth of Zipporah Mullett on 27 March 1860 is recorded. John and Zipporah lived in Holland, Brockmoor until their deaths, she in 1877Q3 aged 58 and her husband in 1881Q1 aged 59.

The children of Theophilus and Zipporah (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill,

i. Ann, born 9 or 19 June (baptised 19 October) 1845. She died in Brockmoor at the age of 5 and was buried on 6 February 1851.

371. ii. BENJAMIN⁵, born, according to the family Bible, on 29 October 1846, or, if we look at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill baptism register, on 29 September 1846. He was baptised later that year on 29 November. His father died when he was four years old, and three months later, in February 1851, his mother lost two of his siblings within days of each other. She continued to raise Benjamin and his brother Job, and their half-brother David Elijah Cartwright, in the Holland area of Brockmoor. She remarried in 1858 and continued to live in Brockmoor with her second husband John Mullett. Benjamin was living with them in 1871, an iron puddler. He married Sarah Elizabeth Williams on 23 June 1872 at St Mary’s, Kingswinford. William Williams and Eliza Jane Gwillim/ or Gurlham were witnesses. Sarah Elizabeth was born on 11 September 1848 at Hart’s Hill, daughter of William Williams, a miner, and his wife Sarah (Williams). Family lore has it that she was second nursemaid to the family of the British Consul to Italy and she travelled with them. In the mid-late 1870s Benjamin and Sarah apparently spent some time in Kinver, where David Henry was born and, by 1881, were living at 7 Great Arthur Street in Smethwick.

Benjamin left England and travelled alone to America. Sarah and the children followed in the summer of 1887, landing on 2 May in New York and travelling to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, an industrial region whose foundries, mills and mining provided employment for her husband. Their first home was on Greeley Street on Pittsburgh’s southside and the family became members of St Mark’s Episcopal Church. Benjamin was to live in his new country for only twelve years, for on 9 November 1899 he died of pneumonia at the age of 53. He is buried in Southside Cemetery, Pittsburgh. His widow and the younger children David and Mabel, moved to DuBois, Clearfield County, Pennsylvania, near to her daughter Ann Ord. Sarah Skidmore died on 20 September 1918 aged 70 and is buried in Morningside Cemetery, DuBois.

The children of Benjamin and Sarah Elizabeth (Williams) Skidmore,

i. Ann Elizabeth, born 22 August 1873 in Moor Street, Brierley Hill. She married James Sidney Ord on 31 March 1892 at St Mark’s Episcopal Church in Pittsburgh. James’ occupation of glass blower took him to DuBois to work in the glassworks there. DuBois was a small village about one hundred miles north-east of Pittsburgh, on the Allegheny Mountain plateau. James and Ann Ord had eleven children of which three died in infancy. Their eldest daughter Edna Ord (born 1892) married Charles Harrison Clark, whose daughter Mrs Millicent Ann Lowther (born 28 October 1934) of Kent, Ohio, kindly supplied information on this family. Ann Ord died in DuBois, Pennsylvania, on 31 March 1962 and was buried 2 April in Morningside Cemetery.

709. ii. DAVID HENRY⁹, [was 580.] born 7 January 1877 in Kinver, Staffordshire. He spent his early years in Smethwick, Staffordshire, and then travelled at the age of 9 with his family to live in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where his father was an iron puddler. His great niece Mrs Millie Lowther told me he was known as Harry. He married Anna Lindeman in DuBois on 12 May 1902 and they moved from Pittsburgh to DuBois some time between the births of their first and second children. In 1920 they lived at 513 Pifer Street. He died on 11 February 1956 in DuBois and is buried in Morningside Cemetery there.

The children of David Henry and Anna (Lindeman) Skidmore,

i. Margaret, born 21 July 1903, died 24 September 1993. She married Frank _____.

ii. Adaline, born 1905. She married David _____.

iii. Lois, born 1908 and died 1935. She married Frank L. _____.

iv. Sarah, born 1910. She married Paul _____.

v. Benjamin, born 1913. He married Adelaide _____.

iii. Mabel Hannah, born 21 March 1882 in Smethwick. She married Oliver Joseph Johnston and had four children; Sara (1904-98, married Rev. Walter _____), Mayva (1906-98, married Sherman _____), Oliver Kenneth (1924-96), and Mrs Mildred
372. iii. JOB⁶, born 5 March 1848 in Brockmoor and baptised 3 December of that year. After his father’s death when Job was only 2 years old, his mother raised him alone before remarrying in 1858. By the time of the 1871 census Job had moved to Bolton in Lancashire, where he remained. An ironworks puddler and later a stoker of a stationary engine, he married Mary Knowles (born about 1849 in Bolton, daughter of Peter Knowles and his wife Mary) in 1873Q4 and they had homes in Pitt Street and Shipton Street. Mrs Skidmore died in Bolton aged 56 in 1906 and was buried at Heaton Cemetery on 10 September. The death of her husband has not yet been found.

The children of Job and Mary (Knowles) Skidmore, born in Bolton,

i. Zipporah, born 1873Q4 and baptised as Soporia Skidmore at Holy Trinity, Bolton on 25 February 1874. She died an infant, buried 15 July 1874 at Tonge Cemetery, Bolton.

ii. Clara, born 1875Q1. She married John Thomas Bocock, an iron foundry labourer (born about 1865 in Bolton, son of ____ and Mary Bocock) in Bolton in 1898Q3. They lived at 64 Kestor Street, Bolton. Mr Bocock died in 1923 aged 58, his wife in 1937 aged 62. Children, as known - William, Christiana, Mary Knowles.

iii. Theophilus, baptised at Holy Trinity on 27 September 1876. He died in Bolton in 1899Q1 aged 22.

iv. A stillborn child, buried 21 March 1878 at Tonge Cemetery.

v. Mary Elizabeth, baptised at St Mark's, Bolton on 27 July 1879. She died early in 1880.

710. vi. PETER⁹, baptised 20 July 1881 at Holy Trinity. With David, a labourer in a brick works. He married Hannah Brooks (daughter of Joseph Brooks, publican) on 23 September 1903 at St Matthew’s, Bolton.

Children of Peter and Hannah (Brooks) Skidmore,

i. John, born 1904Q2.

ii. Clara, born 1906Q1.

iii. Ethel, born 1912Q2.

vii. [presumably] William Best, born 1883Q4. He died the following year and was buried at Tonge Cemetery on 21 August 1884.

711. viii. DAVID ELIJAH⁹, born 1885Q4. He married in Bolton in 1924.


104. JOHN⁶ SKIDMORE of Amblecote, born about 1783, is perhaps more likely, on the basis of names given to his children, to be the son of Jeremiah [54] and Joanna (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised on 29 May 1783 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, than of Jeremiah’s brother Henry [53]. He married Joanna Kirby (baptised 20
April 1783 at St Thomas', Dudley, daughter of Richard and Parthena (Drury) Kirby) at St Giles, Rowley Regis on 26 September 1803, witnessed by Richard Kirby, probably her brother. They lived in Amblecote before John’s untimely death at the age of only 27. He was buried at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 3 December 1810.

In 1815 Joanna Skidmore had a son Daniel by Richard Askins / Paskin and this child was adopted into the Skidmore fold, he and his descendants known as Skidmore thereafter.

Joanna Skidmore married secondly Thomas Wassell, (born about 1796 in Lye), on 25 December 1818 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. The witnesses were James Skidmore, thought to be the brother of her first husband, and his wife Maria. Thomas and Joanna Wassell lived at the Delph, where he was a collier, and baptised four children at St Michael's, Brierley Hill between 1819 and 1827. By 1841 they were living at Amblecote Bank where they remained until their deaths. Mrs Wassall died in 1873Q2 at the grand age of 93, her husband in 1875Q1 aged 78.

The children of John and Joanna (Kirby) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,

203. i. THOMAS7, baptised 8 January 1804, OF WHOM MORE LATER.
204. iii. JOHN7, baptised 15 March 1807, OF WHOM MORE LATER.
205. v. HENRY7, baptised 13 January 1811, OF WHOM MORE LATER.
206. DANIEL7, half-brother to Thomas, John and Henry Skidmore, TO WHOM WE WILL RETURN.
203. **THOMAS SKIDMORE** was a glass cutter, known from censuses to have been born about 1804 or 1805 in the Delph. In view of his birthplace he would appear to be the son of John [104] and Joanna (Kirby) Skidmore, baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 8 January 1804. Banns were called at St Mary's, Kingswinford in August 1827 for his marriage to Ann Thompson but they were not married until 18 November 1833 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen. She was born in Amblecote and baptised on 8 October 1806 at St Mary's, Oldswinford, daughter of John and Mary Thompson. Thomas and Ann lived in Brettell Lane and when the family was enumerated for the 1851 census, the parents were very precise about their children's birth places; Richard was born in Brettell Lane, Thomas and Benjamin in Amblecote, Alfred and Henry in Brettell Lane, and Sarah Ann in Amblecote. In the 1850s Thomas and Ann spent some time in Bilston, where they lived at the time of Sarah Ann’s baptism in 1859. By 1861 they were back home and living in Amblecote Bank. Thomas Skidmore died aged 62 at the Delph and was buried at Holy Trinity, Amblecote on 5 May 1867.

His widow was lodging in 1871 with the family of her daughter Sarah Ann Raybould at 68 Amblecote Road. Ann Skidmore died in Saltwells aged 70 and was buried on 15 March 1874 at Holy Trinity, Amblecote. The Rayboulds appear in Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank, in 1881. They seem to have been employed in the chain making at Mushroom Green or nearby Oak Street in Quarry Bank. Elijah Raybould, aged 70 and head of the house, was a chain maker, as were his sons Eber and Ezra. Three grandsons of Elijah lived at the home: Eli Skidmore, registered Eli Raybould Skidmore in 1864Q2, Reuben Cartwright, born about 1874, and Humphrey Cartwright, born about 1878.

Saltwells was for a long time the setting of a small spa. The spa, which closed down about 1915, was on the site of a brine spring in the middle of Saltwells Wood which is north of Quarry Bank and east of Brierley Hill. Local people refer to the wood as The Coppice. The salt waters were said to be beneficial to health and of great help in the treatment of various diseases. Invalids were taken there to drink the mineral waters and bathe in hot and cold brine. It is not known when the brine spring was first discovered but it certainly came to light in the 18th century when shafts were sunk for coal mining. Saltwells Wood was for many years the scene of an annual May Day wake which attracted thousands of people from over a wide area. Stalls and sideshows were set up in the trees. The Saltwells Inn and the Robin Hood Inn on the nearby road were open all day with skittle wives, marbles and bowls as attractions. There were bull terrier fights, whippet racing and boxing tournaments. The children of Thomas and Ann (Thompson) Skidmore,

i. Esther, age recorded as 15 in the 1841 census, probably born in 1826 or 1827. She married coal miner William Powis (born about 1827 in Bilston, son of T. Powis) in 1846Q1 at St Peter’s, Wolverhampton. They moved some time before 1861 to Alfreton, Derbyshire and she was widowed by 1881, living then with her son William Powis who went on to be colliery manager in Tibshelf, Derbyshire. Esther Powis later lived in Castle Eden Colliery and New Seaham, County Durham with the family of her daughter Mrs Ann Thompson. She died in 1906Q4 aged 78.

ii. Sophia, born 13 April 1828. She was unmarried when she was baptised along with her younger sister Sarah Ann at Holy Trinity, Amblecote on 5 March 1859. She married Enoch Meacham (baptised 1822 at Cann Lane and Ettingshall Road Wesleyan, Bilston, son of John and Amy Meacham) on 14 August 1848 at St Peter’s, Wolverhampton. Mr Meacham was a stone miner who for a while ran the Globe Tavern in Mount Pleasant, Bilston before moving with his family to New Town, Essington, Staffordshire, where he was a coal miner. After living for a time with their sons Noah and Job in Royston (Barnsley), Yorkshire, Enoch and Sophia Meacham returned to the Midlands, where their deaths were registered at Dudley - she in 1893Q4 aged 65, he in 1897Q1 aged 74.

Children, as known - Harriet, Esther, Thomas, David, Noah.

iii. RICHARD, born in Brettell Lane around 1832. He was living at home in Brettell Lane in 1851, an iron boiler maker. He married Mrs Harriet Jasper (baptised 22 December 1833 in Castle Gresley, Derbyshire, daughter of Robert Kirk, a turner of Bull Lane, Brierley Hill, and Frances (Wilson) and widow of James Jasper) at Holy Trinity, Amblecote on 15 January 1860. Job Hibbs and Martha

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Kirk, Harriet's sister, were witnesses. Mrs Jasper had a daughter Priscilla Jasper, born 1853Q1 and baptised at St Mary's, Kingswinford.

Richard and Harriet Skidmore lived at Amblecote Bank, Brierley Hill in 1861, close to Richard's father, later moving to a house at the junction of Bull Lane and Brettell Lane in Wordsley. Using the 1901 Ordnance Survey map as a guide it seems likely that they lived in 1881 within 100 yards of the junction of Brettell Lane with the Wolverhampton-Stourbridge road, eight houses short of the Red Lion Public house, on the northern side of the road. His house is numbered 139 in the 1911 census.

Harriet Skidmore died aged 66 in 1898Q3, Richard in 1916Q1, said to be aged 79.

The children of Richard and Harriet (Kirk) Skidmore, born in Kingswinford parish,

i. Elizabeth, born about 1860. She was living at home in Brettell Lane in 1881, an unemployed domestic servant.

ii. ALFRED, born 1864Q1. He married Eliza Hoare (born about 1861 in Brierley Hill, daughter of John Hoare, labourer of Mill Street, and his wife Helen) in 1885Q3 at St Andrew's, Netherton, Dudley. At first a brickyard labourer of Brierley Hill, he was by the time of his daughter's marriage a platelayer.

Children of Alfred and Eliza (Hoare) Skidmore, born in Brierley Hill,

i. Beatrice Mary, born 1886Q3. She married James William Potter, a motor mechanic of 74 Hagley Road (son of John Thomas Potter, a gardener) on 19 October 1914 at St Mary's, Oldswinford.

ii. FRANK, born 1888Q1. He was boarding in Bordesley, Birmingham at the time of the 1911 census, a railway fitter's labourer. At the time of his marriage in 1921 he was an electric signal linesman. Two daughters.

iii. Edith, born 1890Q2. She died in 1892Q3 aged 2.

iv. Esther, born 1870Q2. A glass painter, living with her father in 1901. She married Timothy Worrall, iron moulder (born about 1869, son of Richard, iron worker, and Mary Ann Worrall) on 31 January 1910 at Holy Trinity, Wordsley. Frances Sarah Nicholls was a witness. They were running the Heart in Hand pub in Stambermill at the time of the 1911 census.

The following information is taken from the Midlands Pubs website20. Timothy Worrall bought the Barrel Inn and became the licensee on December 1st 1919. It is his name that can be seen on the signboard outside the building in the photograph dating from around 1930. The board also advertises the fact that the Barrel Inn sold homebrewed ales. Born locally in 1869, Timothy Worrall grew up in a large family that resided on Brettell Lane next to the Red Lion. His father Richard Worrall had a small business as a coal dealer. Indeed, following Richard's death, his mother Mary Ann took over the business with help from Timothy's elder brother John. In the early Edwardian era Mary Ann kept the Acorn Inn across the road from the family's home. It was probably this experience that gave Timothy Worrall a taste for the licensed trade. Up until then he had worked as a moulder. He married Esther Skidmore in Stourbridge [in fact, Wordsley] in 1910. She may have been a childhood sweetheart as she lived only a couple of doors away from the Worrall household when they both attended school. Timothy Worrall enjoyed a successful business career for, following his death on April 27th 1938, he left effects of £2,328.3s.0d. to his wife Esther who continued the pub's homebrewed tradition. She sold the pub to Charles Gardener on May 22nd 1939. Ownership was transferred to William Ewart Gardener of Amblecote Lane on March 10th 1947. The pub once more became the 'end' of the canal in 1967 when the old tunnel beneath the High Street was infilled along with the basin across the road. During a visit in 2000 I noticed that the Moorings Tavern had been extended into the adjacent terraced building, creating quite a few nooks and crannies, bays, arches, stepped

20 http://www.midlandspubs.co.uk/staffordshire/amblecote.htm
areas, beams and brickwork. There was much canal memorabilia in here along with prints depicting life on the inland waterways. The pub was then being run by Justine Walters, a tenant for Punch Taverns.'

374. iv. **THOMAS**<sup>8</sup>, born about 1835 in Amblecote. He was an iron roller living at home in Brettell Lane in 1851. He married firstly in 1857Q2 at Christ Church, Coseley, Sarah Jane Howell (born about 1837 in West Bromwich), the sister of Hannah Howell who later married his brother Benjamin. They spent time in the Barnsley area of Yorkshire, where their daughter Lydia was born in 1859. Soon after this they returned to the Midlands to live in Sedgley parish where they are found in Daisy Bank, Brierley hamlet at the time of the 1861 census, living next to Sarah Jane's parents John and Jane Howell. This small area of Coseley can be seen on the 1901 Ordnance Survey Map of Bradley, Coseley and Wednesley Oak. Mrs Skidmore died in 1868Q2 aged about 30. Thomas married secondly Mary Powell in 1869Q4 at St Mark's, Tipton. By 1871 their home was at Golds Green in West Bromwich, next to that of Thomas’ brother-in-law Samuel Howell, and were still in that town in 1881, at 4 Little Morris Street (when only son Thomas was still living at home). Thomas Skidmore died in 1890Q4 and his widow remained in their home until at least 1891. Two possible death registrations are known for her, either 1892Q4 aged 57 or 1895Q4 aged 60.

**The children of Thomas and Sarah Jane (Howell) Skidmore,**

i. John Thomas, born 1858Q1 in Sedgley. It seems he died at the age of 4 in 1862Q3.

ii. Lydia Sophia, born 1859Q4 in Milton, Barnsley, Yorkshire. Giving her age as 18, Lydia Skidmore, son of Thomas, a shingler, married William Hawkins, a labourer (born about 1849, son of John Hawkins, labourer) on 5 April 1874 at St Thomas', Dudley. The witnesses were Thomas Stanley and Matilda Stanley, probably the husband & wife found at 54 Level Street, Brierley Hill, in the 1881 census. I have not found a death registration for William Hawkins. Lydia Sophia Skidmore [sic] married, in 1880Q3 at Holy Trinity, Smethwick (original register not seen), George Hughes, a blacksmith's striker (born about 1846 in Banbury, Oxfordshire) and they lived at various addresses in Smethwick.

Hughes children, as known - Elizabeth, Harry, George J., Alice B., Oliver.

iii. Emily Jane, born in Sedgley and 14 days old on census day, 7 April 1861. She was a domestic servant in Birmingham in 1881, in the home of Richard M. Lloyd, civil engineer of Hockley. She married widower David Cox, an engine and machine fitter (born about 1846 in Oldbury) in 1901Q1 at St John's, West Bromwich and they were living shortly after in Sams Lane, West Bromwich.

iv. Mary Elizabeth, born 1863Q1 in Sedgley.

v. Thomas Henry, born 1865Q2 in West Bromwich. He could be the Henry Skidmore 'imbecile' in West Bromwich Workhouse in 1891 aged 25, said to have been born in Smethwick. He died aged 26 in 1891Q3 in West Bromwich registration district.

375. v. **BENJAMIN**<sup>8</sup>, born 30 March 1838 in Amblecote and baptised 29 April of that year at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. At the age of 13 he was an iron chain maker living at his parents’ home in Brettell Lane. I have thus far been unable to find this man in the 1861 census nor he and his family in 1871.

He married Hannah Howell (born about 1840, daughter of John Howell, a mine burner, and Jane) at St Thomas', Dudley on 1 July 1861. The witnesses were Jane Dallaway and Samuel Barnett, both of whom could write, as could Hannah but not her husband. Benjamin was a shingler of Brick Kiln Street, Hart’s Hill (Dudley parish, close to the northern edge of Brierley Hill). Hannah Skidmore died aged 40 in 1881Q1, leaving six children, and by the time of the 1891 census Mr Skidmore was living at Castle Eden Colliery, County Durham, in the home of his niece Mrs Ann Thompson.

By 1901 he was a steel plate worker, living in the home of his daughter Hannah Lane in Parkes Street, Brierley Hill. He continued at the steelworks, later in the warehouse, and died in 1916 aged 77

**The children of Benjamin and Hannah (Howell) Skidmore, born in Hart’s Hill, Dudley,**

i. Sarah Ann, born about 1862. She married David Absalom Plant (born 1857Q3) at St Paul's, Tipton in 1878Q2. Mr Plant died in 1884Q1 and at the time of the 1891 census Sarah Plant shared a home in Park Street, Brierley Hill with brothers Benjamin and David and sister Florence.

ii. John Henry, born 1865Q1. An iron shingler’s help in 1881. He was living in 1885 but
iii. Hannah Jane, born 1867Q2. She married firstly James Lane, an iron worker of Park Street (born about 1863 in Brierley Hill, son of John Lane, boiler maker of Pearson Street, and his wife Eliza) at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 19 October 1885. Her brother John Henry Skidmore and sister Sarah Plant were the witnesses. Children - John Ernest, Alice Maud, Beatrice, Annie, James, Florence, Doris. She married secondly John Horton, a furnaceman at the steelworks.


v. ARTHUR DAVID9, born 1871Q2. Called David Skidmore, he was living with his wife and children at Court 2, 1 Dudley Port in 1901, when he said that he was born in Brierley Hill in 1869. He married Lucy Ann Westwood at St Augustine’s, Dudley in 1891Q2. She is said in the 1901 census to be aged 30 but perhaps was born in 1872Q1 in Brierley Hill, daughter of Isaiah and Ann Westwood of Bromley Lane. David and Lucy's first three children were born in Bromley, Brierley Hill. By the time of Arthur's birth they had moved to Dudley Port, where David was a bolter down in the ironworks.

Children of Arthur David and Lucy Ann (Westwood) Skidmore, born in Bromley, 7 children, of which 3 survived. As known,

i. Gertrude, born 14 June 1892. She married James Henry Buswell in 1911Q2 at St Martin’s, Tipton. They had, as known, four sons and a daughter.


v. Harold Frederick, born 1903Q3.

vi. Florence Sophia, born 1874Q4. She married Edgar Steventon, an iron moulder (born about 1874 in Tipton) in 1899Q1 at St James', Dudley. They were living by 1911 at 188 Dudley Port, Tipton. Children, as known - Florence Gertrude, Nellie, Herbert, Joseph Edward, Olive May and 3 further sons.

vii. Samuel, born 1876Q4 or 1877Q1. He attended the Industrial Boys' School at Caverswall, Staffordshire and became a factory blacksmith by 1901, when he was living with his father. He married Lily Brookes at St Peter’s, Cradley, Staffordshire in 1902Q1 and was living at 2 Maughan Street, Quarry Bank in 1911.

vi. ALFRED8, iron puddler of Amblecote, was born in Brettell Lane on 18 June 1840 and baptised on 16 July at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. He was raised at Amblecote Bank and was already working at the age of 11 as an errand boy. He married Matilda Price (born about 1842 in Dudley, daughter of Thomas Price, glass blower of Amblecote Bank, and his wife Martha) in 1863Q2 at St Andrew’s, Netherton and they were living in 1871 with her parents in Amblecote Road. Matilda Skidmore died aged 43 in 1876Q2 and Alfred appears to have moved away from the area (at least, I have been unable to locate him in UK censuses of 1881 and 1891). At the time of the 1881 census their daughter Martha was one of the twenty-five scholars in the Stourbridge Union Workhouse in Wordsley. Another child Mary Skidmore aged 9 was there, perhaps a further daughter. Alfred Skidmore appears to be the widowed 59-year-old iron worker, born in Brierley Hill, boarding at the time of the 1901 census in Hanley, Staffordshire. Further, he appears to be the Alfred Skidmore who died in Stoke on Trent registration district in 1909, though this man was said to be aged 73.

The children of Alfred and Matilda (Price) Skidmore,

i. Sarah Elizabeth Price, born 1861Q3, known always as Skidmore. Sarah Skidmore was working in 1881 at the Witley Hotel in Stormbridge Road, Hasbury, Halesowen. Sarah Elizabeth Skidmore married Samuel Wakefield at St Luke's, Cradley Heath, in 1882Q3 and lived in Bloomfield Street, Hawne, Halesowen. Children, as known - Edward, Annie, Alice.

ii. Ruth, born 1868Q1. In 1881, a general servant, aged 12, to the family of Richard E. Woolley, an unemployed warehouseman of Moxley, Darlaston. By the time of the 1891 census she was a servant to a family in Newcastle on Tyne. She married Joseph Crumpton, a factory engine driver of Bordesley, Birmingham, in 1898Q1 in
Aston registration district. He was born about 1863 in Halesowen, son of _____ and Ellen Crumpton. His first wife Bertha died in 1897. Mr Crumpton brought his family back to Cherry Street, Hawne, Halesowen by the time of the 1901 census, where he was a boiler furnaceman at a colliery. He appears to have died in 1914 aged 51, Ruth in 1958 aged 90.

Children, as known - Harry, Maud, Edith, Samuel, Ruby.

Martha, born 1870Q4. In Wordsley workhouse in 1881 and not yet found later.

[HENRY²], born about 1842 and baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill at the age of 'about 21' on 3 September 1863. A general labourer of Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, he was said at the time of the 1881 census to have been born about 1843 in Wolverhampton, though in 1891 his birthplace was recorded as 'Brittle Lane'. It would have been unusual for a glass cutter (his trade in 1861) to become a labourer, but in the absence of evidence to the contrary, Henry would appear to be a son of Thomas [203]. His marriage certificate, of course, would help to verify this, but I have yet to find the registration of his marriage. Henry married Emma _____, who appears to have been Emma Mansell, born about 1843 in Leebotwood, Shropshire. Henry Mansell, her father, who was originally a coal miner from Bilston, married Mary, a lady from Leebotwood and after living there during the 1840s moved to Brierley Hill in the mid-1850s. At the time of the 1871 census Emma Mansell was living at 48 Chapel Street, Brierley Hill, with her daughter Georgiana Mansell, in the home of her married sister Martha Windmill. I have not been able to find a marriage between Henry Skidmore and Emma Mansell, but at the time of the 1881 census they were living at 20 Franklin Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire. By 1891, when Henry was an earthenware polisher (and when Emma was not recorded) their home was at 18 Brighton Street, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent. A niece Jane Matthews aged 15 was also present in the household. Henry Skidmore died in 1901Q1 aged 57. It is possible that his wife was the lady patient in the 'asylum' in Cheddleton, Staffordshire, recorded in the 1901 census. Hers appears to have been the death at the age of 66 registered at Cheadle in 1909Q1.

**The children of Henry and Emma (Mansell) Skidmore.**

i. Georgina, born in Amblecote and registered with the surname Mansell in 1869Q4. A dressmaker before her marriage to Richard Morris, a clothier's tailor (born about 1868 in Market Drayton, Shropshire, son of John Morris) on 13 May 1900 at St Luke's, Wellington, Staffordshire. They were living at 11 Tintern Street, Hanley, in 1901 and 37 Wellington Road there in 1911.

Children, as known - Doris, Hilda, John, William, Gertrude.

ii. Sophia, born 1875Q1 in Brierley Hill. She worked in the warehouse of the earthenware works until her marriage to widower Herbert Green, a hollowore presser (born about 1869 in Hanley, son of Joseph Green) on 5 August 1895 at St Luke's, Wellington. They lived at 13 Tintern Street, Hanley.

Children, as known - Florence, Anne F., Elsie, Henry, Herbert, Albert, Reginald.

iii. Gertrude, born 1881Q2 in Hanley. At the time of the 1901 census, when she was a potter's glost sorter, she was living at the home of her sister Georgina and next to that of her sister Sophia Green. She married William Neate at St Luke's, Wellington, in 1906Q4.

A son William.

viii. Sarah Ann, born 24 May 1846 in Brettell Lane, baptised 5 March 1859 at Amblecote. She married Eli Raybould, a chain maker (baptised 13 October 1843 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, son of Elijah Raybould, chain maker, and True (Priest)) on 4 October 1869 at St Thomas', Dudley. Ann Maria Hodgetts and John Hall were witnesses. They moved from Brierley Hill to Birch Coppice, Quarry Bank some time in the 1880s and Mr Raybould and the older children were all chain makers, working at their home. Sarah Ann Raybould died in 1914 aged 68, her husband in 1925 aged 81.

Children, as known - Eli Raybould Skidmore (born 1864Q2), Thomas, Edmund, Harry, Mark, Dorothy, Sarah Ann, Lucy.
The second surviving son of John [104] and Joanna (Kirby) Skidmore,

204. JOHN² SKIDMORE, born about 1807 and baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 23 July 1809. He was a collier of the Delph, later of Rowley and Wednesbury. My reasons for believing him to be the son of John Skidmore [104] are that he named his first child Theophilus (his supposed cousin and son of Benjamin [103]) and that his moves from the Delph to Rowley parish and then Wednesbury reflect those of his supposed brothers Thomas [203] and Henry [205].

He married Mary Price (baptised 26 January 1810 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill, daughter of Cooksey and Letitia (Skelding) Price) at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 19 April 1829. John Pearson and Jemima Skelding were witnesses. The names of Skelding and Pearson were prominent in the Delph area at this time. Richardson, in his commentary on Fowler’s map of 1822 mentions two zones of intensive settlement, on the north-east side of Delph Road, and between the Nine Locks and Hill Street. There was a cluster of ten houses and gardens near the present location of Mill Street roundabout; and the wedge of property where Delph Road met Mill Street accommodated about thirty-two families with a shop, slaughter house and stables. The twelve proprietors of the holding included Lord Dudley and the Skelding brothers Samuel, Thomas, Edward and John. Also, Joseph and Daniel Pearson were there together with Widow Pearson, Cooksey Price – Mary’s father - and James Warr who owned the brick kiln on land adjoining.

John Skidmore is probably the man found in the Sunday School Cash Account Book of St Michael’s, Brierley Hill, records for which exist for the years 1833-53. He was paid £2-12-0 twice yearly for teaching at the Sunday School. In November 1833 he appears along with Dudley Pearson, Harden Cooksey and Esther Cartwright and her daughter (unnamed). Dudley Pearson is again listed with John Skidmore in July 1834, together with Priscilla Plant and L. Geary. (Priscilla Plant is possibly the mother-in-law of Noah Skidmore [217] and L. Geary perhaps Leah Geary the supposed mother of Isaiah Geary, Noah’s son-in-law). The third and last time John is mentioned is 14 April 1834 when he received £5-1-10 for ‘teach[ing] and [?]firing to Xmas 1834’. His stepping down from his duties seems to coincide with the establishment of the Brierley Hill National School. At a meeting in the Vestry Room of Brierley Hill Chapel on Monday 11 November 1833 the Committee of the Sunday School noted that nearly 400 children were then receiving instruction in the Sunday School and deemed it ‘of the greatest importance to endeavour to extend to them the benefit of daily instruction, upon the National System of Education’. The Committee resolved to invite subscriptions for erecting a schoolroom and for paying the salaries of a Master and Mistress. It recommended a ‘spot of ground opposite to the Chapel on which a small school has been kept’ to be the site of a larger National School-Room. This was to accommodate 600 children and be used for a daily and a Sunday School. In the Cash Accounts Book on 20 March 1837 rent of £112-10-0 was paid to the trustees of the late Benjamin Brettell ‘on whose land the School Room is erected and playground being 2000 sq[quare] y[ar]ds at 1s-1½d as per plan, deeds, etc’.

If correctly identified as the teacher at the Sunday School, then another reason for his stepping down was his move away from Brierley Hill. John and Mary Skidmore lived at the Delph until at least October 1835 but by March 1838 they were in Cradley Heath. Brierley Hill baptism register tells us that in 1842 and 1844 John and Mary were of Rowley, though the birth of their son Thomas was registered in the West Bromwich registration district at the end of 1841 and Thomas said in 1881 that he was born in Wednesbury. Pigot’s Trades Directory of 1835 describes Wednesbury (which Pigot notes was then commonly called Wedgbury) as important for the manufacture of iron, both cast and wrought - as nails, screws, hinges, doorlocks, gun-locks, gun-barrels, guns and edge-tools; together with pig and rolled iron, and iron gas-tubes. These latter were made upon an improved principle, the patent for which had been obtained in 1825 by Cornelius Whitehouse and subsequently sold to Messrs Russell & Sons of Wednesbury. The family was certainly in Wednesbury in 1846 and is found at 32 Church Street there at the time of the 1851 census. John remained in Wednesbury, where he was a chartermaster collier. By 1861 the family had moved to 1 Vicarage Road, where they stayed until at least 1891. In 1861 their nephew James Price, coal miner (born about 1846 in Kingswinford) lived with them. Mary Skidmore died in 1885Q1 aged 75, her husband in 1896Q1 aged 88.

The children of John and Mary (Price) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill;

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22 Microfilm held at Dudley Archives.

born in the Delph,

i. Theophilus, baptised 9 August 1829. Died in Rowley, buried 20 October 1839.

ii. Letitia, baptised 13 February 1831. Died in the Delph, buried 9 December 1832.

iii. Joanna, baptised 16 June 1833. She married Joseph Adams (son of Francis Adams) at St Edmund’s, Dudley on 25 July 1852. She married secondly in 1860Q3 David Timmins, an iron puddler (born about 1838 in Wednesbury, son of John W. and Mary A. Timmins) and lived at 16 Terrace Street, Wednesbury for many years. Joanna Timmins died in 1905 aged 71. Apparently no offspring.

378. iv. ELI8, baptised 25 October 1835. He became firstly a mine agent in Hockley, Birmingham, where he married Anna Maria Downing at St Mark’s on 13 February 1859. Hannah Maria Downing was born in 1841Q4, daughter of William Downing, a beer seller and carrier of Dudley Road, Tipton, and his wife Ann. The witnesses were John Skidmore and Joanna Adams, presumably Eli’s brother and sister. In 1861 Eli and Anna lived in Park Lane, Tipton with their young daughter Sarah Ann. He died aged 33 in 1868Q4 and his widow and her five children went to live in Groveland Road in the Dudley Port area of Tipton. By 1881 she and her sons William and Eli were living with her parents at the Nags Head Inn there. Hannah Maria Skidmore, aged 48, died on 19 November 1889, leaving a will (proved that year at Lichfield) which named her son William Skidmore, plumber, as executor.

The children of Eli and Hannah Maria (Downing) Skidmore, born in Tipton and baptised at St Martin’s there,

i. Sarah Ann, born around September 1860 and baptised on 11 November, daughter of Eli Skidmore, mine agent of Park Lane. She married William Henry Stackhouse, chartermaster of Oldswinford (born 1856Q4, son of Philip Stackhouse of Dankin Street, Tipton, chartermaster limestone miner, and his wife Harriet) at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 14 April 1879. Isaac Turner and Sarah Ann Turner were witnesses. At the time of the census two years later William Henry and Sarah Ann were living a few doors from his parents in Dankin Street, Tipton, later moving to Hopkins Street, Tipton, before he found work with the South Staffordshire Water Works and the family moved to Sedgley Road, Woodsetton. Mr Stackhouse died in 1913 aged 56, his wife in 1942 aged 82. Children, as known (of 10) - William Henry, Ann E., Florence J., Annie S., Harriet, Charles Philip, Evelyn Agnes, Gladys Violet, Gilbert Raymond.

714. ii. WILLIAM9, born in Dudley Port, Tipton and baptised 14 December 1862. He was a labourer in 1881, living with his widowed mother and brother Eli in his grandfather Downing’s pub The Nags Head in Dudley Port. He married Hannah Southall (born about 1860 in Tipton, daughter of Elijah Southall) on 9 November 1884 at St Martin’s, Tipton. They moved from Tipton to Smethwick in the late 1880s and by the time of the 1891 census were living at 50 Watery Lane. William was then a labourer for the waterworks. By 1901, when the family were at 40 Oldbury Road, Smethwick he was a self-employed plumber. Hannah Skidmore died in 1902Q1 aged 44 and William married secondly Harriet Westbury in 1902Q4 at Holy Trinity, Smethwick.

Children of William and Hannah (Southall) Skidmore, born in Tipton,

i. Florence Elizabeth, born 1885Q4. A dressmaker’s assistant in 1901. She married Frank Boardman, a fireman for the London & North Western Railway (born about 1888 in Birmingham) in 1910Q4 at St Alban’s, Smethwick and was living at 152 Sabell Road, Smethwick at the time of the 1911 census. A son Reginald F. Boardman, born in 1912.

ii. Edith Eliza, born 1887Q3. A draper’s assistant in 1911, she married Frederick J. Higgs in 1914Q4.

and born in Smethwick,

iii. Elsie Hannah, born early in 1891. She is perhaps the lady who married Alfred Burnham in 1914Q4 in the Pershore area of Worcestershire.

iv. William, born 1893Q1. Assistant to his father in 1911.
Albert Eli, born 1896Q1. A printer's assistant in 1911.

Mary Ellen, born 1898Q1.

A son of William and Harriet (Westbury) Skidmore,

Ernest Austin, born 1905Q1.

Johanna, baptised 9 November 1864 (and secondly on 8 January 1865). She died aged 8 in 1873Q1.

John, born 28 September 1866, baptised 17 February 1867. Died 1873Q1 aged 6.

Eli, born 1868Q4 in Wednesbury, baptised 13 February 1870. Not yet found after the GB census of 1881. Perhaps died in Stafford registration district in 1888.

Keziah, born 8 February (baptised 4 March) 1838. Died in Rowley, buried 12 January 1840.

JOHN®, born 8 November 1839 in Rowley Regis and baptised at St Michael's, Brierley Hill on 8 December, was, I am fairly certain, the son of John [204] and Mary (Price) Skidmore, though it will be helpful to have his marriage certificate to confirm this. He married Jane Broughton, (born 1840Q2 in Wednesbury, daughter of Richard Broughton, a furnace bricklayer, and his wife Hannah) in 1860Q3 at All Saints', West Bromwich. At the time of the 1861 census he was a coal miner, living with his wife in Bilston Road, Wednesbury. He was recorded as a coach maker at the time of the baptisms of their children. He died at the age of 29 and was buried at St John's in Wednesbury on 11 August 1869.

Jane Skidmore became publican of the Three Crowns Inn at 206 Holyhead Road, Wednesbury, joined by her second husband John Downing, a labourer of Dudley, whom she married on 1 November 1871 at St Thomas', Dudley. He was born about 1847 in Dudley Port, son of William Downing, a carrier and presumably the father also of Hannah Maria Downing who married John Skidmore's brother Eli. Sarah Ann Thornton and William Downing were witnesses.

The children of John and Jane (Broughton) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury, baptised at St John's,

Mary, baptised 17 January 1864. She married George Cliff, a steel smelter (born about 1859 in Penn, Staffordshire) in 1884Q1 at St John's, Wednesbury. They lived in Great Western Street, Wednesbury. George Cliff died in 1928 aged 70.

Children, as known (of 12) - John, George, Gertrude, Florence Jane, Edith May, Ida Constance, Doris, Frank, Elsie Irene, Gladys Beatrice.

DAVID®, baptised 29 April 1866. An ironworker, he was living with his sister's family in 1891. By the time of his marriage, Mr Skidmore had become a circular saw operator. He married Rebecca Mason of 22 Ladbury's Lane (born about 1870, daughter of William Mason, a boatman) on 24 November 1894 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury. They were living at the time of the 1901 census at 29 Albert Street, Wednesbury, later moving to 26 Lloyd Street.

Children of David and Rebecca (Mason) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,

Nora, baptised 4 February 1896 at St James', Wednesbury, of 22 Harrison Street.

John William, born 4 or 12 August 1897 and baptised 31 August at St James'. John Skidmore of 26 Lloyd Street, Wednesbury joined the Royal Field Artillery on 7 December 1915 and was mobilised in April 1917. He arrived in Basra in September of that year and served as a driver. He was awarded the General Service Medal with Clasp 'Kurdistan'23. John's army service records show that he was Primitive Methodist by religious persuasion and a tube maker by trade.

David, born 27 November 1899, baptised 27 November at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury, of 29 Addison Street.

Thomas, born 11 November 1841, his birth registered at West Bromwich, and baptised 2 January 1842. He was a labourer in a coach factory in 1871 but is described in later censuses as a coal miner. He married in the 1870s an unknown wife and was living a widower with his parents in 1881. He is presumably the Thomas Skidmore whose death at the age of 53 was registered at

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23 The General Service Medal (1918 GSM) was instituted to recognise service in minor Army and Air Force operations for which no separate medal was intended. Seventeen clasps were approved for the 1918 GSM. These clasps consist of small metal bars into which the name of the relevant campaign or theatre of operations was moulded.
West Bromwich in 1895Q3.

Ellen Thorneycroft Fowler, writing in the preface to a transcript of the baptismal register of Moxley Wesleyan Chapel (housed in the Archives Department in Smethwick Library), speaks of John Skidmore who owned and worked collieries in the fields where Moxley Sanatorium and Hospital lay. (This remains to be checked). She describes his son Thomas Skidmore as ‘a man of God, a transparent character and loved by all who came under his spell. He wrought a good work for his Lord and Master in a quarter abounding in narrow courts and many poor dwelling houses.’ Thomas Skidmore founded the Free Church Mission round about 1896, situated in ‘Old Moxley’, now Queen Street. Two dwelling houses were converted into one which was known as Skidmore’s Mission. Apart from the date of ‘around 1896’, by which time both Thomas and his father had died, this account fits John [204] and his son.

viii. Mary, born 23 May (baptised 7 July) 1844 in Rowley. She married William Chadwick, an iron smelter, at Holy Trinity, Amblecote on 9 February 1862. He was born on 6 November 1837 in Ilkeston, Derbyshire, a son of Edwin and Mary (Dorby) Chadwick. Cooksey Price, presumably her uncle, and Joanna Timmins her sister were witnesses. William and Mary Chadwick lived in Vicarage Road and later Terrace Street, Wednesbury, before emigrating in 1882 to Ohio. William Chadwick died in Trumbull County on 15 July 1913, Mary Chadwick in Mahoning County on 9 March 1920.

ix. Daniel Cooksey, born 19 August (baptised 11 October) 1846. He died in 1850Q1.

and born in Wednesbury,

380. x. OBADIAH8, born 1849Q2 and baptised on 26 September 1858 at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill with his brother Benjamin. A coal miner of Wednesbury, he married Lucy Godwin (born 1848Q1 in Wednesbury, daughter of Thomas Godwin, labourer) on 15 September 1873 at All Saints’, Moxley. His sister and her husband, Mary and William Chadwick, were witnesses. Obadiah and Lucy lived in Vicarage Road until at least 1891. By the time of the 1901 census Lucy Skidmore was widowed, living at Brunswick Park Road, Wednesbury with her children John, Lucy and Sarah. It seems Obadiah was the man who died at the age of 51 and whose death was registered in Lichfield, Staffordshire in 1899Q4. Lucy Skidmore died in 1918 aged 70.

The children of Obadiah and Lucy (Godwin) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,

i. Mary Jane, born 1873Q4. A servant to the family of druggist David Jackson in Holyhead Road, Wednesbury until at least 1911. David Jackson’s wife was Salome née Chadwick who was raised by her aunt Joanna (Skidmore) Timmins, daughter of John [204], and aunt to Mary Jane Skidmore.


iii. Lucy, born 1879Q3. She died in 1884Q1 aged 4.

iv. Lucy, born 1887Q3.

v. Sarah Ann, born 1892Q1.

See also Sarah Ann the daughter of Septimus [301], said to be aged 9 at the time of the 1901 census.

381. xi. BENJAMIN COOKSEY PRICE8, born October 1850. A coach spring maker of Wednesbury, he married Ann Eliza Fisher (born about 1853 in Darlaston and perhaps registered Anne Eliza at Walsall in 1853Q3, daughter of William Fisher, bricklayer, and Hannah) on 12 January 1873 at All Saints’, Moxley. He was living in 1881 with his wife and daughters at Bulb Hole, 28 Church Hill, Wednesbury (their son William was at this time with his maternal grandparents at 17 South Side of Upper High Street, Wednesbury). Benjamin died in 1884Q4, said to be 32. His widow lived in the home of her widowed father in Church Street, Wednesbury, before marrying secondly William Edward Hardman on 26 July 1896 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. After his death in 1900 Mrs Hardman lived with her daughter Joanna and, by 1911, her son William.

The children of Benjamin and Ann Eliza (Fisher) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,

717. i. WILLIAM9, baptised 23 April 1873 at St John’s, Wednesbury. An iron moulder. I have yet to find his marriage around 1900 to Ann/ Annie (born about 1877 in West Bromwich). They were living at 3, Ct 1 Dale Street, Wednesbury at the time of the 1901 census and had moved by 1911 to 187 Harvills Hawthorn, Hill Top, West Bromwich.

A child of William and Ann Skidmore,

i. Joseph William, born 13 October 1900, baptised 12 November at St
Bartholomew's, Wednesbury.

ii. Phyllis May, born 1903Q2.


Perhaps others.

ii. Joanna, born 1876Q1, baptised 22 June 1879 at St John's. Johanna Skidmore married George Hubble, a planer (born about 1876 in Tipton, son of William Hubble, a puncher) on 7 November 1896 at St Bartolomew's, Wednesbury and lived in Dale Street, Wednesbury until at least 1903. They then moved to 16 Doward Street, Widnes, Lancashire. Children - Annie Florence Jane, Phoebe Ann, Nelly.

iii. Phoebe, baptised 16 November 1880 at St James', Wednesbury. She died at four years of age in 1885Q2.

205. HENRY SKIDMORE, born in Amblecote and baptised 13 January 1811 at Brierley Hill. His son Henry Skidmore [384] in his memoirs recorded that his father started work in a coal mine at the age of six. Henry senior married Mrs Lydia Matthews at Kingswinford on 8 March 1835. She was born Lydia Hill in about 1806 in Netherton and was the widow of Richard Matthews (married 31 July 1831 at Halesowen). The witnesses to their wedding were Daniel Skidmore [206], Henry's half-brother, and Caroline Skidmore, so far unidentified. Henry Skidmore was a coal miner in the Delph in the early years of their marriage. In 1841 he lived at The Thorns, next door to his half-brother Daniel [206]. The Thorns seems to have described the area on either side of Thorns Road, in the south-eastern extremity of Kingswinford parish, between Quarry Bank and Lye; Henry was described as a stone miner of Quarry Bank from 1843 until at least 1851. Lydia’s son Richard Matthews (born in Dudley, baptised 5 February 1832 at Brierley Hill) lived with them and worked in the rolling mill with Henry’s son Thomas.

Henry was very involved with the local Primitive Methodist congregation. The family left Quarry Bank in August 1853 when work became scarce, equipped with a parcel of supplies and a hamper of provisions to last them for two weeks, supplied by the Quarry Bank Primitive Methodists. They moved to Darlaston, where they became members of the Camp Street Primitive Methodist Society. They lived in Church Hill there and Mrs Skidmore supplemented the family income by doing tailoring. She died at the age of 67 and was buried at St John’s, Wednesbury on 19 December 1873. Henry lived in 1881 at 68 Great Western Street with his daughter Sarah Ann, son George and also Henry and his young family. His health deteriorated over the following two years and he died in 1883, being buried at St John’s on 16 January 1883 aged 72.

The children of Henry and Lydia (Hill) Skidmore, baptised at Brierley Hill,

i. Henry, baptised 1 November 1835. Died aged 5, buried 6 September 1841.

382. ii. THOMAS JAMES, baptised 27 August 1837, OF WHOM FURTHER.

iii. Sarah Florence, born 1839Q1, died aged 2 at The Thorns, buried on 12 September 1841, six days after her brother Henry.

383. iii. JOHNS, born 1841Q2, OF WHOM FURTHER.

384. iv. HENRY, born 1843Q1, OF WHOM FURTHER.

v. Sarah Ann, born in Quarry Bank on 11 August 1845, baptised 22 March 1846. She was an insurance agent in 1901, and remained unmarried, living with her brother Henry until her death at the age of 69 in 1915.

384b. vi. CHARLES, born 1847Q4. He married Nancy Tonks (born 1845 in Wednesbury, daughter of Benjamin Tonks, a blacksmith) on 21 July 1879 at St John's, Wednesbury. Charles Skidmore was a skelp turner and they lived at first in Dale Street and later High Bullen, Wednesbury. Charles died in 1899Q1 aged 51 and by the time of the 1901 census his widow was on parish pay and boarding at 60 Meeting Street, Wednesbury with the family of Thomas William Vincent and his wife Hannah. Nancy Skidmore died in 1903 aged 56.

A daughter of Charles and Nancy (Tonks) Skidmore,

i. Florence, baptised 17 October 1882 at St James', Wednesbury. A child of this name died in the last quarter of that year.
384a. vii. **GEORGE**, born 1850Q3 in Quarry Bank. He began his working life making gas pipes but by 1881 had become an agent for a Friendly Society. He married Sarah Ann Bird (born about 1853 in West Bromwich, daughter of Edward Bird, coal miner, and his wife Mary) on 1 February 1882 at Christ Church, West Bromwich. He died aged 38 in 1888Q4 and his widow is presumably the Sarah A. Skidmore who was housekeeper in 1891 to surgeon Robert Trimble at 186 High Street, West Bromwich. Her sister Mrs Eliza Holmes was caring at this time for her two daughters. Mrs Skidmore later boarded with the family of Samuel and Jane Waldron in Albert Street, Wednesbury before moving with her daughter Elsie to 6 Bratt Street, West Bromwich.

**Children of George and Sarah Ann (Bird) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich**,  
  
i. Amy Gertrude, born 1882Q4. A servant to the Armstrong family in Carters Green, West Bromwich in 1911.  
ii. Elsie, born about 1885. She was a housemaid at the vicarage in Birmingham Road, Great Barr in 1901. A shop assistant in a fruiterer’s in 1911.  
viii. Eli, born 1854Q1. He died in 1867 aged 13 and was buried at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 20 February (his burial is followed by another on the same day, that of 1-year old Lydia Ann Skidmore, also of Wednesbury, born 1865Q1 of unknown parents.

The eldest surviving son of Henry [205] and Lydia (Hill) Skidmore,  

**382. THOMAS JAMES SKIDMORE**, registered as James Thomas Skidmore, was baptised on 27 August 1837 at Brierley Hill. He was a sheet iron roller in Quarry Bank in 1851 and in Wednesbury in 1861 and an iron puddler at the time of his marriage to Ann Griffiths on 10 November 1863 at Moxley. She was born about 1842, daughter of George Griffiths of Darlaston, gunlock filer (perhaps the widower living at 10 Smith Street, Darlaston in 1881).

Thomas and his wife (called Hannah) moved around 1865 to Sheffield and were living in 1871 at Corby Street Yard, Brightside. They returned before 1875 to Darlaston, where Thomas died in 1878Q4 aged 41. His widow Hannah then lived in Cook Street - her death appears to have occurred in 1902Q4, aged 60.

**The children of Thomas James and Ann (Griffiths) Skidmore, born in Darlaston, 718.**  
i. **JOHN**, [was 582.] born 1864Q1. An iron worker and tube welder of Wednesbury, he married Alice Fellows (born about 1867 in Darlaston, daughter of Josiah Fellows, puddler of Bell Street, Darlaston, and his wife Harriet) on 12 September 1891 at All Saints’, Moxley. They were living at 154 Walsall Road, Wednesbury at the time of the 1901 census.  
  
John and his son Thomas James were recorded at the time of the 1911 census, boarding with William and Ada Jones in Wednesbury at the time of the 1911 census. The family were also listed at 25 Compton Street, Walkley, Sheffield24.

**Children of John and Alice (Fellows) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury,**  
i. **THOMAS JAMES**30, born in June 1893 at 81 Walsall Road, Kingshill, Wednesbury, baptised at St George’s, Darlaston on 26 June 1893.  
ii. John, born 31 July 1896 at 81 Walsall Road and baptised 19 August at All Saints’, Darlaston. John Skidmore of 54 Stoney Walk, Walkley, Sheffield, enlisted with the York and Lancaster Regiment on 12 November 1914. He went ‘abroad’ (?to the Western Front?) on 29 June 1915. He was reported wounded and his mother later wrote requesting news of her son but no trace of him was reported. I would be pleased to hear from any reader knowing more about this man’s fate.  
iii. Nellie, born at 81 Walsall Road and baptised 19 April 1899 at All Saints’.

ii. Richard, born 1867Q2. A labourer in the nut and bolt works, he was single at the time of the 1911 census, boarding in Wednesbury.  
iii. Thomas James, born early in 1871 in Sheffield and died there about a year later aged 1.  
iv. Lydia, born 1875Q4. She married William Cawser, a railway platelayer (born 1877Q3 in Kings Bromley, Staffordshire) in 1898Q3 and was living with her mother and brother Richard in 1901. They moved before 1911 to 2 Stamford Grove, Stamford Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.  

Children, as known - Mary Maud, William George, Thomas James.

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24 Despite discrepancies, this does appear to be this family, at least until evidence is found to the contrary. James is recorded as being 34, Alice as 36, but the ages of their children - and Alice said she had had only two children - are correct (John aged 15 and Nellie aged 12), and all said to have been born in Darlaston.
v. Mary Maud, born 1877Q4. She was a housemaid in 1901 at the North Stafford Hotel in Winton Square, Stoke on Trent. She married Albert Edward Jones in 1908Q1 and by 1911 they were living at 31 Willenhall Road, The Green, Darlaston with their children Hannah and Samuel R.

The second surviving son of Henry [205] and Lydia (Hill) Skidmore, 383. **JOHN** SKIDMORE, born in Quarry Bank in April or May 1841, was an inspector of steel bars and rails at ‘the works’ in Clase, Glamorgan, in 1881. He was an iron roller and living at his parents’ home in 1861. He married Eliza Tate in 1864Q3 in Swansea in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich. She was born 1842Q1 in Summerhill, Princes End, Tipton, daughter of James Tate of Tipton and Wednesbury, iron slitter and roller, and his wife Ann.

At first they lived locally, in Wednesbury and King’s Hill in the late 1860s, then in Wolverhampton Street, Bilston in the early 1870s. They then moved around the country, presumably as John progressed in his work. In 1876 they were in Manchester and by 1881 they lived at 1 George Terrace in Clase, Glamorgan.

On 27 November 1886 John Skidmore, Commission Agent of Newton, Brynhyfryd, Swansea, leased from Sir Rice Mansel a piece of ground in Manselton on which he built two houses, forming 47 & 48 Robert Street. John Skidmore died on 28 November 1903 aged 62 and a grant of probate was taken out by Elizabeth Skidmore of 44 Robert Street on 7 July 1904. She took out a mortgage against 47 & 48 Robert Street on 30 April 1909, which was witnessed by her son John Henry Skidmore of 26 Edward Street, Pontardawe.

Elizabeth Skidmore died on 25 December 1909 aged 67 and a grant of probate was taken out by Eli Augustus Skidmore, a galvanising packer of Quar Road, Pontardawe. Eli Augustus Skidmore assigned 48 Robert Street to a James Talbot on 7 December 1910 and 47 Robert Street to S. J. George on 19 August 1911.

**The children of John and Eliza (Tate) Skidmore**, 719. i. **ELI AUGUSTUS**, [was 583.] born 1867Q2 in Wednesbury. A commission agent, he married Jane Evans (born about 1868 in Swansea) in Swansea in 1888Q4. By the time of the 1911 census, Eli had become a packer in a galvanising works. Their home was then at 8 Quar Road, Pontardawe.

Children of Eli Augustus and Jane (Evans) Skidmore, born in Swansea,

Also 2 children who did not survive.

i. Eliza, born 1890Q2.
ii. Priscilla, born 1892Q1.
iii. William John, born 1895Q2.
iv. Trevor, born 1898Q2. He served in the Great War with the Monmouth Regiment.
v. Flora Annie, born 1902Q4 in Pontardawe.
vi. John Eliazer, born 1905Q1 in Pontardawe.

720. ii. **JOHN HENRY**, born 1869Q4 in Kings Hill. He was a furnaceman in 1891, boarding in Church Square, Cwmavon, Glamorgan. He married Mary Edith Jenkins in 1903Q2 in Swansea. They were living by 1911 in Edward Street, Altnewen.

Children of John Henry and Mary Edith (Jenkins) Skidmore,

i. Edith Keturah, born 1905Q1 in Morriston.
ii. Florrie Mayzod, born 1907Q2 in Pontardawe.
iii. Eliza Annie, born 1909Q2 in Pontardawe.

iii. Flora, born 1872Q3 in Bilston. A Board school teacher in Swansea. She married Samuel Kieft in 1904Q2. Flora Kieft died in 1905 aged 29 and Samuel appears to have married her sister Sarah Ann.

721. iv. **ALBERT**, born 1876Q4 in Clames? Street, Manchester. A draper’s shop assistant in Merthyr Tydfil, Glamorgan in 1901. He appears to have married Sarah Elizabeth Marshall in a civil ceremony registered at Warrington, Cheshire in 1904Q1. They were living by 1911 at 102 Commercial Street, Batley, West Yorkshire, where Mr Skidmore was a boot dealer.

**Children of Albert and Sarah Elizabeth (Marshall) Skidmore**, A child who did not survive.

i. Edna Flora, born 1905Q2 in Leigh & Bedford, Lancashire.
ii. John Albert Ernest, born 1908Q4 in Keighley, Yorkshire.
iii. Rosamund Amy, born 1910Q4 in Batley, Yorkshire.
v. Sarah Ann, born 1881Q3 in Brynhyfryd, Swansea. She married Samuel Kieft in 1910Q3, apparently the widower of her sister Flora. He was a carrier for the Municipal Corporation and their home at the time of the 1911 census was at 11 Hopkin Street, Brynhyfryd.

The third surviving son of Henry [205] and Lydia (Hill) Skidmore, 

384. HENRY\(^8\) SKIDMORE, born in 1843Q1 in Quarry Bank. He married Ann Russell (born in 1847 in Wednesbury, daughter of James Russell, a prover) on 11 September 1865 at All Saints, West Bromwich. John Cooper and Harriet Meekin were witnesses. Henry was a timekeeper and gas fitting inspector in Darlaston. He and Ann had a number of addresses in Darlaston and Wednesbury – Oakeswell End in 1867, 108 Church Hill in 1869 and 1871, Kings Hill in 1872, Wellcroft Street in 1876. At the time of the 1871 census, Isaac and Phoebe Price and their two small children lodged with Henry and Ann. This couple were perhaps relatives of Henry’s sister-in-law Mary (Price) Skidmore, wife of John [204].

In the mid-1870s Henry became a warehouseman in the gas tube factory and by 1881 he and his family lived at his father’s house, 68 Great Western Street in Wednesbury, later settling in Perry Street. At the time of the 1901 census Clara Hill, a cousin, lived with them (born in Lye about 1842, apparently daughter of William Hill of Upperswinford). Ann Skidmore died in 1916Q1 aged 68, Henry in 1919Q1 aged 76.

The children of Henry and Ann (Russell) Skidmore, born in Wednesbury and baptised at the Primitive Methodist Chapel, Camp Street, Darlaston,

i. Harriet Priscilla, born 1866Q4, baptised 27 January 1867. She died in 1867 and was buried at St Bartholomew’s on 21 May.

ii. Lydia, born 22 December 1868, baptised 14 January 1869. She was living in Perry Street, Wednesbury at the time of her marriage to Albert Meredith, stock cutter of St Paul’s Road, Wednesbury (born about 1866 in Wolverton) on 23 September 1896. They were living in 1901 in Bishop Street, Wednesbury. She died at Deanery Row, Wolverhampton, on 2 July 1906, Mr Meredith dying soon after his wife on 22 October 1906. Their son William Hewit Meredith was living with Lydia’s parents in 1911, while their son Frank Meredith was at school at Sir Josiah Mason’s Orphanage, Erdington, Birmingham.

722. iii. JOEL\(^9\), [was 584.] baptised 25 December 1870. A gas fitter of Wednesbury, he married Elizabeth Bailey of 5 Oakswell Street (born about 1872 in Wednesbury, daughter of Joseph Bailey, a mechanic) on 2 August 1892 at St John’s, Wednesbury. They were living in 1901 at 3 Oakenhill Street, Wednesbury, and shared their home with Elizabeth’s mother Eliza Bailey. They all moved before 1911 to 34 Upper Dudley Street, where Mabel described herself as a fish shop assistant, working at home. Joel Skidmore died 17 December 1919 aged 49.

The child of Joel and Elizabeth (Bailey) Skidmore,

i. Mabel Cora, born 1893Q2 in Wednesbury. She married in 1925.
iv. Sarah Lucy, baptised 27 October 1872. Lucy Skidmore was a housemaid in 1891 to Mrs Roberts at 18 Beeches Road, West Bromwich. On 28 April 1897 at St John's, Wednesbury, she married John Holt Cooper of 94 Cobden Street, Darlaston, a tram conductor and later machine fitter at the railway wagon and carriage works. He was born on 9 July 1869 (died 26 April 1937), son of John William Cooper, a confectioner, and his wife Caroline (Holt). The witnesses were Henry Skidmore, presumably her father, and Emma Cooper. In 1901 John and Sarah Lucy lived in Whitton Street in Darlaston. She died on 19 November 1948 at 20 Walsall Road (later called 239 Wolverhampton Road West), Bentley, aged 76.

Children, as known - Bernard, Gweneth Eileen, Jack Eric.

v. Myra, born 1875Q1, married John Joseph Proverbs, a commercial traveller (born 1874Q3 in Wednesbury) in 1895Q3 in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich. They were at 3 Chapman Street, West Bromwich, in 1901. She died aged only 32 on 12 January 1907 and Mr Proverbs married secondly Harriett Sophie Stanley in 1910.

Children - Edith May, John Gordon.

vi. HARRY9, born 29 November 1876. An iron sawyer's assistant in 1891. He could be the barman working at the Dun Cow Hotel, 2 Wolverhampton Street, Walsall at the time of the 1901 census. He is presumably the man who married Jane Dwyer in 1902Q4 in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich. By 1911 he had become a warehouseman in Wednesbury, where their home was at 1 Spring Head.

A son of Harry and Jane (Dwyer) Skidmore,

Also 2 children who did not survive.

i. Edward Charles, born 1908Q4 in Walsall.

ii. Harold, born 1913Q2.

vii. Eli, born 1 May (baptised 19 May) 1881. He married Sarah Jane Cooper in 1909Q3 in Wolverhampton and they were living by 1911 with the family of her brother Charles Edgar Cooper at 15 North Road, Wolverhampton. No children known.

viii. THOMAS JAMES9, born 1884Q2. An overlooker at the tube works. He married Angelina Gainham in 1905Q2 in a civil ceremony registered at West Bromwich.

Children of Thomas James and Angelina (Gainham) Skidmore,

i. Emily, born 1906Q3.

ii. Amy, born 1909Q2.

iii. Elsie, born 1913Q1.


v. Thomas J., born 1918Q1.


It is now necessary to return to the descendants of Daniel Skidmore, son of Joanna (Kirby), widow of John Skidmore [104].

206. DANIEL7 SKIDMORE married Eunice Tart (baptised 6 August 1820 at Brierley Hill, daughter of James, forgerman, and Elizabeth (?Truman) Tart) on 16 October 1837 at All Saints, Sedgley. John Patchett and Ann Skidmore were witnesses. When he married, his father was recorded as Richard Askins, collier. In the baptism register for Brierley Hill on 27 August 1815 is found Daniel Skidmore, son of Joanna Skidmore by Richard Paskin, currier of Amblecote. In the 1891 census he said he was born in Mount Pleasant, Brierley Hill. Daniel's moves from the Delph to Quarry Bank suggest he is a cousin of James Skidmore [74]. His subsequent move to Wednesbury in the late 1840s suggest a link to the sons of John [104] and Joanna (Kirby) Skidmore, and it is apparent he was the child of Joanna (Kirby) Skidmore and adopted into the Skidmore family.

The address of the family of Daniel and Eunice Skidmore between 1839 and 1845 is given variously as the Thorns, Mount Pleasant and Blue Ball, in Quarry Bank and in 1841 they lived next door to Daniel's half-brother.

25 This could refer to a marriage in a Register Office or, perhaps more likely with this family, in a non-conformist church attended by a Registrar, such as would be the case for the Methodists.
Henry [205]. They moved in 1845 or 1846 to Wednesbury and by 1851 were at Spittles Railway, Greets Green Village in West Bromwich. The family clearly experienced some disruption around the time of the 1861 census. At this time Daniel and his sons John, Obadiah and Thomas were in Darlaston, where he and John (aged 12) were coal miners, lodging with the family of James Cotterill. Daughters Elizabeth, Sarah Ann and Mary were living with other families. Mrs Skidmore and Ann Maria were visitors in the home of James and Hannah Reece in Hobbs Hole, Wednesbury.

In the early 1860s they lived in Tipton, then moved to Somercotes in Derbyshire, where son Eli was born in 1869. However, by the time of the census of 1871 Daniel’s family were together in Kear Street, Wednesbury, close to his half-brothers John and Henry. By 1881 they had returned to Derbyshire and were living at Back Lane, Linton, with Eli and also Charles Thomas Skidmore. Eunice Skidmore died aged 74 in Darnall, Sheffield and was buried at Darnall Municipal Cemetery on 21 November 1895. Daniel was blind by this time and at the time of the census visiting the family of his daughter Sarah Ann in Castleford. Daniel Skidmore died aged 81 in and was buried on 19 July 1898.

The children of Daniel and Eunice (Tart) Skidmore, born and baptised at Brierley Hill,

387. i. JAMES JAROD TART, born in the Delph and baptised 19 May 1839. He was a stone miner of Wednesbury and coal miner of Hucknall, Nottinghamshire. His first names appear in documents variously as James Jaret, James Garrad and James Jerrod T., and Jerrald, though at his marriage he was recorded as James Jarod Tart Skidmore. He married Bridget Allsop, a milliner (born about 1807 in Walsall, daughter of Henry Allsop) on 13 June 1859 at St George’s, Darlaston. At first they lived in Wednesbury, in Darleston Road in 1861 and in Church Hill in 1871, before moving in the 1870s to Hucknall, Nottinghamshire. Mrs Skidmore died there aged 52 in 1891Q4, James in 1909Q3 aged 70.

The daughter of James Jarod Tart and Bridget (Allsop) Skidmore, perhaps with others

i. Ellen Mary, baptised 8 September 1872 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. In 1892Q1 she married Isaac Grant, a coal miner, and lived in Bestwood Road, Hucknall. No children.

ii. Daniel Jethro, born mid-May 1841. He died in Mount Pleasant aged 1½ and was buried on 22 November 1842 at Brierley Hill.

iii. Ann Maria, born in Thorns Road on 7 August 1843, baptised on 2 March 1845.

and born in Wednesbury,

iv. Elizabeth, born in Wednesbury on 24 December 1845, baptised 22 March 1846. She appears to have been recorded twice in the 1851 census, once at home and once visiting at Vicarage Road, Wednesbury, the home of James Mountford, stone miner (born about 1807 Wednesbury) and his wife Mary. This couple are probably James Mountford and Mary Turner, married at Oldswinford on 30 June 1830. Elizabeth Skidmore was again recorded in their household in the 1861 census, together with Mary Skidmore (born about 1855 in Wednesbury), presumably her sister. She married John Winfield, a coal miner (born about 1846 in Wednesbury) in 1866Q4 at St Mark’s, Tipton. They moved from Vicarage Road, Wednesbury in the 1870s to Newhall, Derbyshire.

Children, as known - James, Mary, Eliza A.

388. v. JOHN HENRY, born about 1849 in Wednesbury. A coal miner, he married Mary Ann Edwards (born about 1851 in Dudley, perhaps daughter of Jonas and Jane Skidmore of Eve Hill, fishmongers and greengrocers) in 1867Q4 at St James’, Dudley. They began their married life in Dudley and at some point between 1875 and 1878 moved to Whittingdon, Derbyshire, where they are found in Fowler Street in 1881. By 1891 they were at 46 Nightingale Street, Darnall, Sheffield, where they remained until at least 1911. John H. Skidmore died in 1912Q1 aged 64.

The children of John Henry and Mary Ann (Edwards) Skidmore, born in Dudley, 15 children, of which 9 were living in 1911.

i. Matilda, born 1869Q1. She married Albert Smith, furnaceman (born about 1868 in Darnall) in 1890Q2 in Sheffield and began their married life living in Britannia Road, Darnall. They lived for a time in Stockport, Cheshire before moving by the time of the 1901 census to Manchester, where Mr Smith was a railway coach builder.

Children, as known (of 9) - Gertrude, George A., Annie, John, Matilda, Dorothy.

ii. Maria, perhaps Ann Maria, born 1870Q2, died in Dudley 1871Q2.

iii. JAMES JERRARD, [was 585.] born 1871Q3 in Dudley. He married Elizabeth Roberts
(born about 1873 in Rawmarsh, Yorkshire) in 1892Q1 in Hemsworth registration district. At the time of the 1901 census he was in Darnall, Sheffield where he was a collier. His wife ran a confectionery shop from their home at 32 James Street in Darnall, Sheffield.

The children of James Jerrard and Elizabeth (Roberts) Skidmore, born in Darnall, 11 children, of which 7 were living in 1911.

i. Abraham, born 1893Q1. The census of 1901 records that he became ‘crippled for life’ after having a diseased leg in 1897.

ii. James Jerod, born November 1894. On 10 October 1913 at Rotherham, when nearly 19 years of age, he enlisted with the York and Lancaster Regiment, having already worked as a blacksmith at Nunery Colliery for five years. He served with the West Yorkshire Regiment in France from the outbreak of WW1 until July 1915. He suffered a gunshot wound to the neck in April 1916 for which he was hospitalised at Ripon for two months. He was discharged from the army in November 1917. He married Mrs Amy E. Nelson on 25 December 1916 at Stella Parish Church and was a blacksmith in Blaydon. Two daughters.

iii. Charles Thomas, born 1897Q2. He married Lily, known as Cissie, and lived at Darnall. They had thirteen children, two of whom died in infancy. Mr Skidmore died in 1986. Information on this family was kindly provided by daughter Mrs Marshall.


v. Rose, born 1903Q4. She married James and lived in Darnall.

vi. Mary Ann (Polly), born 1905Q4. Married George and lived at Parsons Cross.

vii. Lily, born 1908Q4. Married Henry and lived in Darnall and Handsworth, Yorkshire.

viii. Helen, known as Nelly, born 1911Q3. Married Joseph and lived at Darnall.

ix. George, born 1913.

iv. John Henry, born 1875Q2. He was a 15-year old coal miner at the time of the 1891 census, but by the time of his marriage had become a blacksmith in Hulme, Manchester. He married Rachel Lloyd (daughter of Robert Lloyd, a baker) on 16 May 1910 at St Philip’s, Hulme. He died in on 6 December 1912 at 27 Leaf Street, Hulme, aged 34. Rachel Skidmore married John Cooke in 1913.

and born in Whittingdon,


vi. David, born 1880Q1. He married Mary Ann Whitworth in 1901Q4 and lived in Darnall.

Children of David and Mary Ann (Whitworth) Skidmore, 2 children who did not survive to 1911.

i. Doris, born 1904Q4.

ii. Gertrude, born 1910Q2.

v. Winifred, born 1913Q2.

vi. Elsie, born 1915Q2.


vii. Walter, born 1882Q1. He died aged 18 in 1900Q4.

712. viii. Daniel, born 1884Q2. He married Nora Shanahan (also called Honorah) in 1908Q2 and lived in 1911 at 9 Wetherby Road, Darnall. His wife had a daughter Florence Shanahan born in 1906 in Pitsmoor, Sheffield.

Daniel Skidmore died in 1950 and was buried on 25 April at Burngreave Cemetery, aged 66. His widow died in 1959 and is buried in the same grave.

Children of Daniel and Nora (Shanahan) Skidmore,

i. Thomas, born 1909Q2.

ii. James, born 1914Q3.

iii. A further son born nine years later.
and born in Darnall,

ix. Eunice, born 1886Q2. She died in aged 9 and was buried at Darnall Municipal Cemetery on 1 October 1895.

x. Thomas, born 1892Q2. Thomas was unable to work, at least at the time of the 1911 census, and was recorded as having had a weak heart and fits since birth.

xi. Elsie, born 1895Q1.

xii. Gertrude, born 1897Q1.

vi. Sarah Ann, born in Wednesbury in 1850Q3. In 1861 a servant aged 10 with the family of William Rowell, a puddler, and his wife Zillah in Church Hill, Wednesbury, near to the home of her uncle Henry [205]. She married Charles Sutton, coal miner (born about 1852 in Linton, Derbyshire, son of William Sutton) on 22 July 1872 at St Mary the Virgin, Aldridge. They were living in 1881 at Linton Heath and by 1891 they had moved to 8 Darling’s Yard, Castleford, Yorkshire. In 1901 they were in Church Road, Altofts (near Wakefield in West Yorkshire) with their adopted son Joseph S. Deakin (born about 1885 in Linton), their niece Lois Ball (born about 1893 in Micklefield, Yorkshire) and a cousin James Yardley (born about 1854 in Linton, perhaps the son of Joseph and Sarah Yardley, found in Linton Heath in 1881). She was widowed by 1911.

389. vii. OBADIAH⁸, born about 1854 in Wednesbury. A coal miner, he and his brother Thomas were boarding in 1881 at 77 Concrete Houses, Brampton Bierlow, South Yorkshire, with the family of Samuel and Jane Lockwood. He married firstly Mrs Cassandra Lee in 1882Q2 in the registration district of Mansfield, Derbyshire. Cassandra Hill was born in 1859Q2 in South Normanton, daughter of coal miner Thomas Hill of Blue Bell Yard, South Normanton, and his wife Ann, and was the widow of Joseph Lee (born about 1856 in Hamerton, Huntingdonshire, coal miner of South Normanton). Obadiah and Cassandra Skidmore are found in Church Street, Normanton, Derbyshire in 1891 with two children of Cassandra’s first marriage – Edward Lee aged 11 and Thomas H. Lee aged 10 – and five children of their own.

The South Normanton census of 1901, when they lived in King Street, describes Obadiah as a coal miner and stallman. His sons Reginald and John were colliery pony drivers under ground. Elijah W. Hill, Cassandra’s brother, lived with the family.

Cassandra Skidmore died aged 49 in 1908Q4. Obadiah married secondly in 1909Q4 Amy Sainsbury and was living at the time of the 1911 census at 12 North Street, South Normanton. Further confirmation is needed but she appears to have been Amy Childes, born about 1880 in Blackheath, London, and the widow of Frank Sainsbury. Obadiah Skidmore died in 1923, said to be aged 67.

The children of Obadiah and Cassandra (Hill) Skidmore, born in Normanton,

i. Ann, born 1884Q1. She married George Clarke, a coal miner (born about 1882 in Castle Acre, Norfolk) in 1905Q4. They lived in North Street, South Normanton.

ii. REGINALD⁹, born 1885Q2. He married Harriet Brown in 1910Q3. Harriet Skidmore died on 17 November 1945 aged 57 and is buried in the only Skidmore grave in South Normanton Church yard, together with her husband (died aged 66 on 11 July 1951) and daughter Winifred (died 27 February 1949).

iii. JOHN BENJAMIN⁹, born 1886Q4. Living in 1911 with the family of his sister Ann. He was a coal miner who married Lilian Cooper in 1917 and had three daughters and four sons.


v. Cassandra, born 1890Q1. She died aged 2 in 1892Q2.

vi. Joseph, born 1891Q3. His was perhaps the marriage in the Mansfield registration district in 1919Q3.


ix. ELI⁹, born 1897Q1. He married in 1922.

x. Cyril, born 1898Q4. He married in 1929.

xi. ALFRED ERNEST⁹, born April or May 1900. He married in 1925 and had a daughter.

The South Normanton census of 1911, when they lived in Church Road, describes Obadiah as a coal miner and stallman. His sons Reginald and John were colliery pony drivers under ground. Elijah W. Hill, Cassandra’s brother, lived with the family.

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390. 'THOMAS', born in Wednesbury around 1857. The family lore regarding this man is interesting, as related to me by his grandson John Buckley-Golder. Thomas was said to have lost his parents [I think it more likely they separated for a time or fell on hard times such that they were unable to care for all their children] and was put to a Quaker family. He was required to wear a red cloak and at the age of 11 he ran away but was caught at Burton and returned to Tipton [his parents are known to have been there in the early 1860s]. The next time he ran away he threw his cloak away and made his way to Nottingham where he worked for a while and later made his way to Darnall cum Attercliffe where he found work in the mines. He was certainly a coal miner, lodging in 1881 in Brampton Bierlow, Yorkshire, along with his brother Obadiah. He married firstly Fanny Billam (born about 1863 in Darnall, Sheffield) in 1883Q4 and they were living at the time of the 1891 census at 31 Catcliffe Road, close to his brother Eli. By 1901 they had moved to 30 Craven Road, Darnall where Mrs Skidmore died aged 39 on 10 February 1902. She is buried in Darnall churchyard. Thomas married secondly Mrs Alice Head (born Alice Bond on 7 August 1884 and widow of Thomas Crawford Head) on 19 September 1904 and lived in Greenland Road, Darnall. At the time of the 1911 census, he was boarding with his widowed sister Sarah Ann Sutton in Altofts.

The children of Thomas and Fanny (Billam) Skidmore, born in Darnall,

734. i. JOSEPH, born 1884Q2. He appears to have married Annie Dauris in 1904Q3. Mr Skidmore died in 1961.

   Children of Joseph and Annie (Dauris) Skidmore,
   i. Lilian, born 1904Q4.
   ii. Edna May, born 1907Q1.
   iii. Irene, born 1913Q1.
   ii. Eunice, born 4 August 1886 in Micklefield, Yorkshire. Unice Skidmore married Osborne Hopkinson, a coach painter (born 1883 in Darnall) in Sheffield in 1904Q4. They moved to Cleethorpes, Lincolnshire around 1910. Children, as known - Catherine, Edith, Osborne Enos, Thomas, Harry.
   iii. William, born 1888Q4.
   iv. Edith, born 1893Q1. She trained at an Industrial Training Centre in Liverpool. She married and kept a boarding house in Blackpool and later retired to Cleethorpes.
   v. Ellen, born 1895Q4. She died in Nottingham.
   vi. Kate, born 1898Q2. She married Mark Buckley-Golder in 1919.
   vii. Sissy, born 1900Q2. She had a daughter Doreen and lived in Brightside, Sheffield. Died 2002.

   x. Jane, born 1861Q2 in West Bromwich. She married Noah Ball, a coal miner (born about 1860 in Opengates [?Oakengates], Shropshire, son of Charles Ball) at Brampton Bierlow on 16 November 1879. In 1881 they were living in Linton, Derbyshire, next door to Jane's parents but moved around 1885 to East View, Micklefield, Yorkshire. Mr Ball died in 1896Q2 aged 35.

   xi. Joanna, born 6 June 1864 in Dudley Port, Tipton. At the time of the 1881 census she was a servant in the Mow Cop inn in Mow Cop, Cheshire. Joanna Skidmore married Enoch Jones, a collier of Blackwell, Derbyshire (date of birth in Darley, Shropshire believed to be 6 September 1855), on 28 May 1882 at Blackwell parish church. One of the witnesses to this marriage was Thomas Skidmore, presumably the bride's brother. The birthplaces of their eight children, as declared in censuses, show that Joanna and Enoch lived in Bolton, Castlefield and Wombwell before settling around 1900 in Low Valley, near Darfield, Barnsley, South Yorkshire. She died there on 25 June 1939, Enoch on 8 September 1941. Their great grandson Andrew Howard Jones of Brampton Bierlow, South Yorkshire, kindly provided information on the family of Daniel and Eunice Skidmore.

   Joanna Skidmore

391. xii. ELI, born 1869Q1 in Somercotes. A coal miner of Darnall, he married Kate Guest of Darnall (born
about 1870, daughter of James Guest, coal miner, and his wife Elizabeth) in 1890Q4 in Sheffield registration district. Eli and Kate were living in 1891 in Catcliffe Road, Darnall, together with Eli's mother and his nephew Thomas Skidmore. They remained in Catcliffe Road until at least 1901, when they were living there with four of Kate's brothers.

The children of Eli and Kate (Guest) Skidmore, born in Darnall,
   i. Lizzie, registered as Elizabeth Skidmore Guest in 1888Q4.
   ii. ELI9, born 1891Q3. He appears to be the Eli Skidmore who married Helena Holt in Sheffield in 1913. He died in 1965 aged 74.

Children of Eli and Helena (Holt) Skidmore,
   i. Helena, born 1914Q4.
   ii. William, born 1918Q2.
   iii. Bessie, born 1895Q2.
   iv. Charles Thomas, his birth perhaps registered as Charles Skidmore in Sheffield in 1896Q2. He was a miner of 39 Catcliffe Road, Darnall when he enlisted on 12 December 1916 at Sheffield and became part of the Reserve Battalion of the Coldstream Guards. He gave his mother Kate Skidmore as next of kin. He was not mobilised until April 1918 and remained in England until discharged soon after the war ended to return to his trade.
   vi. Florence, born 1901Q4.

vii. MAURICE9, born 1904Q2. He married in Sheffield in 1928.

viii. Hilda, born 1908Q1.

733. CHARLES THOMAS9 SKIDMORE, [was 586.] known as Tommy, was born in 1878Q2 in Whittingdon, Derbyshire. In the census of 1881 he was living in the home of Daniel Skidmore [206], called Daniel's nephew. He remained with Eunice Skidmore after Daniel's death and was called her grandson in the census of 1891.

He became a coal miner in Altofts and married Evelyn Buckley (born about 1879 in Linton Heath, Derbyshire, daughter of Richard Buckley, a miner) on 11 October 1897 at St Mary Magdalene, Altofts, Yorkshire. (Charles' father is not stated in the marriage register). They were living with their daughters at 2 Hope Terrace, Altofts in 1901, together with Evelyn's widowed grandmother Mary Buckley (born in Ireland) and Evelyn's cousin Charlotte Buckley.

Children of Charles Thomas and Evelyn (Buckley) Skidmore, born in Altofts, baptised at St Mary Magdalene,
   i. Ethel, born 12 July 1898, baptised 7 August. She married William _____.
   ii. Kate, born 11 October 1900, baptised 2 January 1901.
   iii. William, born 26 July 1903, baptised 16 August.
   iv. Doris, born 1906Q3 in Darnall.
   v. Charles T., born 1913Q3 in Hunslet registration district.

105. JAMES6 SKIDMORE, collier of Amblecote, was born about 1787. No baptism has been found for this man, but I am fairly confident he is a son of Jeremiah [54] and Joanna (Cartwright) Skidmore. The names that he gave his children strongly suggest this. Also, his son Benjamin was baptised at the same time as a child of Benjamin [103]. Further, Maria Skidmore (presumably his widow) occupied in 1822 a house and garden adjacent to those of Thomas [101] and Benjamin [103], James' brothers. This mining branch of the Skidmore family was established in the Delph area.

James married Maria Smithyman (baptised 7 November 1784 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, daughter of John and Sarah (Male) Smithyman) on 5 December 1808 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. Jane Wood and William Sedgley were witnesses. James Skidmore died when only 34 years old and was buried on 20 April 1821 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. His widow married Benjamin Pearson at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 16 February 1824. A witness was Sarah Troy. They went to live in Reddal Hill, Rowley Regis and in the 1841 census Maria's daughter Joanna is called Pearson; Henry Walters, Joanna's future husband, and his brother Joseph were also part of the household. Maria Pearson's death could have one of those registered at Stourbridge in 1847Q4 and in 1849Q4.

The children of James and Maria (Smithyman) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Michael's, Brierley Hill,
i. Jeremiah, baptised 5 November 1809. He died an infant and was buried on 6 April 1810.

ii. Maria, baptised 21 July 1811. Maria was a servant when she (as Mary Skidmore) had her daughter,
   i. Martha, baptised at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 27 November 1836, daughter of Mary Skidmore. She married Joseph Page, a labourer in the tube works (born about 1829 in Kingswinford) at St Mark’s, Pensnett in 1853Q4 and lived in Wrights Lane, Old Hill.

Maria married (as Mary Skidmore) John Betteridge at St Martin’s, Birmingham, on 25 June 1838. He was a widower and a coal miner of Garratts Lane, Rowley, son of William Betteridge, a nailer. Maria’s sister Joanna witnessed the marriage, as did Robert Powell. John Betteridge’s first wife was Phoebe Grainger (married 1827 Kingswinford) and they had five children before Phoebe’s death in April 1838. John and Mary Betteridge lived in Old Hill. He was killed in a pit disaster in 1848 and was buried at Netherton. At the time of the 1851 census, Mary Betteridge is found a widow living in Garratt’s Lane in Old Hill with two children of John’s first marriage, her daughter Martha Skidmore, and three children from her marriage to John. My thanks to June Maisey who kindly supplied information on the Betteridge family.

Children, as known - James, Maria, Benjamin, Obadiah.

iii. Joseph, baptised 28 November 1813. He died in Amblecote aged 13 and was buried on 26 October 1827.

iv. Joanna, baptised 4 August 1816. She married Henry Walters, a coal miner of Reddall Hill, Rowley Regis (born about 1822 in Amblecote or Hagley according to different censuses, son of William Walters, a labourer), on 16 December 1841 at St Thomas’, Dudley. Joseph Walters and Elizabeth Barnsley were witnesses. They lived at first in Garratts Lane, followed by Cherry Orchard and then Oakham, Rowley Regis, before moving in the 1870s to 27 Popes Lane, Oldbury, where Henry was a general labourer. Their grandson William Walters (born in Liverpool in about 1867) lived with them. Mrs Walters died in 1883Q2 aged 66.

v. Benjamin, baptised 26 September 1819. He died in Amblecote aged 4 and was buried on 18 July 1824.

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