File 15 of 21 files on descendants out of Kingswinford, Staffordshire.

THE SKIDMORE FAMILY OF STAMFORD HOUSE, AMBLECOTE, 
STAFFORDSHIRE, AND THEIR DESCENDANTS 1780-1915

by Linda Moffatt ©2016

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Linda Moffatt at the website of the Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study 
www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com'.

This was originally part of the book Skidmore Families of the Black Country and Birmingham 1600-1900 by 

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 
The following 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. Information posted online, for 
example at Ancestry.com, is considered to be posted with permission of descendants and is always 
acknowledged as deriving from an online pedigree.
The Skidmore families described here are descendants of

THOMAS SKIDMORE (1750-1821) AND HIS WIFE MARY, née WALKER, OF STAMFORD HOUSE, AMBLECOTE.
He is numbered [56] in my book published in 2004[1].

They had eight surviving sons, seven of whom married and had children. The descendants of these seven sons are described separately below.

- **BENJAMIN** [109] of Darlaston, Staffordshire
  → Waukesha County, Wisconsin 1844
  → Milwaukee, and Monona County, Iowa
  → Birmingham, Warwickshire 1880s
  → Bolton, Lancashire 1860s.

- **JOHN** [110] of Bloomfield & Princes End, Staffordshire
  → Philadelphia PA 1860s
  → Kyneton, Victoria 1856
  → Sheffield, Yorkshire 1870s
  → West Hartlepool 1890s
  → Smethwick 1880s
  → New York City 1840s
  → Bathurst, New South Wales 1870s
  → Wolverhampton
  → Milwaukee, and Monona County, Iowa
  → Birmingham 1880s

- **JOSEPH** [111] of Tipton, Staffordshire
  → Rowley Regis 1839
  → Hay Green & Lye abt 1840
  → West Bromwich 1850s

- **THOMAS** [112] of Tipton, Staffordshire
  → Hill Top, West Bromwich 1830s
  → Shrewsbury, Shropshire 1870s
  → Melbourne, Victoria 1911
  → Glasgow 1880s
  → Wolverhampton 1900s
  → Shrewsbury, Shropshire 1870s

- **CHARLES** [113] of Woodside, Dudley, Worcestershire
  → Cannock, Staffordshire 1880s
  → Barnsley 1910s
  → Earl Shilton, Leics. 1900s
  → Sutton in Ashfield, Notts. 1900s

- **DAVID** [114] of Tipton Staffordshire
  → Old Hill, Staffs 1830s → Wolverhampton 1840
  → Handsworth [Birmingham] 1870s
  → Gartcosh, Lanarkshire 1880s
  → Bellshill, Lanarkshire 1897
  → Toronto, Ontario 1900s
  → Worthington 1860s → Newcastle-u-Tyne 1880s → Salford 1880s
  → Lymm 1900s
  → Bootle 1890s

- **JEREMIAH** [115] of Amblecote, Staffordshire
  → Bournemouth 1900s
  → Rowley Regis 1890s → Hereford 1930s
  → Workington 1890s

Appendix 1 Transcript of the Bible of Jeremiah Skidmore

[1] The code numbers of the heads of household found in Skidmore Families of the Black Country and Birmingham 1600-1900 are retained here.
109. **Benjamin⁵ Skidmore** of Wednesbury, Staffordshire, was the eldest son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, born at Stamford House in Amblecote, Staffordshire and baptised on 8 March 1772 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. He was a butty miner who invested in property in Wednesbury and Darlaston, Staffordshire. It is possible that he had moved to Wednesbury before the time of his first marriage, presumably to exploit new coal pits in the area. On 20 September 1800 Benjamin Skidmore, a coal miner of Tipton, took as an apprentice 10-year old Richard Martin of Wednesbury², and again on 18 August 1807³ Benjamin Skidmore, a miner, took on William Rogers of Wednesbury, aged 7¼.

He married twice and had children by both his wives. His first wife was Phoebe Martin, whom he married on 23 July 1797 at All Saints’, West Bromwich. The witnesses were Elizabeth Walters and Richard Martin. I have so far been unable to find Phoebe Skidmore’s burial.

Benjamin Skidmore was described in the marriage register of St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury as a bachelor at the time of his second marriage, by licence, on 31 August 1807. His second wife Elizabeth Jeavons - a surname sometimes found with the spelling Jevons - was baptised 20 January 1782 at St Bartholomew’s, daughter of Joseph and Sarah Jeavons. The marriage was witnessed by Hannah Dudley and Samuel Jeavons (who was probably Elizabeth’s brother and apparently the man found in the 1821 census for Wednesbury in Shenstone’s Lane). Benjamin and Elizabeth Skidmore were living at Cock Heath in 1811. Local trades directories show that Benjamin owned the Duke of York at Catherine’s Cross, Darlaston. It is possible they owned other public houses since his widow was a publican in Oxford Street, Bilston at the time of the 1841 census.

When he made his will on 9 September 1835 (proved at Lichfield 29 January 1836) Benjamin styled himself a gentleman of Wednesbury. The Bible of his brother Jeremiah states that ‘Benj Skidmore son of Thos and Mary Skidmore died Sept 13 1835 aged 64 Years Darlestone’. He was buried on 16 September at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury, leaving all his estate to his wife Elizabeth. On her death his sons Thomas, Benjamin, John and David were to receive equal shares of the household goods, furniture and other personal estate. These four sons inherited (subject to mortgage) various properties owned by Benjamin in different parts of Wednesbury and Darlaston. Thomas received the house in the parish of Wednesbury in his possession and two other houses in Pinfold Street in Darlaston, Staffordshire, and also a small piece of land belonging to his father which lay at Radley Gutter in Darlaston. Benjamin’s executors were to pay £300 towards paying off the mortgage debt secured upon Benjamin’s property at Cock Heath. Thomas was to receive this property and another house at Summer Hill in the parish of Tipton, Staffordshire. Benjamin’s son Benjamin Skidmore received two houses in Church Hill in Wednesbury and two more in an unspecified part of the town. His sons John Skidmore and David Skidmore received ten houses at Cock Heath which were occupied by Benjamin and his tenants at the time his will was made. £100 owed to Benjamin by his son Isaiah went to his son Thomas. Isaiah is not otherwise mentioned in the will. Probate was accepted by Benjamin’s sons Thomas Skidmore, tailor of Wednesbury and Benjamin Skidmore, cooper of Wednesbury.

Two of Benjamin’s sons emigrated to America - Isaiah in around 1844 and Benjamin in about 1849 or 1850, both to Wisconsin. Elizabeth his widow was living with her son John Skidmore at Old Park, Sedgley in 1851 and, by 1861, with her son David Skidmore in Oxford Street, Bilston.

**The children of Benjamin and Phoebe (Martin) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury.**

i. Mary, buried 2 February 1800, ‘daughter of Benjamin and Pheby Skidmore’.

ii. **Isaiah⁷**, born 19 September 1799, was baptised on 18 November 1810 at the age of 11. At the age of 14 he began his seven-year apprenticeship with a linen draper in Wednesbury. He was resident in Walsall in 1828-29 when he is listed in Kelly’s Directory as a linen and woollen draper on the High Street there.

He married Emily Louisa Harrison on 8 February 1832 at SS Peter & Paul, Aston (Birmingham), witnessed by two people (whose forenames could not be deciphered) called Dickinson. She was born on 1 August 1812 in Walsall, baptised 16 August 1818 at Rushall, Staffordshire, daughter of...

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³ ibid D4383/6/5/214.
John and Ann Louisa (Grove) Harrison. A pedigree deposited with the LDS Church states that all of their first five children were born in Walsall and, indeed, Isaiah was living, of independent means, with his family at Pelsall Common, Pelsall at the time of the 1841 census. His wife’s father John Harrison left a will dated 8 May 1826 (the month in which he died), in which he left his freehold estates to the use of his surviving children Emily Louisa Harrison, Tertius John Harrison, Horatio Shirley Harrison, and John Orlando Harrison. The case Harrison v. Harrison was brought in the Court of Common Pleas and Exchequer Chamber on 5 June 1844 concerning the eligibility regarding the distribution of John Harrison’s estate between his children and his grandchildren.

On 29 July 1844 Isaiah Skidmore and his family arrived in New York, bound for Waukesha County in Wisconsin, where he kept a general store at Jericho, a little hamlet between the towns of Eagle and Mukwonago. He was the first merchant in that area and business was good as Jericho was then one of the principal stopping places in the days of the stage coach. Later he turned to farming, having at the time of his death a total of 320 acres under cultivation at Forest Hill Farm in Waukesha. He was a Justice of the Peace for several terms, was well read, and was known in the community as a walking encyclopaedia. He died on 17 September 1872 at the age of 72. His widow was living in 1880 in Chicago, Cook County, Illinois, with her son Owen. She died at Mukwonago on 19 February 1884 and is buried with her husband in Jericho.

**The children of Isaiah and Emily Louisa (Harrison) Skidmore, born in Walsall,**

i. Cecilia Augusta South, born 3 November 1832. She married William Addenbrooke, a farmer (born in England on 9 January 1832, son of Henry Addenbrooke, master of Walsall Workhouse, and his wife Harriet) on 23 May 1852 at North Prairie, Waukesha and lived in Mukwonago Township. She died on 29 March 1914, her husband on 8 April 1915.


412. ii. **TERTIUS BENJAMIN** 5, born 16 February 1834. In 1850 in the excitement brought on by the discovery of gold (although only 16 years of age) he went to Matinas Creek in El Dorado County, California. After a year experiencing the hardships of life in a mining camp he returned to his parents’ home in Wisconsin. In the spring of the following year he migrated to Australia. He remained there until the spring of 1860 when he returned home for a year and then settled firstly in Cole County, Missouri, and finally (in late 1867) in Lincoln Township, Monona County, Iowa. He acquired 320 acres of land there which he turned into a highly fertile and productive farm.

He married his cousin Elizabeth Emily Skidmore, daughter of Benjamin [222], in Cole County, Missouri, on 11 July 1863. He died on 25 February 1897 and is buried in Whiting Cemetery, Monona County. Elizabeth was living his widow at 338 Maple Street, Waukesha, Wisconsin, in 1920. She died on 23 April 1928.

**The children of Tertius Benjamin and Elizabeth Emily (Skidmore) Skidmore,**

i. Esther Emily, born 20 December 1867 in Spring Lake, Waukesha, Wisconsin. She married Harry Anderson Evans on 14 September 1892 in Onawa, and was living, his widow, with her mother in 1900 and in 1920. She died in Atascadero, California on 25 June 1942.

779. ii. **SHIRLEY TERTIUS**, born 28 March 1871 in Whiting, Monona, Iowa. He married Effie Jane Wonder on 31 March 1892 in Onawa. She was born in November 1870 in Indiana, daughter of William Henry Wonder and his wife Sarah Elizabeth (Beaman) 5. Shirley and Effie Skidmore lived in Monona County, where he was a farmer. Mr Skidmore died in Lincoln Township on 27 April 1944, his wife on 7 January 1947.

**Children of Shirley Tertius and Effie Jane (Wonder) Skidmore,**


ii. Margery E., born July 1897.

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4 Scott’s new reports in the Court of Common Pleas and Exchequer Chamber, Harrison v. Harrison, pp.862-888.
5 As found in an online pedigree.
6 Online pedigree at www.ancestry.co.uk.
413. iii. **HORATIO THOMAS WALTER**, born 27 October 1839 in Pelsall, Walsall. When he was about five years old his parents went to live in Wisconsin. At the age of 14 he went to Australia to visit his brother Benjamin but returned to Wisconsin. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K of the Second Wisconsin Infantry (the Light Guards). The Milwaukee Sentinel for 28 December 1861 reported that Horatio was sick in the hospital where he wrote that the attention was first rate. He went later with his brother to Missouri and then to Lake Township, Monona County, Iowa, where he married in about 1875 Barbara (Thorall) Johnson, a widow and a native of Norway. At the time of the 1880 census he was a farmer in Lake Township, living there with his wife and their two children, and also two stepchildren born in Norway - Aminde and Oliver Rye.

Horatio Skidmore died in Lake Township on 15 May 1882, aged 42.

The children of Horatio and Barbara (Thorall) Skidmore, born in Lincoln Township,

i. Reuben Isaiah, born May 1876 in Lake Township, Monona County. Died February 1893 and is buried at Hite Cemetery, Monona County.


iv. Owen Orlando, born 1841Q4. A miner, he made a trip home in 1868, arriving back in New York on 24 March. He was in Iowa in 1907 but by 1910 was living unmarried at Evanston, Cook County, Illinois, where he died on 4 February 1914 aged 73.

and born in Wisconsin,

v. Marie Louise South, born 15 December 1846 at Eagle, Waukesha County. She married W.B. Stevens on 21 November 1876. In her widowhood, she lived at Freeport, Stephenson County, Illinois and at the time of the 1920 census was with the family of her son Horatio W. Stevens in Pleasant Street there. She died in Freeport on 16 October 1935 aged 88, and was buried near South Wayne, Lafayette, Wisconsin.

414. vii. **JOHN DAVID**, born 10 December 1848. A dairy farmer, he was a director and shareholder in the Jericho and Eagle Creameries. He married firstly Gertrude Louisa Parsons (born 1849, died 12 May 1877, daughter of Jonathan Parsons III and Jane Cross) on 22 February 1876, and secondly Ella Bradley (born 10 December 1848, died 5 July 1934) on 31 January 1884. Mr Skidmore died on 16 September 1929, aged 80 and is buried at Oak Ridge Cemetery, Eagle.

Had issue, an only son,

780. i. **JOHN BRADLEY**, born 7 April 1885. A farmer in Eagle, Waukesha County, he married Della Dewitt (also called Adele, daughter of ______ and Sara Dewitt) on 20 March 1907. They were living in 1920 in Township#14, Wibaux County, Montana but returned to Grafton, Ozaukee County, Wisconsin by 1930.

Children of John Bradley and Della (Dewitt) Skidmore,

i. Emelie K., born around April 1909.

ii. Evelyn, born about 1914.

iii. Harrison John, born 7 September 1920 in Montana. He served in the US Navy during WW2. The Waukesha Daily Freeman reported his death following a car crash on 13 August 1949 in Omaha, Nebraska. He is buried in Oak Ridge Cemetery, Eagle, Wisconsin.


viii. Florence Evelyn, born 1852. She married William Jordan and they were living in Iowa in 1907.

ix. William W., born about 1860.

iii. Benjamin, buried 4 April 1802.

The children of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Jeavons) Skidmore,
iv. George, buried 28 December 1808.

v. George, born 22 October 1809, baptised 11 November 1810 (along with his elder brother Isaiah and four of his first cousins - three children of John [110] and a daughter of Joseph [111]). He died in Darlaston at the age of 24 and was buried on 14 November 1833.

vi. Shadrack, baptised 30 June 1811. He died very soon after at Cock Heath (buried 4 July).

221. vii. THOMAS7, baptised 15 November 1812. A draper and tailor of Wednesbury, he married Elizabeth Lowe (born about 1812 in Darlaston) at St Michael's, Lichfield, on 11 February 1833. At the time of the 1841 census their address in Wednesbury was Butcroft and their near neighbour was Benjamin Lowe aged 20-24, perhaps a relative of Elizabeth. They lived in Darlaston Road in Wednesbury, where Thomas Skidmore died aged 29 on 26 March 1842 and was buried at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury. John Lowe registered his death.

Elizabeth Skidmore married, probably in 1843Q4 in Wolverhampton registration district, Samuel Steatham, a gun lock filer (born in Darlaston and baptised there on 26 March 1815, son of Robert and Hannah). In 1851 they were living at 132 Pinfold Street in Wednesbury (perhaps in one of the houses left to Thomas Skidmore in his father’s will), with Elizabeth’s only surviving child from her first marriage, Benjamin Skidmore, and three children of Elizabeth and her second husband. They later lived at Butcroft, where Mrs Steatham died in 1870Q4 aged 59. Samuel Steatham is presumably the widowed publican living in 1871 at 36 Walsall Road, Wednesbury, with his grandson Samuel Steatham.

The children of Thomas and Elizabeth (Lowe) Skidmore, baptisms and burials at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury,

i. Elizabeth, baptised 12 January 1834. She was buried on 16 October of that year.


iii. Adelaide, baptised 6 March 1836. Buried at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 9 December 1840.

415. iv. BENJAMIN8, baptised 13 May 1838. A mining engineer, he married Maria Scriven in 1861Q2 at St Mark’s, Pensnett. A dressmaker before her marriage, she was born in Brierley Hill about 1834, a daughter of George Scriven10, glassmaker of Dixons Green, and his wife Jane (Ingle). Maria’s parents George and Jane Scriven moved before the time of the 1871 census to Freeth Street, Ladywood, Birmingham and this explains the appearance in Birmingham of some of Benjamin and Maria Skidmore's children.

At the time of the 1881 census Benjamin’s family lived in Gospel Oak New Road in Tipton parish. Their grandson William D.B. Skidmore was living with them, a son of Frances Emily and born in Birmingham about a year before. The Times of 7 February 1883 reported that on 6 February a coroner’s jury at Wednesbury returned a verdict of manslaughter against Benjamin Skidmore, engineer at Willingsworth Colliery in Sedgley (and apparently Benjamin [415]) for having caused on 6 January the deaths of three miners. He used a rope in raising the men which he knew to be defective, one of the strands being broken. When the men were near the surface the rope broke and caused the deaths of all three. A sketch plan of this colliery ‘formerly in lease to Messrs Skidmore and Lewis’ exists at Sandwell Community History and Archives Service. It was adjacent to Ocker Hill colliery.

Benjamin and his family moved by 1891 to Holly Road in the All Saints area of central Birmingham, where he was a coal merchant. Maria Skidmore was widowed by the time of the 1901 census, though her husband’s death registration has not been found. She lived with the family of her son David until her death in Birmingham in 1912Q4 at the age 80.

The children of Benjamin and Maria (Scriven) Skidmore,

i. Frances Amelia/ Frances Emily Cooper, born about 1860 in Aston, Birmingham, appears to have been adopted by Benjamin Skidmore. In

9 Abednego Skidmore appears in a list of children born to this couple, deposited with the LDS Church. I have not found any reference to this child in local records.

10 George Scriven was the son of Joseph Scriven and his wife Phoebe (daughter of Thomas Skidmore (56) and Mary Walker).
1861 Frances A. Cooper aged 2 was recorded as the granddaughter-in-law of George and Jane Scriven. She appears in the census of 1871 as Amelia Skidmore and was married in 1879Q4 (as Frances Emily S. Skidmore) to Samuel Adams, a steel roller in a tube works (born about 1860 in Birmingham). They lived at 4 Hampton Court, Birmingham and later 236 Heath Street.

Five children - as known William, Ada, Laura, Clara.

ii. Elizabeth, born 1861Q4 in Wednesbury. At the time of the 1881 census, when she was a pen maker, she and her sister Florence were lodging at 1, Back of 68 Freeth Street, Ladywood, Birmingham. I have not been able to find her in later censuses.

iii. Florence Maria, born 1865Q1 in Wednesbury. A linen button maker in Ladywood in 1881. She appears to be the Florence Maud M. Skidmore who married Elijah Bartlam, a galvaniser (born about 1866 in Birmingham) in 1888Q4. They lived at 3 Bath Place, Tudor Street, Birmingham and later in Heath Street. Mrs Bartlam died in 1904 aged 36, her husband in 1908 aged 42.

Children, as known - Florence, Elizabeth.

iv. Adelaide Lucy (Ada), born 1869Q3 in Darlaston. She married Harry Small, a tube maker (born in Bilston) in Birmingham in 1891Q4 and they lived close to her parents in Heath Street. Mrs Small died in 1941 aged 72.

Children - Samuel and Ada.

v. **DAVID** born 25 December 1870 at Fire Holes, Moxley, Bilston. A screw and bolt machinist, he married Louisa Baily (born about 1877 in Birmingham, daughter of John Baily) on 6 August 1900 at St Cuthbert’s, Birmingham and was living in 1901 at 2 Rutland Road, Birmingham.

He served with the South Staffordshire Regiment in WW1. After being mobilised on 1 September 1914, at the age of 43, he spent time in Lichfield, Staffordshire and on the island of Jersey. He was posted to France and joined the 2nd battalion on 4 October 1915. On 3 December 1915 in the trenches at Vermeilles, he received a gunshot wound from a sniper. He was in Stoke-upon-Trent War Hospital from December 1915 to March 1916. He was sent out again and received another gunshot wound, this time at High Wood on 14 July 1916, after which he returned home and was discharged from the army in July 1917.

He returned to his family at 275 Heath Street, Winson Green. David Skidmore died in 1935 aged 64, his wife in 1952 aged 75.

Children of David and Louisa (Baily) Skidmore, born in Birmingham,


ii. **ALFRED** born 8 January 1903. He initially worked as a Core Maker with Guest Keen and Nettlefold in Birmingham but at the age of 20 joined the King’s Own Rifle Corps (60th Rifles) served in Ireland and India in WW2. He left the army as a Warrant Officer and became a Civil Servant. He died in 1957, at a relatively young age having never fully recovered from his time as a POW.

He married Alice Maud King (daughter of Daniel Baggett King and Annie Rose Messeder) on 29 January 1938 at St Anne’s Church, South Lambeth, London and had three sons, David, Alan and Trevor. I am grateful to their son Alan for information on the family of David and Louisa Skidmore.
15. Skidmore Families of Stamford House, Amblecote

i. David T. born and died in December 1938.

ii. **ALAN FRANCIS**. He joined the army like his father, but as a boy soldier, and went to the Army Apprentice College in Harrogate. On completing his course, he joined the Royal Engineers and finished his army career as a Lieutenant Colonel. He continued to work for the Ministry of Defence in a civilian capacity and has been active in local civic life. He is recently retired from being a Magistrate and was mayor of the city of Ripon and then of Harrogate and continues as a district Councillor for Harrogate.

iii. **TREVOR RICHARD**. He worked for the British Airports Authority and retired as a Senior Ground Controller at Heathrow Airport.


vi. **LUCY**, born 5 December 1841. Died two days later at Darlaston Road.

222. viii. BENJAMIN, baptised 26 March 1815. He married firstly Hannah Rollason, Error! Bookmark not defined. in 1841Q3, perhaps in Bilston. Hannah was born about 1815 and appears to be the daughter of William and Elizabeth Rowlinson, baptised 15 October 1815 at the Wesleyan Church in Wednesbury (actual register not seen). She was living earlier that year at census time with her widowed mother Elizabeth Rolaston and brothers Eli and William in Temple Street, Bilston. The births of Benjamin and Hannah’s children were registered in Wolverhampton and in West Bromwich. He appears in Robson’s Directory of 1839, a cooper of Oxford Street, Bilston. A cooper was a maker and repairer of wooden vessels, e.g. casks and barrels. When he went to the US he was recorded in the census of 1860 as a master turner.

Benjamin and Hannah emigrated to Milwaukee, Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, about 1849 or 1850. In his obituary Benjamin is said to have gone to America in 1844, but as he had children born after this date in England, this is not likely unless he travelled over with his brother Isaiah but returned home. On 5 April 1852 he was elected First Assistant of [Fire] Engine Company No.5 in Milwaukee, and on 29 March 1856 he was nominated a Commissioner on the People’s Ticket. Hannah Skidmore died at their home in Elizabeth Street on 23 March 1857.

In 1858 Benjamin went home to England on a visit and his trip was closely followed by the editors of the Milwaukee Sentinel. He left on about 20 November and arrived in Glasgow on 7 December. On 25 February 1859 his friends had a dinner for him at the Ship and Rainbow in Oxford Street,

11 In the UK at least, a master was one of three grades of skill recognised by the Guilds of Crafts, a skilled workman or one in business on his own. A turner was a skilled worker who used a lathe to finish or make goods and artefacts of wood.
Birmingham at which his brothers John and David Skidmore were present. By 21 March he was back in Milwaukee ‘looking hale and hearty’. He was now a commission merchant [property broker] and on 1 April 1861 announced his candidacy for Assessor [of property tax] of the First Ward.

Benjamin married secondly Jane Ring (called Jennie). She was born in October 1839 in the parish of St Mildred Poultry, London, England, daughter of solicitor Frederick Ring and his wife Jane O. (______). The Rings had left England in 1858. Benjamin and Jane Skidmore were living in 1900 at 1013 Cambridge Street, Milwaukee, at which time Jane’s 88-year old widowed mother was living with them. Benjamin Skidmore died there on 26 April 1906 aged 92. A few years later Mrs Skidmore made a trip home to England, accompanied by her son Frederick; their names appear on an Ellis Island passenger list of 1911.

The children of Benjamin and Hannah (Rollinson) Skidmore, probably born in Bilston,

i. Elizabeth Emily, born 3 January 1842 and registered as Elizabeth. Elizabeth married her cousin Tertius Benjamin Skidmore [412].

ii. Emily Owen, born 1843Q3. She was buried at Swan Bank Wesleyan Chapel in Bilston on 25 August 1844 aged 1 year 2 months.

iii. Ophelia Agnes, born about 1848. She married Frank Pearce on 15 December 1877 at All Saints’ Cathedral, Milwaukee. They lived in Georgetown, Clear Creek County, Colorado.

The children of Benjamin and Jane (Ring) Skidmore, born in Milwaukee,


v. Berry Benjamin, born 27 May 1864. The Milwaukee Directory of 1889-90 shows he was president of Corbitt and Skidmore, printers and publishers at 450-454 Broadway. Louis J. Corbitt was company secretary and Benjamin’s brother Frederick Skidmore its treasurer. In 1890 Herbert W. Smith of 168 North Avenue, Milwaukee, was the firm’s manager. He was a divorcee by 1910, lodging on North Lincoln Street, Chicago in the home of John J. Davenport, a dry goods salesman, and his sister Minnette E. Davenport (children of William Davenport and Elizabeth Ogden). She was born about 1883 in Pennsylvania of English parents, and she and Benjamin Skidmore were later to marry. Benjamin was a farm land agent until at least 1920 and by 1930 was President of a company which manufactured pumps and steam heat equipment. He and his wife were both living in 1940. Minette Skidmore died a widow on 15 February 1957 at St Joseph, Berrien, Michigan and was buried at Oak Woods, Chicago.

vi. Frederick R., born 28 June 1866. He was working in a clothing store in Milwaukee at the time of the 1900 census and by 1910 was, like his brothers Benjamin and Ralph, in real estate. He does not appear in US censuses after 1910.

vii. Ralph, born 7 March 1879. He was a clerk in a clothing store at the time of the 1900 census. He was associated with the Skidmore Land Company in Wood County, but moved in 1902 to Marinette, Marinette County, Wisconsin, where he married Harriet A. Stephenson (born 9 February 1882 in Marinette, daughter of Isaac and Harriet Augusta Nelson Stephenson) on 27 January 1904. They were living there at 339 State Street in 1920 with their adopted daughter Jane. Ralph and his wife made a trip to England in 1938, arriving back in New York on 7 July. Harriet Skidmore died on 14 September 1950, her husband on 18 January 1957 in Marinette; they are buried in the Forest Home Cemetery, Marinette. An adopted daughter Jane.

ix. **John**, born in Darlaston and baptised on 19 January 1817. At the time of the 1841 census he was a clerk, living in 1841 in Goldthorn Hill Lane, Sedgley with the family of farmer Joseph Moore. White’s Directory of 1851 describes him as an agent and private resident of Old Park, Sedgley, while at the time of the census of that year he gave his occupation as manager of an engine works.

He married Isabella Line Bowen (born in Bilston and baptised there on 28 March 1835, daughter of John Bowen, magistrate’s clerk of Mount Pleasant, Bilston, and Hannah (Skidmore) on 25 October 1856 at St Leonard’s, Bilston. John Skidmore Bowen and Anne Bowen were witnesses. John Skidmore was bonded as manager of Round Oak ironworks, Brierley Hill on 20 June 1857 and

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12 Hannah was the daughter of John Skidmore [110] and so was first cousin to John Skidmore [223].
their home in 1861 was in nearby St John Street, Brockmoor. We know from a Dudley Herald article of 12 September 1908 that he managed these works ‘in the day of the late Mr Richard Smith’, the Earl of Dudley’s principal agent. Round Oak Iron Works was built in 1855 and commenced operations in 1857 - the result of a policy to concentrate the iron trade interests of the Earl of Dudley’s estate at Round Oak. It was an enormous enterprise with 28 puddling furnaces, two hammers, two forge-trains and five mills giving employment to 600 men. Round Oak did much to maintain the reputation of the Black Country for good iron and its four grades of wrought iron were known for their high quality. Richard Smith was instrumental in the reorganisation during the 1840s. The blast furnaces at The Level were enlarged and modernised in 1844 and were later connected with the Round Oak Works on the opposite side of the canal by an inclined plane to form the largest and most technically advanced works in the area.

During the 1860s John Skidmore moved to Nuttall Terrace, Bolton, Lancashire, where he was again a manager of an iron works. By 1881 the family was living at 84 Chorley New Road and in 1891 21 Russell Street. He died in Bolton on 4 May 1893 aged 76 and was buried in Heaton Cemetery. He left a will (not seen) which named as executors his wife and son John Arthur Skidmore, colliery manager. His widow then lived in the home in Bolton of their daughter Annie Maria. She died (leaving a will, not seen) on 21 December 1927 at Longnor House, Trevithin Road, Penzance, Cornwall.

The children of John and Isabella Line (Bowen) Skidmore, born in Kingswinford parish,

i. Thomas Bowen, born 1857Q3. An auctioneer’s clerk in Bolton in 1881, he then lived at Rushworth Colony, Victoria, Australia. However, he died at Markland Hill Lane, Heaton, Bolton in 1904 aged 46 and was buried at Heaton Cemetery on 26 February. His brother John Arthur Skidmore, colliery proprietor, was his executor.

ii. John Arthur, born 1859Q3. A land agent, mining engineer and surveyor in Bolton, he was an executor of his father’s will. He married Annie Hewitt (born Ocker Hill, Wednesbury, Staffordshire, daughter of William Hewitt, a labourer) on 11 March 1889 at St James’, Wednesbury. They lived in Ellerton House, Oxford Street, Bilston, Staffordshire. Annie Skidmore died in Cornwall in 1940 aged 75, her husband in 1949, aged 89. No children.

iii. Annie Maria, born 1861Q2 in Brockmoor. She married John Lomax, an auctioneer, valuer and bailiff (born about 1861 in Bolton, son of John Lomax, auctioneer) on 1 September 1887 at St Peter’s, Bolton-le-Moors. They were living at the time of the 1891 census at 167 Park Road, Little Bolton. They moved to ‘Cheswardine’, Albert Road, Bolton where they remained until at least 1911. No children.

223a. x. DAVID7, baptised 18 April 1819. He began his working life as a tailor in Brierley Hill and appears to have married Elizabeth Clark (born about 1823 in Wellington, Shropshire) in 1838Q3. He was living at his mother’s home in 1841, whilst his wife was apparently living at this time with their son at the home of Maria Clark (née Hazeldine, widow of Joseph Robert Clark) in Tame Street, Bilston. David and Elizabeth Skidmore were living in 1851 at Sand Beds in Wednesbury with her widowed mother Elizabeth Clark. David was by this time a clerk in the iron works. He and his wife then separated and he is recorded as a married man in the censuses up to 1881. He became a colliery proprietor and ironmaster who ran the Moorcroft Colliery and Moxley ironworks, in conjunction with Daniel Rose. Estate and mines at Bradley near Bilston were purchased by Daniel Rose, Skidmore and Griffin on 12 January 1854 from Sir Francis E. Scott, Bart., and Lady Emily Foley13. Moorcroft Colliery was leased in 1863 and again in 1867 to Joseph Foster Lloyd. The partnership between Rose and Skidmore trading as ‘The Moorcroft Colliery Ltd’ was dissolved on 31 December 1867. William D. Griffin released his share to David Skidmore in December 1870.

On 19 May 1886, the Vicar of All Saints, John Wilson, wrote to the Charity Commission asking whether bankruptcy was a bar to serving as a school manager. He mentions two of the Managers of All Saints National School, Moxley, one of whom had gone bankrupt, and the other, David Skidmore, had died the year before. David Skidmore lived at 51 High Street, Moxley. He died in his

13 Birmingham: Archives, Heritage and Photography Service, MS 3883/756, Date 12 January 1854.

Readers interested in the industrial archaeology of this area should consult Bradley, The Nursery of the Iron Trade by Ray Shill, 2011.
office of a heart attack on 22 April 1885\textsuperscript{14} aged 65 and was buried at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. The executors of his will (not seen) were his brother John Skidmore, iron works manager of 84 Chorley New Road, Little Bolton, Lancashire, and John Cartwright, bank manager of Wolverhampton. In 1886 these executors received a judgement against Rose finding they were entitled to recover in respect of all coal removed from the mine at Moxley belonging to David Skidmore since 15 December 1879.

On 29 March 1890 the Birmingham Daily Post carried the following notice:

MR THOMAS J. BARNETT is instructed by the Trustees of the late Mr. David Skidmore, to Offer for Sale by Auction, at the Anchor Hotel, in Wednesbury, on MONDAY, March 31, 1890, at Six for Seven in the Evening, punctually subject to conditions of Sale - the following FREEHOLD PROPERTIES, viz:-

AT MOXLEY.
LOT 1. - The Excellent Detached RESIDENCE, being No. 51, fronting to the main road, at Moxley, with Stable, Coach-house, Garden, &c., as formerly occupied by the late Mr. David Skidmore, and now by Mr. A. Whitehouse.
LOT 2. - The Old-established FULLY-LICENSED HOUSE, called the "BRITANNIA INN," with extensive Out-offices, Yard, &c.; and the Four adjoining DWELLING-HOUSES and Appurtenances, the whole producing a gross rental of £63. 7s. per annum.

The Old-licensed House to Let on a Lease for fourteen years from March 25, 1886.
LOT 3, 4, AND 5. - Eleven HOUSES, with Out-offices, Yards, and Gardens, situate in Old Moxley, the whole being tenanted and producing a gross sum of £98. 16s. per annum.
LOT 6. - Three Acres of BUILDING or ACCOMMODATION LAND, situate at Fire Holes, and Six COTTAGES and Appurtenances standing thereon. Rental, £38 14s.
LOT 7. - A Well-known LICENSED BEERHOUSE, known as the "WOLVERHAMPTON HOUSE," being No. 15, in Pinfold Street, Darlaston, with Out-offices and large Yard, as in the occupation of Messrs. Banks and Co., Brewers, or their sub-tenant, on yearly tenancy.

MINERAL ESTATE AT MOXLEY.
LOT 8. - The Important FREEHOLD MINERAL PROPERTY, known as the "MOORCROFT COLLIERY," embracing a surface area of fifty-four Acres, or thereabouts, and a considerably larger Mineral Area, together with the Engines, Boilers, Winding Gear, Pumping Machinery, Pit Frames, and other Plant; a small Farmhouse and Buildings, four Cottages, Offices, Stores, &c., standing thereon, and the Valuable UNWORKED MINES UNDER THE SAME, to which numerous Shafts are sunk. The Colliery is situate partly fronting to the Bilston and Birmingham Road, and is bounded on two sides by the Birmingham Canal, at Moxley, in the parish of Wednesbury.

For further particulars, and to inspect the plans of the Colliery and of the other lots, apply to Mr. John Skidmore, jun., at the Colliery; to Messrs. Waterhouse and Son, Solicitors, 45 Queen Street; or the Auctioneer, 89, Darlington Street, Wolverhampton.

\textit{A son of David and Elizabeth (Clark) Skidmore,}
\begin{itemize}
  \item i. Ernest Augustine Clerk, baptised at St Leonard’s, Bilston on 28 January 1841, son of David Skidmore, tailor of Brierley Hill, and his wife Elizabeth. His death at the age of 10 months was registered as Ernest Augustus Clarke Skidmore and his burial took place at St Leonard’s on 28 November 1841.
\end{itemize}

\textsuperscript{14} Sheffield Daily Telegraph - Thursday 23 April 1885, p.7, \textit{The Staffordshire Iron Trade}.  

11
110. **JOHN6 SKIDMORE** of Bloomfield, Tipton, Staffordshire, was born at Stamford House in Amblecote and baptised on 27 February 1774 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. John Skidmore, yeoman of Tipton, had a licence granted to marry Phoebe Barnfield of Sedgley (born about 1776 in Tipton). They were married on 16 July 1801 at All Saints’, Sedgley, with Thomas Wills acting as witness. The banns for the wedding were first called five years earlier, in Kingswinford on 26 June 1796, when both were said to be of Kingswinford parish.

Like his older brother Benjamin, John Skidmore and his wife used Wednesbury parish church. However, the baptism entries for his children Frederick and Phoebe indicate that he lived in Tipton parish and a Local Directory of 1818 describes him as a butty collier of Bloomfield, Tipton.

John Skidmore lived to be 56 - his will, made 21 April 1831, reveals that he was 'weak in body' - and his passing at 10.30 pm on Sunday 1 May 1831 (buried 7 May at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury) is recorded in his brother Jeremiah’s Bible. An obituary by preacher John Hickling appeared in the Arminian Magazine and reveals that John Skidmore attended the Methodist chapel in Princes End. He was a Trustee, Steward of the Society and Treasurer of the Sunday School. His executors and trustees were his sons Thomas Skidmore and John Skidmore and his friend John Bowen junior of Bilston, writing clerk, who were to use the proceeds of his real estate for the maintenance of his widow and, after her death, to sell all his real and personal estate for the benefit of his eight children [there follows a list of nine with no punctuation] - Edith the wife of William Holland of Tipton victualler William Thomas Benjamin Hannah John Frederick Phoebe and Francis. The witnesses to the will were Sarah Banks of Bromley Hall spinster, Jeavon Parker of Summerhill shoemaker and Isaiah Millington of Summerhill blacksmith. Probate was granted to Phoebe Skidmore and Thomas Skidmore at the Prerogative Court of Canterbury on 20 October 1831.

Phoebe his widow lived on in Church Lane, Summer Hill, Tipton, on the eastern side of that road, in the seventh house from the workhouse going towards ‘the bridge near the old church’. She derived income as a house proprietor (her husband left freehold, copyhold and leasehold property in Tipton and Sedgley parishes) and had living with her at the time of the 1851 census her granddaughter Hannah Skidmore. Phoebe Skidmore died on 7 February 1860 in Summer Hill, Tipton and her will, made on 6 September 1854 (proved at the Principle Registry with codicil 27 August 1860), refers to the property which she had accumulated since the death of her husband and her wish that her children and grandchildren should receive shares. She mentions her four children Benjamin Skidmore, Edith Furnival, Frederick Skidmore and Phoebe Taylor, her son-in-law John Bowen, grandchildren Anthony Skidmore and Phoebe Skidmore (the children of her late son Thomas), also John Skidmore and Harriet Skidmore the two children of her son Francis ‘who left this kingdom for America some years ago and has not been heard of for several years past. The Executors and Trustees were Phoebe Skidmore’s friends John Yardley, mineral agent (who also accepted probate of the will of her son Thomas Skidmore in 1837) and Joseph Hipkins, butter and cheese factor (brother of Phoebe Hipkins, her daughter-in-law).

When considering the descendants of John [110] it is worth studying the *Annals of the Parish Church, Coseley, Staffordshire, 1830-1911* in which is found a list of ‘twenty-four of the substantial Inhabitants of the District Parish of Coseley’ who were appointed as a ‘Select Vestry for the care and management of the concerns of the Church’ in 1832. I have attempted to identify these men and to indicate their connection with the Skidmore family.

The Reverend Charles Girdlestone, Clerk, Vicar of the Parish of Sedgley, during his Incumbency; The Minister and Church Wardens of the District Parish of Coseley for the time being; and John Round, coalmaster, Daisy Bank; Isaac Hill, maltster, The Boat Inn, Deepfields; Paul Siddens, butcher, Skidmore Row. [He is grandson of Joseph and Mary (Skidmore) Siddens, and the son of Paul Siddens (1754-04) by his wife Hannah (née Harbridge, 1763-13), baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford in 1793]; Thomas Banks, ironmaster, Hill House Row [Dinah Skidmore, daughter of Thomas [99] was servant in 1841 to Thomas Banks, ironmaster of Ettingshall. John Skidmore’s son Benjamin [225] named a son after him]; John Skidmore, coal miner, Princes End; John Griffin, agent, Fullwoods End; John Thompson, maltster, Dark Lane; Benjamin Cope, agent, Old End; Samuel Partridge, provision dealer,

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15 William Salt Library, WA1/2/ 770 A collection of newscuttings and portraits relating to Methodist ministers.
Wednesbury Oak; Richard Caddick, maltster, Wednesbury Oak (the Fox Inn, Gospel Oak Bridge);
William King, miller, Mill Bank, Coseley; William Harris, senr., coal miner, Mamble Square;
William Whitehouse, victualler, Princes End; John Spencer, iron dealer, Princes End;
Joseph Holland, butcher, Princes End. [Probably brother or cousin of William Holland who married Edith Skidmore, daughter of John [110]);
Joseph Marson, agent, Princes End. [There were Siddens-Marson marriages in Wednesbury in the descendants of Joseph and Mary (Skidmore) Siddens].
Thomas Hipkins, farmer, Princes End; Stephen Hipkins, provision dealer, Princes End [probably father of Phoebe Hipkins who married Frederick [227]]; James Hipkins, farmer, Princes End;
Thomas Smith, farmer, Summerhill; Thomas Railston, agent, Deepfields; David Hill, agent, Coseley Moor; William Dunton, tailor, Fullwoods End; Thomas Deakin, agent, Wednesbury Oak.

The children of John and Phoebe (Barnfield) Skidmore, baptised at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury,
i. Edith, baptised 18 February 1798 (on the same day as John the son of Randall and Susannah Barnfield, perhaps a relative). She married firstly William Holland on 7 June 1819 at St Martin's, Tipton, where he was a butcher in Princes End. John Skidmore and Maria Spencer were witnesses. William is mentioned in November 1836 in the will of Edith's brother Thomas Skidmore and was living in 1841.
Children, as known, most baptised at St Martin's, Tipton to 1835 - John 1820, Thomas 1821, William James 1823, Phebe 1825, Benjamin 1827, Joseph 1830, Edith 1833, Frederic 1835. She married secondly, in 1851Q1 at Sedgley, James Furnival, a builder of Brierley village in the parish of Sedgley (born about 1792 in Tipton, son of John Furnival). Their pre-nuptial agreement made Benjamin Skidmore, 'draughtsmen' of Tipton and presumably her brother, trustee of her properties. She was to receive income from a freehold dwelling house and slaughterhouse at Prince's End, fronting the Gospel Oak-Dudley turnpike and occupied by her son, John Holland, butcher. John Holland had first refusal when this property was sold, paying the proceeds in equal shares to her children by William Holland: John, Thomas, William, Joseph and Frederick. Her one-eighth reversionary interest in the real and personal estate of her father John Skidmore and her life interest in the rents of The Bulls Head at Prince's End, were similarly entrusted to her brother. James Furnival died in 1871Q3 aged 79, his widow in 1872Q3 aged 74.
ii. Joseph, buried 23 August 1804 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury.
iii. William, mentioned in the will of his father in April 1831. I have not yet found his baptism. He does not appear in the census of 1841 and was perhaps the 28-year old man of Spon Lane, West Bromwich who died of cholera and was buried at All Saints, West Bromwich on 10 September 1832. (It should be noted that Henry the son of John Skidmore [90] was living in Spon Lane in 1832 and so there is the possibility that the William who died of cholera was another son, otherwise not found in records, of John [90]. See Skidmore Glassmen of Amblecote 1750-1910 by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com).

224. iv. THOMAS7, born 24 November 1804 and baptised 11 November 1810. He was a carpenter of Princes End in Tipton and prominent in the local business community. He appears in Kelly's Directory of 1828-29, a carpenter and builder of Summer Hill, Tipton. The registers of St Martin's in Tipton show the baptism of Ann, daughter of Thomas and Sarah Skidmore. If this is indeed Thomas [224] then he was also at that time a victualler of Church Lane, Summer Hill. He was apparently the Thomas Skidmore who was innkeeper at the Bull's Head, Princes End, in 1834 (an establishment mentioned in the pre-nuptial agreement of his sister Edith to James Furnival). The T. Skidmore of the James Bridge Inn, Darlaston, shown in Robson's Directory of 1839, is difficult to identify and could be one of his five cousins called Thomas Skidmore, most probably [221]. He married Sarah Robinson (baptised 12 June 1808 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury, daughter of Anthony and Sarah Robinson of Lea Brook, Wednesbury) on 30 October 1827 at St Martin's, Tipton. Anthony Robinson in 1830 was running the Golden Cup Inn, Toll End, Tipton, and was later a pawnbroker in Lea Brook, Wednesbury, assisted by his then widowed daughter. The marriage witness Joseph Holland is presumably a relative of William Holland who married Thomas' sister Edith Skidmore and possibly the man who ran the Bull's Head in Princes End. Thomas and Sarah Skidmore had three children before his untimely death at the age of only 32 (buried 22 February 1837 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury). His will, made on 1 November 1836, proved at Lichfield on 11 May 1837, named as executors his wife, his brother-in-law John Bowen, gentleman of Bilston, and John Yardley, a mine surveyor of Tipton.
Sarah and her children went to live at her parents’ home at 73 Dudley Street, Wednesbury, where she died on 7 January 1876 at 73 Lea Brook, aged 67, buried at St Bartholomew’s.

The children of Thomas and Sarah (Robinson) Skidmore, baptised at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury,

i. Ann, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 16 September 1828, buried 9 January 1829 at Wednesbury, an infant of Tipton.

ii. Anthony, baptised 4 April 1830 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. At the age of 12 he was at a school in Bridge Street, Wednesbury run by Peter and Ellen Turner. Anthony Robinson Skidmore married, at Holy Trinity, Smethwick in 1879Q1, Eliza Fisher, a shopkeeper in Lower Dudley Street, Wednesbury (born about 1836 in Oldbury or West Bromwich, the widow of Richard Sandall, victualler). Anthony Skidmore was boarding at the time of the 1881 census with the family of groom John Fellows at 8 Vicarage Road, Wednesbury. He died in 1887Q1 aged 56. His wife Eliza was living at 129 Paisley Road, Govan, Glasgow, at the time of the 1881 census, called a chemist’s wife. With her were her two children, both born in West Bromwich; Eliza Jane Sandall, a dressmaker born 1860Q1, and Edwin Sandall, a brass finisher born 1862Q1. By 1891 she was sharing the Paisley Road home with the family of her married daughter Eliza Jane, wife of James Holmes.

iii. Phoebe, born in Princes End and baptised 1 April 1832 at Wednesbury. She married Joseph Edward Sheldon, a solicitor and farmer (born about 1833 in Wednesbury, son of Joseph Sheldon, licensed victualler) on 30 August 1866 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. They were living in 1881 at 3 Oakwell Terrace there. After her husband’s death in 1886 Mrs Sheldon lived with her daughter Ada at Fair View, Walsall Road, Wednesbury. She died in 1903.

iv. Benjamin, born 2 August 1806, OF WHOM MORE LATER.

vi. Hannah, born 5 November 1808, baptised 11 November 1810, along with her brothers Thomas and Benjamin, and two cousins, the children of her father’s brother Benjamin Skidmore. She married, by licence, John Bowen, articled clerk of Wolverhampton (born about 1804 in Bilston) on 2 February 1832 at St Martin’s, Tipton. Thomas Bowen and Phoebe Skidmore, presumably Hannah’s sister, were witnesses. John Bowen, gent of Bilston, was mentioned in 1836 as one of the executors of the will of Thomas Skidmore, his wife’s brother. Hannah Bowen died in 1846Q4. Their daughter Isabella Line Bowen married John Skidmore [223], Hannah’s first cousin.

vii. John, baptised 22 September 1811. He became a miller in Tipton and died on 4 February 1839 of consumption, at the age of only 27. He was buried at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 11 February 1839.

viii. Frederick, baptised 15 May 1814. He married Phoebe Hipkins on 27 June 1836 by licence at All Saints’, Sedgley. George Foster and Mary Hipkins, her sister, were witnesses. Phoebe was born in Sedgley parish and baptised on 17 April 1814 at St Martin’s, Tipton, daughter of Stephen Hipkins, an ironmonger, and his wife Nancy (Baker). The Hipkins family were prominent in the affairs of Coseley parish church at this time. Frederick appears in Bridgens Directory of Sedgley for 1838 as a hatter of Princes End. The 1841 census describes him as a tailor and White’s Directory of 1851 adds that he was a beer house keeper. He and his wife ran the Red Lion inn in the High Street, Brierley village. He died on 1 May 1877 aged 63 and Mrs Skidmore went to live in Willenhall with the family of her daughter Mary Hannah. She died in 1889 aged 75 and was buried on 6 May, like her husband at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury.

The children of Frederick and Phoebe (Hipkins) Skidmore,

i. Phoebe Terry, baptised 13 August 1837 at Christ Church, Coseley. The name Terry comes down from the family of her mother Phoebe who had a sister Hannah Terry Hipkins born in 1820. Phebe Skidmore died at Princes End on 6 October 1843, aged 6 years and 8 months.

ii. Ann, born 1838. She does not appear after the 1841 census and is perhaps the Ann Elizabeth Skidmore whose death was registered at Dudley in 1843Q2.

iii. Mary Hannah, born 12 January 1840 in Tipton, registered as Hannah Mary. She married William Nurse, stocktaker at an iron works (born 16 December 1833 in Tipton, son of Charles Nurse, a ‘tin man’ of Princes End, and his wife Amelia) on 8
ix. Phoebe, baptised 4 August 1816. She married George Taylor, also of Tipton parish, a mine agent (born about 1816 in Darlaston) on 2 January 1838 at St Matthew's, Walsall, witnessed by Job Taylor and Ann Taylor. They were living in New Road, Tipton in 1841, their first child was born in Willenhall two years later, but around 1848 they moved to Freystrop, Pembrokeshire where Mr Taylor was a colliery agent. Phoebe Taylor was remembered in the will of her mother in 1854 and it was around this time that the family returned to the Midlands. By the time of the 1861 census their home was in George Street, West Bromwich. Children, as known - Ann, George, Job, John Thomas, William Henry, Georgina Louisa Price.

228. x. FRANCIS⁷, born 1819, OF WHOM MORE LATER.

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225. BENJAMIN⁷ SKIDMORE, born 2 August 1806 and baptised on 11 November 1810 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury. He married Esther Weymouth (born about 1814 in Bristol) on 13 March 1834 at St Brides, Fleet Street, London, witnessed by Emma Weymouth and Elizabeth [?]Harniman. Their first child John Edward was born in London and when he was baptised at St Pancras Old Church in 1835 Benjamin was a millwright of Drummond Street. They moved soon after the birth of their second child to Wordsley, Staffordshire where Benjamin was an engineer until at least 1841. They spent a short time in Tunstall in north Staffordshire around 1843, before returning to the Black Country to settle near his older brother in Church Lane, Tipton.

He appears to be the man who gave evidence at the inquest into the deaths of five men following a boiler explosion at Hickman's works at Lea Brook in Wednesbury in January 1856. Benjamin, who was head engineer at the adjacent Bagnall's ironworks, gave his opinion to the court on the likely causes of the explosion. The case was reported in full in The Manchester Guardian of January 22 and 23.

Benjamin died in Church Lane on 21 January 1859, leaving a will (not seen), probate being accepted at Lichfield by his son Benjamin Skidmore, writing clerk of Tipton, and his brother Frederick Skidmore, victualler of Princes End in Sedgley parish. It seems Benjamin Skidmore is the man who appears in Melville's Directory of 1852 as the owner of a shoe warehouse in Church Lane in Tipton; his widow Esther remained in Church Lane with her children and was recorded as a shoemaker at the time of the 1861 census. By 1871 they had moved to Railway Street in Tipton. Her daughter Esther had been married and widowed in the intervening decade and was living with her young son at her mother’s home. Benjamin’s widow must have been a resourceful woman for she took over the running of the New Inn in Neenton, Shropshire, no doubt with the help of her unmarried daughter Edith, who was living there with her mother in 1881. They also cared for George H. Evans, Esther’s grandson. Esther Skidmore died there in 1884Q1 aged 69.

The children of Benjamin and Esther (Weymouth) Skidmore,

415a. i. JOHN EDWARD⁸, born 4 May 1835 in London, baptised on 3 June 1835 at St Pancras Old Church. He appears to have travelled to Australia in 1856 with his younger brother Thomas, describing himself on the passenger list as a carpenter aged 22. He returned before 1861 and became a pattern maker in Birmingham. He was living in Smith Street, Birmingham at the time of his marriage on 15 August 1863 at St George’s, Birmingham. His wife was Mrs Mary Ann Jones of Smith Street, Birmingham (baptised 13 August 1837 at Smethwick, daughter of George Neale, a brass caster, and his wife Elizabeth). John Hollins and Eliza Hollins were witnesses. John E. Skidmore, a married pattern maker born in England, was living at 160 Siegel Street, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania when he died on 20 September 1866 aged 31. He was buried at a place called Odd Fellows.¹⁶

A son of John Edward and Mary Ann (Neale) Skidmore,

782. i. ALBERT EDWARD⁹ appears to be the man said in the US 1900 census to have been born in England in March 1864. He was baptised 31 July 1864 at Christ Church, West Bromwich, son of John Skidmore, a pattern maker of Neal Street, and his wife Mary

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Ann. He stated in this same census that he had arrived in the US in 1867 which is somewhat later than would be expected, given that his father died in Philadelphia in 1866.

He married Caroline (Carrie) Frey (born 1870 in New Jersey of German parents) in 1889. They lived in Newark, New Jersey, where Albert Skidmore was a steamfitter.

**Children of Albert Edward and Caroline (Frey) Skidmore,**

i. Ida T.M., born September 1890.

ii. John E., born 20 December 1893. He died before 1900.

iii. Albert Frederick, born 16 December 1894. He died 29 October 1960 and is buried in Hollywood Memorial Park, Union, New Jersey.

iv. HAROLD JOSEPH, born 25 October 1897.

416. ii. THOMAS BANKS, baptised 18 June 1837 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. He was a house painter of Victoria and New South Wales, and is thought to be the son of Benjamin [225] and Esther (Weymouth) Skidmore, though some inconsistencies need to be resolved. If correctly identified he was born in Birmingham and baptised on 18 June 1837 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. He emigrated to Australia, giving his age as 20 on the passenger list of the ship Royal Charter which arrived at Victoria on 8 December 1856. Directly beneath his name is that of John Skidmore aged 22 and also a carpenter, presumably his brother. At the time of Thomas' first marriage he said he was 21 and that his parents were Benjamin Skidmore, a plasterer, and Mary Ann Wade. However, when he died his daughter Hester was unable to name his father but gave his father's occupation as civil engineer and his mother’s name as Esther. When his children's births were registered he gave his name as Thomas Skidmore, except at Esther’s birth, when he called himself Thomas Bank Skidmore, the strongest clue to his being the son of Benjamin [225].

Thomas was to spend 31 years in Victoria. He married there at the Catholic Church in Kyneton on 5 December 1857. His first wife Mary Ann Kinna was born about 1839 in Sydney, the daughter of Austin Kinna, a builder, and his wife Margaret Meecham. Thomas was perhaps involved in painting the properties his father-in-law built. In 1866 he had a shop in Piper Street in Kyneton. Next to him in the census was a widow Mrs Kennar, perhaps his mother-in-law.

Around 1883 the family moved to New South Wales and in about 1899 Thomas married Ellen Hanagaw in Waterloo, Sydney. He died of nephritis on 26 October 1901 aged 67 at 20 Botany Road, Alexandria, New South Wales and is buried in the Roman Catholic Cemetery in Waverley. My thanks to Betty Priestly of New South Wales, great granddaughter to Thomas and Mary Ann, for information on this family.

**The children of Thomas and Mary Ann (Kinna) Skidmore, born in Kyneton, Victoria**, 18

i. Clara, born 1858. She perhaps married James Campbell in 1897.

ii. Esther Edith (called Hester), born 1860.

iii. HENRY JOHN (called Harry), born 1862 (whose birth registration has not been found). He was a painter like his brother Thomas. Harry Skidmore married Mary Emma Osborne on 23 February 1883 in Melbourne, Victoria. She was born in 1867 in The Loddon (near Castlemaine), Victoria, daughter of William Thomas and Mary (Penrose) Osborne. Henry J. Skidmore died in 1908 in Sydney, reportedly from lead poisoning and was survived by his wife.

**Children of Harry and Mary Emma (Osborne) Skidmore, born in Victoria,**


ii. Leslie Thomas, born 1886 in Hotham, Victoria, died 1944 in Granville, NSW. He married Isabella J. Thorpe in 1912 in Sydney. He married secondly in 1933.


iv. Edward William, born 1890 in Hotham East, Victoria. A printer in

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17 A town in central Victoria, Australia, on the Campaspe River, about 50 miles (85 km) northwest of Melbourne. Squatters settled in the region in 1836–41; the town was surveyed in 1849 and named after Kineton (now known as Kington) in Hertfordshire, England. Ref. Encyclopaedia Britannica.

18 Australian Birth Index 1788-1922.
Sydney, he married Ida Blanche Glew on 25 January 1910 in St Paul’s Church of England, Sydney, NSW, witnessed by his brother Leslie and by Elizabeth Rook. She was born 1893 in Rylstone, NSW, daughter of Laura L. V. Glew. Mary Skidmore, mother of the groom, and William Ridley, J.P. Guardian of Minors for the bride, gave consent to the marriage.

Edward enlisted in the AIF at Surry Hills, NSW and became a Private as No 108 in 4th Battalion AIF. The Australian War Memorial Roll of Honour records show he was killed in action on 21 May 1915 at Gallipoli, aged 23 years and is commemorated in 6 Lone Pine Memorial, Panel 42.

vi. Clara Florence, born 1892, died 1893 in Sydney.

and born in Sydney, New South Wales.

vi. Eileen Ada May, born 1895 in Sydney, NSW, died there in 1921. She married Curtis Palmer Lee in 1911.

vii. Thomas S., born 1898.

viii. Edith M., born 1903.


iv. Thomas, born 1864. A painter like his brother Harry. They both died from lead poisoning.

v. Austin Joseph, born 1866.


iii. Emma, born 18 January 1839, baptised 25 December at Holy Trinity, Wordsley. She married Frederick Benjamin Hankinson, grocer of Dudley (born about 1842 in Macclesfield, Cheshire, son of Joseph Hankinson, Governor of Stone Union [Workhouse] near Stoke-on-Trent), on 14 August 1865 at St Thomas’, Dudley. Joseph Watson and Emma Wright were witnesses. They moved around 1872 from the Great Bridge/ Horseley Heath area to Newcastle-under-Lyme and then Stoke-on-Trent. Mr Hankinson died in 1888Q2 aged 45 and his widow and children were living at the time of the 1891 census in Lichfield Street, Hanley. Emma Hankinson died in 1899Q2 aged 59.

iv. Esther, born in Wordsley on 7 September 1840, baptised 25 December 1840. She married firstly Henry Evans on 4 February 1867 at St Edmund’s, Dudley. She was a widow by 1871 and living with her 2-year-old son George Evans at her mother’s house in Tipton. Her son was living with his grandmother in 1881; Esther Evans married secondly, on 8 August 1877 at St Peter’s, Bradford, Walter Shaw, a 37-year old houseman of 6 Mount Pleasant, Bradford (son of John Shaw). Esther was then a nurse at Bradford Infirmary.

v. Benjamin, born in the Potteries on 15 December 1842 and baptised on 15 January 1843 in Tunstall. He was baptised for a second time at St Martin’s, Tipton, on 24 July 1853, together with his younger siblings William, Alfred, Edith and Frederick James. He was a ‘money’s clerk’ in 1861, and has not been found in later censuses.

born in Princes End, Tipton.

417. vi. WILLIAM6, born 1 April 1845, baptised 24 July 1853 at St Martin’s, Tipton. He became a moulder and married Mary Catherine Golding (born in Welney, Cambridgeshire, daughter of Walter Golding, a blacksmith) on 27 April 1879 at St Peter’s, West Bromwich. At the time of the 1881 census William and his wife and daughter were living at 54 Albert Street, West Bromwich. They had moved by 1891 to George Street, Smethwick, where William became a fishmonger. He died in 1895Q2 aged 50 and Mary married secondly in 1900 widower James Smith, a maltster’s waggoner of Smethwick.

A child of William and Mary Catherine (Golding) Skidmore, The adopted child of William and Mary Catherine (Golding) Skidmore,

i. Julia, born July 1877 in West Bromwich and baptised at St John’s on 28 November 1879, a ‘foundling adopted by William and Mary Skidmore’. She died in 1883Q3 aged 6.

418. vii. ALFRED6, born 30 November 1847, baptised 24 July 1853. He married Sarah ______(born about 1840 in Wem, Shropshire) and was a porter, living in 1881 with his family at 22 Sycamore Street, Sheffield, Yorkshire. If correctly identified Sarah Skidmore died in Sheffield in 1883 aged 42 and was buried on 27 June at City Road Cemetery. Alfred Skidmore, a porter of 17 Cherrytree Yard,
died in 1886, said to be aged 42, and was buried on 16 November. I have so far been unable to find their two known children in the census of 1891.

The children of Alfred and Sarah Skidmore, born in Sheffield,

783. i. **ALFRED**, born 1874Q2. A coal miner, he married Olive Vaughan (born about 1876 in Handsworth, Yorkshire) in 1898Q4 in Shefield and lived at Hollinsend, Handsworth, Yorkshire. He died in November 1953 and was buried at Intake Cemetery, Shefield.

Children of Alfred and Olive (Vaughan) Skidmore,

i. Thomas Edward, born 1899Q3 in Handsworth, Yorkshire.

ii. Harriet, born 1902Q1.


ii. Ann Elizabeth, born 1875Q3. (Called Annie). She married Sidney Greenfield, a colliery shot firer and 'airway man' (born about 1876 in Leek, Staffordshire, son of Samuel Greenfield, a coke burner) on 3 November 1898 at St John the Baptist, Royston, West Yorkshire. They lived in Darfield.

Children Samuel, Emily, Sarah Jane, Enoch, Alice Maud, Lilian, Phyllis.

viii. Edith, born 24 February 1851, baptised 24 July 1853. She was living unmarried in 1881 with her mother and nephew George Evans at the New Inn at Neenton, Shropshire.

419. ix. **FREDERICK JAMES**, born in Church Lane, Tipton on 12 June 1853, baptised 24 July 1853. He moved north in search of work and was a boiler maker in 1881, lodging with Joseph Cockerham and family in the hamlet of Chapeltown, Ecclesfield, Yorkshire. He married Margery Mary Steel (born 9 December 1859 in Newcastle Upon Tyne) in 1882Q2 in Sunderland registration district.

Around 1890 Frederick moved to be a foreman in the shipyards in Beverley, Yorkshire and his family moved soon after from Clyde Street, Sunderland to join him. By the time of the 1901 census he and his family were living at 21 Slater Street, West Hartlepool, where Frederick was a riveter in the shipyard.

He moved to Canada around 1907 and at the time of the 1911 British census his wife and four youngest children were living at 36 Hilda Street, West Hartlepool. She followed with Harry and Doris, arriving on 13 May 1912 aboard the Corsican.

Frederick Skidmore died on 4 July 1931, a boilermaker of Commonwealth Avenue, Scarborough, Toronto. He was aged 79 years 5 months and 22 days and had been in Canada for 24 years when he died. He was survived by his wife, who died on 16 November 1938 aged 78.

My thanks to descendant Dick Skidmore for information on this family.

Children of Frederick James and Margery Mary (Steel) Skidmore,

i. Sarah Esther, said to have been born 3 May 1884 in County Durham (baptised at St Cuthbert's, Monkwearmouth) but probably the Sarah Hester Skidmore whose birth was registered in 1883Q2. Sarah Esther Skidmore married Edward Robinson in Leicester in 1907Q3.

784. ii. **ROBERT FREDERICK**, born 9 June 1885 in Newcastle Upon Tyne. A riveter in the West Hartlepool shipyard in 1901. He joined the Coldstream Guards and at the time of the 1911 census was in barracks in Hampshire with the 2nd Battalion.

He married Matilda Parker Quaife in 1912Q3 in the Paddington area of London and had two children there before emigrating with his family in 1916 to Canada, arriving on 23 September aboard the Missanabie. On 7 April 1917 he and his wife Matilda Parker Skidmore were at 73 Hamilton Street, Toronto. On this date he enlisted for the 208th Battalion of the Canadian Over-Sea Expeditionary Force. He had formerly served as a private for 6 years in the Coldstream Guards and been discharged unfit owing to a gunshot wound to the right eye.

By the time of the 1921 census the family had moved to 98 Wanstead Avenue, Scarborough, Ontario.

Children of Robert Frederick and Matilda Parker (Quaife) Skidmore, born in Paddington,

i. Dorothy M., born 1913Q3.

ii. Frederick J., born 1915Q4.

iii. Margery Spoor, born 1887Q3 in Durham. She married, in 1906Q2 in Sunderland, David Huntington, a carpenter in West Hartlepool for the North Eastern Railway. She
died in 1950 in the West Hartlepool area, aged 62.
Children - Caroline, David, Margery R., Irene, Doris, Frederick W.
iv. Mary Edith, born 1890Q1 in Durham.

**born in Beverley, Yorkshire,**

v. Eleanor, born 1890Q1 in Durham. She married Frederick James Scott, a timber labourer (born 1889 in Durham), in 1910Q2 in Sunderland.

785. vi. **AMBROSE HARDING STEEL**, born 21 January 1894. He emigrated to Canada after 1911 and was a worker in a piano factory in Toronto. He married Violet Marguerette Woodburn (daughter of Jacob and Thomasine Priscille [Hoidge] Woodburn) on 15 September 1923 and was living in Commonwealth Avenue, Scarborough, Toronto when he died of endocarditis on 16 June 1928 aged 35. He is buried at St John’s Cemetery.

A son.


x. Doris Spoor, born January 1905. She died of broncho-pneumonia on 13 June 1917 at their home in Toronto, aged 12 years 5 months.

420. x. **HARRY**, born 1855Q2. A boiler maker, he married Margaret Ridding (born about 1860 in Kilverstone, Lancashire, daughter of John Ridding) on 2 April 1879 at Ulverston Parish Church, Lancashire. They went to live in Peckham, London, where they are found at 2a Alexander Street in the 1881 census. Elizabeth Ridding aged 18, presumably a relative of Margaret Skidmore, was visiting their home.

Harry Skidmore moved about in search of work. They left London in the early 1880s and their second child Esther was born in West Bromwich, Staffordshire. By 1891 they were in Halford Lane, Smethwick, then lived for a time in Warrington, Lancashire before moving to Leicester by the time of the 1901 census. Harry Skidmore died in Leicester in 1919 aged 64, his wife perhaps in 1939 aged 78.

**Children of Harry and Margaret (Ridding) Skidmore,**

Two further children who did not survive.

i. Rose Florence, born 1881Q3 in Kent Road, Camberwell. A shoe fitter in Leicester, she married there in 1907Q2 George Edwin Billingham, an iron turner of Leicester. They were living in 1911 at 30 Houghton Street. Rose Billingham died in 1934 in Leicester, aged 52. A son George H. Billingham.


787. iii. **HARRY**, born 1892Q2 in Smethwick. He appears to have married Annie Bailey in Leicester in 1915Q4.

**Children of Harry and Annie (Bailey) Skidmore,**

i. Marjorie, born 1916Q2.

ii.-iii. A further daughter & a son.

iv. Margaret, born in Warrington, Cheshire, in 1894Q2. She is probably the Margaret Skidmore who married John Taylor in Leicester in 1916Q1.

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The seventh son of John and Phoebe (Barnfield) Skidmore,

228. **FRANCIS** SKIDMORE, born in Tipton and baptised at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 13 December 1818. He was a bootmaker living in High Street, Bilston when he married his first wife Sarah Evans (born about 1821, daughter of James Evans, a baker) at the Collegiate Church, Wolverhampton on 28 January 1839. He was presumably involved in the business owned by his brother Benjamin in Church Lane, Tipton and at the time of the 1841 census Francis and Sarah lived at Princes End with their two children. She was carrying their third child when Francis left for America in the spring of 1842, probably travelling (and recorded as Egius Skidmore aged 23) on the ship *Kalamazoo* which arrived in New York on 6 April. It seems he returned to England since he is named as the father of William who was born in March 1847 in Wolverhampton, when Sarah Skidmore was
living in Salop Street, Wolverhampton.

Francis Skidmore married Mary Ann Searles (born about 1830 in Ireland) on 1 December 1846 at the Bedford Street Methodist Church in New York City. He appears first in the New York City directory for 1846-47, when he was a shoemaker living at 115 Sherriff Street (between Stanton and Houston Streets) in the 11th Ward of Manhattan in what is now the Lower East Side. He was there again in the following year but moved soon after to the 1st Ward of Orange in Essex County, New Jersey. He is enumerated in the 1850 census in Orange and again in 1860 where he was still called a shoemaker. His mother in her will of 1854 mentions that he had not been heard of for 'some years past'; she left bequests to his two children John and Harriet (but not William) who remained in England. There is no probate for him or his wife in Essex County, New Jersey. Mary Skidmore was living a widow at East Orange in 1870 with her three sons.

His wife Sarah (Evans) was living at the time of the 1851 census in Temple Street, Bilston as the wife of William Yates (born about 1818 in Wednesbury, son of Richard Yates), whom she married on 29 June 1856 at All Saints', Sedgley. Mr and Mrs Yates moved to North Road, Wolverhampton, while at the time of the 1861 census John Francis Skidmore and his sister Harriet were living in Bilston with their maternal aunt and uncle Harriet and Thomas Higgins.

The children of Francis and Sarah (Evans) Skidmore,

421. i. JOHN FRANCIS, born 1 August 1839 in High Street, Bilston. An engine fitter, he married his first wife Rebecca Allen (born about 1837 in Sedgley, daughter of Simon and Mary Allen) at Christ Church, Coseley in 1861Q2 and they were living in 1871 at 54 Hollywell Street, Ettingshall (Sedgley parish). They emigrated soon after to Australia, though it appears that their eldest child Mary stayed in England or at least returned some time before 1891. The family appear on a passenger list for the Baroda, from Galle (a natural harbour, located in Galle, on the south-western coast of Sri Lanka) to Sydney in July 1873. Rebecca Skidmore died in Australia in 1879 and John married secondly Emma Louisa Elphick (born in 1854 in Bathurst, daughter of Henry and Louisa (Burton) Elphick) on 24 May of that year in Bathurst, New South Wales. Emma Skidmore died on 11 October 1901, her husband on 8 April 1918.

The children of John Francis and Rebecca (Allen) Skidmore,

i. Mary Emma, born 1863Q1 in Bilston. Mary E. Skidmore (single, aged 27 and born in Bilston) was living in 1891 at Court 3, 3 William Street in central Birmingham, a screw worker, with Annie Clough (born about 1859 in Oswestry and called Mary Skidmore's sister), a press worker, and Albert Clough (born about 1882 in Birmingham, who appears to be Mary's son). By 1901 (when she was recorded as a widow) she was a charwoman, living at the back of 180 Halford Lane, Smethwick with her son Albert and daughter Mabel or Isabel aged 2.

Children of Mary Emma Skidmore,

i. ALBERT HENRY, registered with the surname Skidmore in 1881Q3 in Birmingham. He was recorded in the 1891 census with the surname Clough but was known thereafter as Skidmore. He was a tram conductor in 1901. He married Annie Matthews (born about 1882 in Bristol) in 1903Q4 and by 1911 was an axle box fitter at the railway carriage works in Smethwick.

Children of Albert Henry and Annie (Matthews) Skidmore, born in Smethwick,

i. Elsie May, born 1904Q2.
ii. Annie, born 1906Q2.
iii. Albert Henry, born 1908Q2.
iv. Dorothy, born 1911Q1.
v. Ivy, born 1913Q1.
vi. Mabel E., born 1915Q3.
ii. Isabel, born about 1899 in Smethwick.
iii. Mary, born about 1903.

Grace Maud, born 1868Q3 in Bilston. She died in Australia in 1888.

789. iii. ROLAND JOHN, born 1870Q3 in Sedgley parish. He married Catherine Dobbie in
1900 in Woollahra, New South Wales.

The son of Roland John and Catherine (Dobbie) Skidmore,

i.  Arthur J., born in 1901 in Sydney, NSW.

789a.  iv.  FRANCIS ERNEST⁹, born 18 August 1872. He was appointed as a marine engineer to the Department of Public Works on 5 October 1900. He married Caroline Llewellyn in 1899. He died in Hamilton, Newcastle on 30 January 1939, his wife on 27 October 1859. They are buried in Sandgate Cemetery, Newcastle.

Children,

i.  Rowland Llewellyn, born 1902. A fitter in Hamilton, he married Jean Cleghorn _____.

ii.  EURONEVY GWEN (Gwen), born 1903. She died on 10 July 1917.¹⁹

born in Bathurst, New South Wales,


The children of John Francis and Emma (Elphick) Skidmore,

vii.  Hilda May, born and died in 1880.

viii.  Hilton, born and died in 1880.

ix.  David Henry, born and died in 1882.

790.  x.  SYDNEY HELLYER⁹, born in 1883. He married Winifred Ethel Gash (1905 – 1977). A daughter,

i.  MARGARET LYDIA, 1935-2006. She married and had four children. ²⁰

xi.  Ellen G., born 1885, died 1886.

xii.  Elsie Louise, born in 1887. She married Bernard Williams in 1913 and died in 1966 in Ryde, New South Wales²¹.

xiii.  Herbert E., born in 1891.

791.  xiv.  [was 595.] FRANK ARNOLD⁹, born in Parramatta, New South Wales, on 23 July 1894. He was wounded at Gallipoli when serving as a soldier in World War I. A cabinet maker and coach builder, he was married on 14 September 1918 at St George’s, Paddington, NSW, to Vera Meredith Harris (born in 1897 at Port Macquarie, daughter of Robert Kniel Harris, school teacher, and Margaret (Piggott)). Frank Skidmore died in 1977 at Austin Avenue, Croydon, NSW, his wife in May 1987 at Gymea. Both are buried in Rookwood Cemetery.

The children of Frank Arnold and Vera Meredith (Harris) Skidmore, born in New South Wales,

i.  Betty. She married Perce Grant.

ii.  KEITH ARNOLD²⁰, born 1922. In World War II he was a gunner in the RAF. His plane was shot down, Mr Skidmore being the only survivor, and he spent the years 1941-45 as a POW in Germany. He married Lois Morvyn Terrill in 1948 at Matheson Congregational Church in Croydon. She was a stenographer, born in 1926 in Stanmore, NSW, daughter of George Vere Ward Terrill, chartered accountant, and Lilian Elizabeth (Tynan). Mr Skidmore was a sales representative before his retirement.

Two children,


ii.  MARK ARNOLD²¹, who kindly provided information on the descendants of Frank Arnold Skidmore, was born in 1954 in Marrickville, NSW. He married Susan Fay Ward (a teacher born in 1954 in Orange, daughter of Kevin John Ward, orchardist, and Betty Agnes (Ashby)) in

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¹⁹ According to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.com.
²⁰ ibid
²¹ ibid
1979 at Holy Trinity in Orange, NSW. Mark was a teacher of Physical Education in Orange until 1988. After a short spell as a real estate agent, he became in 1989 a Health Promotion Officer.

**Two children,**

i. Carmen Melissa, born 1982 in Narrandera, NSW.
ii. Blake Arnold, born 1984 in Orange, NSW.

ii. Sarah, three months old at the time of the 7 June census of 1841. She died later that year.

iii. Harriet, born 1843 Q1. She is remembered in the will of her grandmother Phoebe Skidmore in 1854. She married Joseph Evans, a warehouse clerk (born about 1841 in Manchester, son of Joseph Evans) on 29 March 1863 at St Mary's, Wolverhampton and lived in Wednesfield and later Thynne Street, West Bromwich. Harriet Evans died at the age of 44 in 1887 Q4. Children, as known - Mary J., Albert E., Edith, Marian.

421a. iv. (was 433.) WILLIAM was born, according to his birth certificate, on 26 March 1847 in Salop Street, Wolverhampton, son of Francis and Sarah (Evans) Skidmore. It should be noted that his father had left for America five years earlier. William, unlike Sarah's son John Francis Skidmore and daughter Harriet Skidmore, is not mentioned in the will of her mother - in-law Phoebe Skidmore in 1854.

William's mother Sarah married, after the death of her husband in America around 1855, William Yates. They were living in Temple Street, Bilston at the time of the 1851 census, with her son John Francis Skidmore and other children of William Yates' presumed first marriage - Esther Yates (born 1842 in Wednesbury), William Yates (born 1843 in Darlaston) and Anthony Yates (born late 1850 or early 1851 in Bilston, presumably a child by Sarah (Evans) Skidmore). William Skidmore himself was living at the time of this 1851 census at 5 Salop Street, Wolverhampton in what appears to be a boarding house run by Joseph Tunley 64, a cooper, and his wife Mary Ann 62. Other residents were the Tunleys' son James and grandson Godfrey Tunley (born 1846 Q1 in Wolverhampton). Their lodgers were recorded in the following order by the enumerator - William Lowe 18, William Turner (a widower and locksmith, born 1811 in Wolverhampton), William Skidmore aged 4, William Marr 38 and Joseph Lawrence 42. William Skidmore is called William Tunley in the census of 1861, when he was living still, aged 13, with Joseph Tunley and his wife and their son James, in Brick Kiln Street, Wolverhampton.

William Skidmore became a commercial traveller in Japan ware. He was called a clerk of Coleman Street, Wolverhampton at the time of his marriage to Elizabeth Ann Smith (born 6 October 1845 in Pump Street, Manchester, daughter of James Smith, steam nail cutter, and Ann (Shaw)) on 27 December 1870 at St Peter's, Wolverhampton. The witnesses were James Smith and Amelia Smith, said to be the bride's sister. By 1871 they were living at 66 Sidney Street, Wolverhampton, and at the time of the census in 1881 at 63 New Hampton Road, Wolverhampton.

The family moved sometime after 1885 to Cheetham, Lancashire, but had returned to the Midlands by 1908, where they were living at census time in 1911 at 51 Stockfield Road, Acocks Green (Birmingham).

**The children of William and Elizabeth Ann (Smith) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton,**

i. Edith Amelia, born 1871 Q2. A mother's domestic help, in 1891, and by 1901 a teacher in a private school in Manchester. She married Percy Wakelin, a commercial traveller of Howard Street, Reading (son of William Hamar Wakelin, Inspector of Schools) at St Mark's, Cheetham on 27 December 1902.

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22 I stated in error in my 2004 book that he was the son of Thomas and Sarah (Hawkins) Skidmore.
792. ii. **HARRY HARLEY**, born 1872Q4. He was living at the time of the 1891 census with his grandmother Ann Smith and her son Alfred Smith at 112 Coleman Street, Wolverhampton. A silversmith's clerk in Wolverhampton, he married Edith Else in 1910 and lived at 206 Alexander Road, Acoks Green, Birmingham. He died in Dudley Road Hospital, on 22 January 1928 and was survived by his wife.

**Children of Harry Harley and Edith (Else) Skidmore,**


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**The daughter of William Octavius and Eliza L. (Christian) Skidmore,**

i. Peggy, born 1919Q3.

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422. vi. **DAVID F. SKIDMORE**, born about 1849 in Essex County, New Jersey. He was living with his mother in 1870 and both he and his brother Thomas are said to have worked in a hat store. He married Susan Ann Lloyd (born January 1856 in New York) on 17 March 1874 at the Immaculate Conception Catholic Church at Montclair, Essex County, New Jersey. They were living in 1880 on Jefferson Street, Orange. David appears there as a hatter in the New Jersey Directories of 1887-89. Susan Ann was a widow in 1900 and living with her sister Margaret A., the wife of William Shrieves on Perry Street, Watkins, Schuyler County, New York. She died on 6 December 1935 and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery, Watkins Glen, Schuyler County.

**The children of David F. and Susan Ann (Lloyd) Skidmore,**

794. i. **THOMAS W.**, born July 1874. A machinist, he married Margaret _____ (born about 1875 in Ireland) in around 1901 and was living by 1910 with his family at 51 Henry Street, Orange.

**Children of Thomas W. and Margaret Skidmore, born in Orange City,**

i. Mary, born about 1904.

ii. Susan, born about 1907.

ii. James B., born June 1876. He was a cook at a sanatorium on Lake View Avenue, living in 1900 with his uncle William Shrieves on Perry Street, Watkins. He was later a machinist in Corning. He died on 7 June 1932 and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery. His memorial inscription includes the words 'Co. D 55th Inf.'

794. iii. **DAVID F.**, junior, born August 1878. He was living with William Shrieves in 1900. He married Nina A. Gillis on 28 May 1902. After her death on 30 September 1907 at
Watkins, David Skidmore and his sons lived with David’s mother in Corning, where he found work as a packer at the glassworks. He died on 20 December 1938 and is buried in Glenwood Cemetery.

Presumed sons of David F. and Nina A. (Gillis) Skidmore,

i. DONALD\(^{10}\), born about 1905.

ii. FLOYD R.\(^{10}\), born 28 May 1906.

423. vii. THOMAS B.\(^9\), born May 1850 in Essex County, New Jersey but said to be one month old at the time of the census of Orange Township on 24 September 1850. He married in 1888 Josepha (Mary J. Jondreau, born March 1859 in New Jersey; her father was born in French Canada). They were living in 1900 at 350 Central Avenue, Brooklyn, Kings County, New York. Thomas was an insurance collector and later a dry goods porter along with his son Fred. Thomas and his wife had by 1900 six children of whom three were then living. He was widowed during the 1920s and died aged 76 on 19 November 1934.

The (surviving) children of Thomas B. and Mary J. (Jondreau) Skidmore,

i. Fred Vincent, born 11 May 1891. During WW1 he served overseas from April 1918 to April 1919\(^3\). He was single at the time of the 1940 census, an elevator mechanic. He died in December 1964.

ii. Florence M., born April 1893.


424. viii. FREDERICK\(^8\), born November 1855. A hatter, he married Mary ______ (born May 1856 of Irish parents) in 1880. He appears as Frederick J. Skidmore in the New Jersey Directories of 1887-90 at 16 N. Clinton, East Orange. The family were living at 56 New Street, Orange in 1900 but nothing further is presently known of them. By 1910 their son Frank Joseph was living with the family of his uncle Thomas Skidmore.

The children of Frederick and Mary Skidmore,

i. Frank Joseph, born 30 April 1883 or 30 April 1884. He was a machinist for the Auto Car Service Co. in Newark, New Jersey according to his WW1 draft card. Nothing presently known after the 1910 census.

ii. Ellen, born June 1888.

111. JOSEPH6 SKIDMORE, son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, was born at Stamford House in Amblecote and baptised on 25 December 1776 at St Mary's, Oldswinford. Like his brothers Benjamin and John, he was a miner. He married Sarah Aston on 17 April 1797 at St Mary's, Kingswinford and in so doing developed links via his wife's family to the family of Henry [42]. Sarah was probably the daughter of Benjamin and Ann (Gauden) Asson (baptised 9 July 1775 at St Mary's, Oldswinford) - the witness Susannah Aston probably her sister (baptised 2 May 1779). The second witness Elijah Wilcox was brother to Richard Wilcox the husband of Sarah Skidmore, daughter of Henry [42].

The first two children of Joseph and Sarah Skidmore were baptised in Oldswinford in 1798 and in 1800, indicating that they possibly moved away from Amblecote a few years later than Joseph's older brothers. The later children were baptised at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury and the registers show that the couple lived in Tipton parish.

Joseph accepted probate in 1823 of the will of his nephew by marriage, Benjamin Skidmore son of Joseph [84]. His fellow trustee, John Aston, miner of Amblecote, was perhaps his brother-in-law (baptised 25 December 1767).

Sarah Skidmore died aged 64 and was buried at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury, said to be of West Bromwich, on 8 March 1839. Joseph returned to Amblecote Bank in his retirement and lived there with his granddaughter Phoebe Skidmore, daughter of Isaiah. He died aged 77 and was buried at St Mary's, Oldswinford on 31 July 1854.

The children of Joseph and Sarah (Aston) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary's, Oldswinford,

i. Jemima, baptised 18 March 1798 at St Mary's, Oldswinford. She was a minor when she married by licence George Stamps on 19 February 1815 at All Saints', Sedgley, witnessed by Joseph Skidmore (presumably her father). Her uncle Jeremiah noted her death on 6 June 1831 in his Bible. Children, as known - Phoebe, Ann, John, Sarah Ann.

ii. Benjamin, baptised 26 January 1800 at St Mary's, Oldswinford. He died aged 15, only days after his youngest brother's baptism, and was buried on 16 July 1815 at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury.

and baptisms and burials at St Bartholomew's, Wednesbury,

iii. George, buried 26 October 1804.

229. iv. ISAIAH, born about 1807, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

v. Phoebe, buried 30 March 1808.

vi. Ann, born in Ocker Hill and baptised 22 October 1809. She married firstly Joseph James Gregory (baptised 27 December 1801 at All Saints, West Bromwich, son of Joseph and Mary Gregory) on 17 August 1825 at All Saints'. The marriage was witnessed by her brother Josiah (Isaiah) Skidmore and his future wife Sarah Whitehead. Ann later married widower Isaac Caddick, nail factor of Ivyhouse Lane, Coseley (born about 1813 in Sedgley) on 3 June 1851 at Aston and lived in Coppice Street, Coseley. Ann Caddick was widowed by 1871 and lived with Isaac's children in Providence Road, Coseley and, by 1881, at 2 Tame Street in West Bromwich, with her nieces Louisa and Charlotte, daughters of her brother Thomas Skidmore. She died in 1886Q1 aged 76.

vii. Mary, baptised 14 April 1811.

viii. Phoebe, baptised 23 May 1813. She died at 8 months (buried 7 January 1814).

230. ix. THOMAS, baptised 9 July 1815, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

x. [perhaps] Phoebe, born between 1817-1821. Living with Joseph Skidmore and his granddaughter Phoebe Skidmore in 1841.
229. ISAIAH SKIDMORE, colliery agent and canal bailiff, was born in Tipton about 1807 and is thought to be a son of Joseph [111] and Sarah (Aston) Skidmore. He married Sarah Whitehead (born about 1807 in Tipton) on 9 August 1825 at St Philip’s, Birmingham. Elizabeth White and Benjamin Aston were witnesses. The couple lived in Church Lane, Summer Hill, in Tipton until at least 1837 (with a short spell in West Bromwich in the late 1820s). Isaiah’s uncles Thomas [112] and David [114] were miners living in Church Lane too, and his uncle John [110] was a butty collier. In the Bloomfield area. By the time of the 1841 census he was a canal bank bailiff, a boat gauge (exciseman) and lived at Slack Hillock in Rowley Regis. At about the time that Isaiah’s family moved from Tipton to Rowley, so did that of his uncle David.

Isaiah and Sarah Skidmore moved again at the end of the 1840s to Oldbury, where he was a colliery clerk. Mrs Skidmore died in 1874Q1 aged 70, Isaiah in 1875Q1 aged 69.

The children of Isaiah and Sarah (Whitehead) Skidmore, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton, burials at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury, born in West Bromwich,

i. Sarah, baptised 7 June 1826. She died an infant in West Bromwich and was buried on 9 May 1827.

ii. Phoebe, born in West Bromwich, baptised at All Saints, West Bromwich, on 26 August 1827. She lived with her grandfather Joseph Skidmore in Amblescote Bank in 1841 and 1851. She married widower Benjamin Bradbury, a cordwainer of Sheepwash Lane, Tipton (son of Richard Bradbury, a boat loader), at St Martin’s, Tipton on 11 December 1854. He was born about 1825 in West Bromwich and perhaps married firstly Ann (living Langley Green 1851). By 1861 he was a grocer and local preacher in Oldbury, where their home was in Whyley Street, Langley, Oldbury. I have not yet found them later; the death of Phoebe Bradbury was perhaps that registered at West Bromwich in 1865.

iii. Mary, baptised 15 August 1828. Buried on 23 March 1829, of Tipton.

iv. Betsy, baptised 5 November 1829. Buried on 16 August 1832, of Tipton.

v. Sarah, baptised 10 June 1831. Not found after the 1851 census.


viii. Enoch, baptised 14 June 1836. He was a glass house labourer in 1851, a blacksmith in 1861, a boatman in 1871 and was living unmarried in 1881, a labourer, in the home of his brother George. He is probably the 63-year-old man of his name, a general labourer, who died of asthma at 61 George Street, Smethwick, on 2 April 1900. Ellen Neale was present at the death.

ix. William Henry, baptised 10 September 1837. He died in Waterfall Lane in 1842 and was buried at St Giles on 10 August, aged 5.

born in Oldbury,

x. GEORGE SKIDMORE alias THOMAS SKIDMORE, engine fitter of Oldbury, was born about 1839 in Rowley Regis, the son of Isaiah [229] and Sarah (Whitehead) Skidmore. His parents moved to Oldbury when he was about eight years old. He is called Thomas in the 1841 and 1861 census, and George in 1851, 1871 and 1881. The registration of his birth (which should have been at Dudley registration office) I have not found as George or Thomas.

He married (as George Skidmore) Emma Cutler, also called Emily (born about 1841 in Lapal, Halesowen, daughter of William Cutler, a boatman, and his wife Hannah) on 18 August 1861 at St Philip’s, Birmingham. Sarah Hanson and William Cutler were witnesses. They lived near to George’s father in Parsonage Street in Oldbury. In 1871 Emma’s mother and her brother Abel Cutler, together with a nephew Caleb Guest, were in the household.

George Skidmore died aged 45 in 1884Q4. Emma was running a huckster’s shop at her home at 50 Parsonage Street, Oldbury in 1901 but, after the death of her daughter Mary Ann, went to live with her son-in-law George Bourne and his sons Albert Ernest and Samuel George at 6 Wellesley Road, Oldbury. She died in 1919 aged 76.

The children of George and Emma (Cutler) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Sarah Jane, born 1864Q2. She married Samuel Carr, a glass blower (born about 1865 in Oldbury) in 1883Q4 at Holy Trinity, West Bromwich. They were living in 1891
in Parsonage Street and, by 1901, at 61 Popes Lane, next door to her sister Mary Ann’s family. Sarah Jane died in 1903 aged 38 and her husband married secondly Ella Powell in 1906.

Children, as known - Gertrude May, Wilfred, Ethel, Daisy, Horace Charles.

ii. Mary Ann, born 1871Q1. She married Albert Ernest Bourne, a stoker (born about 1874 in Oldbury) in 1896Q3 at Holy Trinity, Oldbury. They were living at 59 Popes Lane, Oldbury in 1901. Mary Ann died in 1906 aged 35.

Children of George and Emma (Golding) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Alfred George, born 1902Q2.
ii. Frank Ernest, born 1904Q1.
iii. Thomas, born 1912Q3.
iv. Doris E., born 1913Q3.

xi. Mary Ann, born around March 1841, baptised at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 9 February 1843. Sometimes called Ann in the censuses. A bonnet maker in 1861.

born in Oldbury,

426. xii. BENJAMIN⁸, probably born 1847Q1 and one of the two boys registered at Dudley in this quarter. He was a carpenter in 1861, and by 1871 a blacksmith, married but living at his parents’ house. He married, perhaps as his second wife, Eliza ______ (born about 1854 in Oldbury) and lived in Parsonage Street, Oldbury. Benjamin Skidmore was widowed by the time of the 1891 census and died in 1896Q4 aged 49.

The children of Benjamin and Eliza Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Isaiah, born 1875Q1. A labourer in the phosphorus works, living in the home of his brother William in 1901. He died in 1947 aged 72.

797. ii. WILLIAM⁹, born at Tat Bank, Oldbury in 1876Q1. A labourer in the chemical works, he married Fanny Berry (born about 1878 in Birmingham Road, Oldbury) in 1898Q2 at Christ Church, Oldbury. They were living in 1901 at the back of 91 Parsonage Street, Oldbury.

A child of William and Fanny (Berry) Skidmore, born in Tat Bank, Oldbury,

i. Alfred Benjamin, born 1899Q3.
ii. Eliza, born 1901Q2.
iii. William George, born about 1903.

and born in Stone Street, Oldbury,

iv. Violet, born 1905Q1.
v. John, born 1906Q4 or 1907Q1.
vi. Louisa, born 1908Q1.
vi. Albert, born 1915Q2.
ix. Wilfred, born 1918Q3.

798. iii. GEORGE⁹, (was 59Sa.) born 24 February 1878. He was a clerk in the phosphorus works of Albright and Wilson in Langley Green. He was living in 1901 at 50 Parsonage Street, Oldbury - a huckster’s shop (general goods store) - with his aunt Emma (Cutler) Skidmore. He married Sabrah Louisa Cockeral Phillips (born 29 May 1878) on 29 July 1906 at St Paul’s, Leamington, Warwickshire. Mr Skidmore was church warden at Holy Trinity in Langley Green. He died on 27 December 1938, his wife on 29 March 1963.

Children of George and Sabrah L.C. (Phillips) Skidmore,

i. Millicit May, born 20 October 1907, died 5 August 1980. May married Vernon Slim in 1932 and had a daughter Carole (married Tony Harris) and a son Graham (married Linda Guest). My thanks to Mr and Mrs Harris for information on this family.
ii. Eric George, born 1910Q3, who has a son David.
230. THOMAS² SKIDMORE, butcher and victualler of Lye and West Bromwich, was born in Tipton, son of Joseph [111] and Sarah (Aston) Skidmore, baptised on 9 July 1815 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury. He married Sarah Deeley (born about 1819 in Amblecote, daughter of James Deeley, a timber merchant, and his wife Mary (Aston)), at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 24 October 1839. The witnesses were Cornelius Aston and Phoebe Stamps.

Thomas Skidmore is found in a Directory of 1840, butcher and victualler of The Three Crowns in Stourbridge. In 1841 he and his new wife Sarah were next to the household of Ann Deeley in Hay Green, together with what appear to be Ann Deeley’s grandchildren, Ann Deeley born 1822-26 and Henrietta Deeley (daughter of James and Jane Deeley) born 1830. Ann Deeley was a lady of independent means, aged 86. She is perhaps the Mrs Ann Mountford who married John Deeley, a widower, at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 8 February 1784. Ann Collins married Richard Mountford at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 23 February 1771. Assuming Ann Deeley’s age in the census is accurate, she was born about 1755, but the only baptism of Ann Collins found was on 21 June 1750 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, daughter of John and Ann Collins.

In 1841 Thomas Skidmore was 26 and described as a dealer. Also in the household at census time was widower Cornelius Aston, a coal miner who was still with Thomas and Sarah Skidmore at Cross Road, Lye, in 1851. He appears to be the son of Elijah and Sarah Aston, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 29 June 1791, and Sarah’s maternal uncle.

Thomas is found in a Directory for Stourbridge in 1852 as victualler at the Old Rose and Crown in Lye. Soon after this the family moved to Wittons Lane, West Bromwich, where the two youngest girls were born and where Thomas was a butcher. At the time of the 1871 census Sarah’s unmarried brother James Deeley aged 45 (born in Lye) lived with them, and also grandchildren Thomas Plimmer 3 and Mary Plimmer 1, children of their daughter Sarah. By 1881 they had moved to 50 Holloway Bank in West Bromwich. Their son Joseph, a spring manufacturer, lived with them, and also in the home was their grandson Thomas Jones, Mary Ann’s son. The family of their married daughter Sarah Plimmer lived nearby in Holloway Road. Lodging at their home at 8 Tame Street in 1891 was clergyman John Venables. Charlotte was still at home and there was a granddaughter Esther Skidmore (born about 1884 in West Bromwich). This census also records that Sarah Skidmore had been blind in one eye from childhood. She died aged 77 in 1896Q1, her husband in 1897Q4 aged 82.

The children of Thomas and Sarah (Deeley) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, born in Hay Green,

i. Sarah, baptised 29 August 1841. She married Thomas Plimmer, a butcher (born about 1841 in Smethwick), in 1867Q4 in Wolverhampton registration district. They lived at Holloway Bank and later Hill Top in West Bromwich. Mrs Plimmer died in 1896Q1 aged 54, her husband in 1898Q3 aged 58.

ii. Mary Ann, baptised 19 May 1844. She married William Henry Jones, an iron worker (born about 1840, son of John Jones, an iron worker) at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury on 9 February 1865. I have not been able to find them in 1871 and by the time of the 1881 census she was visiting the home of her sister Sarah Plimmer, whilst her son Thomas Jones (born about 1874 in Wednesbury) was with her parents. She was one of the three ladies with her name and age whose deaths were registered at West Bromwich in the 1880s.

iii. Esther Margaret, born 1847Q4, baptised 9 January 1848. She married Joseph Wearing, a brass caster (born about 1839 in West Bromwich) on 14 February 1871 at St James, Handsworth and lived at 132 Holloway Bank, West Bromwich. After her husband’s death in 1899Q2, aged 61, Mrs Wearing ran his iron and brass foundry, her son Harry S. Wearing acting as manager and her nephew Thomas Jones a caster. Their home was in Lower High Street, Wednesbury. She died in 1938 aged 91.

Children, as known - Mary A., Susannah, Harry S.

iv. JOSEPH JAMES GREGORY⁸, born in Lye and baptised Joseph James at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 19 May 1850. On 21 June 1859 he was admitted to Old Swinford Hospital School. The school’s Admissions Book shows Joseph James Skidmore of West Bromwich apprenticed to Thomas Walker, ironmaster at the Axle Tree Company in Wednesbury²⁵. He became a spring maker and by

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²⁵ Oldswinford Hospital Admissions Book, no.2235.
1891 was manager of a brass and iron foundry in West Bromwich. He married Naomi Wheatley Hodgkins (born about 1862 in West Bromwich, daughter of Thomas Hodgkins) on 21 June 1885 at Christ Church, West Bromwich and they were living in 1891 at 28 Tame Street. By 1901, when Naomi's widowed brother Thomas Hodgkins - a brass and iron moulder - shared their home, they had moved to a house off Hawkins Street, West Bromwich. Joseph Skidmore died aged 60 in 1910Q3, his wife in 1933 aged 71.

The children of Joseph James Gregory and Naomi Wheatley (Hodgkins) Skidmore,

i. Ellen Nora, one month old at the time of the census in April 1891. She died in 1894Q3 aged 3.

ii. Lily, born 1895Q2.

iii. Annie, born 1897Q2.


born in West Bromwich,

v. Louisa Jemima, baptised 10 July 1853. In 1881 she was living with her sister Charlotte at the home of their aunt Ann Caddick (widow of Isaac Caddick and their father’s sister) at 2 Tame Street in West Bromwich. Their niece Lucy Plimmer was also there.

By 1891 she was housekeeper to the large household of widower Robert Routledge, tailor and draper of 177 Lord Street, Wolverhampton. At the time of the 1901 census she was living independently back in Tame Street with her niece Esther A.M. Plimmer, who ran her own dressmaking business. Ten years later, she was a newsagent, living with the family of her sister Charlotte in Hill Top.

Miss Skidmore’s death appears to have been that registered in 1939 at Rowley Regis, aged 86.

vi. Charlotte, born 1858Q4, baptised 16 January 1859. Known as Lottie. At the time of the 1871 census she was visiting the home in New Street, West Bromwich, of her sister Esther Wearing. Miss Skidmore was living in 1891 with her parents at 8 Tame Street but by the time of the 1901 census was housekeeper to William Phillips at nearby Holloway House in Tame Street.

She married widower Charles Henry Chambers, a gas main and surface layer (born about 1860 in Tipton, Staffordshire) in 1906Q3 at St James’, West Bromwich, and was living in 1911 at 156 Hill Top, West Bromwich.
112. **THOMAS SKIDMORE**, son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, was baptised on 18 November 1787 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. He was born at Stamford House in Amblecote. Like his brothers he was a coal miner but did not pursue this occupation beyond 1838. Thomas married Jane Pardo on 13 May 1810 at St Thomas’, Dudley, witnessed by James Lees. Jane was born at Lye Waste and was perhaps baptised Jenny on 30 October 1791 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, the daughter of Joseph and Jane Pardo. The first three children of Thomas and Jane Skidmore were baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford between 1811 and 1815, though he was resident in Tipton by at least 1815.

By 1836 Thomas and Jane had moved away from Church Lane, Summer Hill in Tipton to live in the Hill Top area of West Bromwich. His son John’s obituary in the Daily Post states that he was an official of the local Methodist society. As such he is probably the Thomas Skidmore in the Darlaston Wesleyan Circuit Book of March 1827, amongst those belonging to the Golds Green Methodist congregation. Thomas is described as a clerk at the times his daughters married in the 1840s and in the 1851 census as a boat gauger (an official who calculated customs duty). In 1851 they lived in Witton Lane (Hill Top) and Thomas was said to be partially blind. This condition could have developed some years earlier and might explain his change of occupation.

Thomas’ death on 24 September 1851 at Rough Hay Colliery, Darlaston, is recorded in the Bible of his brother Jeremiah. He is otherwise easily confused with the man who married Ann Cooper, who was still living in 1861.

Thomas’ widow Jane continued to live in Witton Lane, and was a grocer in 1871, in the house next to her son Thomas Skidmore. Her son David lived in nearby Witton Square. She died in 1876Q2 aged 84.

**The children of Thomas and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford,**

231. i. JOSEPH, baptised 24 March 1811, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.
ii. Mary, baptised 27 December 1812. Her uncle Jeremiah Skidmore’s Bible records her death on 22 October 1836 aged 24. She was buried on 25 October 1836 at St Bartholomew’s, Wednesbury, said to be of West Bromwich.
iii. Eliza, born in Summer Hill and baptised 22 January 1815 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. She married firstly Richard Jewkes, coal miner (baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 27 November 1814, son of Richard Jewkes, miner of Toll End, Tipton, and Ann), on 12 June 1838 at St Thomas’, Dudley. Joseph Shaw junior and John Allen were witnesses. They lived in Lower Square (off or next to Witton Lane), West Bromwich and later in Mardland’s Buildings in Witton Lane itself. Their daughter Jane Jukes was living in 1861 with her grandmother Jane Skidmore and Eliza, now a widow, lived nearby with her sons Thomas Jukes and Richard Jukes, both iron puddlers. She married secondly John Hill, an ironworks stocktaker (born about 1809 in Darlaston) in 1867Q1 and was living in 1871 with her husband and son Isaac Jukes in Castle Street, West Bromwich. After the death of her husband Mrs Hill lived with the family of her son Thomas Jukes until her death in 1887Q1 aged 72.

and born at Summer Hill, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton,

232. iv. JOHN, born 1 February 1817, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.
233. v. THOMAS, baptised 14 March 1819, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.
vi. Phoebe, baptised 10 June 1821. She married Samuel Simcox, a coach lock maker of Dudley (baptised 18 December 1825 at All Saints, West Bromwich, son of Jonathan Simcox, coachsmith, and Elizabeth), on 10 April 1849 at St Thomas’, Dudley. The marriage was witnessed by Jane Skidmore, presumably Phoebe’s sister, and William Henley. It seems likely that the Ann Simcox aged 17 visiting Phoebe’s parents at the time of the 1851 census, was Samuel’s relative. Samuel and Phoebe’s first child was born in Hill Top and they had settled in Old Meeting Street in West Bromwich.

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26 It is said that Thomas also claimed direct lineal descent from John and Sarah Sheldon of Crabs Mill Farm, Holloway Bank, West Bromwich, described as being the birthplace of South Staffordshire Methodism. I have no documentary evidence for this and would be glad of advice from readers.

27 Nonconformity in West Bromwich, Staffordshire, including the Baptism Registers of Ebenezer and Mare’s Green Independent and Wesleyan Chapel and other Nonconformist Material, Birmingham and Midland Society for Genealogy and Heraldry.
Bromwich by 1871. At the time of the 1881 census their boarder was Stephen Hipkins, a boilermaker (born about 1853 in Coseley), presumably a relative of the wife of Phoebe’s cousin Frederick [227]. In their later years Samuel and Phoebe became caretakers at the school which had opened in 1885 on the junction of Swan Lane and Bilhay Street, near Black Lake Colliery; their home was at 2 Swan Lane. Mrs Simcox died in 1894Q1 aged 73.

234. vii. DAVID, baptised 26 October 1823, **TO WHOM WE SHALL RETURN**.

viii. Jane, baptised 20 April 1828. Hers could be the death registered at the West Bromwich NE registration sub-district in 1854Q2.

235. ix. NOAH, baptised 12 June 1831, **TO WHOM WE SHALL RETURN**.

231. JOSEPH II SKIDMORE, born about 1811 in Tipton, was probably the son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore, baptised on 24 March 1811 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. He married Mary Hill (born about 1815 in Sedgley, sister to Leah Hill) on 30 April 1837 at St Matthew’s, Walsall, witnessed by James Lunn. Joseph was a shingler of New Street, Princes End and by 1861 had become a forge manager. The family moved in the 1860s to Victoria Street, Brierley, Coseley, where they stayed and where Mrs Skidmore died at the age of 52 in 1867Q4. Joseph retired from the forge and became a grocer. He died in 1884Q3 aged 73.

**The children of Joseph and Mary (Hill) Skidmore, born in Princes End,**

i. Mary Jane, born 1839Q1. She is probably the Mary Jane who died in the registration sub-district of Sedgley in 1842Q1.

ii. Lydia, registered in 1840Q4 in Dudley registration district and probably born in Princes End. She married Thomas Heath, a toolmaker (born about 1841 in Tipton, son of John Heath) on 25 March 1867 at All Saints’, Sedgley and lived in Princes End Road. Mrs Heath died in 1877Q2 aged 36 and her husband, now a factory manager, married secondly Adrienne Westwood in 1885Q1.

Children, as known, Mary A., Sarah Elizabeth, Joseph J.

iii. Joseph, born 1842Q3, died at Princes End on 29 March 1843, aged 6 months.

iv. Thomas, died at Parkes’ Lane, Princes End, on 11 December 1846 aged 2 years.

v. Lois, born 1846Q3. She married Henry Hickman (born about 1841, son of Joseph Hickman) on 31 December 1867 at All Saints’, Sedgley. Mr Hickman went in search of work in the rolling mills in Dalziel, Lanarkshire, Scotland, where they lived in Milton Street. Apparently no offspring from this marriage; they were both living in 1891.

427a. vi. JOHN, one of two boys, one born 1849Q1, the other 1849Q2 in Sedgley registration sub-district. A forge roller, he married Elizabeth Hannah Elliott (born about 1850 in Birmingham, daughter of _______ and Jane Elliott) in 1872Q4. His wife had been before their marriage assistant to pawnbroker James Palmer in Princes End Road, Tipton.

The family moved to Maple Terrace, Shrewsbury and during the 1880s John became a town missionary. He died on 8 March 1905 at Shropshire Infirmary, Shrewsbury, leaving a will (not seen) which gives their address as 11 Albert Street, Castlefields, Shrewsbury.

**Children of John and Elizabeth Hannah (Elliott) Skidmore, born in Princes End,**

799. i. JOSEPH ELLIOTT, born 1873Q4. He was a railway clerk in Tipton and later joined his family in Shrewsbury, where he was a cashier for a stamping manufacturer. He married Kate Crabb (born about 1874 in Melcombe Regis, Dorset) in 1902Q3 in Dorset. He then went to work for a washer and sheet stamping works in Wolverhampton, Staffordshire, as a clerk, and lived with his family at Lyndhurst, Bushbury Road, Heath Town.

**Children of Joseph Elliott and Kate (Crabb) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton,**

i. Edmund Arthur, born 1903Q2.

ii. Christabel Margaret, born 1906Q4.

800. ii. JESSE, born 1875Q4. He was apprenticed to John Williams, a grocer in Princes End Road, Tipton before moving to become assistant to a grocer in Hanley, Staffordshire. He married Mary Hannah Baker (born about 1885 in Hanley) in 1907Q2 and became a commercial traveller in the grocery trade. The family lived at Marton Villa, Baddeley Edge, Milton, Stoke-on-Trent. Mr Skidmore died in 1950 aged 74.

**Children of Jesse and Mary Hannah (Baker) Skidmore, born in Hanley,**
15. Skidmore Families of Stamford House, Amblecote

Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study

i. Hilda Mary, born 1908Q1.
ii. Muriel, born 1909Q3.

801. iii. **JOHN ALBERT**, born 1878Q1. A builder's carpenter in Shrewsbury until at least 1911. He married Harriet Pickup in 1918Q4 in the area of Barrow in Furness, Lancashire. He moved to Torquay, Devon where he died on 26 March 1936, aged 58.

The daughter of John Albert and Harriet (Pickup) Skidmore,


iv. Ellen Lydia (Helen Lydia), born 1883Q2. By 1911 she was living in rooms in Granville Street, Moss Side, Manchester, as was her brother Harold. A milliner, Miss Skidmore appears to have died in Devon in 1964, aged 81.

v. Charles Frederick, born 1885Q1. He was apprenticed to draper Ebenezer James Capsey whose business was in The Square, Wellington, Shropshire. By 1911 he was working in Mrs Fletcher's household drapery section of Huntbach Ltd., Lamb Street, Hanley, Staffordshire. His was presumably the marriage to Mary Eveline Lockett, a draper's clerk (born 13 September 1890, died 1973), which took place at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Hanley in 1917. No children have yet been found to this marriage.

vi. Lilian Rhoda, born 1887Q3, also known as Lilian Bessie Skidmore. She was raised in Shrewsbury by her uncle and aunt Richard Gwilliam, a carpet salesman from Herefordshire, and his wife Mary Betsey (Elliott). Mrs Gwilliam, when widowed, took Lilian to live in Blackpool and later to Torquay, where Mrs Gwilliam was an apartment house keeper and Lilian a companion and domestic help. Miss Skidmore died in Devon in 1962 aged 75.


viii. Mary Jane, born April or May 1851. She was a school mistress before she married Edward Davies, a railway porter (born about 1847 in Tipton, son of Michael Davies) on 24 December 1872 at All Saints', Sedgley. They lived in 1881 at 21 Victoria Street, Sedgley, next door to her father, later moving to Albert Street.

Children, as known – Mary Louisa, Hannah, Joseph J., Lydia, Henry.


**The second son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore.**

232. **JOHN** SKIDMORE, son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore, was born in Summer Hill, Tipton, on 1 February 1817 and baptised at St Martin's, Tipton on 11 February that year. He is popularly referred to as the Middle Lock Preacher. He began work in a colliery at the age of eight. When a boy, he joined the Methodist society of which his father was an official and was a scholar in the Gospel Oak Sunday School. In his teens John left the mine and began work in an ironworks as a puddler, a change which he was heard to describe as 'a jump out of the frying pan into the fire'28. He continued to work as a puddler until after his marriage, when he became a colliery clerk, his last employer being Walter Stowell, proprietor of the Lodge Pit.

Early in life John expressed a desire to become a preacher. Prince, in his book on early Methodism in West Bromwich29, describes how John Skidmore was received on trial as a preacher by no less a person than the Rev. John Hickling. John Hickling was born at Hathern, Leicestershire on 30 November 1765. He entered the

28 *The West Bromwich and Oldbury Chronicle*. Date unknown but apparently written shortly after his death and giving a full account of his preaching days.

Methodist itinerancy in 1788, and was sent into work by John Wesley himself, then nearing the end of his life (1703-91). Having travelled in 25 different circuits, he became a supernumerary (retired) in 1836. He outlived all the preachers called out by John Wesley. His death, at the age of 92 and after 70 years of ministry, took place at Audley, near Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire on 9 November 1858. Prince states that when John Skidmore began his ministry at the age of 21, John Hickling was at that time Superintendent of the Wednesbury Circuit. Mr Hickling is known to have been a Minister of the Wednesbury Circuit between 1828-1830, so perhaps returned to the area for the enrolment of new preachers after his ‘retirement’. When Mr. Hickling presented his Note to preach to the young John Skidmore, he is reported to have said, "What John Wesley said to me, I say to thee, Jacky, be faithful."

John Skidmore married Elizabeth Sheldon Woodward, a straw bonnet maker of Harvills Hawthorn, West Bromwich (born about 1818, daughter of William Woodward, a turner), on 12 July 1840 at St Thomas’, Dudley. Joseph Hill and James Roden were witnesses. Elizabeth was a Sunday School teacher and missionary collector and was to help John in his work through 57 years of marriage. At the time of the 1841 census they were living in the home of Elizabeth’s father at Harvills Oak Lane and with their 4-day old daughter Sarah. In 1845, on the birth certificate of his daughter Mary Jane, he described himself as a boat gauger (as was his father at this time). The family were then in Oak Road. In 1851 both John and his brother David were colliery clerks and both lived in Wood Lane in West Bromwich.

The Minute Book of Local Preachers’ Quarterly Meetings in West Bromwich is described in the Victoria County History of Staffordshire. It shows that by 1847 the Wesleyans were organising open-air preaching during the summer at four places in West Bromwich. Early in 1861, Thomas Bagnall engaged John as a Wesleyan lay preacher and home missionary to the canal boat people and others ‘of the poorer classes’. Bagnall was head of a firm of ironmasters who had furnaces and works at Golds Hill. He was an ardent Wesleyan and keenly concerned about the moral and social welfare of the local working people. John Skidmore fulfilled this calling until 1890. For all these years, he held open air services on Sundays from May to August at Middle Lock between Spon Lane and Bromford Lane. His congregations there were said to reach a somewhat astonishing 16000 to 20000 people. He was very popular as a lay preacher and frequently occupied the pulpits on special occasions on other circuits throughout the Midlands, as shown by the list of celebratory services on the opening of Ebenezer Chapel in Hunt Street, Oldbury. In March 1878, at a public meeting held in the Town Hall, West Bromwich, he was presented with an illuminated address and testimonial in recognition of his long and successful labours, together with £230, subscribed by all classes of the community.

30 The Daily Telegraph: 16 Nov 1858.
31 The following extract is taken from a list of Ministers of the Wednesbury Circuit was compiled by the Rev. J. McTurk, and is reprinted from the Circuit Plan of 1892 in The history of Methodism in Wednesbury edited by Rev. W.J. Wilkinson in 1894.
1828 John Hickling, Francis Collier, Henry Powis, Thomas Armson
1829-30 John Hickling, Charles Haime, Henry Powis, Thomas Armson
32 Daily Post, obituary of 30 Jan 1899.
33 Old West Bromwich 23 July and 30 July 1943.
For some years John and his wife were the local agents for the British and Foreign Bible Society and kept a little Bible depot in the centre of the High Street in West Bromwich. It seems that he sold other books and stationery, as revealed by his occupation as declared on his children’s marriage certificates. I have yet to find John’s family in the 1861 census but he was living in 1871 in the High Street in West Bromwich with his wife, his daughter Mary Jane and his niece Elizabeth (David’s daughter). Mrs Skidmore died after a long illness on 28 April 1897. John lived to be 82, dying on 28 January 1899 in Tildesley Street, West Bromwich and making his son John and son-in-law Samuel Kendrick executors of his will (not seen). In the same grave in Heath Lane cemetery are buried their granddaughter Sarah Florence and her husband Charles Field.

The children of John and Elizabeth Sheldon (Woodward) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

i. Sarah, born 2 June 1841. She married Phineas William Butler, an iron shearer (born 1839Q4 in West Bromwich, son of William and Elizabeth Butler of Dial Lane there) in 1864Q4. Mr Butler died in 1884Q2 aged 44 and his widow and children moved to 64 Jervoise Street and later Bilhay Street beside the home of her sister Mary Jane. Sarah Butler died in 1914Q1 aged 73.

Children, as known, John W., Phineas, Thomas, Harry, Lois E., Joseph and Sarah.

ii. Mary Jane, born 22 March 1845 at Oak Road, West Bromwich. She married Samuel Kendrick, boiler plate roller and later insurance agent (born 1845-46 in Wednesbury, son of John Kendrick, roller), on 20 May 1871 in Dudley. They lived in 1881 at 31 Bilhay Street in West Bromwich. Mary Jane died aged 52 on 25 September 1897, her husband on 12 June 1915 and they are buried in Heath Lane cemetery.

Children, as known – Louisa, John Skidmore, Mary Jane, Samuel, Sarah Elizabeth.

iii. John Skidmore, spring manufacturer of West Bromwich, was born 13 May 1847 and baptised on 20 July that year at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in West Bromwich. Like his father, John was a local preacher and his father’s chief assistant. He married Amelia Matilda Sophia Ralph (known as Matilda, born 1850Q2 in Birmingham, daughter of Henry Ralph, a professor of music) on 10 November 1868 at St Peter’s, Dale End, Birmingham. John was already a manufacturer of steel wire springs at the time of his marriage, perhaps in partnership with his cousin Joseph. The family home was at 39 Wood Lane. If his number of employees is a guide, then his business expanded only modestly, since in 1871 he employed six boys and by 1881 two men, one boy and one girl.

A supposed member of this family was mentioned in 1903 in the case of James F. Parker, Harry G. Ivens and The Wood Lane Brick Co. Ltd, plaintiffs against William T. Clewes, defendant in the matter of misrepresentations made by Clewes in the purchase by Messrs Parker, Ivens and Clewes from Thomas Chapman of West Bromwich, brick manufacturer, of a brick-yard and cottages in Wood Lane, West Bromwich and the goodwill of the business carried out by the vendor under the name ‘Chapman and Skidmore’ (subsequently Wood Lane Brick Company Ltd).

Mrs Skidmore died on 27 May 1901 and John married secondly Miss Bessie Rose Robins (born

34
1862Q4 in Wilton, Wiltshire) in 1904. John Skidmore died on 29 December 1917 and is buried with his first wife in Heath Lane cemetery in West Bromwich.

The children of John and Amelia Matilda Sophia (Ralph) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

i. Mary Jane, born 1869Q4, known as Polly. She married John Fereday, a compositor of Dartmouth Street, West Bromwich (born about 1869 in Princes End, Tipton, son of James Fereday, iron worker, and Emma) on 28 October 1896 at Wesley Chapel in the High Street, West Bromwich. For a time they lived in Risbridge, Suffolk, where they are described in the census of 1901 as ‘porter’ and ‘portress’ of the Workhouse there. By 1911 they were Superintendent and Matron of a children’s home in Stoke on Trent.

Jack Fereday spent his later years in Rhyl, north Wales, where he married secondly Elizabeth M.L. Henthorn on 4 July 1951. He lived to be 96.

ii. Elizabeth Maria, born 1871Q3. Known as Lizzie, a dressmaker before her marriage at the Wesley Chapel in 1904Q2 to John Richard Coakes, a gamekeeper from Hunderton, Herefordshire. They spent the first few years of their marriage in Llanbrynmair, Montgomeryshire, before moving by 1911 to Preston Candover, Hampshire, where Elizabeth Coakes died on 20 May 1911 aged 40.

Two children John Skidmore Coakes and Gwendoline Mary Coakes.

iii. Sarah Florence, born 1873Q2. A spring maker in 1891. She married Charles Field in 1895Q1. He was a son of Benjamin Field, a colliery boat loader who moved from Dudley Wood to 7 Old Meeting Street, West Bromwich in the late 1870s, and his wife Mary Ann. Charles and Sarah Field lived at 102 Dartmouth Street and later in the High Street in West Bromwich. By 1911 he was Outdoor Superintendent for the Corporation of West Bromwich Gas Department.

Mrs Field died on 1 April 1948 aged 71, her husband on 12 February 1954 aged 88 and they are buried in Heath Lane Cemetery.

Four children of whom Charles, Edith Amelia and Claud survived.

iv. [probably] Emily Matilda, born and died in 1875Q3. A daughter Matilda who died in infancy is remembered on the family gravestone in Heath Lane cemetery.

v. John, born 1877Q2. A spring maker in 1891 and, by 1901, running a cab car business from his parents’ home in Wood Lane. He presumably took over the family business since he is listed in Trade Directories through to 1940 as a spring manufacturer of Wood Lane, West Bromwich. He was a spring manufacturer and was living in 1911 at 3 Tantany Lane, West Bromwich. He died aged 67 on 24 May 1956, his wife on 26 February 1944. They are buried in Heath Lane Cemetery.

Children of Henry Renton and Annie (Fitzpatrick) Skidmore,

i. Henry John, born 1910.


vi. Henry Ralph, born 1879Q1. He died aged 9 on 21 April 1888.

vii. Matilda, born 1880Q3.

viii. Edith Amelia, born 18 March 1882 and baptised on 11 April in West Bromwich. Not found in the 1891 census.

ix. Emily Annie, born 1883Q2, died March 1884 aged 1.

803. x. HENRY RENTON SKIDMORE, born 1888Q3. Known to the family as Harry, he married Annie Fitzpatrick in 1909Q4 at the Wesley Chapel. Henry was a spring manufacturer and was living in 1911 at 3 Tantany Lane, West Bromwich. He died aged 67 on 24 May 1956, his wife on 26 February 1944. They are buried in Heath Lane cemetery.

Children of Henry Renton and Annie (Fitzpatrick) Skidmore,

i. Henry John, born 1910.


xi. Herbert James, born 1889Q4. A spring maker with his father. He appears to have married Chryssie Irene Walters in 1919. He died on 20 April 1947 aged 57 and is buried with his parents in Heath Lane cemetery.

804. xii. FREDERICK CLARENCE SKIDMORE, born 1893Q2. He married Bella Jones in 1914 in Stone, Staffordshire. He enlisted on 18 November 1914 and was assigned to the 3/1st Nth, Mid, Staffs RGA. He was a gunner and was promoted by March 1915 to the rank of Sergeant and then Battery Quartermaster Sergeant. He was stationed at
Shelton during his army service and was discharged as medically unfit in September 1916. He died in Stoke on Trent, Staffordshire in 1945. As known, a daughter and a son.

The third son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore.

233. Thomas⁷ Skidmore, son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore, was born in Church Lane, Summer Hill, Tipton, and baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 14 March 1819. He spent his early working years with his father at Hill Top in West Bromwich, where they were involved in assessing the loads carried by canal boats. He married Elizabeth Taylor of Swan Village, West Bromwich (baptised 16 October 1822 at Upton upon Severn, daughter of Samuel Taylor, publican, and Elizabeth) on 16 February 1846 at Christ Church, West Bromwich. The witnesses were his brother David and her sister Maria Taylor.

By 1851 Thomas was in the grocery business for a time and was living with his wife and daughters in Dudley Road in West Bromwich. They were in Tipton when their last child was born in 1859 and by the time of the 1861 census Thomas was again a boat loader, the family then living in High Road, West Bromwich. Elizabeth Skidmore died in 1868Q1 aged 44 and Thomas moved to what was probably his mother’s home in Witton Lane, West Bromwich. He died in 1872Q2 aged 53.

The children of Thomas and Elizabeth (Taylor) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

i. Maria, born 1846Q4. A servant in Horseley Heath, Tipton before her marriage on 16 May 1864 at Christ Church, West Bromwich to James Nock, (born about 1838 in Bradley, son of Joseph and Susannah Nock). She died early in 1881 and Mr Nock, a hammer man at an iron works, continued to live with their children at 28 Holloway Bank, West Bromwich.

Children, as known, Thomas, Joseph, Maria, James, Samuel, William, Ernest C.

ii. Eliza, born probably 1850Q1 at Hill Top. She married Thomas William Darby, a coach smith’s striker (born about 1847 in Hill Top, son of Thomas Darby) at St James', Handsworth on 21 November 1869 and they lived at Holloway Bank, West Bromwich before moving around 1885 to Brewery Street in Handsworth. Here they were school caretakers, perhaps taking over from Eliza’s uncle and aunt Samuel and Phoebe Simcox. 13 children, of whom 11 survived - as known, Hannah Jane, Sarah Elizabeth, Minnie Eliza, Louisa Beatrice, Charlotte Elizabeth, Thomas William, Joseph Skidmore, Samuel Percy, Florence Kate, Walter Melville, Albert S.

iii. Jane, registered as Jane in 1854Q1.

iv. Thomas, aged 12 in 1871, born in Tipton. He was probably registered as Thomas Pardo Skidmore in Dudley registration district in 1859Q4. He does not appear in the 1881 census and seems to be the youth aged 15 who died in West Bromwich registration district in 1873Q1.

The fourth son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore.

234. David⁷ Skidmore was born in Summer Hill, Tipton, and baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 26 October 1823. He married Elizabeth _____ (born about 1824 in West Bromwich) and they were living at the time of the 1851 census in Wood Lane, West Bromwich, with their seven-week old baby Thomas. With his brother John he began his working life as a colliery clerk, possibly at Rough Hay colliery where his father died in September 1851. In 1857 two pieces of glebe land³⁸ at Rough Hay Colliery were purchased by Messrs Addenbrooke, Smith and Pidcock from Mr D. Skidmore. A plan of this land with acreages, road and owners of adjoining land is at Walsall Local History Centre³⁹.

Elizabeth Skidmore was a dressmaker and also kept a grocer’s store. Following in the footsteps of his brother Thomas, David turned to the grocery trade, and was a provisions dealer by 1861. He became a Minister of the Baptist church, though he was not in charge of a congregation at the time of the 1871 census. The family lived in

³⁸ The land belonging, or yielding revenue, to a parish church or ecclesiastical benefice.
³⁹ Ref.43/39.
Witton Square at this time and with them was Mary Ellen Skidmore aged 2 (born Silverdale, north Staffordshire), a daughter of David’s brother Noah. David died in 1877Q4 aged 54. Elizabeth moved, maybe after her husband’s death, to 77 Guns Lane in West Bromwich, where she is found in 1881 with her sons Joseph and Thomas. By 1891 she, with son Thomas and daughter Elizabeth, lived at 8 Trinity Street, next to the family of her son Joseph. She died in 1898Q2 aged 74.

The children of David and Elizabeth Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

i. Thomas, born 1851Q1. He died in 1851Q2.

ii. JOHN SKIDMORE, born in 1852Q2. He was a stocktaker in 1871, living at his parents’ home in Witton Square. He married Sarah Jane Colley (born about 1852 in West Bromwich) on 4 April 1875 at Holy Trinity, West Bromwich. They are found in the 1881 census at 7 Pleasant Street, Hill Top, and in 1891 at 13 Old Meeting Street in West Bromwich. He is described as a sheet iron bundler. Mr Skidmore died in 1898Q3 aged 47, his widow in 1900Q1 aged 48. Four of their children - Hannah, Florence, David and Sarah - were living at 6e John Street, Swan Village at the time of the 1901 census.

The children of John and Sarah Jane (Colley) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

i. Hannah Elizabeth, born 1876Q2. An envelope maker in 1901. She was perhaps the Hannah Skidmore who married John William Hall in 1902Q2 in West Bromwich.

805. ii. JOHN WILLIAM SKIDMORE, born 10 February 1878. He was a roof tiler and slater and was living at the time of the 1901 census in Dukinfield, Cheshire. He had moved to 126 Spon Street, Coventry by the time of his marriage. He married Mary Amelia Smith of 62 Old Meeting Street, West Bromwich (born 21 April 1878, daughter of James Roberts Smith, roll turner of John Street, and his wife Mary (Ashton)) on 28 September 1902 at Carter’s Green Wesleyan Chapel in West Bromwich. She had attended a technical school in Birmingham (possibly run by Methodists) to learn sewing and become a seamstress. I am very grateful to Ann Hurley, a great-granddaughter of this couple in Australia, for the following biographical detail on this family.

John William’s name was on a waiting list for two years for an assisted passage to Australia, and he finally made it to the top of the list in 1911. He set out alone, the plan probably being that Mary and the boys would join him as soon as he had made enough money to pay for their passage and had established a suitable place for them to live. Meanwhile, Mary with her two sons John aged 6 and Leonard aged 1, moved in with her 41-year-old brother Edwin Alfred Smith, a carpenter and joiner, and his wife Annie at 63 Bilhay Street, West Bromwich.

In 1912 Mary and her sons travelled to Australia with the family of her sister Emma Louisa Thomas and brother-in-law William Henry Thomas. Her husband had employment as a Slater and Tiler with the firm Wunderlich’s in Melbourne. The two families at first rented 72 Mary Street in the inner suburb of Richmond but when both families grew the Skidmores moved to Coburg, where their last child Arthur was born at 9 Rodda Street.

John William Skidmore continued to work for Wunderlichs, and he also became a union representative and secretary for the Slater and Tilers’ Union. Whilst he held these offices the union achieved the right for workers to be paid at the worksite instead of having to travel to the firm’s office on the Yarra bank in the city to collect their weekly wages.

In 1916 the Skidmores were living in Florence Street, Mentone, in a stables that was converted into a home. It had an earthen floor, hessian walls and the parents’ room was in the loft. The family of six had their diet supplemented with duckling and duck eggs provided by a well-populated duck pond on the property. Mary took in ironing from the boarding house next door to help make ends meet. Three years later they had saved enough money to move to Cheltenham near the corner of Point Nepean and Charman Roads. John William set up his own tile-works, J. Skidmore and Co. and the boys John and Leonard were soon old enough to join their father’s business. By 1921 the family were experiencing good times and were able to purchase some quality furniture, a horse, cart, a Brougham (buggy), and a piano.

The good times were not to last however as John William was experiencing poor health, the company was soon in financial strife and was bankrupted in 1924. They
lost all their assets including a Phaeton, the horse and wagon, and the piano. So Mary took a lease on a boarding house in Beach Road, Sandringham, hoping to make some money from summer holiday-makers. Unfortunately, that summer was wet and customers stayed away. The Skidmores had to give up the lease before a year had passed.

Circumstances seemed to be improving around 1926. Skidmore and Co. was operating again with sons John and Len as tilers. Their first car, a T model Ford was purchased and son John was able to rent his own house on the Nepean Highway. Progress continued and both families were able to buy houses in Robert Street, Bentleigh. John William and Mary purchased number 57 and John and his wife number 52 opposite. Around this time John William joined the Cheltenham branch of the Masonic Lodge.

Then the Depression hit and they had to give up their home. By 1933 they had moved to 137 Balcombe Road, Mentone. It was here on 31 August 1934 that John William died at the age of 56 years. He was buried at the New Cheltenham Cemetery.

After her husband’s death, Mary went to live with son Arthur at a house built by Arthur and his brother Len on South Road, Moorabbin. She died on 25 November 1952. She was cremated at Springvale Cemetery and her ashes placed under a rose bush there.

Mary Amelia (Smith) Skidmore

Children of John William and Mary Amelia (Smith) Skidmore,

i. JOHN, born at 372 Foleshill Road, Coventry, Warwickshire on 28 January 1905, died 26 January 1965 in East Malvern, Victoria. A roof tiler in his father’s business, and later a supervisor at Whitelaw’s tiling business, he married firstly Valdis Muriel Rogers (1901-1975) on 23 December 1924 at St. Agnes’ Anglican church, Black Rock. They had six children, John Kenneth, Renee Valdis, Joan Ailsa, Brian Leonard, Corinne Shirley, Ailsa and Desmond. They were divorced in 1945 and John Skidmore married secondly Dorothy Wood that same year. During WW2 John served as a sapper in the Royal Australian Engineers of the AIF.

John Skidmore (1905-1965)

ii. Harold, born 1907. He died from measles in 1911.

*Leonard Skidmore (1910-2000)*

and born in Australia,


*Maud Skidmore (1913-1995)*


*Arthur Skidmore (1915-1987)*

iii. Sarah Jane, born 1880Q3. She died in 1881Q2.

iv. Florence, born 1882Q3 or 1882Q4. A general domestic servant in 1901. She married Arthur Yates, a cycle machinist from Coventry, in Coventry in 1909Q4. They were living by 1911 at 4 Church Lane, Coventry.

v. David, born 1886Q4. An iron moulder in 1901. He was a driller at the cycle works in Coventry at the time of the 1911 census.

vi. Sarah Jane, born 1889Q2.

iii. Elizabeth, born 1856Q3. She is probably the lady who was in 1881 servant to Rupert and Margaret Newton at 13A Villa Grove in Handsworth. She was living unmarried in 1911 in her brother Thomas' house at 10 Trinity Street. Hers was perhaps the death registered at West Bromwich in 1935, aged 78.
430. iv. **JOSEPH BEAUMONT SKIDMORE**, born in 1858Q2. He was living with his mother in 1881, when he was a warehouse clerk for a holloware firm. He married Betsy Ann Grainger at Christ Church, Oldbury on 16 September 1883. She was the daughter of Samuel Grainger, a labourer of Tabernacle Street, and his wife Mary. James Richards and Emma Goseley were witnesses. Joseph and Betsy Ann were living in Hargate Lane in 1884 and by 1891 were at 10 Trinity Street, West Bromwich (later the home of his brother Thomas). He was a Methodist lay preacher. In a Trade Directory of 1900 he is listed as a newsagent at 59 Spon Lane, West Bromwich, and in 1928 as a shopkeeper at 36 Boulton Street, West Bromwich. Mrs Skidmore died in 1916 aged 58, her husband in 1927 aged 69.

The children of Joseph Beaumont and Betsy Ann (Grainger) Skidmore,

i. **Mabel Edith Adelaide**, born 9 July 1884 in Hargate Lane. She married **William Edward Orme**, an iron fitter of Wolverhampton Street, Dudley (born about 1878, son of Arthur Orme, iron forge roller) on 21 December 1901 at Dudley Register Office. Their marriage was witnessed by Martha Orme and Gertrude Orme. Their daughter Edna May Orme is the mother of Paul Thomas Davies of Kingswinford, who kindly supplied information on this family.
806. ii. **JOSEPH BEAUMONT**, born 24 March 1897 in West Bromwich. He married Esther Kent on 5 April 1920. My thanks for information on this man’s descendants to his grandson Anthony Paul Skidmore and his wife Carol. Joseph Beaumont died in 1976,

*Children of Joseph Beaumont and Esther (Kent) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,*


ii. Douglas, born 1932. He was a scout leader and was knocked off his motorbike and killed in 1958 when coming home from a scout meeting in Wolverhampton.

v. Thomas Sylvanus, born 1862 Q1. True to his name, he was a gardener. He lived at 10 Trinity Street, West Bromwich with his sister Elizabeth Skidmore. Mr Skidmore died in 1937 aged 75.

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235. **NOAH** SKIDMORE, iron roller, was the son of Thomas [112] and Jane (Pardo) Skidmore, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton on 12 June 1831. He married firstly Fanny Addison (perhaps born 12 November 1833, the daughter of William Addison, engineer of Carters Green, West Bromwich, and his wife Rebecca) in 1854 Q1 at West Bromwich and moved soon after to Tunstall in north Staffordshire, where their first two children were born. The 1881 census reveals that they moved about the country, leaving Tunstall between 1857 and 1860 for Selly Oak in Birmingham. The 1861 census finds them in Midland Road, Kimberworth, Yorkshire. By 1862 they were in Middlesbrough in north Yorkshire, before returning to north Staffordshire, at Silverdale, before 1865. Fanny Skidmore died aged 35 and was buried at Christ Church, West Bromwich on 3 January 1869. At the time of the 1871 census their two-year old daughter Mary Ellen was living with her uncle David Skidmore in West Bromwich.

Noah married secondly Ellen Hobson (born about 1843 in Silverdale, the daughter of James and Sarah Hobson and the widow of William Brereton) on 11 December 1871 in Liverpool. They were living at the time of the 1871 census in Garston, Lancashire and, by 1881, in Ince in Makerfield, Lancashire.

At some point Noah went to work in the steel works in Glasgow, where he was living at the time of the 1891 census in the home of his son Thomas. He retired with his wife to live at 190, Wallgate, Wigan, Lancashire, where two of their daughters had already settled. He died there in 1906 Q2 aged 75, his widow in 1908 Q4 aged 65.

*The children of Noah and Fanny (Addison) Skidmore,*

430a. i. **THOMAS** SKIDMORE, born in Tunstall and baptised there on 15 June 1856. In 1881 he lived at
his father’s house in Ince, where he worked as a ‘bolter down’ at the ironworks, no doubt the same
works as his father and brother Noah. He married Marion Harriet Grimley (born in Ince about 1864)
in 1884Q1 in a civil ceremony registered at Wigan. They spent time in Scotland, firstly in Glasgow
(Thomas working, as was his father, in the steelworks there) and then Motherwell, before moving
to Standish, Wigan, Lancashire, and then back to the Midlands. He found work in the sheet iron rolling mills. They were living in 1901 in St Anne’s Road, Willenhall and, by 1911, at New Buildings, 55 Clay Pit Lane, West Bromwich. Marion Harriet Skidmore died on 30 June 1903 and was buried in Heath Lane cemetery, West Bromwich.

The children of Thomas Hemming and Marion Harriet (Grimley) Skidmore,

1. Thomas Hemming, born 1885 in Glasgow. An iron straightener in a bar iron rolling mill. He is perhaps the Thomas H. Skidmore who married Sarah Booth in West Bromwich in 1914Q4. This couple appear to have had three sons and two daughters in West Bromwich.
   Mr Skidmore died aged 65 on 30 March 1951, his wife Sarah on 5 May 1967 and they are buried at Heath Lane cemetery.

2. John Edward, born 1887 in Glasgow. A telegraph boy in 1901, later working in the rolling mill with his older brother. He died in 1962 aged 75.

3. Eva, born 1893 in Motherwell.


Children of Noah and Annie Skidmore, born in Glasgow,

1. Frances Ellen (Fanny), born 1885. She was recorded twice in the 1901 census, once at home with her parents and again at 124 Salamanca Street, Glasgow in the home of her uncle Robert Harvey, a rag store keeper, and his wife Martha.

2. NOAH THOMAS, born January 1886. At the time of the 1911 census, he and his brother James were living in a large boarding house in Vancouver. He married Margaret Jane Moore on 21 June 1916 and had four children in Winnipeg before 1921 (perhaps with others later).

Children of Noah Thomas and Margaret Jane (Moore) Skidmore, born in Winnipeg,

1. Isabell Mae, born about 1917.


3. Margaret Laura, born about 1919.

4. Hugh, born 1921.

5. Annie, born 1888.

6. David James, born December 1890.

Children of Noah Hemming and Marion Harriet (Grimley) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,

1. John, born in Tunstall at Hobbes Croft and baptised on 11 May 1857. He died at only a few hours old and was buried at Stafford on 14 May 1857.

430b. iii. NOAH SKIDMORE, born 1859Q1 in Selly Oak (the birth registered in Kings Norton district). He worked before his marriage as a bolter down at an ironworks in Ince, with his brother Thomas. He married Annie (perhaps Annie Hearst, born about 1859 in Glasgow) and was living by 1891 at 14 Winning Row, Glasgow. Their home at the time of the 1901 census was at Craigneuk Stewarts (?) Buildings, Dalziel.

Noah, together with his son Andrew and daughter Jessie Hearst Skidmore, emigrated to Canada, arriving at Quebec on board the Empress of Ireland on 23 July 1909. They were bound for Winnipeg, Manitoba, where Noah had an agreement for a year’s work as a farm labourer. His wife Annie followed the next year with Frank and Henry, arriving at Halifax on 11 April 1910 aboard the Hesperian.

Annie Hearst Skidmore died at Powell River, British Columbia on 26 October 1940, aged 86.

Children of Noah and Annie Skidmore, born in Glasgow,

i. Sarah Ann, born in Middlesbrough about 1862. A domestic servant living at home in 1881. She married Richard Bramber Withington in 1881Q4 in Wigan and lived with her children in Ince in Makerfield where she ran a chip shop from their home in the Warrington Road.
Children, as known – Arthur Herbert, Richard Arthur, Frances Ellen.

**born in Silverdale,**

v. Fanny Jane, born 1864Q3. A general servant living at home in 1881, she was by 1891 managing the Black Horse in the Market Place in Wigan. Not yet found after the census of 1901.

vi. Elizabeth, born about 1867. A dressmaker in 1881. She married James Bate Williams, a shoemaker (born about 1857 in Warrington) in 1889Q3 at All Saints’, Wigan and lived at first in Leonard Street, Warrington, Lancashire. Their children were born in Wigan from the mid-1890s. Elizabeth Williams died in 1901 aged 35 and her husband married secondly Annie _____.

Children, as known – Lizzie Ellen, James H., Harry.

vii. Mary Ellen, born 1868Q4. A milliner in 1891, living at 19 Wiend, Wigan. (Helena Olive Norris was a visitor). She married Thomas Wain in 1893Q2 at SS Thomas and James, Poolstock. She married secondly in 1904 William Shaw and was living by 1911 at 18 Second Avenue, Wigan.

Children by her second husband, as known – Sarah Ellen, Doris, James.
113. **CHARLES** SKIDMORE, son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, was baptised on 31 March 1793 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford. The seven sons of Thomas and Mary were all miners, but only Charles and his younger brother Jeremiah remained in Amblecote and Charles only for a time. He married Esther Cartwright (born in Merry Hill and baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 13 July 1794, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Cartwright) on 14 June 1812 at St Thomas’, Dudley. James Evans was a witness. Their first child was baptised at Park Lane Presbyterian Church in Cradley, Worcestershire. The Cradley register tells us that Charles and Esther lived at Merry Hill in Kingswinford parish. In Fowler’s plan of Kingswinford of 1822 Charles was a tenant of a house and garden close to the Blue Ball Public House in Merry Hill, at the junction of Thorns Road and the High Street of Quarry Bank.

Charles and Esther moved to Woodside, on the south-western edge of Dudley parish, some time between September 1832, when their son Obadiah was buried ‘of Amblecote’ and 22 December of the same year when Charles himself died. He was buried at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 26 December 1832 aged 39 of Woodside. Their last child, Charles, was to be born eight months later. At the time of the 1841 census Esther was still living at Woodside, of independent means. With her were daughter Emma and sons Enoch, a collier’s apprentice, and Charles, whilst Benjamin and Esther were living with Esther’s parents in Merry Hill. In 1851 Esther was at Springs Mire in Dudley parish, with her son Charles, a miner, and daughter Esther, a dressmaker. Also with them were two of her grandchildren - Elizabeth Bennett, aged 13m and Edward Foley, aged 2.

Esther Skidmore went to live with her brother Joseph Cartwright at Merry Hill, before finally moving to the High Street, Dudley. She died in 1876Q4 aged 84.

The children of Charles and Esther (Cartwright) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford,

i. Charles, baptised 6 June 1812 at Park Lane Presbyterian Church, Cradley. Buried 9 January 1813 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, an infant of the parish.

ii. Mary Ann, baptised 2 January 1814. She married John Skidmore [183], eldest son of Peter and Mary (Smithyman) Skidmore. See Skidmore Families of Deepfields, Coseley and the town of Dudley by this author, at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

iii. John, baptised 3 March 1816. His uncle Jeremiah Skidmore’s Bible records that he was killed at the Walls Pitt [sic], presumably Walls Pitt in Locks Lane, Brierley Hill, on 13 April 1836 aged 19 years. He was buried at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 17 April.

iv. Joseph, baptised 17 November 1818 (on the same day that Joseph Skidmore [84] was buried there). Buried 5 January 1819 at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, an infant of the parish.

236. v. **BENJAMIN** SKIDMORE, born on 24 October 1819, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

vi. Thomas, baptised 27 May 1821. Buried 5 November 1824, aged 3 of The Thorns.

vii. Esther, baptised 28 September 1823. She was a dressmaker and together with her daughter Elizabeth Bennett was living with her mother in 1851. She married John Bennett, widower of Hurst Lane, Tipton (born about 1816, son of William Bennett, blacksmith), on 3 February 1845 at St Martin’s, Tipton. In the 1850s John and Esther lived in Cooper’s Bank, Gornal where he was a miner, though they later were licensed victuallers in High Street, Pensnett. Their daughter Bertha Bennett (born 4 August 1862), grandmother of Miss Ruth Blakemore of Scarborough who kindly provided this information, was born in High Oak, Pensnett in 1863. In the late-1860s the family settled at 52 Chapel Street, Brierley Hill. Mr Bennett died in 1878Q4 aged 62, his widow in 1903Q4 aged 79. Children, as known – Elizabeth, Enoch, Jane, John, Titus, Emily, Bertha, Frederick William.

viii. Emma, baptised 30 October 1825. She married William Foley, collier of Brettell Lane (baptised 22 August 1824 at St Thomas’, Dudley, son of Edward Foley, miner of Springs Mire, and his wife Ann), on 17 May 1847 at Holy Trinity, Wordsley. John Parkes and Emma’s sister Esther Skidmore were witnesses. Mrs Foley died only three years later in 1850Q4 and William Foley was living at the time of the 1851 census in Springs Mire, Dudley, in the home of his sister Ann Richards. Their son Edward Foley lived with his grandmother at this time, and in 1861 was with his uncle Enoch Skidmore. William Foley had perhaps died during the 1850s - two deaths were registered in Dudley, one in 1857, the other in 1859.
237. ix. **ENOC**

**H** SKIDMORE, baptised at St Mary's, Oldswinford on 7 October 1827. He was apprenticed to a collier at or before the age of 11. In 1851 he was unmarried and lodging with dressmaker Ann Naylor (baptised 21 December 1828 at St Thomas', Dudley, daughter of Thomas and Ann (Jones) Naylor) at Woodside in Dudley. He married Ann on 8 April 1852 at St Edmund's, Dudley and they were living in 1861 at her mother's home in Pedmore Road, Woodside. Their address in 1871 is given as 18 High Street, Woodside.

Enoch Skidmore's death is presumably that registered at Dudley in 1871Q1, said to be aged 49. I have been unable to find Ann his wife in later censuses - she is presumably the Ann Skidmore aged 46 who died in 1872Q3.

**A child of Enoch and Ann (Naylor) Skidmore,**

i. **John,** born 25 April 1853, baptised 11 February 1855 at St Thomas', Dudley. After the death of his parents, he moved in search of work to Ilkeston, Derbyshire, where he was an ironworks labourer. He was living by 1901, unmarried and a labourer on the pit bank, in Somercotes, Derbyshire, in the home of John Skidmore, son of Thomas [184]. Not yet found after this date.

x. **Obadiah,** baptised 29 November 1829. Buried 20 September 1832 at St Mary's, Oldswinford, aged 3 of Amblecote.

238. xi. **CHARLES**

**H** SKIDMORE, born 6 May 1833 and baptised on 4 August at St Mary's, Oldswinford. Raised in Woodside and Springs Mire, he was a miner. He married Eliza Hale, daughter of miner Thomas Hale, on 25 January 1857 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. Mary Price was a witness. Eliza said in later censuses that she was born about 1837 in Daisy Bank, Coseley. She is perhaps the daughter of Thomas Hale, labourer of Brierley in Coseley, and his wife Phoebe, baptised on 9 April 1837 at Christ Church, Coseley.

Charles and Eliza Skidmore were boarding with carpenter John Lloyd and family in Bell Street, Pensnett in 1861. They moved to Bissell Street, Coseley and later Huntingdon Terrace Road in Cannock, Staffordshire. He died in 1887Q4 aged 56, his widow in 1891Q1 aged 57. At the time of the census on April 5 that year the three younger children were living with their brother Thomas and his new wife.

**The children of Charles and Eliza (Hale) Skidmore, born in Coseley,**

432. i. **[probably] THOMAS**

**H** SKIDMORE, born Coseley or Bilston - said to be aged 18 in 1881, 28 in 1891 and 40 in 1901 - appears to be the son of Charles [238] and Eliza (Hale) Skidmore. A coal miner, he married in 1891Q1 at St Luke’s, Cannock. His wife is recorded in the Staffordshire Marriage Index as Annie Bankley and in the General Register Office Marriage Index as Annie Bunkale.

She was born about 1867 in Madeley Wood, Shropshire but so far I have been unable to find her in censuses before her marriage.

Thomas and Annie Skidmore were living at the time of the 1891 census in New Street, Cannock, with Thomas’ sisters Eliza and Elizabeth and his brother Samuel (their mother having died earlier that year). By 1901 they were in Huntingdon Terrace Road, Chadswood, Cannock. Mrs Skidmore died in 1902Q3 aged 35 and by 1911 Thomas and the children were at Little Wood, Cheslyn Hay.

**Children of Thomas and Annie (Bankley) Skidmore, born in Chadswood,**

815. i. **BERTIE**, born 1891Q4. He appears to be the Bert Skidmore who married Beatrice Pearson in 1912Q4, moved to Barnsley, Yorkshire and had two daughters. He died in Barnsley in 1962 aged 70, Beatrice in 1966 aged 72.

**Children of Bertie and Beatrice (Pearson) Skidmore, born in Barnsley,**

i. **Beatrice M.,** born 1916Q1.

ii. **Annie,** born 1921Q2.

ii. **Annie,** born 1893Q1.

iii. **Eliza,** born 1895Q1.

iv. **Thomas,** born 1897Q1. He died in 1908Q1 aged 10.

v. **John,** born 1899Q1.

40 There are no other individuals with either surname in the GRO indexes of births, marriages or deaths, apart from this marriage in 1891.
vi. Sarah Jane, born April or May 1900.

ii. Emily, born 1866Q1. She married Alfred Riley, a coal miner (born about 1853 in Stafford) at St Luke’s, Cannock in 1888Q1. They were living in 1891 in New Street, Cannock with their son Thomas Riley aged 2 and a daughter Clara Scudamore (born 1884Q4 in Chadsmoor). Mr Riley died in Cannock in 1897Q4 and his wife and four children moved near to her married sister Eliza, at 182 High Street, Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. Emily Riley worked as a charwoman and her daughter Clara as a boot machinist. She moved by 1911 to 8 Wood Street, Earl Shilton.

Children, as known — Clara, Thomas, Charles, May, Wilfred.

iii. Eliza, born 1870Q1. She married James Arthur F. Hill (born 1876 in Earl Shilton, died 1952) in 1897Q4, probably in Earl Shilton, Leicestershire. In 1901 they were living at 180 High Street and, by the time of the 1911 census, in Church Street, Earl Shilton.

Children, as known — Joseph Henry, Joseph, Emily, Jessie Agnes, Teresa M.A., Thomas G.

432a. iv. SAMUEL8, born 1874Q2 in Walbrook. At the time of the 1901 census he was a loader at a coal mine in Cannock, boarding with John and Eliza Davis (apparently not his sister) in John Street, Chadsmoor. He probably married Emma Hill in 1901Q4 at St Luke’s, Cannock and moved to Sutton in Ashfield, Nottinghamshire some time between 1906 and 1911.

Children of Samuel and Emma (Hill) Skidmore, born in Cannock,

i. May, born 1902Q2.

ii. Sarah Ann, born 1904Q1.

iii. Alice, born 1905Q3.


and born in Sutton in Ashfield,


The oldest surviving son of Charles [113] and Esther (Cartwright) Skidmore, 236. BENJAMIN7 SKIDMORE, miner of Dudley, was born on 24 October 1819 at Blue Ball, Merry Hill and baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford on 27 May 1821. He lived at least for a time after the death of his father with his maternal grandparents in Merry Hill.

He married Elizabeth Palmer (born about 1817 in Worcester) on 29 October 1849 at St Edmund’s, Dudley. They lived in the Dock area of Dudley, in 1851 in Dock Lane, in 1857 in Cross Street, while the 1861 census finds them at 50 Chapel Street, Holly Hall with their two sons.

By 1871 Benjamin and his wife were running a greengrocer’s from their home at 67 Stourbridge Road, Dudley. He died in 1889Q3 aged 69 and his widow continued the business. She died in 1898Q3, said to be aged 79.

The children of Benjamin and Elizabeth (Palmer) Skidmore, born in Dudley, baptised at St Thomas’, 431. i. BENJAMIN SKIDMORE PALMER8, born 19 December 1846 in Queens Cross, Dudley, a child of Elizabeth Palmer. Like his younger sister Esther, his birth was registered with the middle name Skidmore, suggesting that his father was Elizabeth Palmer’s future husband Benjamin Skidmore, a view strengthened by Benjamin his father being named on Benjamin the younger’s marriage certificate (though not on his birth certificate).

Benjamin Skidmore Palmer married Mary Cartwright (born about 1851 in Dudley, daughter of Bartholomew Cartwright, an engraver) on 17 January 1870 at St Edmund’s, Dudley. Their children’s births were registered with the middle name Skidmore and surname Palmer, though in censuses the family appear as Skidmore, apart from the census taken in 1911.

Benjamin’s family was at 1 Chapel Street in Dudley in 1881, where they remained. Mrs Skidmore took over her mother-in-law’s greengrocery at 67 and 68 Stourbridge Road, Dudley. Mary Skidmore-Palmer died in 1914 aged 64.

The children of Benjamin and Mary (Cartwright) Palmer, born in Dudley, baptised at St Thomas’, i. Elizabeth Skidmore Palmer, born 21 March 1870 in Hart’s Hill, baptised 16 October. By 1901 she was in domestic service in Dixons Green.
ii. Charles Skidmore Palmer, born 8 September 1872, baptised 6 October. A blacksmith, he was unmarried at the time of the 1939 Register, living at 213 Stourbridge Road with his married brother Sydney.

iii. David Skidmore Palmer, born 1874Q3. A glass maker, David Skidmore married Louisa Parsons (born about 1878 in Netherton, daughter of Henry Parsons, greengrocer of Halesowen Road, and his wife Susannah) in 1900Q4 at St John's, Dudley. She was running a fried fish shop at the time of the 1911 census, when their home was at 29 Fenton Street, Brierley Hill. He died on 13 May 1938.

iv. Martha Skidmore Palmer, born 6 March 1877. She was raised in Swindon, Wiltshire by her uncle Charles Skidmore and his wife Maria. Martha Skidmore was married to Albert Edward Phillips at St Mark's Church, Swindon on 30 March 1907. He worked in Swindon as a railway inspector and his niece Martha worked as a French polisher in the carriage works before her marriage. Children - Hilda Doris (1908-1911), Albert William (1912-1983), Desmond (1919-1997).


vi. Maria Skidmore Palmer, born 1883Q4.

813. vii. SIDNEY SKIDMORE PALMER, born 1886Q2. He married Sarah Elizabeth Jones in 1913. He died on 30 January 1844.

A daughter of Sidney and Sarah Elizabeth (Jones) Skidmore-Palmer,

i. Gladys M.S., born 1914Q2.


A son of Ernest and Lily M. (Phillips) Skidmore-Palmer,

i. Ernest, born 1916Q3. He died in 1968 aged 52.

x. [a twin] Samuel Skidmore Palmer, born 1891Q4. He died that same quarter.

ii. Esther Skidmore Palmer, born 1848Q4. Esther Skidmore died at 5 months old and was buried at St Thomas' on 30 April 1849.

iii. Enoch, born 9 April 1850. Died aged 5 weeks (buried 17 May at St Thomas', Dudley). The baptism date of 30 June 1850 appears to be in error.

iv. Charles, born 1851Q2. He was a boiler maker and left with others for Middlesbrough to find work. He was lodging there at the time of the 1871 census with John Plant of Brockmoor and his wife Mary. Charles Skidmore married, at St Mary's, Kingswinford on 25 December 1876, Maria Westwood (born about 1854 in Commonside, daughter of Joseph Westwood, labourer of Blewitt Street, Pensnett and his wife Sarah Ann). Charles Skidmore is found in the census of 1881, lodging at the home of retired soldier Samuel Litton in Hope Street, Weymouth in Dorset. His wife at this time was living at their home in William Street, Swindon, Wiltshire, with her niece Martha Skidmore (daughter of Charles' brother Benjamin). Charles joined his wife Maria and Martha Skidmore (recorded as Charles' daughter) and they moved at some time in the 1890s from William Street, Swindon to 30 Maxwell Street there. Martha was a French polisher at the Swindon railway works. Charles Skidmore died in Swindon in 1904Q1 aged 52, his widow in 1929Q1 aged 74.

v. Elizabeth, born 1853Q4, baptised Eliza on 27 January 1854.

vi. Abel, born 13 May 1857 (baptised 31 May). This child's death was registered in 1860Q1. The burial register of St Thomas' gives his age as 1 year 8 months, but it appears he was a year older.
The eighth son of Thomas and Mary (Walker) Skidmore,

114. DAVID\(^6\) SKIDMORE, the son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, was baptised on 24 April 1796 at Oldswinford. Like his older brothers John, Joseph and Thomas he pursued his occupation of miner in the Summer Hill area of Tipton where he lived in Church Lane. He married Phoebe Mills (born in Tipton and baptised there on 16 February 1798, daughter of Edward and Elizabeth Mills) on 31 August 1817 at Sedgley. The marriage was witnessed by John Scriven, probably a relative of Joseph Scriven, the husband of David's sister Phoebe.

By 1838 the family had moved to Old Hill, Rowley Regis, Staffordshire, where David became mine agent at Old Hill Colliery. Two pits are shown as part of 'Oldhill Colliery' on the 1901 Ordnance Survey map, in the triangle of land to the west of and between Powke Lane and Garratt's Lane. The Bible of David's brother Jeremiah Skidmore contains a record of David's death at Old Hill Colliery on 5 June 1839 aged 43 years. His death certificate describes him as a boat gauger of Slack Hillock (as was his nephew Isaiah at this time). He died of consumption and his burial took place on 9 June at Oldswinford.

Phoebe, his widow, is found with her children in 1841 in Grove Street, Wednesfield. Phoebe Skidmore, daughter of Edward Mills, married Edward Matthews (son of John Matthews) on 12 February 1843 at All Saints', Sedgley. By 1851 Phoebe Skidmore was either separated or twice-widowed and living in East Street, Wolverhampton. Jeremiah, John and Harriet were still with their mother. By the time of the census of 1871 she was living with the family of her daughter Mary in Stockton-on-Tees, Yorkshire. In 1881 Mrs Skidmore lived in Cookley, Worcestershire with her daughter Rosanna Bywater, where she died in 1883Q1 aged 87.

The children of David and Phoebe (Mills) Skidmore, born in Summer Hill and baptised at Tipton,

i. Mary, baptised 1 March 1818. She married Thomas Jones, a tin plate worker (born about 1818 in Saul, Gloucestershire) on 27 November 1836 at St Giles, Rowley Regis, witnessed by John Breasier and John Whitehouse. I am grateful for information on this family to Jayne Warnes of Northampton, great-great-granddaughter of their daughter Elizabeth Jones. They were living in 1841 in Ward Street, Wolverhampton and moved shortly before 1851 to Seaton, Cumberland. Thomas moved his family at least twice more - to Bedfieldside, Durham and, by 1881, Stockton-on-Tees where he was foreman of the ironworks. Mrs Jones died in 1875Q1 aged 57 and Thomas married secondly Elizabeth (perhaps Elizabeth White in 1876Q2). Children, as known – Sarah Ann, Hannah, Elizabeth, Esau, Thomas.

ii. Maria, baptised 27 February 1820. She married William Thomas, a puddler and roller of iron (born about 1817 in Neath, Glamorgan, son of Thomas Thomas, a stocktaker) on 17 October 1840 at St Peter’s, Wolverhampton. They were living at the time of the 1851 census in Grove Street, Wednesfield. William and Maria moved in the late 1850s from Wednesfield to Wilden, Worcestershire (now a district of Stourport) where William and his sons found work in the tin and sheet iron works there. They moved back to the Black Country by 1871 to live in Temple Street, Bilston. They have descendants in Australia.

Children, as known – William, James, John, Eli, Catherine, Charles, David.

239. iii. THOMAS, baptised 11 November 1821, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

iv. Sarah Ann, baptised 23 November 1823. She married Enoch Davies, inspector of chains (born about 1819 in Netherton, son of Joseph Davies, a miner), on 23 October 1842 at St Peter’s, Wolverhampton. They raised their family, all chain makers, in Cradley Heath. Mrs Davies later lived in Quarry Bank, firstly with the family of her daughter Emma Parker and then with that of her son George. She died in 1905Q1 aged 81.


v. Elizabeth, baptised 15 January 1826. She married Samuel Hartshorn, a tin worker (baptised 16 August 1818 at Dudley, the son of George Hartshorn, labourer, and Jane) on 14 September 1845 at the Collegiate Church, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton. I am grateful to Michael Tipper, grandson of their daughter Sarah Ann Hartshorn, for information on this family. They lived in Bilston Road and later Jenner Street, Wolverhampton. Mrs Hartshorn died in 1880Q1 aged 55 and her husband then lived with the family of his son George in Bilston Road.

Children, as known – George, David, Sarah Ann, Betsy, Maria, Samuel.

vi. Rosannah, baptised 2 December 1827. She was a servant in 1841 at the home of Joseph Jones,
forgerman, and his wife Phoebe in Wharf Street, Wolverhampton. She married William Bywater, a furnaceman (born about 1827 in Stourbridge, son of Thomas Bywater, of Duke Street, Wolverhampton in 1841) on 8 November 1846 at All Saints', Sedgley. They moved in the late 1850s from Wolverhampton to live in Horsley Row, later Austcliffe Row, Cookley, Worcestershire. At the time of the 1881 census, Rosannah and children shared their home with her mother Phoebe. At this time, William Bywater appears to be the general labourer (though said to have been born about 1830 in Bilston), a patient in 1881 in South Staffordshire General Hospital in Wolverhampton.

Mrs Bywater lived for a time in Ladywood, Birmingham, with the family of her son Noah, an iron founder's dispatch clerk. She died in 1911Q2 aged 83. Children, as known – Henry T., Louisa J., Agnes Ann, Eliza Charlotte, Noah, Arthur D.

240. vii. JEREMIAH, baptised 24 January 1830, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

viii. Phoebe, baptised 11 December 1831. She died in Summer Hill and was buried at Tipton on 22 September 1833.

ix. [perhaps] Eliza, buried at Tipton on 21 May 1834, aged 1, of Summer Hill.

241. x. JOHN, baptised 23 August 1835, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

xi. Harriet, one of the two girls of this name registered in Dudley registration district in 1838Q2, born in Netherton and baptised 27 May 1838. She married Richard Richards, a blast furnaceman (born about 1829 in (?)Myford, North Wales) in 1860Q3 and was, together with her sister-in-law Eliza Richards, a milliner and dressmaker, at Little Deans Hill, East Dean, Gloucestershire. I have not been able to find them in later UK censuses.

239. THOMAS7 SKIDMORE, son of David [114] and Phoebe (Mills) Skidmore, was born in Church Lane, Tipton, and baptised at Tipton on 11 November 1821. He went to Wolverhampton with his widowed mother and younger siblings around 1840, where he was a forgerman. He married Sarah Ann Hawkins (baptised 24 February 1822 at Preston Gubbals, Shropshire, daughter of William and Abia (?Whitehead) Hawkins) on 23 May 1843 at the Collegiate Church in Tettenhall, Wolverhampton. Their four sons were born in Wednesfield (1843), Brierley Hill (1847 and 1848) and Sun Street, Wolverhampton (1851). By 1861 the family was living at the Green in Darlaston, when Thomas was an iron shingler and all his sons iron rollers. By 1871 he had found work as a labourer in a forge in Brierley village in the parish of Sedgley and the family home was in Field Street there.

I have not been able to find Thomas or his wife in the 1881 census. His death appears to have been that registered at Wolverhampton in 1886Q4, aged 66 but Sarah Ann Skidmore's death registration remains undiscovered.

The children of Thomas and Sarah Ann (Hawkins) Skidmore,

   i. John, born about 1843 in Wednesfield Heath. He became an iron roller in Wolverhampton with his brothers.

   I have not found him in censuses after 1861.

433. ii. WILLIAM9, born about 1847 in Brierley Hill. He was a sleet iron roller who married Elizabeth Kirkham (born about 1849 in Wrexham, Wales, perhaps the daughter of and John Kirkham, labourer of Brymbo, Broughton, Denbighshire, and Margaret) on 4 June 1868 at St Michael’s, Chester, Cheshire. Their first child was born at 27 Waterloo Street, Wolverhampton early in 1869, but by the time of the 1871 census41, they were living in Alice Street, Bilston, where William Skidmore died in 1878Q4 aged 32. His widow supported their four children by dressmaking but, unfortunately, I have so far been unable to discover her after the census of 1881. [It is worth noting that Mary Ann the daughter of John [334] appears to have been living with her husband Thomas Johnson close to Mrs Elizabeth Skidmore in Alice Street, Bilston in 1881].

The children of William and Elizabeth (Kirkham) Skidmore,

   817. i. EDWARD THOMAS9, born 23 March 1869 at 27 Waterloo Street, Wolverhampton and baptised 29 June at St George’s, Wolverhampton. He was recorded as Thomas Skidmore in the 1881 and 1891 censuses. He was a commercial traveller in 1891, lodging at 11 St James Square, Wolverhampton with Henry and Caroline Pratt. He appears to be the Thomas Edward Skidmore who married Sarah Fanti (born about

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41 The 1871 census gives William Skidmore's age as 52 - clearly an error which should read 25. His son Edward Thomas Skidmore was not enumerated at his parents' home in this census and so far, I have been unable to find him living elsewhere.
The children of Edward Thomas and Sarah (Fanti) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton, baptised at St Mark's,

i. Ada, born at 30 Shepherd Street and baptised 30 September 1894. She worked in the warehouse of the enamel works.

ii. Rose, registered as Rosa, baptised 20 December 1896. She was apprenticed to a tailoress.


and born in Bilston,

ii. Fanny Hawkins, born 12 November 1870 and baptised on 31 March 1892 at St Mark's, Wolverhampton. She was a housemaid in 1891 to George and Anne Hodgkinson at 3 Merridale Grove, Wolverhampton. She married [recorded as Fanny Awkins Skidmore] Harry George Berry, a coppersmith (born 1874 in Wolverhampton, son of Henry Berry, a railway signalman, and his wife Selina Elizabeth) in Wolverhampton registration district in 1900Q3.

Children, as known - Victor Harry, Archibald Henry, Helena Mary, Arthur Henry.

iii. Ada Mary, born 1872Q3. She worked as a nurse before her marriage, in the home of Thomas S. Lewis, iron tube manufacturer, at Ash Hill, Tettenhall, Wolverhampton and later that of Arthur Lazarus, a metal merchant in Bournemouth, Hampshire. She married in 1902Q2 William John Berry, a teacher (and brother to Harry George Berry who married Ada Mary's older sister). Ada Mary Berry died in 1909 and at the time of the 1911 census her husband was living at 14 Austin Street, Wolverhampton, a railway clerk, with their children Vera Angela, Gilbert William Roland Henry and John Leslie.

iv. Elizabeth, born perhaps 1874Q3 (two girls called Elizabeth Skidmore, aged 6 and born in Bilston, are found in the 1881 census, the other the daughter of John [295] and Mary Ann (Morris) Skidmore). I have discovered nothing more of Elizabeth after the census of 1881.

iii. EDWARD HENRY⁹, born in Brierley Hill in 1848Q4. A sheet iron roller, Edward Skidmore married Henzey Barratt (born about 1853 in Dudley, daughter of Paul Barratt, a forge manager), on 24 December 1871 at St Mary's, Wolverhampton. In 1881 they were living at 44 Bilston Street, Bilston, though their daughter Henzey was born in Winson Green in Birmingham in 1880. They moved to Gartcosh, Lanarkshire, where they lived in one of the houses associated with the iron works there, later moving to 8 McLean Place⁴².

He died on 23 December 1900 aged 52, his wife on 17 November 1931.

The children of Edward Henry and Henzey (Barratt) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton, baptised at St George's,

i. Mary Ann, baptised 24 November 1872. She married George Drysdale in 1895 and became post mistress in Gartcosh. Private correspondence with their granddaughter, the late Mrs Dorothy (Moffat) Parker, revealed that Henzey Barratt was said to be the sister of the Barratt who started the famous shoe company.

818. ii. EDWARD HENRY⁹, born 1874Q1. He married Florence Rebecca Blincow in 1895 and was an iron and steel roller, living with his wife and children in 1901 in Unthank Road, John Place, Bothwell, Lanarkshire.

Mrs Skidmore died on 16 September 1939 in Gartcosh, Edward Henry on 29 April 1957.

Children of Edward Henry and Florence Rebecca (Blincow) Skidmore,

i. Edward Henry, born 11 March 1896 in Gartcosh, died 24 August

⁴² Smith and McLean were a Glasgow company founded in 1861 by Richard Smith and Charles McLean. It was under this company’s ownership that the name Gartcosh became synonymous with steelmaking and the "Old Works" lives on in street names within Gartcosh. In 1872 the capacity of the works was the output of two Sheet Mills, with six puddling furnaces and one ball furnace. Gartcosh grew as a result of the works - during the late 1890s and early 1900s Smith & McLean provided new brick-built houses for their workers in the village, Smith Terrace and McLean Place named after the company’s founders. The Gartcosh Local History Group.
1964. According to an online pedigree, he married Elizabeth McIntyre Kelcher.

ii. Elizabeth, born 27 January 1898 in Bellshill.


iv. Henzey, born 28 July 1901, died 17 August that year.

v. Lucy, born 5 June 1903.


vii. Eric, born 6 July 1907. He married twice, and died on 15 October 1876 (buried at Bedlay Cemetery, Cumbernauld Road, Glasgow).


x. Florence Eileen, born 27 June 1911.

xii. Irene, born 6 December 1916.

819. iii. ALFRED, born 1876Q4. An iron worker in Gartcosh, he married Rebecca Lowbrid Picken in 1908 and they were living, together with Alfred’s widowed mother, at 8 McLean Place, Gartcosh at the time of the 1911 census

**Children of Alfred and Rebecca (Picken) Skidmore, Perhaps with others**

   i. Hilda, born 1909.


435. iv. ALFRED THOMAS⁴, born 23 July 1851 in Sun Street, Wolverhampton. He married Mary Jane Nicholls (born 11 January 1852 in Lea Brook, Wednesbury, perhaps the daughter of Benjamin Nicholls, engineer, and his wife Eliza) on 11 March 1872 at St Edmund’s, Dudley. Thomas Skidmore was a sheet boiler maker of Holyhead Road, Handsworth in 1881. Although back in Handsworth by 1890, their son John had been born in West Bromwich in 1882 and Fred in Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire in 1884. Alfred Skidmore died at 233 Wattville Street, Handsworth in April 1890 (buried 4 May at Holly Lane cemetery, Smethwick), aged 38. Mrs Skidmore ran a herb beer shop from this address at the time of the 1891 census.

Mrs Skidmore was living at 36 Wattville Street, Handsworth with her children Clara and Frank at the time of the 1901 census. Her son Thomas I have yet to find in this census but two men who appear to be her sons William and John were boarding at the Midland Temperance Hotel, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, both general engineering fitters (as was Alfred E. Richards aged 20, all three said to have been born in Birmingham).

Of their six children, Clara, John and Frank moved to Canada in about 1912, Alice and her family about 1919. Mary Jane Skidmore died on 3 August 1918 in Toronto.

**The children of Alfred Thomas and Mary Jane (Nicholls) Skidmore,**

820. i. ALFRED THOMAS⁴, born in Bilston⁴, baptised 4 September 1873 at St Leonard’s there. He was a sheet roller who married Clara Elizabeth Powell (baptised 5 August 1873 at Oldbury, Worcestershire, daughter of Thomas Powell and his wife Maria) in 1895Q4 at Holy Trinity, Smethwick. They were living in 1911 at Thistle Bank, Glebe Street, Bothwell, Lanarkshire.

Clara Elizabeth died at 1 Dee View, Bryncelyn, Flintshire aged 55, and was buried on 29 November 1928 in Greenfield Cemetery, Holywell. Alfred died in 1945.

**Children of Alfred Thomas and Clara Elizabeth (Powell) Skidmore,**

i. Linda, born 1896Q4 in Smethwick. She married George Francis Coathupe in Chester in 1917. She died 17 May 1956 in Chester.


iii. Elsie Maud, born 22 November 1899 in Bellshill, died 1985 in Birmingham. She married in 1926 in Handsworth.

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⁴ The 1891 census is difficult to read and the author would be glad of local knowledge to decipher the birthplace of Alfred and Alice, which looks like R----? gulley?
iv. Alfred Thomas, born 1902 in Scotland.

Three children born in England,


ix. A further daughter, perhaps Florence Eileen, registered in Bellshill in 1911.

Alice Maud, born 18 January 1875 in Bilston. She married Joseph Charles Yates (born 5 May 1874 in Holly Lane, Smethwick, son of Charles and Mary Ann (Palmer) Yates) on 6 February 1898 at Handsworth. They moved with their three children to Canada around 1919. Joseph died on 15 December 1937, his widow on 20 May 1939 in Toronto and they are buried in Pine Hills Cemetery. I am grateful to Mrs Sharon Hurst of Ontario for information on this family.

Clara, born in Wolverhampton in 1878Q3. A piano teacher in Handsworth at the time of the 1901 census, when one of the lodgers in the household appears to have been her future husband Tom Gazey (born 1877 in Birmingham). Tom and Clara moved to Canada around 1912. Clara Gazey their daughter (born in 1907 at 36 Wattville Road, West Bromwich, died 28 July 1971) married a doctor, Kenneth McKim Shorey, in Canada. Tom Gazey died of meningitis in Toronto on 10 January 1915. His widow survived him by many years and died in Scarborough, Ontario, on 20 August 1964.
iv. William, born in 1880Q3 in Handsworth, aged 7 months at the time of the census on 3 April 1881. If correctly identified in 1901, he was a general engineering fitter. The family confirm that he was later a Vaudeville-type clown with the stage name of Billy Bunk.

821. v. **JOHN**, born 1 October 1882 at 65 Ebenezer Street, West Bromwich. A general engineering fitter, he married Elsie Astley (born 14 July 1887 at 126 Crockett Road, Handsworth) on 2 April 1908 in a civil or registrar-attended service registered at West Bromwich. Their home at the time of the 1911 census, when John was a commercial traveller, was 117 Westbourne Road, Handsworth. They emigrated to Canada about 1912. John died on 13 June 1957, Elsie on 1 February 1958, in Pickering, Ontario and they are buried in Erskine cemetery.

The children of John and Elsie (Astley) Skidmore,

i. Muriel Elsie, born 20 June 1909 in West Bromwich. She married Gordon Weston on 6 September 1927 in Toronto and had two sons Ronald and Roland. Her second husband Albert Notman she married on 1 June 1948 in Toronto and they had two daughters Candace and Joy. She died there on 9 March 1974.

**Children,**


iii. Penelope, born about 1950. She married Robert Barr.


**One child,**


v. Gwendolen Rosamond Pauline, born 1924 in Danforth Road, Toronto. She married Donald William Kemp (born 1923 in Pickering Township) in 1946 in Dunbarton, Ontario. They had three daughters Lynda Maureen (who now lives in British Columbia and kindly supplied information on this family), Jane Arleen and Karen Kathleen. Mrs Kemp died on 9 November 2015.

vi. Frederick George, born 1884Q4 in Ashton under Lyne, Lancashire. Frederick Skidmore died in 1891Q4 aged 7, his death registered at West Bromwich.


The children of Frank and Emily Ada (Smith) Skidmore, born in Toronto, Ontario,


**Children, born in Toronto,**

i. Karen, born 3 October 1943. She died in Toronto on 30


v. Linda, born 1952.


240. JEREMIAH² SKIDMORE, son of David [114] and Phoebe (Mills) Skidmore, was born in Old Hill and baptised at Tipton on 24 January 1830. He married Mary Ann Edmans, daughter of William Edmans, forgerman on 1 December 1856 at Brierley Hill, witnessed by Maria Holt. She appears to be the tin polisher aged 20, found in the 1851 census lodging in Brockmoor village, who said she was born in Machen, Monmouthshire, though in later censuses she gave her birthplace as Pontypool.

They went to Warrington, as did Jeremiah’s younger brother John, but via Sheffield where they lived in Gower Street, Brightside Bierlow in the early 1860s. By 1871 Jeremiah and his family had settled in Foundry Street, Warrington, where he began as a fishmonger but returned before 1881 to work in an iron foundry. At the same address in 1881 was Thomas Davies, a chain maker born about 1843 in Cradley Heath, his wife Esther and their children, including their son Thomas Skidmore Davies. The Davies family were lodging in 1871 in Blowers Green, Dudley with widow Mrs Mary Stevens, and had moved north between 1868 and 1872.

By 1891 Jeremiah was living at 119 Dallam Lane (next to the coal office, the iron foundry and the brewery) with his wife, his daughter Rose and her husband and their daughter Harriet Holding. Mary Ann Skidmore died in Warrington in 1899Q4, said to be 68. Jeremiah survived her and died aged 82 in 1910Q2.

The children of Jeremiah and Mary Ann (Edmans) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton,

437. i. ADAM⁶, son of Mary Ann Edmans, was registered at his birth in 1854Q4 in Wolverhampton as Adam Edmonds. He was perhaps the son of Jeremiah Skidmore [240] but was certainly known thereafter as his son and called Skidmore.

A puddler of School Brow, he married firstly Sarah Graham (born about 1852, daughter of James Graham, a tanner of Church Street) on 20 March 1882 at St Elphin’s, Warrington. She died in 1887Q1 aged 34.

He married his second wife, Isabella Batey⁴⁴ (born about 1866 in Newcastle upon Tyne, daughter of Andrew Batey, mouldor originally of Jesmond, and Eliza (?Douglas)) in 1890Q2 in Newcastle. They were living in 1891 at 147 Pine Street, Elswick, Newcastle, with Isabella’s widowed father and her brother John W. Batey. Their children were born through the 1890s in Newcastle, where Adam was a general labourer in the shipyards there.

Adam Skidmore died in Newcastle in 1929 aged 74.

The son of Adam and Sarah (Graham) Skidmore, born in Warrington,

823. i. CHARLES HARRY⁹, born 1883Q1, baptised 3 April 1883 at St Peter’s, Warrington.

He did not follow his father to Newcastle. A labourer at the lead works, he married Alice Maude Brooks (daughter of John Brooks, a spade and shovel maker) on 24

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⁴⁴ Isabella McKie appears in the GRO index with the same code, and in the Newcastle online BMDs - this could be a second marriage for Isabella.
September 1905 at St Thomas', Stockton Heath, Cheshire. They were living in 1911 at 25 Beswick Street, Warrington.

Charles H. Skidmore died in 1951 aged 68, Alice in 1966 aged 80.

**Children of Charles Harry and Alice Maude (Brooks) Skidmore, perhaps with others,**

i. Sarah Annie, born 1906Q3 in Warrington.

ii. Muriel, born 1910Q1 in Stockton Heath.

**The children of Adam and Isabella (Batey) Skidmore, born in Newcastle upon Tyne,**

i. Martha Annie, born 1891Q2.

ii. Mary Emily, born 1896Q4. She married William Wilson, a shop assistant of 16 Nador Street, Bradford (son of William Henry Wilson, a postman) on 30 January 1915 at St Philip's, Bradford.


**born in Sheffield,**

437a. iii. **JOHN**, born about 1862 in Sheffield. He was a labourer living at 21 Dallam Lane at the time he married Alice Mannion (born about 1863 in Friars Green, Warrington, daughter of John Mannion, labourer) at St Elphin's, Warrington on 5 December 1886.

John Skidmore found work in Salford, Manchester, while his wife remained in the home of her widowed mother Bridget Mannion (born in Ireland), and with her sister Mary A. Mannion and brother James Mannion. Mrs Skidmore joined her husband, who died in 1894Q2 aged only 32. Mrs Skidmore was by the time of the 1901 census running the Victoria Inn at 135 City Road, Manchester.

**Children of John and Alice (Mannion) Skidmore,**

i. [perhaps] Alfred, born about 1883, listed in the 1891 census as Alfred Skidmore aged 8, as a grandson of Bridget Mannion but *following* Mary Ann Skidmore 4 and John Skidmore 2. Not yet found later with the surname Skidmore.

ii. Mary Ann, born 1887Q2 in Warrington.

iii. John, born 1889Q2. He died in 1892Q2 in Salford, aged 3.

iv. James, born 1892Q4.

v. Alice, born 1894Q3.

437b. iv. **WILLIAM HENRY**, a general labourer of Warrington, born in Sheffield in 1864Q1. He married Elizabeth Jane Dobson (born about 1863 in Liverpool) at St Mary's, Great Sankey, Warrington in 1886Q3. They were living with their children at 43 Orford Street, Warrington in 1891. I have not been able to find William Henry Skidmore in either the 1901 nor the 1911 censuses. Mrs Skidmore became a cotton weaver and remained in Warrington with her children, where she was living by the time of the 1901 census at 18 Gandy's Terrace. She was recorded as married in 1901 and widowed in 1911. She died in Warrington in 1932 aged 68.

**Children of William Henry and Elizabeth Jane (Dobson) Skidmore, born in Warrington,**

i. Elizabeth, born 1886Q4. She married George Trainer Massey, a blacksmith's striker (born about 1885 in Warrington) in 1905Q3 in Warrington. They were living in 1911 at 5 Sandy Street.

ii. Mary Ann, born 1890Q1.

826. iii. **STEPHEN**, born 1892Q2. He appears to have married Helen McKay in 1920 and had seven children in Warrington.

and born in Warrington,

438. v. **ESAU**, born in Warrington in 1866Q1. He married, at St Mary's, Great Sankey, Warrington in 1888Q2, Emily Roberts (born about 1869 in Manchester) and was living with her widowed mother Ellen Roberts, a forewoman in the India rubber works (born Wednesfield, Staffordshire) at 110 Hutton Street, Salford in 1891. Esau made mats, presumably in the same factory as his mother-in-law, and his wife was a packer there. By the time of the 1901 census he was a mechanic in the India rubber works and had settled with his wife and children at 58 Oxford Street.
Emily Skidmore died in 1943 aged 70, Esau in 1951 aged 86

Children of Esau and Emily (Roberts) Skidmore, born in Salford, baptised at St Clement’s, Ordsall,

i. John, baptised 21 July 1889. He married Lilian Taylor (daughter of Abraham Taylor, a sweep) on 3 April 1915 at the Wesleyan Methodist Church, Regent Road, Salford.

ii. Ellen, baptised 9 September 1891 (registered the following quarter).

iii. Thomas, baptised 27 December 1896.


v. Rose, baptised 14 August 1868. She married Henry Holding, a tool maker (born about 1864 in Penketh, Lancashire, son of John Holding, a wood carver) at St Elphin’s, Warrington on 6 April 1889. They spent some time in Salford, Manchester in the mid-1980s but had returned by the time of the 1901 census to live at 180 Winwick Road, Warrington.


vi. Noah, born 1870Q2, died 1871Q3 aged 1.

241. JOHN SKIDMORE, son of David [114] and Phoebe (Mills) Skidmore, was born in Church Lane, Summer Hill, Tipton, and baptised on 23 August 1835 in Tipton. He moved with his widowed mother and siblings to Wolverhampton, where he became an iron puddler. He married Jane Cleulow on 23 September 1861 at St George’s, Wolverhampton. John Dutton and Jemima Dutton were witnesses, apparently the John Dutton and Jemima Southall married at St Philip’s in Birmingham in 1853. Jane was the daughter of Thomas Cleulow, hinge maker, and Ann, and was born about 1837. Her sister Eunice Cleulow was married at the same church on the same day to Benjamin Cox.

In 1862 the couple moved with their son John to Warrington, Cheshire. Descendant Don Skidmore of Auckland still has the cup presented to them apparently on the occasion of their leaving. It measures 4½” high and 4½” in diameter and bears the inscription 'Presented by Friends to John and Jane Scidmore. Wolverhampton 1862'.

Their son John probably worked at Rylands wire works. This company started in 1805 as sailmakers to the Royal Navy and in 1860 started to make wire strand. John Skidmore the elder and his younger sons worked in an iron forge, perhaps associated with the wire works. They had various addresses in Warrington - 4 Refuge Square, off Lilford Street at the time of the 1871 census, 14 Barnard Street by 1881 (when Jane’s widowed mother Ann Cleulow lived with them), and 315 Longford Road in 1891 and back in Barnard Street in 1901. Interestingly, in the 1891 census, he is described as a labourer operating on his own account (not an employee).

Jane Skidmore died in Warrington in 1902Q4 aged 66.

The children of John and Jane (Cleulow) Skidmore, born in Warrington,

438a. i. JOHN JEREMIAH THOMAS,[ born 1862Q4 in Wolverhampton. A wire drawer in 1881 and unmarried in 1891. He was a stillman by 1901, then widowed and living in his parents’ household.

He is perhaps the John Skidmore who married Emma Rigby (formerly Bond, born about 1858 at Dentons Green, Lancashire, died 1895Q3 aged 37) at St Elphin’s, Warrington in 1892Q4.

He is presumably the 34-year old widower John Skidmore - a stoker and son of John Skidmore, an ironworker - who married Jane Brown (born about 1857, daughter of Breinhalt Brown, station master) on 19 February 1896 at St Peter’s, Warrington, though no death has yet been found for this lady before 1901.

He and his brother Arthur married on the same day at St Peter’s, Oughtrington, Cheshire. John married Elizabeth Jane Hurley (born about 1879 in Widnes, Lancashire, daughter of James Hurley, labourer).

Four men bearing the names of John and Elizabeth Skidmore’s sons married and had children in the Bucklow registration district, which included Lymm. These marriages and children are mentioned in the list of offspring which follows.

Children of John Jeremiah Thomas and Elizabeth Jane (Hurley) Skidmore,

i. Arthur, born 1906Q2 in Lymm. He was perhaps the Arthur Skidmore who married in Bucklow registration district in 1933 and had a daughter.

ii. Jane, born 1907Q3 in Widnes.

iii. Henry (Harry), born 1911Q1 in Widnes. He was perhaps the Henry Skidmore who married in Bucklow registration district in 1936 and had three sons.

iv. Martha, born 1914Q2.

v. Thomas, born 1916Q2. He was perhaps the Thomas Skidmore who married
in Bucklow registration district in 1945 and had three sons
vi. Charles, born 1918Q1. He was perhaps the Charles Skidmore who married in Bucklow registration district in 1948 and had two sons and two daughters.


438b. ii. ARTHUR C.º, born 1866Q1. A labourer in a chemical works in 1891, he is presumably the Arthur Skidmore who married Hannah Elizabeth Clarke at St Mary’s, Great Sankey, Warrington in 1892Q4 and was widowed by 1901. She is presumably the Hannah Skidmore aged 29 who died in Warrington in 1897Q1.

He married secondly, on 2 June 1906 at St Peter’s, Oughtrington, Annie Wadsworth (born about 1869, daughter of Peter Wadsworth). They were living in 1911 in Lymm, Cheshire.

A child of Arthur C. and Annie (Wadsworth) Skidmore,

i. Martha, born about 1907 in Widnes, Lancashire.

439. iii. DAVIDº, born about 1867. He was a forge hand in 1881, living with his parents in Warrington. He married Ann Ellen Lindsay of Athol Street, Liverpool, who was born about 1868, daughter of Robert Lindsay, a labourer, born in Ireland, and Ellen Ann (Moore). He was a soldier at Aldershot barracks in Hampshire at the time of his marriage on 28 October 1890 at St Peter’s, Liverpool and at the time of the 1891 census was a Private in the 5th Dragoon Guards at Frimley Cavalry Barracks (said to be 26 and single). His wife appears to be the 21-year old Ellen Lindsey, living in Richmond, Surrey and said to be single, along with four other dressmakers working for Miss Annie Dallinger of 21 Hermitage Road there and resident in her home.

At the time of the 1901 census David and Ellen were living at 21 Holywell Street, Bootle, Lancashire, where he was a dock labourer. David Skidmore died on 4 February 1933 in Bootle said to be 68, Ellen on 21 September 1951 aged 82.

The children of David and Ann Ellen (Lindsay) Skidmore, born in Bootle,

832. i. JOHNº, born 28 October 1892, baptised 6 November 1893 at St Peter’s, Liverpool. He married Elsie Jane Ainsworth in 1915.

Children of John and Elsie Jane (Ainsworth) Skidmore,

i. John, born 1915Q3.

ii. Ernest, born 1918Q3.

iii. - vi. A further three sons and a daughter, born in the 1920s.

ii. Jane, born 1894Q4, baptised with her brother David on 6 July 1896. She married William Buckley (1892-47) in 1913Q2 at St Peter’s, Liverpool. She died 19 May 1943 in Bootle.

Two sons and three daughters.

833. iii. DAVIDº, born 1896Q2. In 1922 he married Elizabeth Alice Black, daughter of Joseph Black, a carrier whose parents were from the Isle of Man, and Florence (Hirons) from Pinvin in Worcestershire. David was initially an insurance agent and later an engineering fitter. He died in 1958.

The children of David and Elizabeth Alice (Black) Skidmore,

i. David J., born 1923. A shipping clerk. He was killed serving in Germany in 1945.


iv. DONALDº, a precision engineer. He moved from Liverpool to New Zealand in the late 1950s where he married Joan Nell Dodd, a nurse. Joan was born in 1933, daughter of W.H. Dodd (born Neston, Cheshire) and Sarah Olivia Johnson (born in Belfast).

Children,

i. Jennifer, born 1962. She married Warren Bratty, Telecom engineer, and they have Helen and Conor. Jennifer is a Health Professional.

ii. STEVENº, born 1964. A civil engineer. He married Tracey Warcup, a food technologist, and they have two daughters, Asha and Amy.

iii. JEFFREYº, born 1967. Jeff is a computer service provider. He married Lisa Webb, a preschool teacher, and they have Sarah and Hayley.

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iv. Harry Clulow, born 1871Q3. He married Emma Clare (born about 1873 in Warrington, daughter of William Clare, a wire worker and his wife Ann) in Latchford, Cheshire on 29 August 1891. He died in Warrington district at the age of 28 in 1899Q3. Emma Skidmore, a cotton spinner, was living at the time of the 1901 census with her parents at 26 Old Road, Warrington and, by 1911, was living alone at 6 School Street.

v. Waldron, born 1877Q2. He died aged 4 in 1882Q1.

vi. [perhaps] Joseph, born 1879Q1, died 1879Q2.

The ninth son of Thomas and Mary (Walker) Skidmore,

115. JEREMIAH SKIDMORE, the youngest son of Thomas [56] and Mary (Walker) Skidmore, was born at Stamford House and baptised on 4 November 1798 at Oldswinford. He married firstly, by licence, Elizabeth Knowles (born 12 October 1806 and baptised at Darlaston on 23 August 1807, daughter of Joseph and Mary Knowles) on 4 March 1830 at All Saints', Sedgley. Elizabeth died in 1850, prior to the 1851 census and so it has not been possible to ascertain her birthplace from this source.

The births of all the children of Jeremiah and Elizabeth Skidmore, along with many other family events, were recorded in Jeremiah’s Bible. Remarkably, this was found in 1989 on a rubbish skip in Tilbury, Essex. Eventually, it found its way into the hands of Jeremiah’s great-great-granddaughter Jean Anne Skidmore, who has kindly supplied much information on the descendants of Jeremiah Skidmore the younger [243]. A transcript of Jeremiah’s Bible can be found in Appendix 1.

Jeremiah was a miner as were all his brothers before him. Although only five years younger than his brother Charles, Jeremiah was only beginning to raise his family in 1830, when Charles's wife Esther had already given birth to the tenth of her eleven children. After 1830 and until 1850 or 1851 Jeremiah and Elizabeth's residence is given consistently as Amblecote. At the time of the 1841 census they were living at Amblecote Bank with Ann Knowles aged 65 - her death on 30 December 1847 is recorded in Jeremiah’s Bible. Elizabeth Skidmore died at the age of 43, possibly in giving birth to Benjamin. A gravestone in St Mary’s churchyard, Oldswinford, shows that she died on 3 April 1850 (buried 6 April) and Benjamin was baptised almost exactly two months later on 2 June.

Jeremiah was reported by his son to have been an early and earnest pioneer of Methodism at Stourbridge and in the surrounding district. From his earliest boyhood, he attended the Wesleyan Chapel in the town. He was for many years a local preacher, class leader, Sunday School superintendent, circuit steward and lay representative at the various connexional conferences, for the first 25 years among the Wesleyans and more than 40 years among the Methodist New Connexionists. He was involved with the foundation of various chapels, notably the two chapels at Mount Pleasant – the Wesleyan built in 1828 and the New Connexion in 1838 – also the chapel at Stambermill, at the corner of Bagley Street, built in 183945. In the early 1830s a division occurred among the Wesleyans in Mount Pleasant. Among Jeremiah Skidmore’s followers at that time were the Darbys and Webbs, families in the melting business in Quarry Bank. He was said to be foremost among the early and daring band of workers who established Methodism at the Lye Waste. The last sermon he preached was in the Wesleyan Chapel in Lye, when he was over 84 years of age. In newspaper articles, his son recalled his father’s punctuality46, once starting the 6 o’clock service in Clent on the dot of the hour, the first hymn having been sung by father and son (then aged about 12), and the first prayer said before the congregation began to arrive. This little chapel was then a private house occupied by a Mr Phillips and opposite to what was later popularly known as the Fountain Inn. Jeremiah when a young man would often get up early and walk to Princes End and back (a distance of fourteen miles) before breakfast in order to attend a class meeting. He enjoyed walking on occasion as far as Birmingham to hear the preaching of Connexional noteworthies such as Robert Newton, Jabez Bunting, Adam Clark or Richard Waddy.

By 1848 Jeremiah had become a mine agent and is recorded in the censuses of 1851 and in 1861 in Amblecote Bank. Jeremiah Skidmore of Amblecote House in Amblecote, is on a voters’ list of 1863. At this time, he owned land in Lower Lye and four houses in Park Street, Stourbridge (nos. 18-21). He is probably the J. Skidmore, mine agent living in Brierley Hill, who in 1857 sued J. Darbey, maltster of Brierley Hill, to recover a sum of money as commission for the sale of a mine in the Forest of Dean47. He appears as part of Waldren and Skidmore, coalmasters of Old Hill, in Jones’ Trades Directory of 1865. On 16 August 1866 Job Taylor, coalmaster of Dudley, and John Pearson leased pieces of land in Old Hill, in the parish of Rowley Regis, to Jeremiah Skidmore, coalmaster of Amblecote, and Edward Waldron, coalmaster of Brierley Hill. They had rights to extract coal and

45 County Express, 6 June 1914 Stambermill Congregational Church.
46 County Express 18 November 1905 and Dudley Herald 12 September 1908.
47 The Times 29 July 1857.
minerals from under the land. A year later, on 15 August 1867, Job Taylor agreed with Skidmore and Waldron to sell part of the land to Thomas James, fitter of Old Hill, for £35-6s-6d. The plot or parcel of land fronted on to the Turnpike Road leading from Halesowen to Dudley (presumably the modern A459). It measured 314 square yards and was bounded on one side by property belonging to Edwin Thomas and on the other by land belonging to Skidmore and Waldron. Thomas James agreed to construct and maintain a new access road, six-feet wide, behind the plot of land. Skidmore and Waldron retained the mines and minerals of coal, ironstone and fire clay lying in and about the piece of land, with full power for them and their helpers to get, work and raise the same from their adjoining lands and to make underground roads and tramways through and along the same to convey all mines and minerals belonging to them. They were not liable to support the surface of the land being sold to Thomas James nor to make good any damage to messuages or buildings already erected or later to be built (presumably James intended to build and let houses on the land), but they were not permitted access upon the surface of the land for mining or any other purpose.

Jeremiah married secondly Mary Mason (born in Sedgley and baptised at the Particular Baptist Chapel, Coppice, Staffordshire, on 11 October 1807, daughter of Richard Mason, miner, and Mary) at the Ebenezer Congregationalist Chapel in West Bromwich on 24 December 1851. The witnesses were Elisha Mason, her brother, and Naomi Hatfield, daughter of her sister Elizabeth and husband George Hatfield. The death of James Mason of Coseley, Mary’s brother, on 14 January 1868, is recorded in Jeremiah Skidmore’s Bible. By the time of the 1871 census two others were in Jeremiah and Mary’s household; firstly, James Wayton or perhaps Mayton, recorded as a stepson, born in Stourbridge about 1832, and secondly, a boarder recorded as Lydia Atfield, a tailoress aged 25 and born in Coseley, almost certainly Lydia Hatfield, Mary’s niece. Jeremiah’s Bible tells us that Mary Skidmore died aged 60 on 6 July 1874 and her burial at Amblecote on 10 July is found in the burial register.

By 1881, Jeremiah was retired and his married daughter Phoebe Knowles was living at the home to care for her 83-year-old father. Jeremiah died two years later on 28 May 1883 at Amblecote. He was buried on 31 May and is commemorated, along with his son John Skidmore and grandson Rupert Skidmore, on a stone in Oldswinford churchyard. He left a will, made in 1875 and proved at Lichfield on 25 July 1883, naming two of his sons executors, Jeremiah of Dennis Park, colliery proprietor and John of Brierley Hill, mining engineer. His personal estate was divided between his three sons, his real estate amongst his four daughters.

**The children of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore, baptised at St Mary’s, Oldswinford,**

i. Mary Ann, baptised 28 November 1830. She married William Brookes on 27 December 1847 at All Saints’, Sedgley. He was a chartermaster fire clay miner of Dennis Park, born about 1828 in Oldswinford parish, son of Charles Brookes. She received two cottages at Aston’s Fold, Amblecote, in the will of her father, perhaps one of those in which she and her husband were living at the time of the 1851 census. The census lists Astons Fold in the parish of Kingswinford and the village of Alports Dingle (east side of the road from Mount Pleasant to the end of Amblecote included Ravensitch, Aston’s Fold, Caledonia and Alports Dingle). Their home was the last listed at Aston’s Fold and before the Freehold Clay Works. The family moved at some time before 1859 into Brierley Hill and again around 1868 to Brettell Lane (that part in Amblecote) where they are found in 1881. The Brooks’ sons were clay miners and their daughters clay pickers.

Mary Ann Brookes married secondly James Hand (born about 1862 in Stoke, son of William and Mary Hand of Laburnum Street, Wollaston), a glass cutter, in 1889Q2 and lived at 106 Brettell Lane. Mrs Hand died in 1904 or 1906.

ii. Sarah, baptised 5 August 1832. She lived nearly all her life in Halesowen Road, Hay Green in Lye, where she worked (at first with her mother-in-law and then her husband) in a grocery shop. She married John Hatton, a clay mine agent on 25 August 1851 at All Saints’, Sedgley. He was born about 1831 in Lye, son of John Hatton and Elizabeth his wife who were living adjacent to Thomas [230] in Hay Green in 1841 and who kept a grocery shop in Halesowen Road in 1851, presumably the one later taken over by Sarah. John Hatton (who was presumably his father) was a lay preacher at Stambermill Congregational Chapel, along with Jeremiah Skidmore and others. In 1883 Sarah received in the will of her father two cottages at Aston’s Fold adjoining those of her sister Mary Ann, together with a parcel of tenanted meadow land. She died in February 1928 at the age of 95.48

242. iii. THOMAS, born 10 May 1834, **OF WHOM MORE BELOW.**

iv. Phoebe, born 5 March (baptised 1 May) 1836. On 22 April 1850 her father recorded in his Bible

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48 County Express, obituary 25 February 1828.
that she ‘went out to Miss Hyrons to learn the dressmaking’. She married firstly John Chance of Lye, a clay miner (son of John Chance49, mine agent, and Caroline) in 1854Q2 at St Andrew’s, Netherton. Their daughter Mary Caroline Chance was born on 25 October 1855, shortly after John Chance’s death on 1 October that year, aged only 20. Phoebe married secondly Samuel Knowles, a colliery manager then in Mold, Flintshire (born about 1834 in Lye) and they lived at Beefeaters Field in Lye, where their son Clarence Elysias was born in 1861. Samuel clearly maintained his connection with the colliery in Mold, where they were living in Wrexham Street at the time of the 1871 census. By 1891 he was probably managing a mine in the Dudley area, since their home was at 12 North Street, Dudley. Samuel was widowed by 1901.

243. vi. JEREMIAH, born 17 December 1838, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

244. vii. JOHN, born 11 December 1840, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

vii. Elizabeth, born 21 February (baptised 29 June) 1845. She was living in 1861 with her father and stepmother. She is mentioned in Jeremiah's Bible as having had a son Benjamin Skidmore who died on 28 November 1866 aged 2 years 6 months. She married at Netherton in 1868Q1 John Cook, a coal miner then of Burnley in Lancashire (born about 1849 in Lye, son of Charles Cook). My thanks to their descendant Zara Zubrzycki for further information on John and Elizabeth's family. They moved around 1870 to Low Spennymoor, Durham and again around 1875 to Wilnecote, Tamworth, Staffordshire and then in the late 1880s to Dosthill, Staffordshire. John Cook owned the grocery on Dosthill High Street. Mrs Cook died at The Firs, Dosthill, on 14 April 1919, her husband on 11 February 1923 and both were buried in Dosthill Graveyard.


viii. Emily Catharine, born 22 May (baptised 20 September) 1846. She died at the age of 3 on 26 July 1849 (buried at Oldswinford 28 July).

ix. Joseph, born 1848Q1, baptised 23 July 1848. Buried at Oldswinford on 30 November of the same year.

x. Benjamin, born 27 March (baptised 2 June) 1850. According to his father’s bible he 'died suddenly found in bed Dec 16th 1850 Monday morning ... aged 8 months and two weeks was buried Dec 19th Oldswinford'.

242. THOMAS7 SKIDMORE, son of Jeremiah [115] and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore, was born on 10 May 1834 in Amblecote and baptised at Oldswinford on 3 August. Whilst still at home aged 16 he is described in the 1851 census as a miner in fire clay. He married Eliza Cartwright (born 11 April 1829 in Lye, baptised 7 June 1829 at Oldswinford, daughter of William and Jane Cartwright) on 31 August 1852 at St Lawrence’s, Darlaston. She was living at the time of the 1851 census in Turnpike Road, Lye, with her mother and stepfather Benjamin Brown, a furniture dealer. Thomas Skidmore and Benjamin Brown were partners in the running of Tinkersfield Colliery, a partnership which was dissolved in 1864.

Notice is hereby given, that the Partnership heretofore subsisting between us the undersigned, Thomas Skidmore and Benjamin Brown, as Coal Masters, at Tinkersfield Colliery, near Brettell-lane, in the parish of Kingswinford, in the county of Stafford, under the style or firm of Skidmore and Company, has been this day dissolved; and that all debts due to and owing from the said firm will be received and paid by the said Thomas Skidmore, who will hereafter carry on the said business alone. - Dated this 11th day of January, 1864.

Thomas and Eliza Skidmore lived at Lye Waste at the time of the baptism of their first child in 1853 and at the time of the 1861 census shared a home with Eliza’s stepfather in Halesowen Road. Described as an unemployed

49 George J. Barnsby in Chartism in the Black Country notes that from 1838 to 1860 Chartism was the first national, working-class political party in Britain. When considering Chartist leaders in the period 1843-1847 he states 'Of the more important branches, Stourbridge provided another example of consistent leadership under John Chance of Oldswinford.' The John Chance who married Phoebe Skidmore would have been a child at these dates, so this perhaps is a reference to his father. In describing the smaller associations, Barnsby points out that 'Lye Waste produces no names of leaders until December 1842 when Charles Hiscock was sub secretary and Timothy Forest sub Treasurer both chain makers in a list otherwise consisting entirely of nailers.'
clay miner in the census of 1871, he was then living in Ravensitch. In a list dated 1874, he owned a house and land in Orchard Lane in Lye and property in Amblecote Bank. By 1881 the family had moved into Brettell Lane, where he was a mining engineer. From the position of the house in the census it was near the junctions of Whimsey Road and Virgins End with Brettell Lane. Thomas Skidmore died on 2 December 1888 at High Greal, Brierley Hill, leaving a will (not seen) which names as his executors his wife Elizabeth Skidmore, Thomas Butler, pawnbroker of Quarry Bank, Brierley Hill and Walter Roberts, grocer of Mount Pleasant, Brierley Hill. Eliza Skidmore died on 24 September 1891, naming Samuel Newton junior, iron master (apparently not her son-in-law) her executor. Their gravestone in Oldswinford churchyard indicates three further children who died in infancy.

The (known) children of Thomas and Eliza (Cartwright) Skidmore, born in Lye,

i. Benjamin Brown, baptised at Oldswinford 20 November 1853. He was buried on 19 March 1854.

ii. Mercy, born about 1859Q3. Sometimes enumerated in the census as Mary. She married Samuel Newton, an iron master (born about 1860, son of Samuel Newton, iron master) on 27 October 1883 at St Matthew’s, Tipton. The witnesses were Thomas Skidmore and Thomas Law. He was described as a traveller in the census of 1891, when they lived at B—burn House, William Street, Brierley Hill; they later ran a grocery shop in Spring Street, Lye. Their son Samuel Horace Newton (born 8 May 1884, died 17 February 1890) is mentioned on his Skidmore grandparents’ gravestone. Mercy Newton died in 1916Q4 aged 56.

iii. Agnes, born 1863Q2. She married Abraham Henry Andrews, a turner and carpenter of 18 Albion Street (born in Stourbridge about 1863, son of George Andrews, carpenter, and Elizabeth) on 31 July 1886 at Brierley Hill. Witnesses were her brother and sister Thomas Skidmore and Mercy Newton. Henry and Agnes Newton moved around 1890 from Brierley Hill to Compton Holloway, Tettenhall Wood, Wolverhampton and again at some time before the 1901 census to 86 Eversley Road, Aston, Birmingham.

Children, as known - Blanche E., Mabel E., Florence M.

iv. THOMAS8, born 18 September 1865. He married Diana Catherine Jeavons (born 1869Q1, daughter of John Jeavons, iron puddler and later dealer in earthenware, and his wife Esther (Meese)) at a ceremony (probably Wesleyan Methodist) registered at Stourbridge in 1889Q3. They were running the Town Hall Bar at 9 High Street, Stourbridge at the time of the 1891 census, though they must have moved soon after to Lancashire. He died on 27 March 1892 aged 26, leaving a will (not seen), which describes him as a furniture dealer of Cross Street and Old Street, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire and which names as executors his wife Catherine Skidmore and (her brother) Thomas Jeavons, potter. Mrs Skidmore married secondly Charles Cross in a ceremony registered at Stourbridge in 1895Q1. She was living at 21 William Street, Brierley Hill in 1910 when named as Catherine, next of kin of her son Frank at the time that he joined the army.

I have so far been unable to find Diana Catherine Cross in the UK censuses of 1901 and 1911.

Children of Thomas and Diana Catherine (Jeavons) Skidmore

i. John Thomas, born 1889Q4 in Brettell Lane. He received the watch of Jeremiah [115], his great grandfather, in the will of his uncle? John Jeavons. See Obadiah [55]. At the time of the 1901 census, he appears to have been living with his grandfather John Jeavons in Silver Street, Brierley Hill, though he is called his nephew. Nothing further discovered about this man.

ii. Frank Harry, born early in 1891 in Stourbridge. He was living in 1901 with his uncle Arthur Joseph Randle, a tobacconist and hairdresser, and maternal aunt Esther Elizabeth (Jeavons) at 184 High Street, Dudley. He joined the King's Shropshire Light Infantry in July 1910. In September 1912 he was found fit for service in India and whilst serving at Secunderabad Station was discharged in April 1914 as a result of chronic otitis media and subsequent hearing impairment.

Nothing further discovered about this man.

243. JEREMIAH7 SKIDMORE, son of Jeremiah [115] and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore, was baptised at Oldswinford on 13 January 1839. For a time he went to the Madras School, the only public elementary school in the area (which later became the Gas Works offices near to the bridge over the Stour), and presumably later to Stourbridge Grammar School. In March 1855 he was introduced by his father to the mining department of the
Earl of Dudley’s estate, and served there for about twenty years. He started as a mining surveyor, passed on to the position of mining engineer and ultimately became a royalty master and colliery and brickworks proprietor. He is listed in Kelly’s Directory for Worcestershire of 1896 as proprietor of Hadcroft brick works in Stourbridge which made blue and red Staffordshire bricks.

An aside on the meaning of the term ‘Royalty Master’. Royalties were payments made by the person mining the coal to the person who owned the coal and had little to do with who owned the mine. In the days before the UK coal industry was nationalised (1947) and before the coal itself was taken into public ownership (1942), royalties were paid by the mining companies to the coal owners under the terms of a mining lease based on the tonnage of coal extracted. Most coal owners had no connection with the mining companies -- they were large land owners who happened to still retain the rights of ownership in the coal beneath their land, and they leased the mining rights in return for payment of a tonnage royalty. Plans of mine workings were kept from the very early days of mining to enable royalties to be calculated. It seems likely that a Royalty Master was neither a landowner nor a mine owner but someone whose profession it was to survey mines on behalf of someone else, to produce plans and calculate Royalty Payments due from one party to the other. Apparently, Jeremiah Skidmore ‘wore both hats’ - mine owner and Royalty Master.

A note in a family scrapbook (undated) in the possession of Jean Skidmore lists the mine and brickwork holdings of the family. I have left these in the order in which they were recorded: at Old Hill, Witley Colliery, Riddings Colliery, Eagle Colliery; Butterfly Colliery & Brickworks; at Old Hill, Whitehall Colliery; at Stourbridge, Hadcroft Brickworks, Stourbridge Glazed Bricks; at Rowley Regis, Rowley Granite Quarries. A further note states that Jeremiah held mines in Russells Hall [in the south-west of Dudley parish], along with Mr Capewell, and Riddings with Mr Homer. Several old coal shafts are shown on the 1901 map of Dudley (West) to the south of Himley Road, the area now occupied by the area of housing known as Russells Hall. Riddings Colliery was disused at the time the 1901 Ordnance Survey map of and Old Hill was made. It was situated in Old Hill, just north of the railway line, where the present Beechcroft Road meets Halesowen Road. This could well be the ‘plot or parcel of land fronted on to the Turnpike Road leading from Halesowen to Dudley’ referred to in his father’s transactions with Job Taylor and John Pearson, described earlier. Material relating to this colliery (not seen) can be found in the papers of solicitors Harward and Evers. On 11 December 1965 a letter appeared in the County Express from Mrs C. A. Bloomer, daughter of William Walter Homer of Halesowen Road, Old Hill (died 1918) who was in partnership with Jeremiah Skidmore. She relates her memories of the Riddings colliery and notes that Skidmore and Homer later worked the Butterfly Colliery in Station Road.
In 1861 Jeremiah was recorded as a visitor at the Heath Tavern, High Street, Cradley Heath, Staffordshire. This was run by Tobias Hingley, his future father-in-law whose daughter Hannah Louisa Hingley (born 17 February 1841 in Rowley Regis, daughter of Tobias and Mary Ann (Ward) Hingley) he married on 30 October 1861 at St Andrew’s, Netherton. They then spent some time in Amblecote, where their second child Frederick was born in 1866. By 1869 they were in Brierley Hill, probably at their 1871 census address of 1 Standhill Terrace, off the High Street. They moved yet again around 1875 to Amblecote, and are known to have been in King William Street there by 1880. This street runs parallel with and just behind the southern side of Lower Brettell Lane.

In March 1887 Jeremiah was appointed (by parish election) surveyor for Amblecote and remained so until his retirement in December 1914\(^{52}\). He was involved, along with R. Moore and Skidmore Hambrey, in the securement in 1898 by Amblecote of the status of Urban District Council. Following his father’s death (and at the cottage’s substantial refurbishment in 1883) he moved back to his beloved Stamford House in Amblecote (no.7, Stamford Street), willed to him by his father. He had a lifelong love for the game of bowls and described the laying of the green at the Pear Tree and the obtaining of the first licence to the house by its landlord Mr Dudley Chance (father-in-law to George Skidmore [392]).

He died at Stamford House on 26 November 1918 at the age of 79, leaving a will (not seen) which names as his executors his son Arthur Egbert, his daughter Mabel Maud and Henry Christopher Darby, surgeon. A stone in Oldswinford churchyard also commemorates his wife Hannah, who died at Stamford House on 23 December 1927, and his mother Elizabeth Skidmore. His six freehold houses in Lawrence Street, Stambermill, ‘ripe’ building land in Yardley Street, and numbers 71-75 Brettell Lane were auctioned in early 1919 under instructions of his executors\(^{53}\).

Stamford House, a watercolour thought to date from the 1920s

The children of Jeremiah and Hannah Louisa (Hingley) Skidmore, baptised at Reddal Hill\(^{54}\),

i. Laura Mary Elizabeth, born on 31 October 1861, baptised 4 December 1867. She married Albert Heinrich Jungermann of Germany in 1890Q2 at a ceremony registered in Stourbridge. For some time they lived in Germany where Albert was involved in patenting the typewriter ribbon in Barmen. They were living in 1901 at 10 Underhill Road, Dulwich, London and later came to 12 Alleyn Road in West Dulwich, where Albert manufactured typewriter ribbons, carbon and stencil paper, under the name of International Ink Ribbon Co. Ltd, Clerkenwell Green. His business address was 24 The Minories, London E1. During World War I he travelled around England working on government contracts. On one occasion he detoured from his journey to Wolverhampton to call in on his father-in-law Jeremiah Skidmore, who was ill. This was against government regulations for aliens. He was reported and interned at Cornwallis Road, Holloway, from 1915-16. His secretary in Germany kept his business running in Barmen during the war. Laura and Albert had three children born in Barmen – Werner, Elfriede Laura, Else Eugenie (born about 1896) and Percy (born 1900 in Dulwich, London). Percy Jungermann died in a tragic accident at the age of 12, when overcome by toxic fumes from a faulty bathroom geyser. The other children never married and remained at home in Alleyn Road with their mother, whose husband died from pneumonia in 1926 at the German Hospital, London.

52 County Express 5 Dec 1914.
53 County Express 25 Jan 1919.
54 This place of baptism for these children was found at familysearch.org and perhaps refers to St Giles’ church in Rowley Regis.
440. ii. FREDERICK TOBIAS, born in Amblecote on 10 February 1866 and baptised on 17 February 1867. He was a mining engineer both in his father’s business and in the mining industry generally.

He married Gertrude Maude Alexander of Hereford (daughter of William T. Alexander, master plumber, and Elizabeth) at St Paul’s, Wolverhampton, on 29 August 1901. After their marriage they lived for a time at Grosvenor Villa, High Street, Amblecote, but, owing to his ill health, they moved in 1905 to a seafront residence – Rosstrevor at West Cliff in Bournemouth (later the home of Dan Godfrey, conductor of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra). There they started a business, advertising with postcards depicting their house as ‘Excellent furnished apartments or board residence. Electric light and all modern improvements. Next to Winter Gardens’. This venture was short-lived since Frederick died only a year later on 6 October 1906. He is buried in Bournemouth cemetery. His widow and two sons are said to have later moved to South Africa.

The children of Frederick Tobias and Gertrude Maude (Alexander) Skidmore, born in Bournemouth,


iii. Arthur Egbert, born in Brierley Hill in 1868Q3, baptised 3 March 1869. A bachelor who, in his earlier days, played cricket for Amblecote and Stourbridge Clubs. He was a member of the choir at St Mary’s, Oldswinford, with a ‘perfectly attuned rich baritone voice’55, and was also a member of Stourbridge Chamber Music Society. By profession he was a chartered accountant with his own business in Newhall Street in Birmingham. He died at Stamford House on 7 November 1928 and a stone to his memory and that of his brother Ernest exists in Oldswinford churchyard.

441. iv. ALBERT ERNEST, born 1870Q4 in Brierley Hill in 1870Q4 and baptised on 1 February 1871.

Ernest Skidmore in his early working life joined his father in the colliery business. At the time of

55 County Express, obituary 10 November 1928.
the 1901 census he was a stone quarry manager in Rowley Regis. A gifted pianist, he later became a full-time musician. He was well-known in the Dudley area as a professional concert pianist and accompanist to singers in the early decades of the twentieth century. In later years he abandoned the stage for the less arduous role of playing with a six-piece cinema orchestra during the heyday of the silent film. He was a founder member of Stourbridge Chamber Music Society and also sang. For a time he taught piano to children in the Rowley Regis area. This was not his forte and, if the families were on hard times, he did not charge for the tuition (even though at times he was himself hard-pressed for funds).

Ernest married Lucy Ellen Freeman (born about 1873 at Belbroughton) on 11 July 1899 at Stourbridge and was a manager of a stone quarry in 1901, when they lived in Dog Lane, Rowley Regis. Lucy was a teacher before her marriage, locally and at Thurgoland in Sheffield. Her father was Owen Freeman, her mother Charlotte Grove, a farmer’s daughter from Bromsgrove. Three of the Freeman children married children of Jeremiah and Hannah Louisa Skidmore. Owen Freeman was born in 1844 in Belbroughton, Worcestershire, son of Edward Freeman, a builder. He lived with his wife Charlotte at Orchard House, Lye. Mr Freeman managed George King Harrison’s brickworks in Lye, and was responsible for the design and construction of many buildings and chapels in that area, including the spires of Lye Church and Lye Cemetery, also the Nagerfield stack (which later caused demolition problems because of its hardy construction). He was a staunch Liberal and was agent for William Gladstone in the Stourbridge constituency. Mr Gladstone married a sister of Sir Stephen Glynne, a considerable land owner in the Lye and surrounding area. In 1848 Gladstone wrote on at least one occasion asking advice of Jeremiah [115] on the appropriate value and best course of action in the sale of some clay mines. A letter dated 27 July 1848 from 6 Carlton Gardens in London from Gladstone is in the possession of Owen Freeman’s great granddaughter Jean Skidmore.

Ernest Skidmore died from cancer of the throat, reputedly from continually performing in smoky environments. He is buried at Oldswinford alongside his brother Arthur. His widow later became very active in public life. She was elected as an Independent in the Rowley Regis ward of the Dudley Board of Guardians.

The children of Albert Ernest and Lucy Ellen (Freeman) Skidmore,

i. Percy, born 9 September 1899. He was living in 1901 with his Freeman grand-
parents in Dudley Road, Lye. He joined the Sherwood Foresters during WW1 and served in France. He was on the staff of the Midland Bank, working in many branches before retiring from the branch in New Street, Birmingham. He met his wife Mary Edith Tilley (born 5 January 1895) – also an employee – whilst working at the Bilston branch. They were married at Netherton on 12 September 1927. The best man was Mr Massey of Walsall, a well-known local preacher, who stated that he was proud to be associated with the bridegroom as he owed his early religious training to his grandfather Jeremiah Skidmore. Percy died on 13 May 1977, Edith on 3 April 1986.

ii. **ERIC OWEN**, born 4 October 1902. He married Beatrice Maud Bowen of Blackheath (born 11 March 1911) at Rowley Regis Church on 2 September 1933. She died on 3 August 1982.

Under the guidance of his father he started to play the piano and harmonium at the age of seven. Although he showed great promise he did not wish to pursue professional training as a musician. He took up an unpaid apprenticeship repairing pianos and organs, but in the evenings sat with a six-piece orchestra playing to a full house of cinema goers. At the age of fifteen he was earning the grand sum then of 25 shillings a week. He later played a French Mustel organ at the opening of The Astoria at Aston Cross, Birmingham (later the home of the ATV studios). When the talkies arrived he resorted to his earlier training repairing pianos and organs. Keyboards were his grand passion and he was a perfectionist. When over 80 years of age, he was forced out of retirement to repair harmonium organs in two village churches in Herefordshire. Eric Skidmore died on 26 December 1988 in Hereford, where he had lived for 35 years.

**The children of Eric Owen and Beatrice Maud (Bowen) Skidmore,**

i. **EWART BURT**, born 1934. He married Yvonne Merry, a teacher, in 1961. After leaving school he worked briefly for a Birmingham bookshop but left when he realised there was no opportunity to pursue his literary interests. He trained in the printing industry, interrupted by National Service in the Army Pay Corps, serving mainly in Egypt. He resumed his work in the print industry after moving to Hereford and then worked in field as sales representative in Bristol. Later he became Sales Manager of printing/ packaging and graphic for a Hertfordshire company, in which capacity he covered most of the UK.

**Children,**

i. Andrew James, born 1975.


ii. Jean Anne, born 1936. Jean trained as a secretary and worked for Herefordshire County Council for five years (Surveyors and Education Departments). In 1960 she joined Worcestershire Education Department and in 1968 took a residential post as Admissions and Principal’s Secretary at Summerfield Teacher Training College near Kidderminster. She worked from 1974 for Devon County Council setting up offices, systems and staffing for the newly created Careers Service. Jean has provided considerable valuable information about the descendants of Jeremiah Skidmore56. She was for many years Secretary and Treasurer of the Skidmore Family History Group and organised several of its family gatherings.

v. **Mabel Maud**, born in Brierley Hill 1873Q2, baptised 30 July of that year. She did not marry and remained at Stamford House until the death of her mother. She accepted probate of her mother’s will in 1927 and then moved to Dulwich to share the family life of her sister Laura – a devoted aunt to her nephew and nieces. She died on 21 January 1960.

and baptised at Stambermill.

442. vi. **FRANCIS HAROLD**, born 19 December 1875 in Amblecote and baptised, with his younger siblings, at Stambermill on 21 October 1889. He married Mrs Winnie Isabella Crosthwaite (née The Black Country Bugle, April 1991. **
Fletcher, born about 1874 in Droylesden, Lancashire) on 10 October 1899 in Cockermouth registration district in Cumbria. She appears to be the 8-year-old girl Winifred I. Fletcher living in 1881 with her widowed father James Fletcher, joiner and builder (born about 1843 in Cockermouth) at 4 Falcon Place, Workington.

Hal Skidmore was a heating and ventilation engineer based in Workington, and an agent for American heating, ventilating and drying equipment. He was also Chief Officer for the Borough of Workington Fire Brigade. His wife’s business cards - she was a wine and spirit merchant with her own employees - show that they had addresses at 46 Thomas Street North, Coppice, Oldham, and at 5 St Michael’s Road, Liverpool, in 1911 and 1912. On 28 February 1907 he sailed on RSN Orila, leaving Liverpool for Iquique in Chile, to work for Clarke Burnett and Co., of Santa Rita, Piraqua. Later that year he wrote to his father-in-law in Workington, telling of an accident which had left him lame, and of the difficult climate, the constant mild earthquakes and the threat of attack which required the workers to keep guns at their side.

He returned home and died on 1 October 1919 at 31 Wellington Road, Coppice (his son being executor of his will), his wife on 16 June 1923 at the same address.

Children of Francis Harold and Winnie Isabella (Fletcher) Skidmore, born in Workington,

i. Harold Jeremiah, born 20 March 1900. He was a motor mechanic when he joined the Royal Navy towards the end of WW1 in 1918. He was a tyre vulcaniser when he accepted probate of his father’s will in 1919. He married in 1926, no children known.

833. ii. JAMES FLETCHER, born 1902Q1. He married in 1936 and had a son. He died in 1979.

iii. Miriam Isabel, born 1906Q3.

vii. William Ewart Rupert, known as Rupert, was born on 29 January 1878 and baptised at Stambermill on 21 October 1889 along with his brothers Francis and Percy and his sister Vera. He lived at Stamford House, was a bachelor and said to be a very likeable fellow. He was the proprietor of one of the family businesses – J. Skidmore & Co., macadam merchants of Brierley Hill.

In 1907 he was on the committee of Stourbridge and District Conservative and Unionist Bowling Club. A newspaper cutting of 1932, quoting Rupert as a national crossword winner, gives his address as School House, Croptonrhone, Worcestershire. This was the home of his cousin, John Downing, who was schoolmaster in the village for thirty-five years. Rupert later lodged with a farmer called Stratton in Charlton, the next village to Cropthorne. In the early 1960s, by a remarkable coincidence, a great nephew of Rupert’s, who knew of Rupert only by name, had a house built in Charlton and learned of his great uncle’s escape to the peace of the country when passing the time of day with farmer Stratton. Rupert’s last home was in Seaton, Devon, where he appeared to be working as a ‘gentleman’s gentleman’ (valet). He died in Seaton on 26 November 1959 and was cremated at Forest Hill, London. He is remembered, with his grandfather Jeremiah Skidmore and his uncle John Skidmore, on a stone in Oldswinford churchyard.

443. viii. PERCY VIVIAN, born 20 March 1881 in Amblecote and baptised at Stambermill on 21 October 1889. His working life was spent with the Midland Bank, retiring at the main branch in New Street, Birmingham as a senior official. He spent his early working years travelling as relief manager to branches in south Staffordshire. He was said by family members to be a solitary person, despite his dapper dress and busy social life.
He was in demand as a singer at various functions in the Stourbridge area and a long-serving member of Hawbush Tennis Club. Percy kept a scrap-book which reveals his regular attendance at concerts in Birmingham Town Hall to hear international singers and orchestras of the day. (He wore top hat and white silk scarf to these functions and regularly presented bouquets to female opera singers). He travelled extensively in the UK and Europe.

He married Agnes Mary Freeman (born 8 June 1880 in Lye, daughter of Owen and Charlotte (Grove) Freeman) in 1912Q3. Sadly, she died of cancer on 25 September 1925, when only 45 years old. They lived at The Hollies, Hawbush, Stourbridge. Percy Skidmore died on 3 April 1965 in Solihull.

One child of Percy Vivian and Agnes Mary (Freeman) Skidmore,

i. Constance Mary, born 20 July 1913. She married Frederick Phillips of Birmingham on 30 September 1939. They lived in St Helen’s Road in Solihull. There were no children of this marriage. Mrs Phillips died on 23 July 1992.

ix. Vera Louise, born 9 May 1886. At the time of the 1911 census she was living in Bournemouth with her widowed sister-in-law Gertrude Skidmore. She accepted probate of her mother’s will in 1927. She married, on 21 September 1929, William Ewart Freeman, known as Tone and so named after William Gladstone, his father being Gladstone’s political agent. Tone Freeman was a former PO telegraphist. In 1912 he ran his private telegraph station from home at Orchard House in Lye, licensed by the Postmaster General. He worked alongside his father Owen, who was manager of GK Harrison brickworks in Lye. After his marriage to Vera he was Secretary at The Boathouse Kennels Manufacturing Company in Leicester. Their house in Greengate Lane, Birstall was called Stamford, presumably a reminder of her birthplace. Vera died on 19 January 1948, Tone on 31 January 1958.

244. JOHN SKIDMORE, mine surveyor of Lye and Brierley Hill, was the son of Jeremiah [115] and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore, born 11 December 1840 and baptised at Oldswinford on 17 January 1841. His father’s Bible explains that he was registered at Stourbridge as Benjamin Joseph but was baptised and always known as John. He married Annie Esther Priscilla Chance (born in Hay Green, Lye, baptised 30 August 1840 at Oldswinford, daughter of Joseph and Mary Chance) on 24 September 1860 at St Edmund’s, Dudley. She was cousin to Ann Chance who married George [392]. Annie’s mother Mary Chance, a dressmaker, lived with them in 1861 at Stambermill. Their address is given as Hay Green at the baptisms of their children. By 1871 they had settled in Albion Street, a road which runs behind Brierley Hill Church.

John Skidmore attended Stourbridge Grammar School and then studied as a mining engineer. He was for many years engineer for the Earl of Dudley, specifically to the Wallows and Saltwells collieries, two of the most important on Lord Dudley’s estate. He was for twenty years also engaged in independent mining enterprises. The hazards of mine working are highlighted by the death of a Mr Parsons in the Saltwells Colliery on 30 August 1880. On this date gas was detected in a portion of the mine and after a fan had been set to work to clear it a workman examined the place with a naked light, leading to an immediate explosion. The man responsible for this neglect had been summoned by Mr Skidmore and fined, the latter however held liable for not causing the mine to be constantly ventilated and fined £5.

57 The Times, 22 November 1880.
He was for some time prior to his retirement in the late 1880s a member of Brierley Hill Local Board, twice Chairman, and on its conversion into an Urban District Council he was elected as a member of the new Body. He was also a member of the Board of Guardians in Stourbridge. He was chairman of the Joint Hospital Committee, Chairman of the Stourbridge Guardians House Committee, and chairman of the Finance Committee of the same body. In politics he was a strong Liberal and was chairman of the Brierley Hill and District Liberal Association.58,59. John Skidmore died in South Bank, Church Street, Brierley Hill of blood poisoning following jaundice, on 8 February 1898 aged 57. A stone to his memory can be found in Oldswinford churchyard. His widow continued to live at South Bank with her son Jeremiah and grandson John Albert. She died in 1920 aged 80.

The children of John and Annie Esther Priscilla (Chance) Skidmore, born in Hay Green and baptised at St Mary's, Oldswinford,

i. George Harry James, born 25 May 1861 and baptised on his first birthday. He was a lawyer who travelled to Australia. He died in Melbourne on 18 February 1899.

444. ii. JEREMIAH6, baptised 30 August 1863. He studied to be a mining engineer, like his father, but does not appear to have pursued this profession. In 1885 he was a commission agent and by 1887 had become an auctioneer. He married Laura Eleanor Lovatt in 1883Q2 at St Edmund's, Dudley. She is otherwise found as Laura Ellen Lovatt, born in 1865Q4 in Stourbridge, daughter of Daniel J. and Sarah Lovatt who kept an inn on the High Street, Stourbridge. With her brother Walford Edwin Lovatt she became a teacher and was raised by her uncle John Griffiths, an iron roller of 56 High Street, Brierley Hill.

In 1885 Jeremiah and Laura lived in Albion Street, Brierley Hill, possibly with Jeremiah’s parents, who were in Albion Street at the time of the 1881 census. Jeremiah and his brother George are not found in the UK census of 1891 and were perhaps in Australia, where George died in 1899. Jeremiah and Laura separated, Mrs Skidmore and her daughters living at first with her uncle John Griffiths and later moving to 10 William Street, Brierley Hill. Jeremiah and his son John Albert lived with his mother Annie Skidmore.

The children of Jeremiah and Laura Ellen (Lovatt) Skidmore, born in Brierley Hill,

i. Annie, registered as Annie Skidmore Lovat in 1883Q2.

ii. John Albert, born 1884Q4 in Albion Street and baptised 8 April 1885 at Brierley Hill. An articled clerk to a solicitor in 1901.

iii. Florence, born 1886Q3 in Pedmore Road and baptised 17 February 1887 at Stambermill.

58 Daily Mail, obituary 9 February 1898.
59 Express and Star, obituary 8 February 1898.
APPENDIX 1

Transcript of the family bible of Jeremiah Skidmore 1798-1883 of Amblecote
son of Thomas and Mary (Walker) Skidmore
Author's additions are in italics

[page 1]
Aug 30th 1840 when the Cow took the Bull first time
Sep 29 Cow took Bull second time
1841 Sep 15th when the cow went to Pitmans Bull Amblecote
Perhaps Joseph Pitman, Holloway End
John Devenport Steward to Lord Stamford Envil Hall Shot himself Feb 18 1845
Emila Skidmore died July 26th 1849 half past 9 o'clock Thursday morning aged 3 years 2 months took ill on Saturday before July
1841 Sep 15th when the cow went to Pitmans Bull Amblecote
Perhaps Joseph Pitman, Holloway End
John Devenport Steward to Lord Stamford Envil Hall Shot himself Feb 18 1845
Emila Skidmore died July 26th 1849 half past 9 o'clock Thursday morning aged 3 years 2 months took ill on Saturday before July
23rd Emily Catherine, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore
Benjamin Skidmore died sudden found in bed Dec 16th 1850 Monday morning son of Jeremiah Skidmore aged 8 months and two weeks was buried Dec 19th Oldswinford son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore
Dec 1854 when Mary Ann Brookes Son was born daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore
Benjamin Skidmore died sudden found in bed Dec 16th 1850 Monday morning son of Jeremiah Skidmore aged 8 months and two weeks was buried Dec 19th Oldswinford son of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore
Dec 1854 when Mary Ann Brookes Son was born daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore
[page torn, missing year is 1850]
[page 2]
Jane Barnbrook was Baptised at Old Swinford church in the year 1743 Feb 4th 90 years of Age last Feb 4th 1833
the above Jane Barnbrooks died Nov 24th 1835 aged 92 years and 9 months and twenty days
Thought to be mother of John Barnbrook who married Esther Skidmore, daughter of Obadiah and Rebecca (Shaw) Skidmore
Levi Hill died Dec 28th 1847 aged 63 yrs
Levi Hill married Susannah Skidmore, daughter of Thomas [56] on 1 October 1810 at All Saints’, West Bromwich
Ann Knowles died Dec 30 1847 aged [no age entered]
Joseph Edward Pit had ? head died July 21 1849 aged 69 years
Zachy Hill died July 21 1849 Lye Zachariah Hill
Zechariah Hill of Lye was buried 25 July 1849 at Oldswinford aged 50
James Robinson died Augt 11th 1849 Saturday morning
W King Esq Amblecote Hall died March 17 1850 aged 50 years
Joseph Chance son of Stephen Chance died March 26 Amblecote
Elizabeth Skidmore wife of Jeremiah died April 3rd Wensday morning ten minutes past ten o’clock morning Buried on Saturday the 6 April [page torn, missing year is 1850]
[page 3]
Ben Scriven was Baptized July 6 1817 son of Joseph and Pheby Scriven Joseph Scriven married Jeremiah’s sister Phoebe Skidmore[There follows a record of the children of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles), except Joseph Skidmore 1848-48]
Mary Ann Skidmore daughter of Jer[v] & Elizabeth was born Oct 2nd 1830 Saturday Evening 5 o’clock was Baptized Oldswinford Nov 28th 1830
Sarah Skidmore was born July 11th 1832 6 oclock on Wensday morning was Baptized Oldswinford on Aug 5th 1832
Thomas Skidmore was born May 10th 1834 one oclock on Saturday morning was Baptized Oldswinford Aug 3rd 1834 Mr Foley minister
Phebe Skidmore was born March 5th 1836 12 oclock on Saturday mid day was Baptized Oldswinford May 1st/36 Mr Crawford [Cranford] minister
Jeremiah Skidmore was born Dec 17th 1838 3 oclock morning was Baptized Oldswinford Jan[13] 39 Mr Crawford [Cranford] minister
John Skidmore was born Dec 11 1840 2 oclock Friday morning was Baptized Oldswinford Jany [17th]/41 Crawford [Cranford] minister [The following is added] Registered Ben Joseph at the Stourbridge Registry
Elizabeth Skidmore was born Febury 21st/45 10 minutes before 11 oclock night was Baptized Oldswinford June 29/45
Emila Skidmore was born May 22nd 1846 [page torn] oclock Friday night was Baptized [September] 20/46 Oldswinford Crawford [Cranford] minister [and in the margin]
Ben Skidmore was born March 27 1850 5 oclock morning was baptized June 2 [torn] oclock in
Stillborn child Oct 2 [torn]Stillborn child Nov 28 [torn]
[page 4]
Jeremiah Skidmore His Book
May my leasure hours be imployd
In secread meadition and prayer
To God and doing Good
Elizabeth Knowles was Born October 1806 Since became the wife of Jeremiah Skidmore
Cathr ine Morgan died Oct 2nd 1846 sister to Elizabeth Skidmore
Ann Allchurch died Jan[13] 29th 1847 aged 100 years

72
**15. Skidmore Families of Stamford House, Amblecote**

**Benjamin Skidmore** died Nov 28th 1866 aged 2 years & 6 months son of Eliz Skidmore

Benjamin Skidmore was buried at Oldswinford 1 December 1866 aged 2 of Amblecote, apparently the child of Jeremiah’s daughter.

**Mr James Mason** of Cosley died Jan'y 14 1868 aged 67 years buried at Sedgley Church Jan'y 19 1868

*Brother of Jeremiah’s second wife, baptised 22 March 1801 at the Particular Baptist Chapel in Coppice*

**Elizabeth Hatfield** died July 22 1870 aged 64 years buried at Amblecote church July 24 1870

*Probably the sister of Mary Mason, baptised 17 March 1805 at the Particular Baptist Chapel, Coppice, perhaps married George Hatfield at Wolverhampton on 4 April 1824*

**Mary Skidmore the wife of Jeremiah Skidmore** died July 6 1874 aged 60 years buried at Amblecote church

*{There is a further line at the bottom of this page but only the words ‘Mrs W— ‘remain}*

{[page 5]}

Ann Allchurch died

**Mary Caroline Chance** daughter of John and Phebey Chance was born Oct 25/55 John Chance father to the above Mary C. Chance died Oct 1st 1855 aged 20 years

**Phoebe, daughter of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Knowles) Skidmore, married John Chance**

It was in March 1855 when Jer’ Skidmore Junr became a Mine Surveyor under the Rt. Hon Lord Ward

**Joseph Skidmore** died in the year 1854 Brother to Jer’ Skidmore

November 25th 1856 when Jer’ Skidmore Junr commenced surveying the Mines of Rose and Skidmore Moxley Colliery N’ Wednesbury (Messrs. Rose also owned pits in Garratt’s Lane, Old Hill[60])

I hereby take a solemn oath in the presence of God that I will not take any intoxicating liquor June ---

{[page 6]}

The foundation stone of Mount Pleasant Chapel was laid July 14th on Monday evening by Thos Standley of Dudley 1828

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collection amounted</th>
<th>£</th>
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Mount Pleasant Chapel was opened for Divine Service on Sunday November 30th 1828 by Mr Jos. Marsdon of Woster morning and night and Jacob Standly afternoon

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Collecting</th>
<th>£</th>
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</table>

And likewise Dec 3rd on the Wensday the Rev Robert Newton of Liverpool afternoon and night preached, first whenever tow or three are gathered together in my name there am I in the midst of them at night from Easick walked with God

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Collections</th>
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**Edward Griffith** died Dec 5th 1849 aged 55 years _______________ Wensday

April 22nd when Phoebe Skidmore went to learn the dressmaking Tuesday to Miss Hyrons 1850

**John Chance** died October 1st 1855 Son in Law to J. Skidmore

Mary Caroline Chance was born Oct 25th 1855 Daughter of John & Phebey Chance

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**Thomas Skidmore son of Benjamin and Mary his wife** was baptised the 16 day of April 1750 – taken from the Register of Oldwinford Thomas Edwards p.clerk

Thomas Skidmore died April 29 1821 on Sunday evening It wanted about 22 minits of 6 oclock happy are the dead that die in the Lord as I verely believe he did aged 71 years

Elizabeth Knowles was born October 12th 1806

**My dear mother Mary Skidmore the wife of the above Thomas Skidmore** died March 23rd 1837 half past ten oclock morning

Thursday before Good Friday aged 86 years was buried at Oldswinford on Easter Tuesday 28th March.

Thus died one of the greatest Peace Makers in a family. One who never sowed discord in familyes among friends or neibours earther in the churches or out. She was one of the kindest one of the lovingest one of the mercyfullest one of the tenderheartest one of the best Mothers that ever had the care of a famaly under the Sun

The loss of such a Mother I cannot help but morn and grief but my loss is her Eternal Gain, O that God would help me to be diligent in working out my Salvation that I may meet her in heaven to part no more

{[and in the margin] Ema [Emily Catherine] Skidmore was born May 22nd 1846 about 9 oclock Friday night Baptised at Oldwinford Sep 20th 1846 Mr Crawford minister

{[page 8]}

**George Skidmore** was killed Jan'y 19th 1804 aged 19y *Brother of Jeremiah Skidmore*

**John Skidmore** died on Sunday May 1st 1831 about half past 10 oclock at night, was buried May 7th at Wensbury church aged 57 years *Brother of Jeremiah Skidmore*

**Miney Stamps** the daughter of Jos & Sarah Skidmore died June 6 1831

Jeremiah’s niece, Jemima, daughter of Joseph and Sarah (Aston) Skidmore and wife of George Stamps.

**Charles Knowles** died June 13th 1831

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60 The Colliery Guardian 26 March 1869, report of Old Hill Petty Sessions of violation of a colliery rule by Joseph Male, a doggy at the pit.
Richard Skidmore was killed Nov 14th 1831. Son of Richard and Elizabeth (Cooksey) Skidmore and husband of Phoebe (Baker).

Charles Skidmore died Dec 2nd 1832 Aged 39 years. Brother to the above John Skidmore and husband of Phoebe (Baker).

John Allchurch died Feb 22nd 1823 aged 33 years.

Benj Skidmore son of Thos and Mary Skidmore died Sept 13 1835 aged 64 years Darlestone. Brother of Jeremiah Skidmore.

John Skidmore son of the above Charles was kild at the Wallas Pitt Ea----- April 13th/36 aged 19 years.

Son of Charles and Esther (Cartwright) Skidmore, nephew to Jeremiah. This seems to refer to Wallows Colliery in Locks Lane, Brierley Hill, owned by Earl Dudley.

Mary Chance died Nov 11th 1835 wife of John Chance.

My Brother David Skidmore died June 5th 1839 Old Hill Colliery aged 43 years was buried at Oldswinford on Wednesday 2nd August. The illegible date is 9 June 1839. Oldswinford burial register says Daniel, but Jeremiah’s bible clearly says David.

Thos Skidmore son of Benjamin and Mary Skidmore he wher Baptised the 16th Day April 1750 taken from Register of Oldswinford.

The aforesaid Thomas Skidmore Died 29th of April 1821 on Sunday Evening within 22 minutes of 6 oclock.

Happy are the Dead that Die in the Lord.

John Skidmore died May 1st 1831 aged 57 years.

Pheby Skidmore Late Pheby Cook died Sept 7th 1833 aged 22 years.

Henry Skidmore died May 31st 1834 of the Thorns aged 39 Nailmaster.

Henry Parkes Skidmore, son of John and Elizabeth (Parkes) Skidmore.

Mr John Eades died Dec 7th 1835 aged 63 years.

James Holland died Jan 8 1836 clay master.

Mary Chance died June 17/36 Aged 74 years.

Mary Skidmore daughter of Thos and Jane Skidmore died Oct 22nd 1836 aged 24 years. Niece of Jeremiah.

Thos Skidmore my Brother died Sep 24th 1851 at Hay colliery Rough Hay Colliery in Darlaston.

Pheby Scriven died Aug 12th 1856 aged 75 years, wife of Jos Scriven Moore Lane. Jeremiah’s sister.