File 6 of 21 files on descendants out of Kingswinford, Staffordshire.

SKIDMORE FAMILIES OF OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE, 1790-1900

by Linda Moffatt © 2012

CITATION

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Suggested citation

'Skidmore Families of Oldbury, Worcestershire, 1790-1900 by Linda Moffatt at the website of the Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com'.

Amendments were last made to this account by Linda Moffatt on 28 December 2015.

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

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

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

DATES

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

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

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

PROBATE

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

PRIVACY

The Skidmore/Scudamore One-Name Study does not, as a matter of course, publish any biographical detail from the last 100 years, unless with permission of descendants. 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 men of Oldbury were predominantly coal miners and descend from children of Benjamin Skidmore [39], of Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill - specifically his sons

James [79] p.12
John [80] p.18
Jeremiah [81] p.40
and their first cousin John Skidmore [76] 1,2 p.3

This account covers moves away from Oldbury to:

- Leicester from the 1850s → Sawley, Derbyshire,
  → Ryde, Isle of Wight,
- Darlington, Co. Durham around 1860 → Glasgow,
  → Middlesbrough,
  → Nova Scotia,
- Brightside, Sheffield around 1860,
- Swinton, Yorkshire around 1860 → Attercliffe, Sheffield,
- Osage County, Kansas from the 1860s,
- Bromley, London in the 1870s,
- Wombwell, West Yorkshire in the 1870s,
- Wolverhampton Staffordshire in the 1870s,
- Hendon, Middlesex about 1885 → Mineral Point, Wisconsin,
- Albany, Western Australia about 1886,
- Chesterton, Staffordshire in the 1890s,
- Bilston, Staffordshire in the 1890s,
- Abertillery, Monmouthshire about 1905.
- Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan from early 20thC.

Note that many of these families were members of non-conformist churches (not Church of England). Their marriages may be recorded in the General Register Office of Great Britain indexes as Register Office/ Registrar-Attended.

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

2 For the descendants of Benjamin’s youngest son Harden Skidmore [82] - see Skidmore Families of West Bromwich, Staffordshire and Hoyland, West Yorkshire, 1810-1900 by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com.

76. **JOHN⁶ SKIDMORE, WHOSE SONS MOVED TO OLDBURY ALONG WITH THEIR COUSINS, THE SONS OF BENJAMIN [39].**

He was the youngest son of John [38] and Sarah (Wheeler) Skidmore, baptised on 4 May 1768 at St Mary's, Kingswinford. He married Mary Welch on 13 August 1787 at St Mary's, Kingswinford, witnessed by Daniel Skidmore, presumably his brother, and Mary Bowater. John and Mary Skidmore had seven known children, the last two of which were baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton, suggesting that they had moved to that parish around 1800.

John appears to have been survived by his wife. His burial in Tipton has not been found and it is possible he was buried in a family plot at St Thomas’, Dudley. His burial could have been either on 18 May 1806 or he could have died on 21 September 1808 and was removed to the new cemetery when St Thomas’ graveyard closed. Mary Skidmore was living at the time of the 1841 census aged 75[-79] in Great Bridge with William and Jane (Hadley) Hayfield. She died aged 78 and was buried at St Martin’s, Tipton on 29 June 1842.

The children of John and Mary (Welch) Skidmore, baptised at St Thomas’, Dudley,

i. Sarah, married 29 September 1790 at St Thomas’, Dudley.

150. ii. **DANIEL⁷**, baptised 23 October 1791. An Oldbury miner called Daniel Skidmore married Rhoda [____?____], though it should be noted that (an adult) Daniel Skidmore was buried at St Thomas’, Dudley on 12 August 1811.

Daniel and Rhoda Skidmore had one known child, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

i. John, baptised 17 September 1826. Nothing further known.

iii. Sarah, baptised 25 December 1794. Presumably died young.

iv. Sarah, baptised 16 April 1797. She perhaps witnessed her brother James’ wedding in 1827.

151. v. **JOSEPH⁷**, baptised 21 July 1799. A miner of Oldbury, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

vi. Ann, baptised 7 August 1803 at St Martin’s, Tipton. Buried 14 September 1805 at St Thomas’, Dudley.

vii. James, baptised 16 March 1806 at St Martin’s, Tipton. He married a widow, Catherine Harney (born in Ireland in the mid-1790s) on 3 December 1827 at St Thomas’, Dudley. The witnesses were Coner Morn and Sarah Skidmore, presumably James’ older sister. James Skidmore of Oldbury died aged only 22 and was buried in Dudley on 10 February 1829. His widow was a shopkeeper in Birmingham Street, Oldbury, in 1841, with Timothy Murray, a blacksmith born in Roscommon in Ireland around 1823, perhaps a relative³.

The 2nd son:

151. **JOSEPH SKIDMORE⁷**, baptised 21 July 1799. A miner of Oldbury, he married Elizabeth Bartley (born in Tipton and baptised at St Thomas’, Dudley on 18 November 1798, daughter of William and Mary Bartley) on 3 April 1820 at St Thomas’, Dudley. The witness was John Sanders. Their children were baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton between 1821 and 1833, though he lived in New Row, Oldbury. At the time of the 1841 census the family were living in Canal Street, Oldbury.

Elizabeth Skidmore is found a widow and infirm at 99 Halesowen Street in the 1851 Oldbury census. Her children James and Mary Ann were still living at home, together with Mary Skidmore aged 5, recorded as Elizabeth’s daughter but more likely a granddaughter. Elizabeth Skidmore does not appear in the 1861 census and is presumably one of the Elizabaths whose deaths were registered in the West Bromwich district in 1854Q3, 1860Q2 and 1860Q3.

The children of Joseph and Elizabeth (Bartley) Skidmore, baptised at St Martin’s, Tipton,

i. John, baptised 11 January 1821. He does not appear in the 1841 Oldbury census and is perhaps the John Skidmore whose death was registered in Oldbury registration sub-district in 1837Q3.

ii. William, baptised 12 January 1823, buried at St Martin’s, Tipton on 8 June 1825 of New Row.

289. iii. **JOSEPH⁸ alias Thomas alias William**, baptised 6 February 1825, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

290. iv. **WILLIAM⁸**, baptised 25 February 1827, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

³ Timothy Murray married Elizabeth Bayliss (born in Tipton in 1823) in 1845Q2 and continued to live in Oldbury.
291. v. JAMES⁸, baptised 19 April 1829, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

vi. Elizabeth, baptised 31 July 1831. She appears to be the Betsy Skidmore, daughter of Joseph, who married firstly Joseph Rowley, a brickmaker (born about 1828 in Oldbury, son of Joseph Rowley) at Christ Church, West Bromwich on 25 December 1848. They lived in 1851 in Tory Row, Waterfall Lane, Rowley and later, when he became a brick master, in Eel Street, Oldbury. Mr Rowley died in 1878Q3 aged 50 and his widow married secondly Henry Jackson, a publican and farmer (born about 1817 in Abbots Bromley) in 1881Q1. They lived in Level Street, Brierley Hill together with her sons William Rowley and Joseph Skidmore Rowley. After her husband’s death she lived with the family of her daughter Betsy (Rowley) Footman in Amblecote Road. Betsy Jackson died in 1904Q1 aged 72.

vii. Mary Ann, baptised 18 August 1833. She cared for her mother and was described in the 1851 census as ‘waiting upon the household’. She married Henry Bond, iron works labourer of Moxley, at All Saints’, Moxley on 29 November 1852. He was born in Uttoxeter, baptised 22 December 1830 at Checkley, son of James Bond - who was later a wheelwright of Popes Cottage, Halfords Lane, Smethwick - and his wife Ann. Further checking is required but they are perhaps the couple found by the time of the 1870 census of New Brunswick, Canada, living in Portland, Saint John. This family were Wesleyan Methodists and Henry Bond kept a livery stables.

The eldest surviving son of Joseph [151]:

289. JOSEPH⁶ SKIDMORE, baptised 6 February 1825. Joseph Skidmore was called Thomas in the census of 1851 and William in that of 1871. A coal miner of Oldbury, he married Hannah Darby in 1845Q4 at St Martin’s, Tipton. She was born about 1828 in Oldbury and was perhaps the daughter of Edward Darby, an engineer of New Village, Oldbury.

Joseph Skidmore died aged 50 in 1875Q3. His widow was living in 1901 with her widowed son Edward at 11 Houghton Street, Churchbridge, Oldbury. She died there aged 82 on 28 June 1910, leaving a will (proved October 1910 at Worcester), naming as her executors her son Edward Skidmore, coal dealer, and her daughter Susannah (Mrs Enoch Turley).

The children of Joseph and Hannah (Darby) Skidmore, born and baptised in Oldbury,

534. i. JOHN⁹, [was 507.] born 1846Q2 in Oldbury and baptised there on 20 September of that year. He was an iron roller, living at home in 1861, aged 14. In 1871 he is found, a forgeman, at Neale Street, West Bromwich with his common-law wife Priscilla Evans and an 11 month old daughter Cecilia Evans (registered Celia Evans 1870Q2, apparently died 1883 aged 13). Priscilla Evans had further sons John Evans (born about 1875) and William Evans (born about 1877) in Oldbury. Whether the sons’ births were before or after she parted from John Skidmore is not known. She later kept a lodging house on Canal Side, Oldbury and lived there with the children named above. John Skidmore married Sarah and in 1881 they were living near his mother at Court 3, 4 Birchfield Lane and later in Malthouse Row, Oldbury. She was born about 1849 in Oldbury and their marriage was perhaps that of John Skidmore and Sarah Harrison in 1880Q1 at St Martin’s, Tipton. Two of Sarah’s daughters lived with them at the time of the 1881 census - both called Skidmore and not yet found in later censuses - Sarah, born about 1871 and Rosannah, born about 1878. Mr Skidmore died aged 45 in 1892Q1 and his widow married John James at Holy Trinity, Oldbury in 1894Q4 and was once again widowed by the time of the 1901 census, when she and her three sons - Isaac, John and William Skidmore - were lodging with retired blacksmith James Hinton at 74 Park Street, Oldbury.

The children of John and Sarah Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Susannah, born 1880Q2.

ii. ISAAC¹⁰, born 1882Q4. A coal miner, he married Ann Maria Matthews (born about 1884 in Oldbury) in 1903Q2 at Holy Trinity, Oldbury and they moved some time after 1905 to Abertillery, Monmouthshire, where they were living by 1911 at 80 Carlyle Street. Mr Skidmore died in Monmouthshire in 1947 aged 65.

Children of Isaac and Ann Maria (Matthews) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Isaac, born 1903Q4.

ii. Florence Rose, born 1904Q4. She married in 1924 in Monmouthshire. As known, a daughter and a son. She died in 1958 aged 54.
iii. A child who died before 1911.
iv. Sarah Ann, born 1912Q1, died 1918Q4 aged 6.

iii. JOHN\textsuperscript{10}, one of the three boys of this name whose births were registered at West Bromwich in the first half of 1888. A labourer at an iron works in 1901, he appears to have married Polly Smith at Holy Trinity, Oldbury in 1908Q3. They moved around 1910 to Wolverhampton, where Mr Skidmore was a steel tool grinder. Their home in 1911 was at 5 Willenhall Road. He is possibly the 26 year old Private John Skidmore, found in the list of those killed in action in France and Flanders; this man died on 11 June 1915, was born in Langley, Worcestershire and enlisted at Wolverhampton. He served in the South Staffordshire Regiment, 1st/9th Bn. and is buried in St Quentin Cabaret Military Cemetery.

Children of John and Polly (Smith) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,
i. Gladys Rosannah, born 1908Q4.
ii. May, born September 1910.

and born in Wolverhampton,
iii. Florence, born 1911Q4.

iv. WILLIAM\textsuperscript{10}, born 1890Q2. He married Rose Phipps in 1914Q1 and they perhaps had a son before William went to war. Private William Skidmore of the 7th Battalion, South Staffordshire Regiment, died on 4 October 1917, husband of Rose of 25 John Street, Swan Village, West Bromwich. He appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial, Zonnebeke, Belgium, one of four such memorials to the missing in Belgian Flanders. It bears the names of almost 35000 men whose graves are not known.

A son of William and Rose (Phipps) Skidmore,
i. John Albert William, born 1915Q2. Private Skidmore died on 10 July 1943 serving with the South Staffordshire Regiment and is buried in Syracuse War Cemetery, Sicily.

ii. Sarah, baptised 25 June 1848. She was a general servant living in 1861 at the family home. She perhaps died in 1864Q2 or 1865Q4, though these deaths were registered at Dudley, not West Bromwich.

535. iii. EDWARD\textsuperscript{9}, (was 508.) born 1850Q2 in Oldbury and baptised there on 7 July 1850. A coal merchant, he married at St John’s, Dudley in 1870Q4 Maria Harrold (born 1847Q1 in Rowley, daughter of William and Hannah Harrold of the Portway). At the time of the 1871 census they were living with their daughter Florence in the home in Grove Lane, Smethwick of Edward’s uncle John Darby. Edward and his uncle were both described as carters, presumably of coal.

Maria Skidmore died in 1874Q3 aged 27. By 1881 he and his children shared his mother’s home in Oldbury. After her death in 1910 Mr Skidmore remained there running his coal merchant’s business. He died in 1928 aged 77.

The children of Edward and Maria (Harrold) Skidmore,
i. Florence, born in Rowley and registered as Florence Harrold in 1870Q1 at Dudley. She was in service in Moseley, Birmingham at the time of the 1891 census. Florence Skidmore married Thomas Hatton in 1893Q4 at Christ Church, Oldbury and lived in Titford Road, Langley, Oldbury.

ii. ALFRED EDWARD\textsuperscript{10}, born 1872Q2 in Smethwick. He was an iron moulder at the time of the 1891 census, living at his grandmother’s home. He appears to have become a commission agent and married Charlotte Elizabeth Harding in 1895Q3 in a Register Office/ Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich and was living with his wife and children at 17 Bridge Street, Oldbury in 1901 close to the coal wharf. She was a book stitcher (born 1875Q4 in Oldbury, daughter of Thomas E. Harding, a sawyer from Wigston, Leicestershire, and his wife Annie).

By the time of the 1911 census the family had moved to 2 Tabernacle Road, Oldbury and Mr Skidmore was the chief salesman for a house furnisher. He died in 1951 aged 79, his wife in 1961 aged 85.

Children of Alfred Edward and Charlotte Elizabeth (Harding) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,
i. Florence Elizabeth, born 1895Q4. An assistant to a printer in 1911. She perhaps married in 1914.
ii. Thomas Edward, born 1898Q2. He was a barber’s apprentice of 2 Tabernacle Road, Oldbury at the time he enlisted on 25 May 1916. He was placed in the Reserve Battalion of the Rifle Brigade but was soon transferred to the Labour Corps at No.2 Company West Yorkshire Depot, 69 Broadwell Road, Oldbury. He was discharged at the age 21 with nervous debility and heart trouble attributable to his war service.

iii. John, born 1900Q2.


vi. JOSEPH, born 1851Q4 in Oldbury and baptised there on 27 May 1855. He was a stock-taker of Tipton at the time he married Mercy Ann Timmins (born in Oldbury in 1854Q2, daughter of Edward Timmins, boat loader and his wife Ann) on 21 May 1876 at St Martin’s, Tipton. The witnesses were William and Harriet Timmins, presumably her brother and sister-in-law. Joseph was later a bricklayer by trade, with a business in Oldbury. However, in the early years of their marriage, they boarded at Brades Row, Rowley Regis with the family of William Onions. Joseph was living (married, not widowed) in 1891 at his mother’s house in Birchyfield Lane, Oldbury. Joseph and his wife (called Mary Ann Skidmore) were living alone in 1901 at the back of 84 Dingle Street, Oldbury. He died aged 50 in 1902Q2, his wife aged 48 in 1903Q1. The children of Joseph and Mercy Ann (Timmins) Skidmore, born in Oldbury, registered in Dudley, 

i. Sarah, perhaps registered as Timmins in 1872Q2. Not yet found after 1881.

ii. JOSEPH, born 1877Q1. He appears to be the bricklayer found in the 1901 census living at 5 Yew Tree Place, Oldbury Road, Smethwick with his wife and daughter. He married Winifred Field (born about 1878 in Smethwick) in 1898Q2 at St Paul’s, Smethwick. Mr Skidmore became an insurance agent before 1911, when their home was at 12 Brook Street, Oldbury.

Children of Joseph and Winifred (Field) Skidmore, born in Smethwick,

i. Winifred Mercy, born around October 1900.

ii. Harry, born 1902Q1.

and born in Oldbury,


v. Elsie, born late 1910.

vi. vii. 2 further children who died before 1911.

iii. HARRY, born 1881Q3. A bricklayer of Pollard Road, Hendon when he married Ruth Diston, a laundry maid of St John’s Road, Jefford Road, West Hendon on 13 October 1907. The witnesses were his mother and Joseph Skidmore, presumably his uncle or his brother. Ruth was born in Honeybourne, Gloucestershire, about
1879, daughter of John Boaz Diston, an agricultural labourer and his wife Hannah. Her family were living at the time of the 1881 census in Mickleton, Gloucestershire. This census gives Ruth’s birthplace as Ineborne?, Lancashire - her family spent some years in Lancashire in the 1870s before returning to Gloucestershire.

William Skidmore was killed in action at the age of 36 on 10 November 1917. His name appears on the Tyne Cot Memorial to the Missing in Belgium. His wife Ruth was then living at 40A Oak Grove, Cricklewood, London. She died in 1958 aged 79.

Children of William and Ruth (Diston) Skidmore,

i. Lillian Lucy, born 24 July 1901 (not found in the census of 1911). She is said to have moved to York.

ii. Betsy Irene, born 29 June 1908 in Hendon. She married in Hendon in 1930.

ii. Betsy, born 1883Q1. She and her sisters Sarah and Hannah were living with their mother at the time of the 1911 census, and all worked at lining trunks in a portmanteau factory.

born in Hendon,

iii. ABRAHAM ISAAC10, born 15 January 1885. He left for the US in 1906, passing through Ellis Island for Chicago and then Wisconsin. After returning for a time to England he travelled to Canada in 1912 and directly to Wisconsin. He married Annice Lavon Harker (born 23 April 1898, died February 1958) on 19 October 1915 at Mineral Point, Wisconsin.

The children of Abraham Isaac and Annice Lavon (Harker) Skidmore,

i. Joseph William.

ii. Betsy.

iii. CHARLES H.11 Married Yvonne.

Children,

i. Larry Joe12, who kindly supplied information on the Hendon and Wisconsin families. Children Larry Joe13 jnr. and Sheri Yvonne.

ii. Charlene.

iv. Lula.

v. Joseph, born 3 August 1886. He was a maker of leather portmanteaus, living in 1911 in Leicester. He died in 1917Q4 aged 31.

vi. Sarah, born 19 March 1888. She married Ernest Brooks in 1914 and had two sons George and Joseph. She died in Hendon on 9 May 1976.

vii. Hannah, born 5 October 1889. She died in 1891Q1.

viii. Hannah, born 3 December 1891. She married her cousin Harry Skidmore.

ix. John, born 21 February 1898. He married Marjory. Mr Skidmore died on 22 September 1976, his wife on 25 November 1993 in Eastry near Sandwich, Kent and both funerals were handled by a W. J. Skidmore of Ramsgate, Kent.

vi. Samuel, born 1859Q1. An unemployed schoolmaster in Oldbury at the time of the 1881 census. Nothing further presently known.

vii. Susannah, born at the beginning of April 1861. She married Enoch Turley, a stationary engine driver (born about 1861 in Whiteheat Gate, Oldbury) in 1881Q1 at Holy Trinity, Oldbury. They later kept a hardware shop in Birchfield Lane, perhaps in collaboration with her sister Cecilia. She was one of the executors of her mother’s will in 1910. Mrs Turley died in 1928 aged 67, her husband in 1936 aged 76.

vi. ISAAC9, born June 1863. A labourer in the brickworks in 1881, he married Mary Bagnall in 1886Q4 at Christ Church, Oldbury. They emigrated to Australia. Mr Skidmore died in Albany, Western Australia on 29 November 1926. The following information regarding his children was discovered from a family tree submitted to Ancestry.com.

Children of Isaac and Mary (Bagnall) Skidmore, born in Western Australia,

i. Edward, born 1888.

ii. George Bagnall, born 1889.

iii. Edith Jane Morrish, born 1890.

iv. Eleanor Mary, born 1892.

ix. Cecilia, born 1866Q1. She married Thomas Lawlor, a labourer (born about 1865 in Oldbury) in 1890Q1 at Christ Church, Oldbury. They lived in Houghton Street and later appear to have kept a general shop in Birchfield Lane. However, around 1910 Mr and Mrs Lawlor moved to 99 Ashes Road, Langley (Oldbury), at which time he was a fitter’s labourer at a chemical works. She died in 1917 aged 51.

x. Sarah, born 1871Q1, died 1871Q4.

The second surviving son of Joseph [151]:

290. WILLIAM SKIDMORE⁸, baptised 25 February 1827 at St Martin’s, Tipton on 25 February of that year. A coal miner of Oldbury, he married Sarah Mulcaster on 22 February 1847 at St Martin’s, Tipton, witnessed by James Skidmore and Betsy Skidmore, William’s brother and sister. His wife was born about 1830 in Carlisle, Cumberland, daughter of George Mulcaster, a labourer, and his wife Mary, who moved to Oldbury in the early 1840s. William and Sarah lived in Titford Road, where he died, probably 1863 (buried 1 November in Oldbury Cemetery, though the actual burial register has not been seen). Sarah was still at Titford Road in 1871, working as a charwoman to support herself and her two youngest children.

However, by the time of the 1881 census her eldest son Joseph had moved with his family to Yorkshire and Mrs Skidmore had followed her married sisters to London and was living at 19 Bromley Hall Road, Bromley, with her sons William and George and grandson Moses Skidmore. She was managing an off licence beer house in 1891, when she lived with son William and her grandson Moses at 54 Clifford Road, West Ham. She later managed a beer house from her home at 22 Exning Road, Canning Town, London and died there on 27 January 1915 aged 85, leaving a will which names as her executor Frederick Edmond Durrant, civil servant.

The children of William and Sarah (Mulcaster) Skidmore, born in Langley, Oldbury,

i. Mary Elizabeth, born in 1848Q1. She was living at home in 1861, a general servant. At the time of the 1871 census she was visiting the home in Plaistow, West Ham of her uncle and aunt William Hickman, puddler, and Elizabeth (Mulcaster, born about 1837 in Castle Carrock, Cumberland, married 27 March 1864 at St Thomas’, Dudley), who had very recently moved there from Oldbury. She appears to have been lodging in 1881 at the home of another uncle and aunt - George Walker, coal miner of 52 Birmingham Road, Oldbury and his wife Mary (perhaps baptised 15 August 1830 at Hayton by Brampton, Cumberland, daughter of George and Mary Mulcaster). Mary Skidmore was a screw maker before her marriage in 1881Q3 at Christ Church, Oldbury to William Hill, a general labourer (born about 1858 in Oldbury). They lived in Popes Lane, Oldbury until at least 1891 and she was widowed by 1911. A daughter Lily.

540. ii. JOSEPH⁹, [was 511.] born in 1849Q4 in Langley Green, Oldbury, in 1849Q4. He was a coal miner from at least the age of 11, firstly in Oldbury and later Yorkshire. He married Margaret Price (born 1850Q4 in Oldbury, daughter of William Price, labourer of Stone Street, and his wife Mary) at St Thomas’, Dudley on 30 August 1869. The witnesses were Elizabeth Powell and Joseph Powell. Joseph and Margaret lived in Whyley Street in Oldbury in 1871 with their ten-month old daughter Mary Elizabeth. The family moved to Yorkshire probably around 1875, and after spending some time in Wakefield settled in Wombwell Junction. Margaret Skidmore died in 1894Q4 aged 43. At the time of the 1901 census, when his sons Ernest and George were still at home, Joseph was a cheekweight clerk at the colliery and remained so until at least 1911. He married secondly Mrs Caroline Raven (born about 1852 in Hackney, London, widow of John Raven) in 1909Q4.

The children of Joseph and Margaret (Price) Skidmore,

i. Mary Elizabeth, born 1870Q2 in Langley. In 1891 she was a domestic servant in the Red House Inn in Melton Green, West Melton, Brampton Bierlow. She married Thomas Clarkson, a miner (born about 1871 in West Melton, Rotherham, son of Thomas Clarkson) on 25 December 1891 at Brampton Bierlow, Yorkshire. By 1911 they were living with their children at Concrete Cottages, Wombwell.

ii. Joseph, born in Langley, probably in 1873Q3. A coal miner, he married Lucy Powell (perhaps born 1873Q1 in Church Bridge, Oldbury, daughter of Joseph Powell) on 29 August 1897 at Christ Church, West Bromwich. They lived in Wombwell with Joseph’s adopted daughter Phoebe (apparently Phoebe Jane Martin, born 1895Q1
iii. **WILLIAM**, born 1875Q2 in Sharleston, Wakefield. A coal miner, he married Eliza Alice Wilks (born 1879Q4 in Barnsley, daughter of William Wilks, a colliery engine tender of Ardsley, and his wife Elizabeth) in 1896Q3 and was living by 1901 at 26 Gower Street, Wombwell. Mr Skidmore died in 1907 aged 32 and his widow married secondly in 1908Q4 Albert Joseph Bishop, a coal miner (born 1879 in Tividale, Staffordshire). Eliza was a widow, still in Gower Street, Ship Croft, at the time her son William was killed in World War I.

**Children of William and Eliza Alice (Wilks) Skidmore, born in Wombwell,**

i. William, born 1897Q1. He died fighting with the King’s Own Scottish Borderers at Ypres on 11 January 1918, aged 20.


iii. Edith, born 1900Q3. She is perhaps the Edith Skidmore who married in 1919.


iv. Lucy, born 1878Q2 in Wombwell. She died in 1897Q3 aged 19.

v. Sarah, born 1880Q3 in Wombwell. She married Benjamin Biram, a bricklayer (born 1879Q1 in Brampton, Yorkshire, son of John Biram, stone mason of Brampton Bierlow, and his wife Eliza) in 1900Q3 and they were living at the time of the 1911 census at 48 Firth Road, West Bromwich, with their daughters Margaret and Gertrude. Mr Biram died in 1941 aged 62.

vi. **ERNEST**, born 1883Q2. A colliery packer underground, he married Mary Jones in 1908Q1 and was living in 1911 with his family at 22 Concrete Buildings, Wombwell. It would be helpful to see the marriage certificate but Mary, who was born about 1885 in Wombwell, was perhaps the daughter of Thomas Jones, a coal miner from Oldbury, and his wife Eliza A., who were living in the village of Concrete by the mid-1880s.

**Children of Ernest and Mary (Jones) Skidmore,**

i. Arthur, born 1908Q2.


vii. **GEORGE HERBERT**, born 1885Q4. With his brother Ernest, he was a colliery pony driver underground at the time of the 1901 census. He married Clara Roebuck (daughter of Daniel Roebuck, colliery undermanager, and his wife Kezia) in 1910Q3. He was in 1911 a colliery deputy, below ground, living with his wife in her parents’ home at Dearne View, Little Houghton, near Barnsley. Mr Skidmore died in 1945 aged 59.

**Children of George Herbert and Clara (Roebuck) Skidmore,**

i. Betty, born 1911Q4.


viii. Arthur, baptised 2 October 1892 in Wombwell. At the time of the 1901 census he was a visitor at the home of the family of brewer William Edwards at the Vine Inn, 34 Alma Street, Wednesbury. By 1911 he was living with his father and stepmother at Junction Cottages, Wombwell. Arthur was a colliery labourer above ground.

iii. Sarah, born 1851Q4. She married James Rowley in 1874Q4 at St Matthew’s, Smethwick. Sarah Rowley, a brickmaker’s wife, was living at the time of the 1881 census at no. 2, Court 3, Portway Road, Oldbury, Worcestershire with her daughters Florence Eliza (called Skidmore and later Rowley, born 1873Q1 in West Bromwich) and Lavinia Rowley (born 1880Q2). By 1891 she was widowed and had moved with her daughters and her son James Rowley (born 1883Q2) to Rood End, Oldbury, where she was a huckster.

**Sarah Skidmore had a son and a daughter before her marriage,**

i. **MOSES**, called Skidmore, born in 1871Q1 and with his mother in West Bromwich workhouse at the time of the April census, one month after his birth. Moses lived with his grandmother in London until at least 1901, where he was a dock labourer and, by 1901, was helping his grandmother manage the beer house in Exning Road, Canning Town.
He married Agnes Louisa Mulcaster, a tailoring machinist in 1901Q3. She was born in 1870Q2 in Poplar, daughter of George Mulcaster, a boot manufacturer from Carlisle, and his wife Mary Ann from Harborne. Mr Skidmore died in 1953 aged 82.

**Children of Moses and Agnes Louisa (Mulcaster) Skidmore, born in Canning Town,**

i. Elsie Sarah, born 1902Q3.
ii. William George, born 1904Q1.
iii. Gertrude Louise, born 1905Q3.
v. Frank, born 1910Q3.
vi. Florence I., born 1913Q2.

**ii. Florence Eliza, called Skidmore and later Rowley,** born 1873Q1 in West Bromwich.

iv. William, born perhaps 1853Q4. At first a coal miner in Oldbury, he was a labourer in an iron-works, living in Bromley, London, in 1881 and was still at his mother’s home in 1891, when he was a dock labourer. Nothing known of this man after 1891.

542. v. **GEORGE, [was 512.]** born in Langley, Oldbury, Worcestershire, perhaps in 1856Q2. He moved with his mother in the 1870s to Bromley, London and was a labourer of 7 Carr Street when he married Louisa Skeels on 21 May 1882 at St Dunstan’s, Stepney. The witnesses were William Skidmore and Louisa Maria Skeels. His wife was born in 1855Q3 in Poplar, daughter of James Skeels, a greengrocer of 11 Catherine Street. George Skidmore is probably the greengrocer found at 69 Ida Street, Bromley East in an 1883 Directory. George and Louisa Skidmore separated and he was living at the time of the 1891 census, a dock labourer, at 32 Clever? Road, West Ham. By 1901 George and most of his children were living at 48 Boulton Road in West Ham. At this time Louisa his wife was in the household of her brother Andrew Skeels, a greengrocer, at 69 Pennyfields, Poplar, together with her son Joseph, her mother Caroline Francis and stepfather Oscar Francis from Sweden, and her sister Mrs Ada Anderson. George Skidmore was living with his children in 1911 in Clifford Road, Canning Town, a potman in an off licence. His wife was living at this time with the family of her son Joseph.

**The children of George and Louisa (Skeels) Skidmore, born in Poplar,**

i. **JOSEPH,** born 1883Q2. A greengrocer, he married Jenny Allen, a laundress (born about 1887, daughter of Charles William Allen, a painter and decorator) on 13 November 1910 at St Stephen’s, East India Dock Road, Poplar. The witnesses were E. Green and A. Skeels. They ran a greengrocer’s at their home at 42 West Ferry Road, Millwall, London.

**The children of Joseph and Jenny (Allen) Skidmore, born in Poplar,**

i. Joseph W., born 1911Q2.
ii. Florence E., born 1912Q3.
iii. May, born 1914Q2.
v. Ivy J., born 1916Q1. She married and had a daughter and a son.
vi. A further son born in 1920.

ii. Clara, born 1884Q3. She lived with her grandmother Sarah Skidmore until at least 1911.

iii. **JAMES,** born 1886Q2. By 1911 he was a potman in a public house in Canning Town, living in his father’s home. He married Maud E. Franklin (Madge) in 1914Q2.

**Children of James and Maud E. (Franklin) Skidmore,**

i. Doris D., born 1915Q2. She married in 1936.
ii. A son born in 1922.

iv. Louisa, born 1888Q1. She kept house for her father and siblings.


**born in Canning Town, Essex,**

vi. Florence, born 29 September 1891. She was a packer at a tobacco works in 1911. She married David Daniel Chandler in 1914Q2 and had a daughter Vera.

vii. Phoebe, born 1893Q3. A packer at a tobacco works in 1911. She married in 1920 and had a daughter and two sons.
The third surviving son of Joseph [151]:

291. **JAMES**

**SKIDMORE**, baptised 19 April 1829 at St Martin’s, Tipton. He was living at home in Halesowen Street in 1851, an iron puddler, a trade in which he remained. He married Betsy Carter on 24 November 1851 at St Martin’s, Tipton. She is called Elizabeth in censuses, and was born around 1832 in Oldbury, daughter of Michael Carter. She appears to be the daughter of Michael Carty/ Carter, a bricklayer of Halesowen Street, Oldbury, and his wife Ellen.

James and Betsy Skidmore left Oldbury around 1860 to live in Haden’s Yard, Swinton, Yorkshire, where James was a puddler employing one man - perhaps their boarder Thomas Priest from London. The houses in Haden’s Yard appear to have belonged to John Haden, a retired farmer who lived in adjacent Haden’s House. James and his family lived in Leeds in the 1860s but by the time of the 1871 census was at 84 Rawmarsh Lane, Masbrough. They remained in the Rotherham area until at least 1881 when they were living in the Yard at the back of 7 Westfield View, Westgate in Rotherham town. The death of Elizabeth Skidmore at the age of 53 was registered in Rotherham in 1884Q4 and James died in Sheffield in 1891Q1 aged 61 and was buried at Christ Church, Attercliffe.

**The children of James and Betsy (Carter) Skidmore,**

i. Joseph, born 1852Q4 in Oldbury. He remained unmarried and at the time of the census in 1891 was an iron puddler. He was then visiting at 17 Prospect Street, Huddersfield, the home of Thomas Hobman (born 1854 in Doncaster) and his wife Mary Ann. More checking is needed but they appear to be the Thomas Hobday and Mary Ann Carter who married in Huddersfield in 1871. Mary Ann was born 1851 in Huddersfield.

Thomas and Mary Ann had living with them their daughter Mary H. Hobman (whose birth was registered as Mary Hannah Hobday in 1873Q4 in Huddersfield). The youngest member of their household was an adopted daughter Annie Elizabeth Skidmore aged 4. Annie Elizabeth was born 16 December 1886 in Huddersfield and baptised at St Peter’s there on 21 July 1887 (transcript seen), daughter of John Skidmore, a newsagent of Huddersfield, and his wife Emma. She was living in 1901 with her mother Mary Ann Hobman, a district nurse and the widow of Thomas Hobman, at 2 Grove Street, Huddersfield. Annie E. Hobman died in Huddersfield in 1910Q1, said to be aged 22. The identity of her parents John and Emma Skidmore remains a mystery.

Joseph Skidmore became an insurance agent and was living by 1901 at 211 Newhall Road, Attercliffe, Sheffield with his sister Janet and his 1-month old niece Ethel R. Skidmore. His home in 1911 was 3 Greenland Cottages, Sheffield and with him was his niece Christina Skidmore aged 9.

ii. [perhaps] William Baker, born 1855Q1, died at the age of 10 months in Langley Green, buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 11 November 1855.


iv. Emma, born 1858Q2 in Oldbury.

v. Prudence, born 1860Q4 in Doncaster. She married William Henry Baker, a coal miner, in Sheffield in 1894Q2. They were living by 1911 at 100 Dunlop Street, Sheffield. Mrs Baker died in 1949 aged 88. Children, as known, Mercy Elizabeth and William Henry.

vi. James Thomas, born 1863Q2 in Leeds. An iron puddler. At the time of the 1891 census (when his birthplace was recorded as Bury, Lancashire) he was visiting his cousin Joseph [540] in Wombwell Junction. He died in 1894 in Sheffield aged 30 and was buried on 8 August at Tinsley Park Municipal Cemetery, the burial service at Christ Church, Attercliffe.

vii. Thomas, registered 1870Q2 in Hunslet registration district. He died in 1872Q2.

viii. Jeanette, born about 1873 in Rotherham according to the 1881 census. She married James Roe, a motor driver (born about 1869 in Keighley, Yorkshire) in 1908Q4. They were living in 1911 at 266 Hermit Hole, Keighley, with children from Mr Roe's first marriage, Doris Skidmore the daughter of Janet, and their 4-month old son Wilfred Roe.

**A daughter,**

i. Doris, born in March 1901 in Sheffield, perhaps Doris May R., registered at Sheffield in 1901Q2. [Called Edith R. Skidmore in the 1901 census, 1 month old].

For an account of the brothers of John Skidmore [76], see Skidmore Families of Netherton, Dudley, Worcestershire by Linda Moffatt at www.skidmorefamilyhistory.com
79. **JAMES** SKIDMORE, son of Benjamin [39] and Mary (Green) Skidmore, was baptised at St Mary’s, Kingswinford on 12 December 1762. It is probable that he and his brothers and sisters were raised in Brettell Lane, Brierley Hill. The family moved to Oldbury sometime between 1784 and 1796, where, like his brothers, James was a miner. He married Elizabeth (surname unknown). There is a gap of some ten years between the baptisms of James’ first children in 1803 in Oldbury and son John in 1813. It is possible that two further children were baptised outside Oldbury - Richard in Newcastle-under-lyme, Staffordshire in 1808 and Sarah in Dudley in 1810. These are detailed below but cannot with certainty be attributed to James and Elizabeth Skidmore of Oldbury. I have not found Elizabeth or her daughters in the 1841 census in Oldbury and marriages at St John the Baptist, Halesowen are suggested below for Mary Ann, Elizabeth and a possible further daughter Ann.

James Skidmore of Oldbury was buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill on 17 July 1825 aged 63. His wife was perhaps the Elizabeth Skidmore buried there on 22 April 1836 aged 66.

The children of James and Elizabeth Skidmore, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

i. [perhaps] Ann, born about 1803 in Hasbury, Halesowen, married George Jackson, a Greenwich Navy Pensioner (born about 1789 in Quinton [Ridgacre]) on 14 July 1833 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen, witnessed by Obadiah Skidmore and Elizabeth Skidmore. They had children baptised at this church up to 1842 and lived in Springhill, Hasbury, a family of nailers. Mr and Mrs Jackson perhaps died in 1867Q3, he aged 80, she 65.

ii. **JAMES**, baptised 20 May 1803 or 1804, OF WHOM MORE BELOW.

iii. Mary Ann, baptised with her brother James and on the same day as children of John [80], James’ brother. She perhaps married Thomas Jennings at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 6 July 1823.


v. [perhaps] Sarah, baptised at St Thomas’, Dudley on 7 January 1810. She could be the Oldbury lady who had a son,

i. John, baptised 2 February 1831 at Christ Church, Oldbury and buried two weeks later.

vi. John, baptised 21 February 1813 at Christ Church, Oldbury and buried at St Michael’s, Brierley Hill aged 12 on 30 October 1825, three months after his father.

vii. Elizabeth, baptised 14 May 1815. She appears to be the Elizabeth who married William Holden, miner on 1 June 1834 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen, witnessed by John Holden and Ann Price. They were living in Oldbury until 1851, later apparently moving to Brierley Hill and then, by 1871, to Quarry Bank. Mr Holden died in 1891Q2 aged 75, his widow in 1892Q4 aged 77.

The eldest son:

154. **JAMES** SKIDMORE, baptised 20 May 1803 or 1804, son of James [79] and Elizabeth Skidmore. A coal miner of Oldbury, he married Ann Eggington⁴ (born about 1803 in Smethwick but called Hannah at the time of their children’s baptisms) at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 31 March 1823, witnessed by Samuel Ravenscroft.

Along with other members of this branch of the family, they are found in Furnace Row, Oldbury, at the time of the 1841 census. By 1851 they had moved to Titford Road in Langley and they remained in that area until at least 1871. In the census of that year Titford Road was described as being in the hamlet of Warley Wigorn on the south side of the road leading from Titford to Birmingham.

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⁴ And not, as I suggested in the 2004 edition, Hannah Holyhead.
Hannah Skidmore died in 1878Q4 aged 74 and James is found a widower at 23 Flash Road, Oldbury, in 1881, with Mercy Whitehouse (aged 21, called his niece but probably the sister of his son-in-law Emanuel Whitehouse) and Elizabeth Parkes (aged 30, called his niece), and Hannah Parkes (aged 22, called his granddaughter). James Skidmore died in 1887Q2 aged 84.

The children of James and Ann (Eggington) Skidmore, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

292. i. **EDWARD**, baptised 9 January 1825, a son of James and Hannah Skidmore. A furnaceman of Oldbury and Brightside Bierlow, he married Elizabeth (born about 1822 in Oldbury) in 1845Q4 in the West Bromwich registration district. Her family name was probably Holloway. Their first child Rebecca was born in Oldbury and the family then appear to have moved to Union Street in West Bromwich some time before 1851.

Edward moved north to Doncaster around 1860 in search of work, moving shortly after to Brightside Bierlow, Sheffield, where they lived for many years in Princess Street. Mrs Skidmore suffered from paralysis as early as 1881, at least as reported in the census of that year. Edward was living in 1891 with his wife and son Edward at 8 Windsor Street, Brightside. He died in 1893 aged 69 (buried 25 June), his wife in 1899 aged 76 (buried 8 July); both are buried at St Thomas’, Brightside, Sheffield.

The children of Edward and Elizabeth (Holloway) Skidmore,

i. Rebecca, born 1846Q3 in Oldbury. She married in Sheffield in 1863Q3 Eli Simcox, a puddler who had worked earlier in Hoyland Nether, Yorkshire (born 1843Q4 in Wolverhampton, son of John and Elizabeth Simcox of Monmore Green). They spent time in Garston, Lancashire, before returning to Sheffield around 1867. By the time of the 1881 census they and their four daughters had moved to Attercliffe. (It is possible that the Edward Albert Simcox who died at the age of 7 in 1871 was their son). Mr Simcox died in 1896Q3 aged 52 and by 1901 Rebecca was resident in Elliotts Buildings, Attercliffe Common with her four youngest children and brother Edward. She died in 1930 in Sheffield, aged 83.

Children, as known - Edward, Elizabeth, Charlotte, Louisa, Hannah, Maria, Eli, Thomas, John.

ii. James, born 1848Q1 in West Bromwich. Died in 1854Q4.

iii. Samuel, born 1851Q1, died at the same time as his brother James in 1854Q4.

iv. Edward, born 1855Q3, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury on 5 August 1856, of West Bromwich Street. A bill deliverer in 1891. He was a moulder’s labourer living with his widowed sister Rebecca in 1901. Mr Skidmore suffered mental health problems and by 1911 was living in Sheffield Union Workhouse, Fir Vale. He died in Sheffield in 1929 aged 73.

544. v. **JOHN THOMAS**, born 1859Q4 in Doncaster, was a forgerman and fitter’s labourer. He married Joyce Hannah Hanson in 1882Q1 in Sheffield and was living at 179 Corby Street, Brightside, Sheffield in 1891 and in 1901. His wife was born about 1862, daughter of Samuel and Ann Hanson whose family moved to Brightside in the 1860s from Sedgley.

Mr Skidmore died in Sheffield in 1934 aged 74, his wife in 1937 aged 74.

Children of John Thomas and Joyce Hannah (Hanson) Skidmore, baptised at Emmanuel Church, Attercliffe, Sheffield,

i. Louisa, baptised 5 July 1882. She married John Walter Merrills, a boiler-maker (born about 1877 in Sheffield) in 1900Q4 and was living at the time of the 1911 census in Corby Street, Sheffield. John Willey, baptised 9 December 1885. He died an infant.

ii. Martha, baptised 6 June 1889. She worked, at least at the time of the 1911 census, in a sweet factory. She is perhaps the Martha Skidmore who married Joseph Burgin in Sheffield in the middle of 1911 and had, as known, 2 sons and a daughter.

vi. Louisa, born 1865Q1 in Sheffield. She married John Hancock, an ironworks labourer (born about 1862 in Sheffield) in 1882Q4 and lived near to her brother John in Corby Street, Brightside.

ii. Elizabeth, baptised 19 November 1826. Probably the child buried 30 November 1828 at Christ Church, Oldbury, aged 2.
iii. **BENJAMIN**, baptised 30 November 1828. At the time of the 1841 census he was an iron puddler, living at the family home in Furnace Row, Oldbury. He is not found in later censuses in Oldbury. It appears he moved north and married Jane Banks in 1851Q3 in Tynemouth registration district. She was born in Alston Moor, Cumberland and was perhaps baptised 22 July 1821 at Crosthwaite, Cumberland, the daughter of Sarah Banks. She had two children - Betsy Banks (?Elizabeth Banks, born 1846Q3) and Thomas Banks born 1848Q4, both born in Bishopwearmouth, Sunderland. These two children were living at the time of the 1851 census with their mother (said to be a widow) in Deptford Road, Bishopwearmouth and, by 1861, with Thomas Worthington (a furnaceman born about 1819 in Bilston, Staffordshire) and his wife Sarah (born in Calton? Moor, Cumberland around 1805 and presumably Jane’s mother). Further, Benjamin and Jane Skidmore’s daughter Sarah was with the Worthingtons in Church Street, Sunderland at the time of the 1871 census.

Benjamin and Jane Skidmore lived in Sunderland in the early years of their marriage, moving to Chancery Street, Darlington around 1860, where the family remained until at least 1881. Note that the deaths of two Jane Skidmores were registered in Darlington in 1865Q4, one perhaps that of a child of Benjamin and Jane. Benjamin and his housekeeper, widow Mrs Mary Rickaby (who remained with him until at least 1891), had been joined by 1881 by his son Edward, both men then foremen iron puddlers. In his later years, Mr Skidmore became a watchman at an ironworks, living at 3 Garden Place, Harrogate Hill, Durham. He died in 1902Q4 aged 75.

**Children of Benjamin and Jane (Banks) Skidmore, born in Sunderland,**

545. i. **JOHN**, born 1852Q1. A steel works labourer of Darlington and Middlesbrough, he was living at the time of the 1881 census with his son Isaac and daughter Lucy at 21 Childray Street, Stockton on Tees, in the home of his brother-in-law Joseph Charlton. He married Martha Emma Breckon (born 1856Q2 in Middlesbrough, daughter of John Breckon, a mariner) at St Hilda’s, Middlesbrough on 9 December 1874 and they lived there until the late 1880s before spending some time in Harrogate Hill, before returning by the time of the 1901 census to 37 Spencer Street, Middlesbrough. Mrs Skidmore died in 1925 aged 69, her husband in 1929 aged 77.

**Children of John and Martha Emma (Breckon) Skidmore, born in Middlesbrough,**

i. Louisa, born 1875Q1. A spinner in a worsted factory in 1891. She married Thomas Bates, an iron worker (perhaps born 1871Q3 in Darlington, son of George Bates, an iron worker, and his wife Rosannah) in 1898Q2 in Middlesbrough. They moved to Darlington around 1900, where Mrs Bates died in 1906 aged 31.

ii. **ISAAC**, born 1877Q2. An ironworker, he married Sarah Elizabeth Wood (born 1876Q1 in Darlington) in Darlington in 1896Q3 and they were living in 1901 at 42 Whessoe Lane, Darlington. Their nephew Alfred Wood shared their home and went with them to Shettleston, Glasgow, where Isaac found work in a sheet mill. Their home at the time of the 1911 census was at 19 Blair Street.

Mr Skidmore died in 1951 aged 73.

**Children of Isaac and Sarah Elizabeth (Wood) Skidmore, born in Darlington,**

i. John Thomas, born 1897Q4.

ii. Eveline, born 1899Q1.

iii. Wilfred, born 1906Q4.


iii. Jane Ann, born 1879Q4. She married John Williams, a labourer at the Rise Carr Iron Rolling Mills (born about 1875 in Darlington) in Darlington in 1898Q4. They were living in 1911 with their children at 38 Jane Street, Darlington.

**Children of Robert Edward Skidmore, born in Darlington,**

i. **ROBERT EDWARD**, born 1888Q4. An ironworker, he married in 1909Q2 Ethel Wetherhead. They were living in 1911 at 32 Carey Street, Middlesbrough. Mr Skidmore died in 1949 aged 60.
Children of Robert Edward and Ethel (Wetherhead) Skidmore,
   ii. Harry, born 1912Q3.
   iii. Louisa, born 1915Q2.
   iv.-vii. 2 further sons & 2 daughters, as known.
   iv. THOMAS¹⁰, born 1891Q3. A steelworks labourer, he married Sarah Elizabeth Aspery (born 1894Q3 in Middlesbrough) in 1910Q4 in Middlesbrough. They were living in 1911 in the home of Sarah's brother John W. Aspery and mother Emily Aspery in Cannon Street, Middlesbrough.

Children of Thomas and Sarah Elizabeth (Aspery) Skidmore,
   i. John T., born 1913Q4.
   iii. 3 daughters, as known.

Edward James⁹, born 1854Q2 in Sunderland. He was an ironworker, boarding after his mother's death with his stepsister Betsy (Banks), wife of Joseph Wilkinson Charlton, at her home in West Hartlepool. He married Mary Jane Race in Darlington registration district in 1882Q4 and died there in 1887Q2 aged 34. Mary Jane was born in 1855Q2 in Norton, Durham.

His widow married John William Clemmet, a railway locomotive 'steam raiser' (born about 1865 in Northallerton, Durham) in 1889Q3 in Darlington and was living near to her father in Garden Place, Harrogate Hill.

Children of Edward James and Mary Jane (Race) Skidmore, born in Darlington,
   i. BENJAMIN¹⁰, born 1883Q3. He married Ruth Parkes (born 1883Q4 at Thornaby, Yorkshire) in 1903Q2 in Darlington. They were living by 1911 at 85 Thompson Street West, Harrogate Hill, Durham.

Children of Benjamin and Ruth (Parkes) Skidmore,
   i. Blanche, born 1903Q3.
   ii. Leslie, born 1909Q4.

Jane Hornsby, born 1885Q2. She married Thomas Grant, a blacksmith in a wagon building works (born about 1872 in Dalkeith, Midlothian) in 1906Q3. Mrs Grant died in 1959 aged 74.

Isaac⁹, born 1856Q2. He grew up in Sunderland and then Darlington and after his mother's death in 1865 was an ironworker, boarding in Rise Carr, Darlington. He married Hannah Atkinson (born about 1860 in North Ormesby, Yorkshire) in 1879Q3 in Middlesbrough. At the time of the 1881 census they were boarding at 87 Church Street, Sculcoates, Yorkshire in the home of widow and grocer Mrs Ann Couts. They are recorded as Commanding Officers of the Salvation Army at Reading Central in 1881.

His church duties took him later to Swansea and the south of England - their home in 1891 was in Washington Street, Brighton, Sussex. He became a greengrocer and was living in 1901 at 48 Warleigh Road, Preston, Sussex. By the time of the 1911 census Mr Skidmore had his own cab business and had moved with his family to Beaconsfield Villas, Brighton. He died in Brighton on 5 December 1916 aged 60.

Children of Isaac and Hannah (Atkinson) Skidmore,
   i. Mabel Jane, born 1883Q3 in Portsmouth, Hampshire. She married James Macdonald in 1912. A daughter Kathleen M.
   ii. SAMUEL¹⁰, born 30 July 1886 in Swansea. A plumber, he travelled to Canada in 1905, bound for Deloraine, Manitoba. He married Gertrude Mary Daisy Brown on 3 June 1914 in Montreal, Quebec, Canada. They had a daughter Lilian and appear to have paid a visit to England in 1916. Samuel Skidmore, an insurance agent, sailed from Liverpool with his wife and daughter Lilian on 5 July 1916. He gave as his next of kin his sister Mrs J. McDonald of Portsmouth. Mr Skidmore died in Montreal in 1945.

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¹ This information found in a pedigree submitted to Ancestry.com.
A daughter of Samuel and Daisy (Brown) Skidmore,

i. Lilian, born 1914, said to have been born in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

iii. DANIEL, born 31 July 1888 in Spennymoor, Durham. A motor mechanic, he moved to Canada, arriving on 1 April 1906 at St John, bound for Deloraine, Manitoba. The ship's manifest shows his occupation of organ builder overstamped with the words 'farm laborer'. He married Florence Cissie Sutehall in 1915. They returned to live in Brighton, Sussex and Mr Skidmore enlisted on 12 July 1916 at Shorncliffe, Kent into the Fort Garry Horse Res. Regt., part of the Canadian Overseas Expeditionary Force, giving Mrs Florence Skidmore of 65 Buckingham Place, Brighton as next of kin. He died in 1927, his wife in 1973.

Children of Daniel and Florence Cissie (Sutehall) Skidmore,


iv. Joseph, born 1890Q4 in Brighton, Sussex. A motor engineer, he joined the Navy in 1916 and served on President II before becoming a mechanic with the Royal Air Force in March 1918. He is perhaps the 32-year old Joseph E. Skidmore, R.A. Navy, who in 1922 sailed for Melbourne, Australia on board the Euripides.

v. Ada Hannah, born 1894Q1 in Enfield, Middlesex.

vi. Edith Rhoda, born 1897Q1 in Crowborough, East Sussex. She married in 1921.


iv. Sarah, born 1861Q1 in Darlington. She lived with her maternal grandparents, first at Church Street, Sunderland where they ran a lodging and eating house and, by 1881, at the West Country Arms, West Quay, Sunderland, where Thomas Worthington was licensee. In the house adjacent to the pub in West Quay lived grocer Mrs Elizabeth Tynemouth (born about 1830 in Alston, Cumberland), a widow who appears to be a sister of Sarah's mother. Sarah Skidmore was a laundress and remained single, at least until 1911. She lived in Sunderland with her niece Hannah Jane Tynemouth (born 1890Q2).

v. Sarah, baptised 17 February 1833. Not found in the 1841 census.

vi. Hannah, known as Ann, baptised 22 March 1835.

vii. Emma, baptised 6 November 1836 to James and Ann Skidmore. She is probably the girl aged 14 in the 1851 census, a house servant to John and Sarah Faulkner, publicans at Tat Bank, Oldbury. She appears to have married whitesmith Anthony Baker (born about 1836 in Langley Green, son of William and Mary Baker) in 1856Q2 and lived in Hobicus Lane, Langley Green, Oldbury. Mrs Baker died in 1900Q4 aged 64, her husband in 1905Q3 aged 69.

viii. Rebecca, baptised 3 June 1838. Died in 1839Q3.

ix. Maria, born in 1839Q4 and baptised 16 March 1840. She married David Bastible, bricklayer of Dudley (born in Causeway Green and baptised 26 April 1835 at St John the Baptist, Halesowen, son of Michael Bastable, bricklayer, and Mary) at St Thomas', Dudley on 19 September 1858. The marriage was witnessed by Rebecca Skidmore, her sister, and Emanuel Darby, Rebecca’s future husband. David and Maria lived with their family in a home beside that of her parents until at

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6 This information found in a pedigree submitted to Ancestry.com.
least 1871 before moving to Park House and later setting up in business in the High Street, Langley. Mrs Bastable died in 1903Q4 aged 66, her husband in 1912Q4 aged 75.

x. Rebecca, born 8 March 1842 in Furnace Row but not baptised until the age of 9 on 12 November 1851. She married Emanuel Darby, iron worker (born about 1840 in Rounds Green, son of John Darby, carpenter, and Mary) at Smethwick Old Church in 1859Q1. They appear to have raised their nephew Hiram Rock Parkes (born 1877Q1).

xi. Elizabeth, born in 1844Q1 and baptised at the age of 7 on the same day as her sister Rebecca. She married Emanuel Whitehouse, a brickyard engineer from a family of brickmakers (born about 1842 in Oldbury, son of John Whitehouse and Maria) at St Giles', Rowley Regis on 15 May 1864 and lived at Littlefields, Oldbury. Elizabeth Whitehouse perhaps died in 1891Q4 aged 49; Mr Whitehouse died in 1892Q4, said to be aged 48.

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7 Her birth certificate shows her mother to have been Hannah, formerly Egginton, which enables us to distinguish James [154] from James [130], both of whose wives are found as both Ann and Hannah in parish registers.

8 Smethwick Old Church in Church Road was originally a chapelry to St Peter, Harborne, consecrated in 1732. The area became a district chapelry in 1842 and was designated the parish of Smethwick in 1892. The church has no dedication. It was originally known as Parkes's Chapel (after the founder, Dorothy Parkes) or Smethwick Chapel. When Holy Trinity church was built in 1837, it became known as the Old Chapel and eventually Smethwick Old Church. Holy Trinity, Smethwick, also known as North Harborne was built in 1837 in Trinity Street and consecrated in 1838 to serve the growing population of north Smethwick. The parish of North Harborne was created in 1842 from part of Harborne parish. St Matthew's ecclesiastical parish was formed in 1856 from part of Smethwick Old Church. The church, in Windmill Lane, was consecrated in 1855.
THE 3rd SURVIVING SON OF BENJAMIN [39] AND HIS WIFE MARY (GREEN):

80. JOHN\textsuperscript{6} SKIDMORE, baptised in Brierley Hill on 1 June 1777. He was raised in Brettell Lane in Brierley Hill and moved with his parents to Oldbury some time between 1784 and 1796. His marriage licence shows him as a collier of Halesowen parish (in which Oldbury then lay). He married Hannah Hadley of Dodderhill (called Ann in the marriage register of Dodderhill, Worcestershire) on 30 November 1796. She was the daughter of Job Hadley and Rebecca (Arthur), baptised at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 8 December 1776. The marriage was witnessed by Rebecca Hadley, Hannah's mother and __?__ Painter.

John Skidmore died at the age of 42 and was buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 12 May 1819. In 1841 his widow is found at Halesowen Street, Oldbury, living with Samuel Hadley, a labourer aged 64 and possibly her brother. Also in the household were miner Thomas Kingsley or Hingsley, his wife Ann and the widow of William Jesson. Noah married Ann Jesson by 1819. In 1841 his wife is found at Furnace Row in Oldbury, with children of Mrs Jesson's first marriage - Jeremiah Jesson (aged 19), George Jesson (aged 10) and Abraham Jesson (aged 13 - these boys found in the 1841 census with their widowed mother at Canal Side, Oldbury) - and also James Chilton (aged 20 or 21), Joseph Chilton (aged 19, born in Dawley Brook, Shropshire), apparently sons of Thomas and Rachel (?Madeley) Chilton of Dawley Magna who moved to Pensnett during the 1840s. All were coal miners except young Abraham Jesson, who was a wire drawer and later a puddler.

By 1861 Noah and Ann Skidmore had moved to Talbot Street, and were still resident there, at Court 3, at the time of the 1871 census. Ann Skidmore died in 1874Q3, though his age is given as 81.

Hannah Skidmore was living with her daughter Hannah's family in Furnace Row in 1851. She died there aged 80 and was buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 4 December 1854.

The children of John and Hannah (Hadley) Skidmore, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

i. Noah, baptised 5 March 1797. In 1828 Noah Skidmore and William Bluck, both of Oldbury in the county of Salop, boatmen, were ordered to keep the peace towards James Holloway of Corner Hall in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire\textsuperscript{9}. By the time of the 1841 census Noah had forsaken life on the canals to become a coal miner, living with his sister Hannah and her husband William Foster in Park Street, Oldbury. Noah married Ann Jesson on 9 August 1847 at St Peter's, Wolverhampton. Mrs Jesson was born about 1799 in West Bromwich, perhaps baptised there on 21 September 1799, daughter of Jesse and Sarah Stott, and the widow of William Jesson. Noah and Ann Skidmore appear to have stayed in the centre of Oldbury and no children of this marriage are known. At the time of the 1851 census they were living in Furnace Row, Furnace Lane with children of Mrs Jesson's first marriage - Jeremiah Jesson (aged 19), George Jesson (aged 10) and Abraham Jesson (aged 13 - these boys found in the 1841 census with their widowed mother at Canal Side, Oldbury) - and also James Chilton (aged 20 or 21), Joseph Chilton (aged 19, born in Dawley Brook, Shropshire), apparently sons of Thomas and Rachel (?Madeley) Chilton of Dawley Magna who moved to Pensnett during the 1840s. All were coal miners except young Abraham Jesson, who was a wire drawer and later a puddler.

By 1861 Noah and Ann Skidmore had moved to Talbot Street, and were still resident there, at Court 3, at the time of the 1871 census. Ann Skidmore died in 1874Q2 aged 74. Noah's death was perhaps that registered in 1874Q3, though his age is given as 81.

ii. Rhoda, baptised 28 October 1798. She married Daniel Dainty, miner (baptised 9 September 1802 at St Martin's, Tipton, son of John and Mary Dainty), at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 12 March 1821. The marriage was witnessed by Samuel Chatin and Mary Hodgkiss. The family lived in Bloomfield and Toll End, and the baptisms of two of their children have been found in Tipton Lane, Oldbury. She later lived for a time as the common law wife of Joseph Faulkner, a boat loader (born about 1801); they were lodging at census time in 1851 in Green Street, Todd Row, Oldbury. By 1861 Rhoda Dainty was lodging in Halesowen Street with the family of Jane Round.

iii. [perhaps] Joseph, an infant buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 30 October 1800.

Hertfordshire County Records Calendar of the Sessions Books 1799-1833.
(perhaps baptised 20 December 1818 at St Martin’s, Tipton, son of Joseph Forster, miner of Owen Street, and his wife Ann), at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 18 June 1838. The marriage was witnessed by Benjamin Skidmore and Susannah Skidmore, presumably Hannah’s brother and sister-in-law. Hannah and her husband are found in the 1841 census at Park Street, Oldbury, with their one year old daughter Mary and Hannah’s brother Noah Skidmore, and in Furnace Road in 1851. She is perhaps the lady whose death was registered at West Bromwich in 1858Q2.

William Foster appears to then have married Susannah Skidmore, widow of Hannah’s brother Benjamin, on 22 April 1861 at St Martin’s, Birmingham.

THE 2nd SURVIVING SON OF JOHN [80] BY HIS WIFE HANNAH (HADLEY):

155. JEREMIAH² SKIDMORE, baptised 31 January 1802. He was a boatman in 1825 but by 1841 had become a coal miner and remained so until his death. He married (as Jeremiah Skidder) Hannah Hawthorn at St Thomas’, Dudley on 5 November 1821. The marriage was witnessed by Richard Hadley, presumably a relative of Jeremiah’s mother. The censuses give Hannah’s year of birth as about 1800 and her birthplace variously as Oldbury and as North Cleobury, Shropshire. She is called Ann in the 1841 census and was probably baptised Hannah on 11 January 1801 at Hopton Wafers, Shropshire, daughter of John and Mary Hawthorn.

Jeremiah and Hannah Skidmore lived in Halesowen Street, Oldbury and Jeremiah Skidmore at the time of his death at the age of 50 was said to live in Collins Buildings; he was buried at Christ Church, Oldbury 5 December 1852. His wife survived him but has yet to be found in the 1861 census. At the time of the 1871 census she appears to have been visiting her daughter Hannah at 3 Parkes Court in Oldbury. Mrs Skidmore died in 1872Q1 aged 72.

The children of Jeremiah and Hannah (Hawthorn) Skidmore,

i. [perhaps] John, an infant of Oldbury, buried there on 4 July 1824.

ii. Mary, baptised 6 November 1825 in Oldbury.

iii. Maria, baptised 6 November 1825 in Oldbury. She married Thomas Lovekin, a coal miner, at St Martin’s, Tipton on 28 February 1842. He was born about 1818 in Donnington Wood, Shropshire, son of Thomas Lovekin. Given that one of his daughters was given the name Sina he would appear to have been the son of Thomas Lovekin, a labourer found in 1841 in Bromage Barracks, Donnington Wood with his wife Sina and children. Mr Lovekin died in 1875Q1 aged 60 and his widow married secondly William Pickrell in 1880Q3 and they were sharing their home at the time of the 1881 census with her daughter Sinia Matthews, wife of Thomas Matthews. Mrs Pickrell died in 1895Q2 aged 69.

Children, as known - Mary, Eliza, Ann, Emma, Jeremiah, Lina, Thomas.

294. iv. GEORGE⁸, a coal miner born about 1830, is known from his marriage certificate to have been the son of Jeremiah Skidmore, a miner. Censuses show he was born about 1830 in Oldbury, though no baptism has been found for him. He is thought to be the George Skidmore aged 11 found in 1841 at the home of Edward and Jane Jones in Halesowen Street, Oldbury. On present evidence he appears to be the son of Jeremiah [155] and Hannah (Hawthorn) Skidmore of Oldbury. George Skidmore married Rebecca Barnsley at St Thomas’, Dudley on 4 March 1850, witnessed by Elijah Bird and Elizabeth Bird. At this time he lived in Wolverhampton Street, Dudley. His bride was nineteen (baptised 23 October 1831 at Christ Church, Oldbury) and lived in Hall Street, Dudley, the daughter of Richard Barnsley, a miner of Halesowen Street, Oldbury, and Ruth (Bourne). She is apparently a sister to Ann Barnsley (who married her husband’s uncle Obadiah Skidmore [156]) and Susannah Barnsley who married her husband’s uncle Benjamin Skidmore [157]).

George and Rebecca were in Chapel Lane, Oldbury, in 1851, and all but their youngest child Hannah were born there. Around 1860, and by the time of the 1861 census, they had moved to Chapel Street in Pensnett. A cup inscribed ‘George Skidmore Partway Hall 1859’ is in the

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10 On the original Ordnance Survey map of Oldbury, near to its boundary with Rowley Regis parish, is marked Portway Hall, no longer named on present-day maps and surrounded now by disused mine shafts. The 1904 map shows a small settlement called Portway which straddles the Rowley/ Oldbury border. In Birmingham City Archives is an indenture dated 11 March 1870, the details of which need not concern us but which point to the location of Portway Hall. The indenture was between Job Taylor of Dudley, gentleman, Joseph Davis of Portway Hall in the parish of Rowley Regis,
possession of the family of his great grandson George Norman Skidmore of Lymington, Hampshire. The cup presented to George Skidmore - perhaps a parting gift - is two-handled with moulded and painted frogs, newts and lizards inside and the outside decorated with gold paintings and foliage. Mr Skidmore's family also has a wooden walking stick, heavily carved and bearing the name George Skidmore 1880, perhaps a fiftieth birthday memento.

Rebecca Skidmore died on 23 November 1863 at Pensnett. The administration of her estate was granted to her husband in 1875 at Lichfield. George Skidmore was a miner of Dudley when he married his second wife, Hannah Connah, at St Thomas', Dudley on 25 December 1866. Hannah was born about 1840 in Mold, Flintshire, daughter of William Connah, a coal mine labourer, and his wife Catherine, living with their children next door to George and Rebecca Skidmore in 1861. The witnesses to their marriage were John Lane and Mary Connah. George and Hannah moved from Pensnett to Oldbury after census time at the beginning of April 1871 and before the birth of their son George in the last quarter of that year. In 1881 they lived at 35 Rounds Green, Oldbury, with Hannah Skidmore, the youngest child of George's first marriage, and five children of George and Hannah. By the time of the 1891 census they had moved to Church Street, Chesterton, Staffordshire but by 1901 had returned again to Oldbury, where they were living at 59 Brades Road with their daughter Mary Phillips. Hannah Skidmore's death was perhaps that registered at West Bromwich in 1902Q4, aged 60. George Skidmore died aged 79 in 1910Q1.

The children of George and Rebecca (Barnsley) Skidmore, born in Wolverhampton,

i. **JOHN**, born 1851Q1 in Oldbury. He worked for the railway, beginning as a stoker and becoming a railway engine driver. He married Mary Westwood, a nurse, on 21 September 1874 at St Thomas', Dudley. Mary was born on 9 April 1849 in Hart's Hill or Commonside, daughter of William Westwood, manager at Bricnel (a brickworks, location unknown) and his wife Mary (daughter of Richard Williams, carpenter of Ryecroft, Wolverhampton). One of the witnesses to the wedding was Sarah Turner. William Westwood was said to have supplied the bricks for the railway viaduct over Gorsebrook Road, Wolverhampton, and for Brierley Hill Town Hall.

John and Mary had various addresses in Wolverhampton - 64 Stafford Road in 1881, 26 Evans Street in 1891 and 244 Coleman Street in 1901. John Skidmore died aged 60 on 21 May 1911 at 118 Evans Street, following a foot infection. His wife died in 1929 aged 80.

ii. **GEORGE**, born 6 September 1875. He was a locomotive railway engineer and a manager at the Great Western Railway repair works in Stafford Road, Wolverhampton. He married Emma Rosina Groom, one of the first women schoolteachers in Wolverhampton (daughter of Samuel Groom, pattern maker) at St Andrew's, Wolverhampton, on 25 December 1902. George Skidmore died on 11 February 1956.

Children born in Wolverhampton,

i. Doris, born 28 January 1904.

ii. Ethel, born 6 February 1907.

iii. **GEORGE NORMAN**, born 28 September 1909.

Norman Skidmore was a chartered engineer, a Fellow of both the Institutes of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering and lecturer at Wolverhampton Technical College, now the University of Wolverhampton. In 1936 he was appointed manager within the Ever Ready Group and worked for them in Slough, Berkshire, and Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire where he became Chief Company Engineer in 1966.

He was married in 1939 to Margaret, a nurse. Betty and Norman Skidmore retired to Lymington in Hampshire,
where he died on 13 July 2001 aged 91.

Children:

i. Michael John, married Rita. Mr Skidmore was a geologist for three years with the British Antarctic Survey and later with the National Coal Board. Has issue.

ii. Roger Martin.


v. **CHARLES LESLIE**[^1], born 1920. He married Elsie. Children:


ii. Emily (Emmie), born 1879Q1. She married George Moore in 1905Q3 at Stourbridge Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. He worked at Baylis Jones and Baylis Engineers Ltd, then of Bilston, an artist and designer of ornamental wrought iron gates, fencing and the like. Their son Ralph Westwood Moore was educated at Wolverhampton Grammar School and won a series of financial awards to enable him to go to Oxford University. He became headmaster at Bristol Grammar School in 1938 and of Harrow public school in 1942.

iii. Florence Mary (Floss), born 1887Q1. She was living at Cobden Street in Wollaston when she married Arthur Williams at St James', Wollaston on 1 February 1908. He was an LMS railway clerk of 132 Evans Street in Wolverhampton (born about 1884, son of Frederick Williams, currier). Frank Williams and Alice Brooks were witnesses.

iv. Sarah, born about 1853 in Oldbury. Died 1864Q2 or 1865Q4.

iii. Mercy, born 1856Q4 in Oldbury. She married Thomas Hamblett (born about 1851 in Dudley), in 1879Q4 at St Giles, Rowley Regis. The family moved around as revealed by censuses - Ruabon, Denbighshire in 1881, Barrow in Furness, Lancashire around 1884, Cefn Bychan, Denbighshire in the later 1880s, Tipton, Staffordshire in 1891, Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire in the 1890s, returning to Ruabon by the time of the 1901 census. Mr Hamblett was then a labourer in the terracotta works there. Mrs Hamblett was widowed by 1911 and living with four of her sons in Warrington, Cheshire.

Children, as known - Richard, Ann, George, Thomas, Elizabeth, James, Jeremiah, John, William.

iv. Priscilla, born 1858Q3. She married Henry Francis Hartland, an iron puddler (born about 1860 in Oldbury) in 1879Q4 at St Giles, Rowley Regis and they were living in 1881 at 5 Rounds Green, Oldbury. They moved soon after to King William Street.
Ironville, Codnor Park, Derbyshire and then around 1898 to Bond St, Warrington. Mrs Hartland died in Warrington in 1933 aged 74.

Children, as known - Elizabeth?, Mary J., Rebecca, Faith, John E., George H., Samuel, Joseph, Frederick, Winifred, James.

v. Hannah, born about 1859Q3 in Pensnett. A brick maker, she appears to have married Henry Clarke, a canal boatman (born about 1856 in Oldbury) in 1881Q4 at Dudley.

The children of George and Hannah (Connah) Skidmore,

vii. Sarah, born 1869Q4 in Pensnett. She presumably met her husband, a native of Chesterton, after her parents’ move there. Her marriage to Benjamin Cork, a coal miner (born 1866Q2, perhaps the son of James and Hannah Cork of Victoria Street) took place at Holy Trinity, Chesterton on 9 June 1889. Mr Cork died in 1898Q4, perhaps in Oldbury, aged 32 and his wife married secondly Benjamin Baker, a coal bargeman at a steel works (born about 1861 in Oldbury) in 1900Q2. Sarah had children by both her husbands and was living at the time of the 1911 census at 44 Summer Row, Rounds Green, Oldbury.

Children of Jeremiah and Martha (Lockett) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Lavinia, born 1893Q3. She was a domestic servant in Chorlton, Manchester in 1911.

ii. A further child who did not survive.

viii. GEORGE9, [was 513.] of Chesterton, Staffordshire, was born in 1871Q4 in Pensnett. He married Hannah Downing (perhaps born 1871Q1 in Chesterton, daughter of James Downing, miner and Eliza) on 14 November 1892 at Holy Trinity, Chesterton and they were living by the time of the 1911 census at 7 Vale Street there.

George Skidmore was a fireman underground at the New Hem Heath Colliery and was one of the victims of the mining disaster there on 25 February 1915. For a full account of this disaster, see Appendix 1. His burial on 3 March 1915 was reported in the Staffordshire Sentinel.

Children of George and Hannah (Downing) Skidmore, born in Chesterton,

i. Eliza, born 1894Q2. At the time of the 1911 census she was a domestic nurse to the family of earthenware manufacturer Thomas Walter Gimson in Sunny Bank Road, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire.

ii. Hannah, born 1896Q3.

iii. George, born 1898Q4.


v. A child who was not living in 1911.

ix. Mary, born 1874Q2 in Oldbury. She married George Phillips in 1896Q3 at Christ Church, Oldbury and was living in 1901 at her parents’ home with her daughters Dorothy (aged 4) and Louisa (2).

x. Lavinia, born 1878Q4 in Oldbury. She married Benjamin Beasley, a carter for a coal merchant, in 1898Q3 at St Giles, Rowley Regis and they were living in 1901 at 86 Moor Street, West Bromwich with daughters Annie and Ellen and also Mary Hannah Cork, a child of her sister Sarah.

v. Lavinia, born about 183711. She and her brother George were living at the time of the 1841 census.

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11 Apparently recorded as Levie by the 1841 census enumerator, male and a miner (aged 51). Levi Skidmore does not appear in later censuses, nor has Lavinia yet been found elsewhere in the 1841 census.
census close to her parents in Halesowen Street but in the home of Edward and Jane (Hart) Jones, together with three of Mrs Jones' children by her previous marriage - George Hart (aged 15), Priscilla Hart (12) and Sarah Hart (10).

Lavinia Skidmore married firstly at St Thomas', Dudley on 2 August 1858 Joseph Woodall, coal miner and later publican (baptised 11 November 1827 at St Thomas', Dudley, son of Solomon Woodall, coal miner of Littlefield, Oldbury and later publican of Halesowen Street, deceased, and his wife Ann). The witnesses were George Skidmore, presumably her brother, and Mary Ann Edwards. Joseph and Lavinia ran the George and Dragon in Halesowen Street, Oldbury which he apparently took over when his father died. This pub is shown on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map of Brades Village (which includes the western edge of Oldbury town) halfway between the market place and the Whimsey Bridge, on the eastern side of the road. Mr Woodall's death is probably that registered at West Bromwich in 1862Q2.

Lavinia married secondly Edwin Partridge, a publican (born about 1807 in West Bromwich) in 1865Q1, with whom she had three children at Lyne Lane, West Bromwich. He died in 1886Q2 aged 77 and by the time of the 1891 census, Lavinia had returned to Halesowen Street, Oldbury, where she was keeping a grocer's shop. She later went to live with the family of her sister Comfort in Bromford Road, where she died in 1901Q4 aged 64.

Children, as known - Edwin, Sarah Ann, Lavinia.

v. Eliza, born about 1836. She married Joseph Edwards, a puddler (born about 1834 in Oldbury) on 9 February 1857 at St Edmund's, Dudley. They were found in Flash Road, Oldbury, in 1861 and later in Hove Street and Stone Street. Joseph later became a labourer at Chances; he died in the 1890s and his widow remained in their last home at 10 Lodge Street, Oldbury. She perhaps died in 1908Q1 aged 71.

Children, as known - Hannah, George, Joseph, Thomas, Elizabeth, Jeremiah, Eliza, Louisa, Benjamin.

vi. Comfort, born in Oldbury in 1841Q3. She lived with her sister Eliza before her marriage in 1863Q1 at St Giles, Rowley Regis to Joseph Bird, a shingler (baptised 5 March 1842 at Christ Church, Oldbury, son of Joseph Bird of Spon Lane, Smethwick, labourer for the canal company, and Sarah (Crofts)). They lived in West Bromwich Street, Oldbury spending some years from 1873 at 166 Lewisham Road, Smethwick before returning to Oldbury to live once again in West Bromwich Street and later Bromford Road. Mr and Mrs Bird appear both to have died in 1907Q1.

Children, as known - Henry, Joseph, Sarah, Hannah, Jane, Lavinia.

vii. Hannah, born in Oldbury in 1846Q2. In 1861 she was a domestic servant in the public house belonging to her brother-in-law Joseph Woodall. Hannah married Samuel Millership, a miner, in 1872Q2 at St Paul's, Smethwick. He was born in Nottinghamshire about 1830, perhaps baptised at the Primitive Methodist Chapel in Beggarlee (Ilkeston Methodist Circuit), Nottinghamshire, son of Richard and Elizabeth (Stapleton) Millership). They were living at 3 Parkes Court in Oldbury in 1871 with Hannah's widowed mother Hannah Skidmore but by 1881, and perhaps after Hannah's mother's death in 1872, they had moved to 12 Wombwell Junction, Wombwell, Yorkshire with their daughter Louisa. By the time of the 1891 census, they had returned to Oldbury, where they lived at 1, New Meeting Street. Hannah Millership's death appears to have been that registered in 1903Q2 aged 55, her husband in 1909Q1 aged 79.

THE 3rd SURVIVING SON OF JOHN [80] BY HIS WIFE HANNAH (HADLEY):

156. OBADIAH7 SKIDMORE, baptised 21 December 1806. He married Ann Barnsley at St Thomas', Dudley on 9 December 1833. She was born in Oldbury and baptised at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel there on 18 September 1814, daughter of Richard Barnsley, a miner, and Ruth (Bourne) and sister to Susannah Barnsley, who married Obadiah's brother Benjamin Skidmore [157], and Rebecca Barnsley who married Obadiah's nephew George Skidmore [294]. Susannah Barnsley witnessed her sister Ann's wedding, along with Thomas Bird.

Obadiah Skidmore was a collier of Furnace Row, Oldbury and died in 1841Q4. On 25 September 1842 in Dudley his widow married John Price, a labourer of Halesowen Street, Oldbury (son of John Price, also a labourer). The marriage was witnessed by Benjamin Skidmore, presumably Obadiah's brother, and Elizabeth Pearson. John Price was baptised on 7 August 1816 at Mochdre, Montgomeryshire, the son of John and Jane Price. John and
Ann Price lived in Furnace Row in 1851, with three children of their marriage and Ann's sons John, Richard and Anthony Skidmore, all coal miners. Mrs Price died in 1879Q1 at the age of 65 and by the time of the 1881 census John Price, a stocktaker in an iron foundry, was lodging in the home of Richard and Mary Jewkes at 5 Perrott Street, Oldbury. He died in 1894Q4 aged 78.

The children of Obadiah and Ann (Barnsley) Skidmore, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

1. JOHN, baptised 14 September 1834. He married firstly Mary Ann Morris (born about 1836 in Oldbury) in 1856Q1 at All Saints, West Bromwich. He was a labourer in Oldbury and his family were at Nelson Street in 1861 and 16 Green Street in 1871. Mary Ann Skidmore died in 1873Q2 aged 37.

2. Obadiah, born 1858Q3 in Oldbury. He was working on canal boats at the age of 12. Like his brother Richard he worked for J.A. Hickman at the steel works in Bilston, Obadiah as a boatman, his brother a labourer. He was single at the time of the 1911 census and probably remained so. He died in Bilston in 1937 aged 79.


4. Richard, born 1865Q4 in Oldbury. A steelworks labourer, he was living unmarried with his mother and brother Obadiah at 11 Parkfield Road, Ettingshall, in 1911.

5. DAVID, born 1868Q2 in Oldbury. A steel worker in Bilston, he was lodging at the time of the 1891 census with the family of Mark and Ann Aspbury in Temple Street, Bilston and the following year, on 17 April 1892 at St Mary's, Bilston, married their daughter Sebra Asprey (birth registered as Cebra Aspbury in 1874Q1). They lived in Temple Street, Bilston, at 8 Court.

Children of David and Sebra (Aspbury) Skidmore, born in Bilston,

Mrs Skidmore reported at the time of the 1911 census that she had ten children, of whom 8 were then living.

1. David, born 1893Q1. A factory hand in an iron plate works in 1911. He joined at Bilston on 16 October 1914 the Reserve Battalion of the South Staffordshire Regiment. He was discharged six weeks later at the end of November under para 392 iii a of King’s Regulations (not being likely to become an efficient soldier). He is perhaps the David Skidmore who married in 1916Q2 in Wolverhampton registration district (which then contained Bilston). A daughter and three sons are known to this marriage.

2. RICHARD, born 1895Q1. He married in 1925 and had issue.

3. John William, born 1897Q1. He appears to have died in 1915 aged 18.

4. Mary Ann, born 1899Q2. She married in 1922 and had, as known, a daughter and three sons.

5. Alice, born 1903Q1. She perhaps married in 1929.


7. MARK, born 1907Q4. He married in Bilston in 1939 and had, as known, a son and a daughter.

8. EDWARD VICTOR, born 1910Q1. He married in Bilston in 1935 and had, as known, a son.

9. Louisa, born February or March 1871, died 1872Q1.

The children of John and Ann (Legge) Skidmore, born in Bilston,

1. Elizabeth, born about 1876 in Mill Lane, Bilston. She married Mark Robinson, a publican of the High Street, Bilston (son of John Robinson, a furnace manager) at St Leonard’s, Bilston on 11 May 1896.
married Annie Drakley on 7 February 1897 at St Leonard's, Bilston and they were living in 1901 at 19 Millfield Road, Bilston. Ann Drakley was born in Bilston about 1877, the daughter of Joseph Drakley - a boatman from Nuneaton who by 1901 was a fishmonger in Oxford Street, Bilston - and his wife Caroline. John and his family moved by 1911 to 9 Parkfield Road, Ettingshall.

Children of John Charles and Ann (Drakley) Skidmore, born in Bilston,

i. Joseph, born 1899Q2. He enlisted with the Worcestershire Regiment on 26 May 1915, giving his age as 19 years 83 days. He served in France from October of that year until his true age was discovered and he was discharged at the age of 16 years 11 months on 29 January 1916.

ii. Annie, born around October 1900.

iii. Pamela, born 1902Q4. She died in 1924 aged 22.

iv. James, born 1905Q1.

v.? A child who had died before 1911.


296. ii. Richard was said in his obituary to have been born William Richard Skidmore in August 1833 in Oldbury. His memorial in Osage City Cemetery, Kansas says he was born on 1 August 1832. However, he was said to be aged 5 in the 1841 Oldbury census and was baptised there on 27 September 1835, after his brother John.

He married Phoebe Wale on 14 February 1859 at All Saints, West Bromwich, who was born in West Bromwich, daughter of coal miner James Wale and his wife Margaret. She is said in US documents to have been born in September 1835 though UK censuses suggest she was born a year later than this; her baptism has not yet been found. She was a domestic servant before her marriage, at the time of the 1851 census to the family of butty coal miner James Griffiths and his family in Park Street, Oldbury.

Richard and Phoebe emigrated to Pennsylvania in 1861 (before the time of the UK census taken on April 7th) and settled for a while in Scranton. They were in Illinois by 1865 and Ottawa,
Franklin County, Kansas by 1870, where Richard continued coal mining. They finally settled in Superior, Osage County, Kansas, in 1871, where Richard and Phoebe were members of the Episcopal Church. They were living in 1900 in Grant, Osage County. Mrs Skidmore died on 19 December 1907, Richard on 21 November 1912 and they are buried at Osage City Cemetery.

The children of Richard and Phoebe (Wale) Skidmore,  
_Mrs Skidmore said at the time of the 1900 census that she had given birth to 10 children, of whom 7 were then living._

i. **RICHARD**, (was 518.) born 14 November 1859 in Oldbury. He travelled with his parents to America early in 1861, where he was known as **WILLIAM RICHARD SKIDMORE**, though his birth was registered in England as Richard Skidmore. A coal miner, he married firstly Barbara Bertha Young and they are said to have had three daughters.

Around 1897 he married his second wife Della _____ (born October 1869 in Missouri, the mother of 4 children of whom 2 were living in 1900) and they lived at 716 Main Street in Osage, Osage County, Kansas.

Around 1906 he married his third wife Mary Herchek or Hercket, her second marriage. She was born 9 December 1879 in Texas of German parents. Richard and Mary Skidmore were living by 1910 in Justice Precinct 3, Palo Pinto County, Texas. It is believed that Richard converted to Catholicism, the faith of his wife. About 1922 they moved to Josephine Street, Weatherford, Parker County, Texas. He died on 3 March 1947 at his home at 309 East Lee in Weatherford. The funeral took place from St Stephens Catholic Church and he was buried in Oakland Cemetery. Mary Skidmore died on 15 May 1969.

_Children of William Richard and Barbara Bertha (Young) Skidmore, born in Kansas_,

i. Nellie, born December 1883. She was a domestic servant in Osage at the time of the 1900 census. She married Edward T. Dutcher (1873-1941), a railroad conductor, and lived in Arkansas City, Cowley, Kansas before moving to Guthrie, Logan County, Oklahoma. A son Edward Frederic and a daughter Florence Germain. Nell Dutcher Kiesow died in 1960.

ii. Rachel, born July 1885. She was a domestic servant in Osage at the time of the 1900 census. She married August Charles Bragg (1882-1962, buried Summit View Cemetery, Guthrie). A daughter Thelma Vestella Bragg. They spent time in Windsor, Ontario before settling in Guthrie, Logan County, Oklahoma. Rachel Bragg died on 24 September 1956.

iii. Sam, born March 1893 in Kansas, living with his Skidmore grandparents at the time of the 1900 census.

_The children of William Richard and Mary Skidmore, born in Texas_,


iv. Joseph, born 14 September 1908. He was a Sergeant in the US army in World War II. He died 8 March 1984 in Weatherford.

iv. Louise, born 28 February 1910. She married and had, as known, a daughter. She died 27 November 2002.

v. Jessie, born about 1912.

vi. Rose (called Rosa Nell in the 1920 census), born about 1914.

vii. **FREDERICK A.**, born 26 September 1914. He married and had, as known, three children. He died 16 June 1980 in Weatherford and is buried in the Bethel Methodist Church Cemetery in Parker County.

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14 Web: Texas, Find A Grave Index, 1761-2012 [database on-line].

x. Phoebe, born December 1918.

554. ii. JOHN BURTON10, [was 519.], born 14 July 1862 in Scranton, Pennsylvania. A coal miner, he married around 1888 Ella Thomas (born in Nebraska). They were living by 1900 in Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas, where they remained. John Berton Skidmore died on 12 February 1934 at El Paso, Texas, aged 71, though he was said to be resident in Pittsburg, Kansas, where he was buried.

The children of John Burton and Ella (Thomas) Skidmore,

i. Richard, born 1883.

ii. Bessie, born 1885.

iii. ROY BERTON10, born 17 December 1889. He began his working life as a miner but by the time of the 1910 census was a machinist working for the railroad and boarding in Shreveport, Caddo County, Louisiana. He married Affa B. Cardrey15 (born about 1891 in Missouri) and in 1917 was an erecting floor foreman for the Kansas City Southern Rug Company16. They were living in 1920 in East Tenth Street, Pittsburg, Crawford County, Kansas, near to the home of his father.

Children of Roy and Affa B. (Cardrey) Skidmore,

i. Richard, born about 1915.

ii. Marydian, born about 1917.

iv. Alta Margaret, born 3 April 1893 in Kansas. A stenographer in a lawyer’s office, she married Arthur Bird Coates. She died at the age of 70 on 11 January 1964 at El Paso, Texas, buried at Restlawn Mausoleum there.


555. iii. GEORGE HENRY9, [was 520.] born 14 September 1865 in Illinois. Around 1886 he married Anna Lisa Swanson17, who was born on 19 February 1869 in Sweden and took the name of Anna Louisa in the US. They lived in Osage, where by 1910 he was pit boss of a coal mine and where their home in 1920 was at 803 Market Street. George Henry died on 12 May 1935, Anna Louise on 13 November 1954 and they are buried in Osage City Cemetery.

Children of George Henry and Anna Lisa (Swanson) Skidmore, born in Kansas,

i. Hazel Anna, born 13 February 1887. She was by 1910 a teacher in a public elementary school. Miss Skidmore died on 11 September 1966 and was buried in Osage City Cemetery.

ii. HARRY ALMER15, born 1 March 1889. An electrician for a telephone company, he married Magesie Nunn (1898-1989). He lived with his wife and children in Baltimore, Maryland. He died on 5 February 1966 at Clearwater, Pinellas County, Florida.

iii. Alice Vivian, born 29 August 1902, died (married or widowed?) in 1993 in San Clemente, Orange, California.

iv. Lyman P., born 16 October 1911. He was a teacher and single at the time he enlisted for war service in 1942. Sgt. Skidmore died 26 June 1967 and was buried at Osage City Cemetery.

iv. Nellie Eallen, born 12 June 1868 in Illinois. In 1888 she married John America Grindle, a tinsmith. They later lived at 602 11th Avenue in Greeley, Wild County, Colorado. Nellie Grindle died of typhoid fever aged nearly 67 on 17 April 1935, in Greeley Hospital. In her will she left half of her property to her husband and half to her five surviving children to share and share alike. Her executor was her nephew Preston Struble.

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15 Pedigree found at Ancestry.com.
16 U.S., World War I Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918.
17 California, Death Index, 1940-1997 for daughter Alice Vivian and son Lyman.
556. v. **THOMAS GILBERT**, born 12 January 1871 in Ottawa, Kansas. Around 1893, he married Jessie D. Clift (born 25 August 1870 in Pennsylvania of an English father, Edwin Clift, and his Scottish wife Ann). In 1900 Thomas was still working in a coal mine, 'topping in coal shaft', and was living with his family in Linel? Street, Grant, Osage County. By 1910 he had become a farmer at Superior, Osage County and had moved by 1920 to Valley Brook, Osage County. Mrs Skidmore died 1 January 1927, her husband on 14 March 1949 and they are buried in Osage City Cemetery.

**Children of Thomas Gilbert and Jessie D. (Clift) Skidmore, born in Kansas**

i. Anna Forrest, born 16 December 1893?/1895. She married Fred B. Lamond (1785-1960). Mrs Lamond died in 1966 and is buried with her husband at Lyndon Cemetery, Osage County.

ii. **ROBERT D.**, born December 1895. He married Bertha J. _____ (born about 1898 in Iowa) and in 1930 was working in building construction and living with his family on Holliday Street, Osage. Had issue.

iii. **DEWEY THOMAS G.**, born 19 February 1898. Around 1921 he married Edith Esta Plaunty and was living in 1930 with his family in Superior, Osage County, where he was a farmer. Mr Skidmore died 4 September 1955, his wife in 1997 and both are buried in Osage City Cemetery. Had issue.

iv. **MILTON GEORGE**, born 1901. A farmer in Osage County, he married and had offspring.

v. Mignon (Mona), born 14 January 1901, died 5 February 1988, buried in Osage City Cemetery with her husband.

vi. Edwin, born about 1904.

vii. Richard, born 15 August 1905. He died 29 May 1975 and was buried at Osage City Cemetery.


557. vii. **CHARLES GARFIELD**, born 30 April 1878 in Osage City. Around 1901 he married Mary Thompson (born about 1879 in Kansas, died 6 June 1962 at Leavenworth, Kansas) and they were living in Osage in 1910, where he worked as a car repairer for the railroad. Charles died before 1935.

**Children of Charles Garfield and Mary (Thompson) Skidmore, born in Kansas**

i. Irene E., born about 1902.

ii. Jessie, born 1903. She married Arthur Tarro (1902-1986) and died at Gallup, McKinley County, New Mexico on 3 June 1996.

iii. Mildred, born 1906. According to a pedigree posted at Ancestry.com, she married Raymond Charles Barnett and had three daughters.

iv. William, born around October 1908.

v. Anna M., born about 1912.

vi. Mary F., born about 1915.

vii. A further daughter, born in 1922.


296a. iv. **ANTHONY**, baptised 7 October 1838. A blast furnace labourer, he married Susan Hale (born about 1841 in West Bromwich, daughter of William and Sophia Hale) in 1859Q2. He died of typhus fever on 22 May 1860 at Rounds Green, Oldbury, aged 21 and was buried in Oldbury Cemetery. His death was registered by Sophia Hale of Albert Street, West Bromwich, Susan’s mother.

By the time of the 1871 census Susan Skidmore was cook to the household of ironfounder Samuel Roberts in the High Street, West Bromwich. She married secondly William Gilbert, a general labourer (born about 1830) in 1873Q1 at Holy Trinity, West Bromwich.

**The son of Anthony and Susan (Hale) Skidmore**

558. i. **JOHN WILLIAM**, born 15 March 1860 at Sams Lane, West Bromwich. He was raised by his grandmother Sophia Hale and became a nut and bolt forger. Called William, he married Charlotte Hughes in 1882Q2 and lived in Slough Street, Smethwick and later Kitchener Street, Birmingham.
Children of William and Charlotte (Hughes) Skidmore, 12 children, of which 7 were living in 1911.

i. William Anthony, born 1884Q2 in Birmingham. He died in Birmingham in 1900Q3 aged 16.

ii. Arthur, born 1887Q2 in Birmingham. He worked from the age of 13 in a bedstead factory and was, at the time of the 1911 census, a labourer in an ironworks.

iii. Henry, born 1891Q3. He was killed in action on 30 September 1915 serving with the 9th (Service) Battalion of the Devonshire Regiment. Private Harry Skidmore's name appears on the Loos Memorial, Pas-de-Calais, France.

iv. THOMAS\(^5\), born 1894Q3. He enlisted on 2 March 1916 and was called up for service on 17 July 1917 with the Royal Regiment of Artillery. He was assigned as a gunnery fitter, making use of his trade of tool maker and tool setter. He married Gertrude Caney on 23 July 1917 at St Matthew's, Smethwick. Two sons and a daughter.


vi. May, born 1898Q4.

vii. Walter, born 1900Q3 in Birmingham.

viii. Lily, born 1907Q4.

v. Elizabeth, one of the two girls of that name whose births were registered at West Bromwich in 1840Q1. Not found in 1851, her death was probably that registered in Oldbury sub-district in 1842Q2.

THE 4th SURVIVING SON OF JOHN \([80]\) BY HIS WIFE HANNAH (HADLEY):

157. BENJAMIN\(^7\) SKIDMORE, baptised 3 October 1813. A miner of Oldbury, he married Susannah Barnsley (baptised at Oldbury Wesleyan Methodist 2 June 1816, daughter of Richard, miner, and Ruth (Bourne) Barnsley) at St Thomas', Dudley on 13 June 1836. The marriage was witnessed by Job Parkes (perhaps the man who married Maria Barnsley on 15 May 1837 at St Mary's, Handsworth). Benjamin and Susannah Skidmore probably lived in Furnace Row in Oldbury all their married lives. Benjamin died in 1858Q2 and his widow moved with her children to Birmingham Street, Oldbury, where she is found in the 1861 census. Susannah Foster, daughter of Susannah's second husband, lived with them.

Susannah Skidmore married secondly William Foster, coal miner and widower of Snowhill on 22 April 1861 at St Martin's, Birmingham. Ann Bevan was a witness. Apparently, William Foster was the widower of her husband's sister Hannah. In 1871 they lived at 19 Albert Street, Oldbury, with Susannah's four youngest children. William Foster died in 1878Q3 aged 62 and Susannah then lived with her married daughter Jane Wilcox.

The children of Benjamin and Susannah (Barnsley) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Ruth, baptised 12 February 1837 at Christ Church. She married David Jukes in 1861Q1 at Holy Trinity, Hartshill (the Hartshill in Stoke upon Trent and not the Hart's Hill in Dudley). He was born about 1836 in Newtown, Montgomeryshire, son of William Jukes - a blast furnaceman who moved from Montgomeryshire to Oldbury - and his wife Jane and they lived firstly in Halesowen Street and later Inkerman Street, Oldbury. At first an iron puddler, David became a labourer in a coal pit by 1881 - his sons were coal miners - and later in the brick works. Mr Jukes died in 1899Q3 aged 62 and his widow by 1901 was living with her son Samuel in Talbot Street, Oldbury. She died in 1907Q3 aged 69.

ii. Maria, baptised 2 December 1838 at Christ Church. Not at home at the time of the 1861 census, she is perhaps the Maria Skidmore who died in 1858 and was buried in Oldbury Cemetery on 24 October.

297. iii. JOB\(^9\), born in 1840Q4. He married Hagar Tolley (born 1844Q1 in Oldbury, daughter of coal miner Charles Tolley and his wife Harriet) in 1862Q3 at Oldbury. Like his brother Noah, Job was a coal miner living in Hunt Street in Oldbury in 1871. By 1881 he had moved with his family to adjacent Talbot Street and later lived in Freeth Street, Oldbury.

He appears to be the man listed in Kelly's Trades Directory of 1896 at 1 Flash Road, the clerk-in-charge of the exchange and call office of the National Telephone Co. Limited. It seems odd that
his occupation at the time of the 1901 census, when he lived at this same address, was given as a lead turner's labourer. It seems he was working with his son Benjamin and the telephone exchange was in the hands of his daughters Leah and Priscilla. He is probably the Job Skidmore who died aged 64 in 1905Q4.

The children of Job and Hagar (Tolley) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. BENJAMIN CHARLES\(^5\), [was 522] born 1863Q2. He was a lead glazier and stained glass artist who married firstly Frances Ann Pearson in 1886Q3 at a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich. She died aged 29 in 1888Q1 at 41 Bromford Road, Oldbury, leaving a will naming her husband as executor.

He married secondly Mary Elizabeth Hessey (born about 1867 in Tipton, daughter of William and Elizabeth Hessey of Owen Street, Tipton) at a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered in Dudley in 1889Q2. She was, at the age of 14, a monitor at the Board School in Tipton. Her father was a shoe dealer and is also described in the 1891 census as a 'Collector of Queen's Taxes'. Benjamin Skidmore was an employer in West Bromwich at the time of the 1891 census, but had returned by 1901 to Oldbury, where his family is found at 66 Broadwell Road. At some point before 1911 he set up in business in West Bromwich and was living with his family at 14 Oxford Road. He died in Ludlow in 1957 aged 93.

A possible child of Benjamin Charles and Frances Ann (Pearson) Skidmore,

i. Frances Ann, born 1888Q1 and died 1889Q4 aged 1.

Children of Benjamin Charles and Mary Elizabeth (Hessey) Skidmore, born in West Bromwich,


ii. Elizabeth, born 1864Q4. A maker of surgical dressings, as was her sister Hagar, at least at the time of the 1891 census. She married carpenter James Henry Amos (called Harry in the 1891 census) in 1895Q3 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich. He was born about 1863 in Shut End/Pensnett, the son of James and Harriet Amos, who lived at the Dudley Road Toll House, Burnt Tree, Tipton, where his father was manager of the turnpike road and his wife the toll collector. James and Elizabeth Amos lived at 26 Fountain Lane, Oldbury, and Mr Amos became manager of the surgical dressing manufactory. No children.

iii. Louisa Jane, born 1867Q4. Not found after 1871.

iv. Hagar, born 1871Q2. She married Richard Elcock, a blacksmith (born 1866Q3 in Kinlet, Shropshire, son of Richard Elcock, a blacksmith of Flash Road, Oldbury, and his wife Sarah) in 1897Q1 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich. They lived with their son Percy Vivian Elcock at 20 Fountain Lane, Oldbury. Mrs Elcock died in 1917 aged 45.

v. Leah, born 1875Q2. A nurse to the family of a solicitor in Smethwick, she became a telephone clerk with her sister Priscilla at the exchange at their home in Flash Road. She married Samuel T. Clift, a foreman in a railway carriage machine shop (born about 1874 in Oldbury) in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered in West Bromwich in 1902Q2 and they were living by 1911 at 109 Edmund Road, Saltley, Birmingham.

vi. Priscilla, born 1878Q3. She married William Morton, an iron driller at the Saltley carriage works (born about 1878 in Great Bridge, Staffordshire) in 1902Q2 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered in West Bromwich. They were living by 1911 at 36 Lime Tree Road, Saltley, Birmingham with son William Stanley Morton and daughter Dorothy Morton.


viii. Frances Maria, born 1885Q2. A telephone operator in 1911. She married Albert Rowley in 1913 at the Wesley Chapel, Church Street, Oldbury.
iv. Obadiah, born in 1843Q1 and baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury on 28 May of that year. He probably died a few months after his father, in 1858Q3.

298. v. **NOAH**, born in 1850Q2 in Oldbury, of whom more later.

299. vi. **BENJAMIN**, born in 1850Q2 in Oldbury. A coal miner and later a boiler works labourer there, he married Ellen Saunders (born 1856Q2 in Oldbury, daughter of George and Emma Saunders) on 28 April 1872 at St Paul's, Tipton. At the time of the 1881 census they were at 13 Colliers Row, Albert Street, Oldbury, where they remained until at least 1911. Mr Skidmore died in 1909Q3 aged 59, his wife in 1920 aged 65.

**The children of Benjamin and Ellen (Saunders) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,**

Mrs Skidmore reported at the time of the 1911 census that she had had 10 children, of whom 5 were then living.

i. Emma, born in 1875Q3. She married Arthur John Andrews (born 1874Q3 in Langley, son of James and Mary A. Andrews of Titford Road) in 1897Q1 in a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich. They lived at 19 Broad Street, Langley, Oldbury, where Emma Andrews died in 1948. Information on this family was kindly supplied by Jean Line, granddaughter of Arthur and Emma Andrews. Children, as known - Gertrude, Arthur John, James, William, Emma, Mary, Florence M.

ii. Benjamin, born 1878Q2 and died a little later that year.

iii. Elizabeth, born in 1879Q3. A cyanide gauze maker in 1901. She married firstly Joseph William Webster in 1902Q2 at Christ Church, Oldbury. They had a son John William Webster in 1905 before Mr Webster's untimely death in 1908Q1 at the age of 33. At the time of the 1911 census Elizabeth was married to Sydney George Foley, a postman and army reservist of 23 Wesley Street, Oldbury. A son Harold Foley and a daughter Doris May Foley.


v. John, born in 1885Q3. A steam hammer driver at Oldbury Carriage Works.

vi. Benjamin Charles, born 1887Q3. He died in the same quarter.

vii. Edward, born 1888Q2. He died in 1889Q2 before his first birthday.

viii. Ellen, born in 1897Q1. She married Henry Payne in 1916Q4 at Christ Church, Oldbury.

300. vii. **JAMES**, born in 1852Q1 in Oldbury. A coal miner, he married Eliza Lakin (born about 1853 in Newcastle, Staffordshire, daughter of Robert and Eliza Lakin) on 19 May 1872 at St Paul's, Tipton, and they were living at 8 Albert Street, Oldbury in 1881. By 1891 James had left the mines and become a labourer in an ironworks, presumably near their new home in Lower Chapel Street, Tividale. After the death of his wife in 1895Q2, aged 39, Mr Skidmore lived with his younger children in the home of his daughter Eliza Green. Eliza's husband William Green was a glass grinder and James had found similar employment with his son-in-law. He died in 1909Q2 aged 57.

**The children of James and Eliza (Lakin) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,**

i. James, born 1874Q4. He does not appear in the 1901 census and his was perhaps the death at the age of 20 registered in 1894Q1.

ii. Eliza, born 1876Q4. She married William Green, a glass grinder (born about 1874 in Tividale, son of William Green) in 1894Q3 at Christ Church, Oldbury and they were living in 1901 at 12 Wesley Street, Oldbury. Mrs Green died in 1908Q4 aged 32 and in 1911 her husband and children Eliza Jane and Lily were living in the home of his widowed father at 45 Junction Street.

iii. Maria, born 1881Q3. She married William John Collins, a blacking ink grinder (born about 1877 in Harvington, Worcestershire), at Christ Church, Oldbury in 1900Q1. Mr Collins became a carter for a scrap iron merchant and the family were living at the time of the 1911 census at 5 Market Street, Oldbury. Children, as known - William, John, Thomas, Alice?.

iv. Emily, born 1889Q4. She married Isaiah Martin, a moulder in an iron foundry (born
about 1885 at The City, Rowley Regis) at Christ Church, Oldbury in 1909Q3. They were living by 1911 with their 7-month old son Frederick Harold Martin at Roway Lane, Brades Village, Oldbury.

v. Alice, born 1891Q4. She appears to be the Alice who died aged 12 in 1902Q4.


301. viii. SEPTIMUS, born in 1854Q2. A coal miner of Oldbury, he married Mary Ann Edwards (born about 1858 in Oldbury) in 1875Q2 at Oldbury and she is shown as a brick maker in the 1881 census when the family lived close to Septimus’ brother James, at 4 Albert Street, Oldbury. Two girls would appear to have been erroneously recorded in this census as Septimus’ daughters – Phoebe Skidmore aged 13 and Harriet Skidmore aged 9. Their birth registrations have not been found and they were perhaps adopted children.

Septimus married secondly his housekeeper Sarah Ann Rollason (born in West Bromwich, perhaps in 1871Q3) in 1891Q4 at Oldbury and they lived in Inkerman Street in Oldbury. Septimus and his wife were wardrobe dealers. He died in 1911Q4 aged 57.

A child of Septimus and Mary Ann (Edwards) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Susannah, born 1878Q2, called Susan in the census. She married John Henry Wilkinson, a brick setter (born 9 October 1879 at 1 Brades Road, Oldbury, son of William and Elizabeth Wilkinson) on 10 April 1898 at St Andrew’s, West Bromwich. They were living at the time of the 1901 census at 45 Littlefields, Oldbury. Mr Wilkinson died at 2, Court 2 Talbot Street on 15 August 1921, his widow on 1 November 1941. My thanks to their granddaughter Mrs Walker for this information.

Children, as known - John Henry, Arthur Thomas, Philip, Sarah A., Mary Ellen and Fred.

Children of Septimus and Sarah Ann (Rollason) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

ii. Sarah Ann, born 1891Q3 and registered as Sarah Ann Rollason, called Skidmore.  

iii. Ellen, born 1894Q2.  

iv. Eva, born 1907Q1.  

ix. Jane, born in 1858Q2. She married Samuel Wilcox, a bargeman (born about 1859 in Oldbury) in 1877Q2 at Rowley Regis and in 1881 they were living at 17 Tabernacle Street, Oldbury, with their young daughter Jane Wilcox, Jane’s widowed mother, and Maria Jukes, aged 12, their niece, the daughter of Jane’s sister Ruth. By the time of the 1891 census they had moved to Canal Side, Halesowen Street, to be convenient to Samuel’s work. Mrs Wilcox died in 1900Q1 aged 41 and her husband became a labourer in the chemical works, though they probably remained in their canalside home.

THE 2nd SURVIVING SON OF BENJAMIN [157] BY HIS WIFE SUSANNAH (BARNESLEY):

298. NOAH SKIDMORE, born 19 May 1847 and baptised at Oldbury Wesleyan Methodist chapel on 6 June of that year. A coal miner of Oldbury, he married Emma Tolley in 1869Q2 at St Paul’s, Smethwick and by the time of the 1871 census they were living near to Noah’s brother Job in Hunt Street, Oldbury, with their young daughter Susannah. Emma was born in 1848Q3 in Oldbury, daughter of coal miner Charles Tolley and his wife Harriet, and sister to Hagar Tolley who married his brother Job.

By 1881 Noah’s family had moved to 28 Talbot Street, near to his brothers Job and Benjamin. In 1887, at the age of 40, he visited the US, arriving at New York on 28 October. Kelly’s Trades Directory of 1896 lists Mrs Emma Skidmore as a shopkeeper at 50 Parsonage Street, Oldbury, and her husband Noah one of Oldbury’s few private residents at 33 Talbot Street. This presumably meant that he owned rather than rented his property - they had a housemaid recorded in their household at the time of the 1901 census. Talbot Street is shown on the 1902 Ordnance Survey maps of Brades Village as one of the roads radiating away from the market place in Oldbury. Together with Hunt Street and Tabernacle Street, it appears to now be the site of a Superstore. Noah, a boiler works labourer, and Emma are found at the time of the 1901 census living at 62 Church Street, Oldbury with their children Noah, Bertha and Samuel. By 1911 they had moved to 10 Trinity Place, Oldbury and assisted in the butcher’s shop run at this address by their son Noah.
They moved with Noah in 1912 to Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to join their children already there. They sailed from Liverpool on the Virginian, arriving in Quebec on 28 June 1912 and soon after crossing the border from Canada. Mr Skidmore was known to the family as “Old Noah” to distinguish him from his son of the same name. He was buried on 24 May 1925, Emma on 9 September 1936 at Pine Grove cemetery in Sault Ste Marie.

The children of Noah and Emma May (Tolley) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

i. Susannah, born 1870Q1 (known as Suey in the family). Susannah was the only child of Noah and Emma to remain in England when the rest of the family emigrated to the US. She was a singer for an opera company in London and it was believed she had the gift of precognition. She married John Nicholls on 27 December 1897 at the Methodist New Connexion Tabernacle, West Bromwich. The witnesses were Noah Skidmore, who was unable to write and made his mark, and Elizabeth Nicholls. John Nicholls was an edge tool smith of Rounds Green, Oldbury, born about 1873 in Oldbury, son of William Nicholls, a blacksmith of Bath Row, Oldbury (who was born in Penn, Staffordshire around 1825, died in the 1880s) and his (probably second) wife Elizabeth. John and Susannah were living in 1901 in Walsall Road, Cannock, with their 1-year old son John Ernest Nicholls. John Ernest Nicholls exhibited nine works with the Royal Academy between 1923 and 1953 and also showed at New English Art Club and the Redfern Gallery. Correspondence with the Royal Academy has revealed that he did not study there and very little about his life and career seems to have been written. He was living in Hammersmith, England around 1975 and died there.

A list of works of art shown by John Ernest Nicholls at the annual Royal Academy Exhibition. The list is made up of artist’s name, year of exhibition, exhibition catalogue number, address of the artist and title of the work of art.

NICHOLLS, John E. Painter
11 Hollywood Road, S.W.10.
1923  611  December.
1927  207  Mrs. Platt.
1946  723  Gladiolus.
1950  239  Spring Flowers.
1951  589  Peonies, Lilies and other Flowers.
1952  464  Summer Flowers.
1953  469  Peonies and Roses.

ii. NATHANIEL⁸, [was 523] born 8 November 1871 in Oldbury. He married Louisa Holloway on 7 November 1896 in the Wolverhampton registration district. She was born on 6 August 1872 in Oldbury, daughter of James and Sarah A. Holloway (whose family was at 11 Flash Road, Oldbury,
in 1881). Louisa’s parents reputedly disapproved of the marriage and she never saw her parents again.

Nathaniel was apprenticed to his uncle in stained glass art and window repair, and Kelly’s Trades Directory of 1896 shows him as a lead glazier of 43 Flash Road. At the time of the 1901 census he was living with his wife and son Harold at 58 Church Street, Oldbury, close to the home of his parents. However, he really wanted to be a Minister and worked as such for three years in England. In October 1906, Nathaniel sailed from Liverpool on the liner Ionia[n?], landing in Montreal a week later. From there he travelled to Sault Ste. Marie to join his brothers ‘young Noah’ and Job and his sister Bertha who were already there. In the Soo, he worked in a tannery, and did some lead-glazing of church windows, in order to raise enough money to bring his family to the New World. He was promoted to caretaker of the owner’s estate and this made it affordable to bring his family over sooner than expected. His wife Louisa and their two sons joined Nathaniel in April 1907, crossing from England via St Johns, Newfoundland. The winters were too harsh for Louisa’s delicate health, so they moved south into Michigan and Nathaniel resumed the ministry that he had started in England. By 1910, Nathaniel and his family were living in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

He graduated from Olivet Theological School (of the Congregationalist denomination) in 1913, and his first pastorate was a ‘circuit’ of two churches (Rosedale and Pine Grove, near Brimley, MI) about nine miles apart. He was promised $600 annually, of which he earned about half in cash and the rest in potatoes, chickens, pork, etc.; a draughty house; a horse-and-cutter to drive between churches; and the right to keep a cow. His residences and pastorates in America, all Congregationalist, were in the following order:

- Pine Grove and Rosedale, Michigan, circuit driven by horse-and-cutter until 1914 (in 1910, lived at 1021 Johnston Street in Sault Sainte Marie);
- Wolverine, Michigan, 1914—1918 (lived in the church manse on E. Main Street in Wolverine);
- Kalkaska, Michigan, 1918—?, (in 1920, lived on Walnut Street in Kalkaska);
- Saugatuck, Michigan;
- Plymouth C.C. in Jackson, Michigan 1926-1936 (in 1930, lived at 1601 Chapin Street in Jackson);
- Flatrock and Sandstone, Michigan, circuit driven by automobile 1936-1946;
- Plymouth C.C. in Jackson, Michigan, 1956-1957 (post-retirement interim) (lived with his daughter Dorothy Everett and her husband on a farm at 300 O’Brien Road, Jackson);
- Arbor C.C. in Jackson, Michigan, Jan-Sep 1957 (post-retirement interim) (lived at 300 O’Brien Road, Jackson, until needing a nursing home);

In 1962, Nathaniel was unexpectedly blinded following a cataract surgery. The following year, he became the oldest recipient of a corneal transplant at the age of 92. Louisa died on 22 April 1956, Nathaniel on 24 August 1966. Both are buried in Hillcrest Cemetery, Jackson, Michigan.

The children of Rev. Nathaniel N. and Louisa (Holloway) Skidmore, born in Oldbury,

1. Rev. Dr HAROLD NATHANIEL, born 12 February 1898. He married Clarice Horn (born in Lorain, Ohio 17 November 1900 to Conrad and Louise (McCloy) Horn) on 17 June 1925. Like his father, Harold was a Minister in the Congregationalist Church and he was the Superintendent of the Michigan Congregational Conference and Conference Minister, a post akin to that of a bishop, with oversight of Congregational churches in Michigan. His pastorates and residences were as follows:

- Holliston, Massachusetts, 1925—1931 (in 1930, lived on Hollis Street in Holliston);
- Grand Rapids, Michigan, 1931—1941;
- East Lansing, Michigan, 1941—1960, Superintendent of the Michigan Congregational Conference and Conference Minister;
- Mt Vernon, New York, 1960—1967 or 1968, Associate Secretary of the

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19 Since Ministers move frequently, a listing of pastorates is a more accurate way of tracking them than is the census, which is taken only every ten years. Source for chronology of the pastorates The Arbor Grove Story with additional data based on family oral history.
Annuities & Pensions Board; Lakeside, Connecticut, from retirement until Harold’s death, (served three interims in retirement); Wolverine, Michigan (Clarice only, after Harold’s death) 1990-1995; Bortz Health Care Centre, Petosky, Michigan (Clarice only) 1995 until her death in 2002.

Harold died on 11 May 1979 in hospital near Lakeside, Connecticut. He was interred at Silver Lake Cemetery in Wolverine, Michigan that summer. Clarice died in Petosky, Michigan on 19 December 2002 and the age of 102 and was laid to rest near her husband at Silver Lake Cemetery in Summer 2002.

The children of Rev. Harold Nathaniel and Clarice (Horn) Skidmore,

i. Rev. CYRIL NATHANIEL, born 7 June 1926, died 26 July 1993 at Wolverine, Michigan. He married Mary Jeanne who died 26 April 1989 in Torrington, Connecticut, and they are both buried in Silver Lake Cemetery, in Wolverine. He served in World War II in on the U.S. Naval aircraft the Lexington from 1944-1946 or 1947. As a naval photographer, he was one of the first to take aerial photos of Hiroshima, Japan, and suffered the effects of radiation thereafter. His ministry included a pastorate in Morris, Connecticut as a seminarian around 1960. He then founded the Institute for Public Relations, which served non-profit and religious organizations in Lakeside, Connecticut. Late in his career, he served as the head of public-relations for the Charlotte Hungerford Hospital in Torrington, Connecticut. They had two children, Rev. Ronald C. and Lynne.


iii. Eleanor Beatrice, born 31 March 1900. She died 7 August of that year.

iv. William, born 3 August 1904 and died the same day.

and born in Michigan,


561. iii. JOB, [was 524] born in Oldbury on 24 August 1874. He grew up in the Tat Bank area of Oldbury and became a butcher in Langley, Oldbury and later in Wyandotte, Michigan. Kelly's Trades Directory of 1896 shows him as a butcher at 12 Talbot Street, Oldbury. He married in 1898Q3 Florence Nightingale Robinson, who was born 5 January 1879, daughter of William Robinson, colliery engine driver, and Hannah (Nightingale) of Court 2, 1 Junction Street, Brades Village in Oldbury. The Robinsons are said to have owned pawn shops and factories in the area and there was initial hostility to Florence’s marriage to Job, a coal miner’s son. I have not found the Robinsons in these capacities in Trades Directories but Kelly’s Directory of 1896 lists

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Nightingale men who were butchers and pawnbrokers, living near to Job and Florence. One Samuel Nightingale was a member of Oldbury Urban District Council until 1898. After living for a while in Smethwick, where they appear at 19 Stone Street with their son Wilfred in the 1901 census, they had moved by 1913 to 52 Trinity Street, Langley. Job arrived in the US, where they were to permanently settle, on 2 July 1913 via Boston. In 1920 they lived at 382 Fourth Street, Ford City (later called Wyandotte), Wayne County in Michigan about 5 miles south of Detroit, a city which at that time was growing steadily owing to the burgeoning automotive industry, being home to Ford and Chrysler world headquarters. Job owned his own butcher shops in Wyandotte, on 3rd Street, just north of the Northline Road. By 1930 they were living at 1857 Third Street, Wyandotte.

Job died in Wyandotte, Michigan, on 30 December 1938 and is buried in Ferndale Cemetery, Riverview. Florence married Dominic DiMaggio, perhaps in 1945. She died a widow in Wyandotte on 29 November 1967 and was buried next to her first husband.
The children of Job and Florence Nightingale (Robinson) Skidmore,

i. Doris May, born 18 July 1899, probably in Langley, Oldbury. She was living in 1901 at 341 Oldbury Road, Smethwick with her grandparents William and Hannah Robinson. In the US she married Leonard Robinson who adopted Doris’ daughter Pearl Maxine. Leonard and Doris had a son Leonard Wilfred Alfred. They later divorced and she married secondly Dexter John Heacox. Mrs Heacox died on 27 June 1998 at Wyandotte.

ii. Wilfred Job, born 19 January 1901 in Smethwick. He married Anna (born 1907 in Gutthold, Germany). He was a police lieutenant in Wyandotte, a post he retired from in 1956. He went on to become the Chief of Police of the city of Clare in northern central Michigan, and also Chief of Police in Frankfort, on the coast of Lake Michigan. He was a member of the National Police Chiefs Association of America. Mr Skidmore died in September 1966 in Honor, Michigan, and was buried with full police honours in Michigan Memorial Cemetery. Anna died his widow on 26 March 1980 in Miami, Florida.

Children,


iii. Job. He died in infancy in 1936.

iii. Alfred John, born 18 November 1902. Known as Jack. He brought his parents and siblings down from Sault Ste. Marie (in the upper peninsula of Michigan adjoining Canada) to look for work at Wyandotte Chemicals. They finally settled at 1259 Cedar Street in Wyandotte. He married Ellen Vera, known as Nellie (born 5 February 1903 in Widnes, Lancashire, daughter of Patrick Thomas Crane, a furnace firer of County Mayo, Ireland, and Elizabeth Carthy of Lancashire) in Michigan. Alfred was a foreman and a steam pipefitter at Wyandotte Chemical Company, a plant whose business grew rapidly during the First and Second World Wars, and where several of his brothers were also employed. On 15 March 1942, as he was driving to work for the first day at his new position of plant supervisor, he was involved in an accident just four blocks from his home when his car was hit by a speeding car whose driver failed to yield the right-of-way. He died of his injuries the following morning. Nellie died his widow on 31 October 1985 and both are buried in Michigan Memorial Cemetery.

Children, born in Wyandotte,


ii. John Patrick, known as Jack, married Frances. Sons Thomas Alan and John Patrick, and daughter Kathleen Marie.

ii. Dolores Helen, married John Walter. He was a Korean War veteran and hero who fought on the front line. Daughters Michelle, Lori Ann, Kimberly Marie (who supplied much information on this branch of the family) and son John Scott.


iv. William Noah, born 4 December 1905. Bill was nicknamed ‘Red’ by his family and friends on account of his red hair. He worked as a freight car inspector for the Wyandotte Terminal Railroad whose freightyards were close to Wyandotte Chemical company and fundamental to its operation. He married Hilda. He died in Wyandotte on 1 June 1982, his wife on 17 July 1995 and they are buried in Michigan Memorial Cemetery.

Children,

i. Marian, married Hank. Daughters Betty and Marie.

ii. Elaine, married Lloyd. A son Bob and a daughter Linda.

iii. Dorothy, married Elmer. A daughter Sue Amy and sons William Noah and Donald Frederick.

iv. William, married Cathy. Sons John Joseph, William Job Jr,
daughters Marian, Colleen and Donna.

v. [twin] **DONALD WILFRED**\(^{11}\), married Mary. Son Donald William and daughters Mary Katherine, Deborah Ann, Jeanne Therese.


vi. **SAMUEL ARTHUR**\(^{10}\), born 2 January 1909. He married Margaret Jean (born 1907 in Glasgow). Samuel worked first as a fireman for the steam engines at the Wyandotte Railroad, and later worked his way up to Director of Security for the neighbouring Wyandotte Chemical Company (later acquired by BASF). They lived at 1242 Oxford Court. Margaret worked as a seamstress at Winkleman's clothing store chain. She was a pioneer for women's sports in southeastern Michigan in the 1920s and 1930s, being the first woman to participate in professional speed skating and co-founding Yack Ice Arena in Wyandotte with Benny Yack. She would also swim in the Detroit River as a long distance channel swimmer. Samuel died in Wyandotte on 2 April 1992, his wife on 18 February 1996 in Gallatin, Tennessee.

**Two sons,**

i. **ARTHUR RAMSEY**\(^{11}\). Arthur served in both the Marine Corps and the U.S. Army during and after the Korean War. He had two wives, Patricia and Virginia, but no issue from either marriage. He had one son by Betty Jean, Michael Arthur.

ii. **DOUGLAS GENE**\(^{11}\). He was a Marine Gunnery Sergeant in the Vietnam war and served with Headquarters and Service Battalion before retiring in 1980. He married firstly JoAnne by whom he had four children, Debra Ann, Daniel Joseph, Donna JoAnne and Steven Douglas. He married secondly Brenda.

vii. Lilian, registered as Lily, born 27 February 1912. She worked in a grocery store and married Walter (1912-84). She died on 4 November 1989 in Southgate and they were buried together in Our Lady of Hope Cemetery. A son Daniel and a daughter Florence.

**The children of Job and Florence Skidmore who were born in Michigan,**


**Children,**

i. **RONALD**\(^{11}\). His first wife was Joyce. He married Rosalin. A son Mike.

ii. **FRED**\(^{11}\), married Patricia. Mr Skidmore owns a shipping business. Children Brandon Lee, Brent Michael and Kiley.

iii. Cynthia, married William. Four daughters Sara, Ellen, Hannah and Naomi.

iv. **SAMUEL MICHAEL**\(^{11}\), married Margaret. Samuel was a Branch President (Minister) for five years for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, Chelsea Branch, Chelsea, Michigan. He taught public school at Dexter Community Schools for 25 years as a 5th-8th grade teacher. Children Nathan Michael, Elizabeth, Jordan Reid and Jonathan William.

ix. **CYRIL**\(^{10}\). The only one of Job's nine children who did not remain in the Midwestern state of Michigan; he moved to California. He married Katherine and ran his own refrigeration engineering company and taught refrigeration at a University in California. Mrs Skidmore died in June 2000. Children Cyril James, Gary and Kevin.

iv. Noah, born 7 March 1878 (obtained from cemetery records). He had a butcher's business at 10
Trinity Place, Oldbury at the time of the 1911 census, assisted there by his father and mother. He and his parents moved to Sault Ste. Marie, perhaps on the Canadian side first before settling in Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan around the same time as his brother Job and his sister Bertha, where he worked as a butcher. Although Noah was born with some condition which made him appear small and different from others, he also had an exceptional gift for speech and music which allowed him to perfectly reproduce tunes he had heard only once. He never married on account of his physical condition. He died 20 May 1931 and was buried at Pine Grove cemetery on 22 May 1931.

v. Bertha, born 1882Q. Like her brothers Noah and Job, went early to the US via Canada, possibly returning to England for a while before eventually settling in Sault Ste. Marie in Michigan, where there are still descendants. She married Harry Morris (1883-1963) in 1907Q at a Register Office/Registrar-Attended ceremony registered at West Bromwich. A son Howard Leslie Morris, was born about 1918. Bertha was an accomplished pianist who had graduated from a conservatory in England before emigrating to the US. In 1930 the family, together with Bertha’s brother Noah, were living on Bingham Avenue in Sault Ste. Marie about a block from their brother Samuel. She was buried 16 May 1947 in Pine Grove cemetery.

562. vi. SAMUEL CHARLES, [was 525] born 30 September 1887. At the time of the 1901 census he was an errand boy for a glazier, doubtless his elder brother Nathaniel. The US census of 1920 reveals that he migrated in 1910 and was naturalised in 1919. He married Lenna Osborn (born December 1894) and in 1920 they were living at 917 Bingham in Sault Ste. Marie. He was a butcher by trade, as were his brothers Job and Noah. He died in December 1966 at Sault Ste. Marie and is buried at Pine Grove cemetery there. His wife was buried there 19 May 1956.

The children of Samuel and Lenna (Osborn) Skidmore,

i. Emma Mae, born 1918. She later adopted the stage name Lynne Osborn and performed as a singer in the Chicago area during World War II. She married John. Children Elizabeth, called Libby, and Dr Robert.

ii. Samuel Jr, 1919-93. He married Betty J.
THE 4th SURVIVING SON OF BENJAMIN [39] AND HIS WIFE MARY (GREEN):

81. JEREMIAH6 SKIDMORE, son of Benjamin [39] and Mary (Green) Skidmore, was baptised on 29 June 1784 at St Michael's, Brierley Hill. The 1861 census for Oldbury shows that he was born in Brettell Lane. His parents moved to Oldbury some time between 1784 and 1796 but Jeremiah was said to be of Stourbridge when his first child was baptised in 1804 in Oldbury. He married Ann Owen at St John the Baptist, Halesowen (the mother church for marriages of people who lived in Oldbury at this time) on 13 March 1803. The marriage was witnessed by Thomas Thorneycroft.

Jeremiah was a miner in 1814 and a labourer in 1819. By 1820 he had become a boatman and he continued thus until at least 1851. After his wife's death (Ann Skidmore was buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 16 May 1822 aged 37) he and his sons Enoch and Zachariah, together with their cousin Noah Skidmore, were all boatmen in Hertfordshire, where they appear to have led a colourful life. In 1832 Jeremiah Skidmore, labourer of Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire, was convicted of stealing a peck of oats in the straw, value 9d, and thirty pounds of straw, value 6d, from James Sells, yeoman. He was gaoled for one week.21

Jeremiah has not been found in the 1841 census but he appears in 1851 in Northchurch, Hertfordshire, a boatman, with his son Zachariah, Zachariah's wife Elizabeth and their young son Thomas. By 1861 Jeremiah had settled back in Oldbury and was living with his daughter Martha and her husband John Lisset in Eel Street. His age is given as 80 and, remarkably, his occupation as stone breaker. He probably died in 1865 and was buried 16 April in Oldbury Cemetery (actual register not seen).

The children of Jeremiah and Ann (Owen) Skidmore, baptised at Christ Church, Oldbury,

i. Mary, baptised 1 March 1804 at Oldbury Dissenting Chapel.

ii. Martha, baptised 25 December 1806. She married John Lisset (Lycett), a cordwainer or shoe mender (born about 1802 in Walsall) at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 16 February 1824. The marriage was witnessed by Thomas Whitehouse. John and Martha lived in Eel Street, Oldbury. Mrs Lycett appears to have joined her son Shadrach in Leigh, Manchester, where a Martha Lycett died aged 66 in 1873Q2.

Children, as known - Mary, Nancy (Ann), Jeremiah, Sarah, Noah, Shadrach, Rebecca, Rosannah.

iii. Comfort, baptised 31 January 1808. She appears to have been buried at St Martin's, Tipton on 9 September 1808.

158. iv. Enoch7, baptised 24 September 1809, boatman of Oldbury and later Leicester. He married Rebecca Chater (baptised 6 August 1809 at Christ Church, Oldbury, the daughter of Benjamin and Ann Chater) at St John the Baptist, Halesowen on 30 August 1830. The witnesses were James Chater and Ann Hickmans. The children of Enoch and Rebecca Skidmore born before 1837 were baptised in Oldbury. Like his cousin Benjamin [157], Enoch switched to the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in the mid-1830s.

Enoch and his family were on board a boat on the River Soar in Leicester at the time of the 1841 census. The parents and older sons of this boating family appear to have escaped enumeration at the time of the 1851 census but in 1861 on census night their narrow boats the Jane and the Rebecca were lying at Moors Bridge, Ilkeston, Derbyshire, with Enoch master and his sons Benjamin the first mate and Jeremiah the second mate; their family home was 17 Great Holme Street, Leicester. The census of 1871, when Enoch and Rebecca lived in Brook Street, Tring, Hertfordshire, suggests that as well as being a boatman, he also worked at or ran a public house called the Queens Arms.

By 1881 Enoch and Rebecca were being cared for by their daughter Ann at her home 1.C. Court, New Park Street in the St Mary's area of Leicester. It seems Enoch died aged 75 in 1884Q1 in Shardlow registration district (Derbyshire). Rebecca died in 1890 in Leicester aged 82 and was buried on 20 October at Welford Road Cemetery.

The children of Enoch and Rebecca (Chater), born in Oldbury,

i. James, baptised 15 January 1832 at Christ Church, Oldbury and buried at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel on 23 July of that year.

ii. Joseph, baptised 26 May 1833 at Christ Church, Oldbury. He was master of a boat on the Union Canal on the night April 7th - census night - in 1861, with his brother

21 Hertfordshire County Records Calendar of the Sessions Books 1799-1833, p.505, 508, 510.
John and sisters Rebecca and Mary. He married Jane Conway (born in Leicester about 1847) in Leicester in 1866Q4 and was assistant boatman on The Sisters in Leicester at the time of the 1881 census, with Enoch Conway (born about 1874 in Polesworth, Leicestershire) whom they appear to have raised. Their home was at 9 Melville Terrace in the St Margaret’s area of Leicester, though it is interesting to note that at census time in 1891 Joseph and Enoch were mates on a vessel in Shipley Wharf, Derbyshire, the master of which was one Thomas Conway, just a year older than Enoch and perhaps his brother. The death of Joseph Skidmore was registered in 1901Q3 in Barrow Upon Soar, Leicestershire, when he was said to be 70 years of age.

302. iii. **JOHN**³, baptised 10 January 1836 at Oldbury Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. His parents travelled on the canals and he married in 1861Q3 in Leicester a local girl, Ann Houlden or Holden, a worsted spinner (born 1842Q3 in Leicester), who was lodging at the time of the 1861 census with his parents. By 1871 he was a boat master at Nutbrook Colliery in Shipley, Derbyshire. His wife clearly travelled with him in the 1870s since their two younger children were born in Derbyshire and Berkshire. In 1881 (when he said he was 40) his barge Mary was moored at Yardley Gobion Wharf, Potterspury, Northamptonshire.

John died aged 61 in 1898Q4 and his widow was living at the time of the 1901 census in Jail Yard, Sawley with John’s brother Benjamin. She died in 1927, said to be aged 87.

**The children of John and Ann (Holden) Skidmore, born in Leicester,**

i. Mary, born 1862Q3. She is probably the Mary Skidmore who married William Crofts, a book binder and printer’s porter (born about 1849 in Hinckley, Leicestershire) in Leicester in 1890Q2. They lived at 3 Earl Street, Leicester with two daughters, Elizabeth and Elsie. Mr Crofts died in 1904 aged 53.

ii. Thomas, born 1864Q2. He died in Derbyshire in 1888Q1, said to be 22.

564. iii. **JOHN**⁹, born 1866Q3. A boatman, living close to his uncle Benjamin [303] at the time of the 1891 census. He married Mary Ann Horton in 1896Q4 in Derbyshire. They lived in Old Birchills, Walsall with Mary Ann’s parents for a time before, by 1911, acquiring a home of their own in that same street. Mr Skidmore said at the time of the census of 1911 that he was a boat man working for Joseph Cownes in the pig iron trade. His wife died in distressing circumstances in 1914 in the Workhouse Infirmary²².

**Children of John and Mary Ann (Horton) Skidmore, born in Walsall,**

_Mrs Skidmore reported at the time of the 1911 census that she had had 6 children, only 2 of whom were then living._

i. Matilda Ann, born 1897Q4.

ii. John Thomas, born 1899Q1.

iii.-vi. Children who did not survive.


v. Clara, born about 1873 in Derbyshire, her birth perhaps registered at Shardlow in 1873Q4.

vi. Hannah, born about 1877 in Swindon, Staffordshire [?Wombourne]. She married Edward Barratt, master of a monkey barge (born about 1872 in Derby, son of Thomas Barratt) on 23 July 1894 at Sandiacre, Derbyshire. They were moored in Camberwell, London at the time of the 1901 census with their one-year old son Thomas who was born in Foxton, Leicestershire.

iv. Ann, baptised 10 January 1836 at Oldbury Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. While her parents and older brothers were away on their barge, she was head of the family home in Great Holme Street, Leicester at the time of the 1851 census, with her

²² Walsall Observer, 2 January 1915.
brother Jerry and sisters Jane and Hannah. She married William Henry Moore in 1872Q2 and was a widow by 1881 caring for her parents in Leicester.

v. Enoch, born 25 September, baptised 15 October 1837 at Oldbury Wesleyan Methodist Chapel. Presumably died before 1841 though I have not found his death registration.

303. vi. BENJAMIN, born 1838Q2. A boatman of Fenny Stratford, Buckinghamshire, and Sawley, Derbyshire. He married Dorcas Seabrook, a straw plaiter, in 1869Q3 in Leicester. She was born in 1839Q1 in Fenny Stratford, Buckinghamshire, daughter of Samuel Seabrook and his wife Mary. Her family moved soon after to Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire, where he was engineer and lock keeper on the Grand Junction Canal.

Dorcas Skidmore lodged with her widowed father in the early years of their marriage while her husband was away on his barge. At the time of the 1871 census he was master of a canal boat moored in Paddington, London, along with his brother-in-law John Whitehouse. He and his wife then settled in Sawley, Derbyshire, at first at Narrow Bridge and later Jail Yard. Dorcas Skidmore died at the age of 58 in 1897Q1 and by the time of the 1901 census her husband was sharing his home in Jail Yard with his sister-in-law Ann Skidmore, widow of John [302]. He died in 1902Q3 aged 62.

The children of Benjamin and Dorcas (Seabrook) Skidmore,

566. i. BENJAMIN, born 1872Q3 in Fenny Stratford or in Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire. A waterman in Sawley, Derbyshire in 1891. He married firstly Mabel Agnes Robinson (daughter of Charles Robinson) on 22 May 1893 at Sawley. She died in 1895Q1 aged 22 and Benjamin married secondly Fanny Draycott (born 1878Q3 in Long Eaton, Derbyshire) in 1900Q2. They were living in 1901, when Benjamin was a railway engineer, with their son John in Jail Yard, Sawley. As their family increased, they moved to 2 Friar Street, Long Eaton and Benjamin was by 1911 a chimney sweep.

A child of Benjamin and Mabel Agnes (Robinson) Skidmore,

i. JOHN ATKIN B., born 1894Q1 in Sawley. He married Frances M. Goodson in 1913Q2. John Skidmore died the following year aged only 20.

A daughter,

i. Frances M., born 1913Q4.

Children of Benjamin and Fanny (Draycott) Skidmore, born in Sawley,

ii. BENJAMIN PERCIVAL, born 1902Q1. He married in 1928.

Two sons.

iii. Frances Dorcas, born 1905Q3. She married in 1924.


ii. Mary Ann, born 1878Q1 in Narrow Bridge, Sawley. She died in 1895Q1 aged 17.

and born in Leicester,


303a. viii. JEREMIAH, born 1842Q2 in Leicester. He married Susannah Pickerill, from another Oldbury boating family, on 14 May 1876 at Hillmorton, Warwickshire. Her parents William and Martha Pickerill moved from Oldbury to St Ebbes in the city of Oxford just before her birth in 1850Q4; Mr Pickerill was a coal merchant and boater there. His trade took him on their canal boat to Leicestershire which is presumably where she met her husband.

Mrs Skidmore died later in 1876, aged 26. Jeremiah Skidmore and his son William worked on board one of the two barges belonging to his wife's parents before

23 Her death was registered in Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire (this registration district contained Stoke Hammond, Buckinghamshire) but her son's birth was registered at Rugby. I have not seen either actual certificate.
working their own boat the Monarch. I have not yet been able to find father or son in the census of 1911.

A son of Jeremiah and Susannah (Pickerill) Skidmore,

i. William, born in 1876Q4 in Hillmorton, Rugby, Warwickshire.

ix. Sarah Jane, born 1844Q2. For a time before her marriage she was a servant back in the Midlands, to the family of William Mallin, the farmer at Tividale Farm House in Rowley Regis. She married, however, in Leicester in 1867Q4 George Essex, a gardener’s labourer (born in Narboro, Leicestershire). Mrs Essex ran her greengrocer’s shop from their home at 53 East Bond Street, Leicester. She was widowed by 1901 and her husband was perhaps the George Sawbridge Essex who died aged 48 in 1896Q4. Sarah Jane Essex died in 1909Q2 aged 65.

Children, as known - George Henry, Alice Ada, Tom William, Arthur, Annie.

x. Hannah, born about 1847. She married John Whitehouse, a boatman (born about 1843), in 1868Q2 in Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, though it is possible they separated soon after. Aylesbury was his birthplace and his sister Miss Ann Whitehouse was a coal merchant who lived on the Canal Wharf there. I have been unable to find Hannah Whitehouse in censuses after 1871 (when she was lodging with her parents), though her husband said as late as the time of the 1901 census that he was married.

xi. [perhaps] Samuel, born and died in Leicester in 1848Q1.

xii. Rebecca, born 1849Q1. She married William Turner (born about 1846, son of William Turner) on 5 June 1870 at Tring, Hertfordshire and was living in Victoria Road, Hackney, London at the time of the 1871 census, where Mr Turner was a tar distiller.

xiii. Mary, born 1851Q1. She married Thomas Conway (son of Peter Conway) on 21 September 1871 at Tring in Hertfordshire.

xiv. Enoch, born in 1855Q2 in Leicester. He married Ellen (?Keefe, born about 1857 in Marylebone, perhaps the daughter of Patrick Keefe) in 1880Q3 in the Marylebone registration district of London. They are found at the time of the 1881 census, when Enoch was a labourer, at 30 Huntsworth Terrace, Carlisle Street, Marylebone, London but returned to Leicestershire where he accompanied his brother Joseph on the barge. Enoch Skidmore and his wife lived in Denmark Street and later Farndon Terrace in Leicester with their adopted daughter Kate Matlock (born about 1895 in Belgrave, presumably the region of Leicester). They remained in Leicester, where Mr Skidmore later became a highways labourer for the Corporation.

v. Sarah, baptised 2 February 1812. She married Edwin Hackett, a boatman of Oldbury (perhaps baptised 15 January 1809 at Presbyterian Church, Oldbury, son of William & Hannah Hackett) on 8 August 1830 at St Thomas’, Dudley, witnessed by Mary Ann Sanderson. Sarah travelled on canal boats with her husband in the Leicester and Newport Pagnall areas. After Mr Hackett’s death (which appears to have been registered at Newport Pagnall in 1860Q3), his wife became a charwoman/ housekeeper and lived in Pools Lane, Newport Pagnall, perhaps until her death in 1879Q1 at the age of 69.

Children, as known - Hannah, William, Mercy, Edwin, Fanny, David.

159. vi. ANDREW, baptised 23 October 1814. A coal miner of Oldbury. In 1841 his marriage certificate describes him as of Rounds Green and a few months later the census shows he lived at Canal Side, Oldbury. He married Ann Godfrey, a boatman’s daughter (born about 1824 in London, daughter of Isaac Godfrey) at St Thomas’, Dudley on 1 February 1841. The witnesses were John Adams and Caroline Ward. In 1851 they lived on the west side of Low Town in Oldbury when Ann was a washer woman. Andrew Skidmore died later that year at the age of only 37 and was buried at Christ Church, Oldbury on 24 August 1851.

The children of Andrew and Ann (Godfrey) Skidmore, burials at Christ Church, Oldbury,

i. [perhaps] Comfort, one of the two girls born in West Bromwich in 1841Q3 and 1841Q4 (one of whom died in 1841Q4). A name found in this family.

ii. [probably] Isaac, born August or September 1843, buried 18 February 1849.

iii. Enoch, born late 1846, baptised 29 January 1847 at Christ Church, Oldbury, buried two days later.

v. [perhaps] Elizabeth, born late 1851, buried 21 March 1852 aged 3 months.

160. vii. JEREMIAH\(^7\), baptised 15 August 1819. He appears to have married firstly Elizabeth Berry (born about 1822 in All Saints' parish, Leicester, and sister to Sarah Berry born about 1839) in 1841Q2 in Leicester and was a boatman living with his wife on a boat on the River Soar in Leicestershire at the time of the 1841 census. Jeremiah and his wife separated before 1851. She is recorded in the 1851 census as married, not widowed and a worsted reeler, living with her three children and her sister Sarah in Bath Street, Leicester. Jeremiah was a labourer living in the lodging house run by the family Rouse in City Garden Row, London. Elizabeth in 1861 was living as the wife of Benjamin Flagg, a printer (born about 1835 in Holborn, London) at 74 Bath Street, Leicester\(^24\). By 1871 (and described as a widow in the census of that year) she had joined the household of her widowed son William Henry Skidmore in Peel Street, Leicester. By 1891 she was helping her widowed daughter Clara Barton run the Peels Arms in Blackburn, Lancashire. Mrs Skidmore died there in 1893Q4 aged 72.

Jeremiah Skidmore had a daughter Anne Mary Skidmore (born 1866Q2 in Leicester) by Julietta ______ (born about 1841 in Leicester). Julietta Skidmore was living in 1871 with her daughter at 12 Ruding Street, Leicester, while Jeremiah was away working on the canal in Old Stratford, Passenham, Northamptonshire. By 1881, Jeremiah had become a plate layer for the Midland Railway and he and Julietta were living in 1881 in the cottages in New Park Road, Aylestone, Leicestershire. (Note that Jeremiah’s brother Enoch [158] lived in New Park Road at the same time). He died in Leicester in 1884Q2 aged 64.

Julietta Skidmore married Harry Mills, a gas stoker, and was living by 1891 with her husband, her daughter Anne Skidmore and stepson Harry Mills at 30, Lingard Street, Aston, Birmingham.

The children of Jeremiah and Elizabeth (Berry) Skidmore, born in the St Mary’s area of Leicester,

304. i. WILLIAM HENRY\(^8\), born 1842Q1. A stoker, he married in Leicester in 1862Q4 Selina Thompson, who died aged 32 in March of 1871 and was buried at Welford Road Cemetery. Shortly after the death of his wife, his mother moved to his home in Peel Street, Leicester, no doubt to help care for his children. He appears to have married again later that year Susan Clipson, a machinist in the shoe trade (born about 1846 in Leicester, daughter of John and Sarah Clipson of Bedford Street). Mr Skidmore died in 1921Q2 in Leicester, aged 79, his widow in 1929Q2 aged 83.

The children of William Henry and Selina (Thompson) Skidmore, born in St Margaret’s parish, Leicester,

568. i. GEORGE HENRY\(^9\), born according to his Royal Marine enlistment papers on 16 March 1864, though he is likely to have been born a year later than this since his birth was registered at Leicester in 1865Q2. He enlisted on 16 June 1882 with the Royal Marine Light Infantry Portsmouth Division and served 12 years. A traction engine driver, he married Emily Fry of Ryde, Isle of Wight in 1894 at St George’s, Ryde. He was living at the time of the 1901 census with his family at New Village, Freshwater, Isle of Wight. George Skidmore enlisted at Leicester on 19 March 1902 for two years garrison duty with the Royal Garrison Regiment. This was extended until he was discharged as medically unfit on 22 September 1905. He died in 1906 aged 41.

Children of George Henry and Emily (Fry) Skidmore, born at Ryde,

i. Elsie Ada, born 1895Q2.

ii. Amy Selina, born 1896Q2.

iii. Florence Irene, born 1899Q2.

iv. Lily Ethel, born 1898Q2.

v. Emily Elizabeth, born 1900Q3.

vi. Ella May, born 1901Q4. She died in 1903Q2.

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\(^{24}\) Benjamin Flagg, printer, was living in 1881 in Islington with his wife Caroline B. (née Caroline Brandi Clay, m.1875) and his sister Isabella and again in 1891 with wife Elizabeth (née Oliver, m.1887) and 2 young sons.

569. ii. **WILLIAM ARTHUR**, [was 526.] born 1867Q2 in Leicester. He was a traveller in corn, who married in Leicester in 1893Q3 Sarah Ann Willmore (born 1865Q1 in Leicester). Mrs Skidmore ran her grocer's shop from their home at 121 Overton Road, Leicester and by 1911 her husband gave his occupation as a corn, coal and flour dealer.

The children of William Arthur and Sarah Ann (Willmore) Skidmore,

i. Ida Selina, born 1894Q3. She married in 1922.


iii. Emily Ada, born 1870Q1. A shoe machinist, she married Frank Brown in Leicester in 1895Q4. Her husband died early in 1901 aged 35 and she was living at census time that year at 24 Swaffham Street, Leicester, with her children Nellie Sytica B. Brown 3 and Frank Barrington Brown 1 and her married sister-in-law Marian Brown and children.

ii. Clara, born 1843Q4. A warehouse girl in 1861. She is enumerated as Clara D. Skidmore in the census of 1861 and seems to have been known as Clara Desdemona. Clara Desdemona Skidmore, daughter of Benjamin Skidmore, compositor, married Charles Barton, a traveller of Saltley (born about 1839, son of Charles Barton, wheelwright) at Aston on 27 January 1870. A son Charles Barton was born in Leicester and, aged 5, was living with his grandmother and uncle William Henry Skidmore at the time of the 1871 census. Charles and Clara Barton and their son were living in the home of her mother in Limbuck Street, Blackburn, Lancashire by 1881, where Charles Barton was a photographer. In her widowhood Clara Barton and her mother ran the Peels Arms, Blackburn. She died there in 1896Q1 aged 51.

305. iii. **HENRY ARTHUR**, born 1846Q1 in Leicester. Henry Skidmore married Mary Ann Watts (born about 1846Q4 in Countesthorpe, Leicestershire, daughter of ____ and Mary Watts) in Leicester in 1865Q2 and lived in Bonners Lane, St Mary’s parish, Leicester. Henry died in 1884Q3 aged 38 and Mary Ann Skidmore had two further children by Thomas Bailey, a shoe riveter, and lived in Hughenden Drive, Aylestone, Leicester.

The children of Henry Arthur and Mary Ann (Watts) Skidmore, born in Leicester,

570. i. **WILLIAM HENRY**, [was 527.] born 1866Q2. A finisher in the shoe trade, he married Laura Ada Berry, a housemaid at The Hall, Church Road, Leicester (born 1873Q3 in Coventry) in 1895Q3 and they were living with their daughter at 18 Lorrimor Road, Aylestone Park, Leicester at the time of the 1911 census.

Mr Skidmore died in 1949 aged 83, his wife in 1951 aged 78.

A daughter of William Henry and Laura Ada (Berry) Skidmore,

i. Elsie, born 1895Q4. She married in 1920 in Leicester.

ii. A child who did not survive.

571. ii. **ARTHUR**, [was 528.] born 1868Q2 in Leicester. He was a hand riveter of shoes who married Amy Mabbutt (born in Moulton, Northamptonshire about 1872, daughter of Joseph Mabbutt, carter and his wife Mary A. of Vernon Road, Aylestone) in 1891Q4 in Blaby registration district, Leicestershire. Amy Skidmore died aged 29 in 1902Q4, her husband in 1905Q1 aged 36.

Children of Arthur and Amy (Mabbutt) Skidmore,

i. William, born 1894Q1. After the death of his parents he was raised by his grandparents Joseph and Mary Ann Mabbutt of 12 Clifton Road, Leicester. He died in Leicester in 1952 aged 58.

ii. Elizabeth, born 1895Q4. She was living in 1911 with her widowed aunt Mary Ann Roffe.

iii. Mary Elizabeth, born 1870Q4, died aged 13 in 1884Q3.

iv. Lucy, born 1873Q2. She married John Henry Payne in Leicester in
1895Q4. Lucy Payne died in 1897 aged 24.

vi. Clara, born 1878Q1. A shoe machinist in 1901. She would appear to be the lady who died in Leicester in 1909Q4 aged 31.

572. vii. OLIVER\(^8\), born 1880Q2. A shoe finisher, he married Kate Mason (born about 1879 in Leicester) in Leicester in 1901Q2. Mr Skidmore was living with his family in 1911 in Hughenden Drive close to the home of his mother. Mr Skidmore died in Leicester on 7 August 1929, survived by his wife.

Children of Oliver and Kate (Mason) Skidmore, born in Aylestone, Leicester,

i. HENRY ARTHUR\(^10\), born 1901Q4. He married in 1924 and had, as known, 4 sons and 2 daughters in Leicester.

ii. REGINALD OLIVER\(^10\), born 1909Q1. He married twice, having 3 daughters and a son by his first marriage, and 2 daughters and a son by his second.

Children, called Skidmore, of Thomas Bailey and Mary Ann Watts,

viii. Amy Bailey, born 1889Q2. She married George Harry Musson, a shoe maker (born about 1889 in Claybrook, Leicestershire) in 1909Q2 in Leicester and was living in 1911 at 33 Cromwell Road. Two sons, as known, were born to this marriage.

ix. Catherine, born 1890Q2. She appears to have married in 1914 in Leicester and had, as known, one daughter.

A daughter of Jeremiah and Julietta Skidmore,

iv. Ann Mary, called Annie, born 1866Q2 in Leicester, who was a shoe machinist.

161. viii. ZACHARIAH\(^7\), baptised 3 December 1820, was a boatman of Leicester. He was married in 1847Q3 in Leicester to Elizabeth (born about 1828 in Rothley, Leicester, either Elizabeth Collins or Elizabeth Woollerton) and at the time of the 1851 census was living in Northchurch village, Hertfordshire, with his wife, his son Thomas and his father Jeremiah. They settled in Little Holme Street, Leicester and Mr Skidmore gave up his canal life to become a gardener while his son worked in a shoe factory.

Elizabeth Skidmore died at the age of 58 in 1886Q3, and Zachariah described himself as a retired grocer in 1891, when he was living in his son's home, and a retired bargeman in 1901, when he was in Leicester District Workhouse. He died in 1904Q2 aged 83.

A child of Zachariah and Elizabeth Skidmore,

306. i. THOMAS\(^5\), born in 1848Q3 in Leicester. A shoe finisher, he married Jane Merriman, hosiery maker (born 1854Q3 in Ledbury, Herefordshire) in 1872Q4 in Leicester. The family had various addresses in the St Mary's district of Leicester - New Park Street, Arundel Street, Tudor Road and, by 1911, 72 Ivanhoe Street.

Mrs Skidmore died in 1914Q1 aged 59, her husband in 1930 aged 82.

The children of Thomas and Jane (Merriman) Skidmore, born in Leicester,

573. i. JOHN\(^6\), born 1873Q4. A shoe finisher who became a fitter's labourer on the railway in Leicester. He married Harriet Summers (born about 1874 in Ledbury, Herefordshire) in 1901Q3 in Leicester and they were living in 1911 at 1 Borlace Street.

Children of John and Harriet (Summers) Skidmore, born in Leicester,

i. John, perhaps registered John Thomas Summers in 1901Q2.

ii. Edith Kate, born 1902Q2. She married in 1927 in Leicester.

ii. Elizabeth, born 1877Q3. A hosiery winder in 1901.

iii. Jane, born 1879Q3. She was in 1901 a general domestic servant to the family of Wesleyan Minister William Bradfield (whose younger children were born in Leicester) at 58 Woodstock Road, Oxford. By 1911 Miss Skidmore had moved to Radlett, Hertfordshire, where she
was a servant to the family of Vere Smith, an editor and magazine proprietor.

574. iv. **THOMAS⁴**, born 1881Q3. A gardener for a nurseryman and florist, he married Mary Caunt (born about 1874 in Leicester) in 1907Q3 in Leicester.

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

i. Clara, born 1908Q4.

v?. A further child not living in 1911.

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**APPENDIX 1**

New Hem Heath 1915, found at myweb.tiscali.co.uk/coalface/casualties Researched By John Lumsdon

A disaster occurred on Thursday afternoon 25th February at the New Hem Heath colliery, Chesterton, North Staffordshire, owned by Messrs Hodgkinson Bros. It is feared the eleven lives have been lost. Nine of the workers are known to be dead and two are missing.

The pit is a small one, employing about 120 workmen and at the time of the accident about 21 men were in the colliery. They were engaged in the Red Mine seam loading ironstone, which had been got during the day, when, at about half past three in the afternoon a fire occurred. The fire was believed to have originated in the engine room, a wooden structure, situated near the bottom of the pit and 400 to 500 hundred yards from where the men in the Red Mine seam were working. In this engine house were three compressed air engines. Workmen gallantly endeavoured to subdue the flames, but they spread rapidly burning the supporting timber resulting in falls of roof that hindered operations. The pit, being an ironstone mine and free from gas, was worked with naked lights and was regarded as absolutely safe.

When the occurrence became known, rescue brigades were summoned from the North Staffordshire Central Rescue Station at Berryhill, Birchenwood, Apedale, Silverdale, Talk o th Hill, Florence and Parkhouse collieries and these together with colliery officials entered upon rescue work as speedily as possible. Among those known to be dead is Mr. Claude Hodgkinson one of the proprietors of this colliery.

Deep sympathy was felt for the widows, the orphans and relatives of those who lost their lives in such a terrible manner. As is often the case, however, the disaster furnished splendid examples of individual heroism and self-sacrifice. Ernest Brown, the engineman, appears to have lost his life in attempting to warn his mates of their danger. Horace Platt, age 15 who was in the engine room together with Arnold Clarke, told the story that also describes the beginning of the fire, Horace Platt, said, we were in the engine house; there is a compressed air engine, and paraffin stoves are kept burning somewhere underneath to keep it from freezing. Ernest Brown was filling one of these stoves when he accidentally knocked it over. There was some oil about and it immediately took fire, as well as some wood and cotton waste. It was soon a furious blaze. We tried to put it out with buckets of water, but it was no use. The place was filled with thick smoke and burning oil ran along the floor. The engine room was soon a blazing furnace, and Ernest Brown said: 'lets fetch them from the Red Slag place', (these were the men beyond the engine house) He made two or three attempts to break through the smoke and flames, but each time he was beaten back and we (Horace Platt and Arnold Clarke) told him it was no good trying get through that. He then said: 'We shall have to do summat,' and with that he ran into the
smoke, and we never saw him again.

**Rescuer’s Gallantry**

Harry Bickerton displayed wonderful heroism; he was the day Forman in the Red Mine seam, who was at home when he received intimation of the accident. This would be about four o’clock. He immediately proceeded to the colliery and on arriving descended the pit and went to the seat of the fire.

He found the engineer and carpenter with a number of men endeavouring to put out the fire. At the outset he suggested to the men that they should place a rope round his body and he then attempted to open the door of the return air-way to short-circuit the air current so as to give the men who were in the danger zone every possible chance. But he found that the fire had got too strong a hold, and although he repeated his efforts two or three times, he could not make any headway. The collapse of the timber caused falls of roof and the road way completely blocked. Finding that he could not do any good in that direction, he proposed to attempt the rescue of the men by going though the Red Shag seam and he was accompanied on this hazardous journey by Thomas Gleaves, the fireman in the district. After going some considerable distance, the two men were confronted with a bank of smoke and furnace. Bickerton said that his companion thought it would not be safe to go further, so he went on alone. He had preceded another 100 yards or so of his perilous journey when he discovered five of the workers, three men and two boys struggling together in an endeavour to escape. Bickerton directed this party along the road where he had just left the fireman Gleaves, and he took charge of them and piloted them to safety. Continuing his courageous search, Bickerton went some 200 yards further down the engine dip, and then came across another group, they were lying on the ground. The first he noticed was his brother in law, William Hyde and was greatly shocked to find he was dead. The second he observed was John Kennedy who was unconscious, the third and last was James Cork. Bickerton tried to rouse them but by that time he himself was feeling the effects of the smoke and fumes, and was in danger of being overcome. He therefore, turned to make his way back, and as he passed Kennedy he saw that he was dead. After that he hardly knew what he did. He lay down several times and buried his mouth in the ground to escape the fumes. He was in a state of collapse when members of the rescue brigade ultimately roused him. When he got to the surface he received medical attention before he was taken home.

Ernest Brown, the engineman, who was previously reported missing, was found in the return airway some distance from the engine house. This would seem to indicate that he had gone to give the alarm, or was in search of assistance when he was overcome.

Thomas Brayford, a collier who worked on the day shift and was familiar with the workings of the pit, went down with Birchenwood Rescue Brigade on Friday morning to explore the workings. He acted as a guide, but wore no apparatus. Going along the Red Shag level and through the air roads he found the body of the lad Joseph Cornwall. He was lying on his back and had apparently just come over from the Red Mine road into the air crossing when he succumbed. Then the rescue brigade went to the end of the place where it began to get very hot. Previously to this the air had been clear. They next went to the turn of No. 45 where there were six bodies together. There was no smoke, but the air was bad. The rescue party then went further into the dip and it was arranged that Brayford should wait until they called for him. The party then discovered Robert McCready: who was lying in the middle of the dip, he was alive but unconscious. They carried him to the turn of No. 45, which led to the Red Shag district. Their progress was then rendered very difficult owing to their having to drag the poor man along narrow air-roads. They had to crawl along on their stomachs, dragging the unconscious man along by means of a rope attached round his body. He was successfully brought to the surface, where Dr. Thomas attended to him prior to his removal to North Staffordshire Infirmary. Unfortunately Robert McCready died at 11.45 on Saturday night 27th February; bringing the death roll up to 12.

Rescue Brigades, ten in number, from the neighbouring pits were engaged in exploring the pit and recovering the bodies until a late hour on Friday night when the last body was brought to the pit bottom. The work had been slow and laborious owing to the falls that had taken place. As the bodies were brought up they were conveyed to their homes.

The names of the dead are:

Claude Hodgkinson age 40
Joseph Cornwall age 14
Ernest Brown age 42

George Skidmore age 43
Jacob Copnall age 42
James Brown age 42

John Kennedy age 45
Walter Griffiths age 25
Albert Poole age 34

William Hyde age 35
Levi McCready age 27
Robert McCready age 39
The Coroner’s Summing Up

The Coroner, in reviewing the evidence, said, the facts were particularly simple. The pit was one where naked lights, were allowed to be used, and so far as he could see, there was no breach of the Mines Regulations Act. He thought however, that the jury would agree that the method adopted for heating, was a somewhat crude, and one that certainly could have been improved upon. Brown ought to have known at the same time, that it was a very foolish thing to fill those stoves in the engine-house, while they were still lighted. Another matter he wished to refer to, was that it would have been better to have had the hose down the pit instead of it on the top. Had it been available, Brown might have dealt with the fire promptly and effectively. With the means they had, he thought all the men worked as hard as they could to save life. Bickerton certainly deserved to be highly commended for what he did. It was wonderful that he is alive to give evidence.

The only clause in the Act, which might have a bearing on the case, was section 70, which provided that where timber or other inflammable material was stored, adequate means of extinguishing fire must be provided. He assumed the method in this case was adopted a considerable time ago, and was within the knowledge of the Inspector of Mines who passed it.

He did not think the jury would find any difficulty in arriving at the cause of death. They had also to find whether anyone was responsible and he would certainly say, after the evidence, that nobody was responsible, that it was a pure accident. Thirdly, they could express their view as to how to prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

The jury quickly came to a decision and the foreman said: that the deceased had died of carbon monoxide poisoning, set up by an accidental fire at the colliery. The jury agreed with the Coroner’s remarks in regard to the facilities provided, and the hope that the bravery of Bickerton would be recognised in some way. On behalf of the residents of Chesterton, he would also like to thank the Mines Rescue Brigades for their excellent work.

The Carnegie Medal

This medal was presented to Harry Bickerton and Thomas Gleaves who, at considerable risk to their own lives, rescued six men who were overcome with carbon dioxide at New Hem Heath colliery on February 25th 1915, they tried in vain to rescue the other remaining 12 men, who were unfortunately suffocated, before being overcome themselves and being brought to the surface by the rescue team.