

All Aboard the *Mary Ann*

descendants of
Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER

from Baltonsborough, Somerset
to Nelson, New Zealand



Church of St Dunstan, Baltonsborough

image courtesy Wikipedia

Prepared from contributions by several family genealogists

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Compiler's Note

I did not set out to fully document this large family, but was following all Nelson Gills hoping to find the missing proof that Thomas Gill, born in 1847, was one of their number. The search took 25 years, but eventually a fourth cousin produced the evidence. This document is distributed to thank a number of Gill genealogists who have generously shared their knowledge.

This extended family of agricultural labourers and artisans chose emigration in preference to the deprivation they were experiencing in mid-nineteenth century Somerset. They had no capital to ease their relocation in a pioneer community, and they were unfortunate to find in Nelson the same problem they were trying to escape in England, viz.: an oversupply of labour and insufficient capitalists to employ them. The difference in Nelson was the availability of land. With no state support available for the unemployed, the NZ Company agent turned a blind eye to squatters like William Gill settling on plots of unoccupied land with a view to supporting their families.

Within a few years, William had established himself on a small farm. This must have represented success beyond his wildest dreams. We should not, however, overlook the extreme hardships they suffered before houses were built and land was broken in sufficiently to produce the first crop of food. These folk were among the absolute pioneers of Nelson. When they arrived at Wellington the location of Nelson had barely been decided upon, and survey work was just beginning. The men were immediately set to work constructing a barracks building to house the disembarking families. When that was full to overflowing with women and children, men had to make their own little huts of flax and rushes, with fern for their beds. Women became ingenious at improvising with whatever was to hand, to increase their family's comforts.

Among William's 7 sons and more than 30 adult grandsons there is a predominance of small farmers, self-employed and working their own land. I question whether they could have achieved the same, had the family remained in Somerset.

There is recurrent evidence in the earlier generations of the importance of the institution of marriage. Men needed to work very hard and long hours to wrest a living from the untamed land, and were at a serious disadvantage without a wife to undertake the very laborious tasks of preparation and preservation of food, maintaining fires, cleaning, tending numerous illnesses, and the care and education of children. Widows had insufficient time left after completing these necessary chores to engage in paid employment. Thus it is noticeable that widows and widowers with dependent families commonly remarried in a very short space of time by our standards.

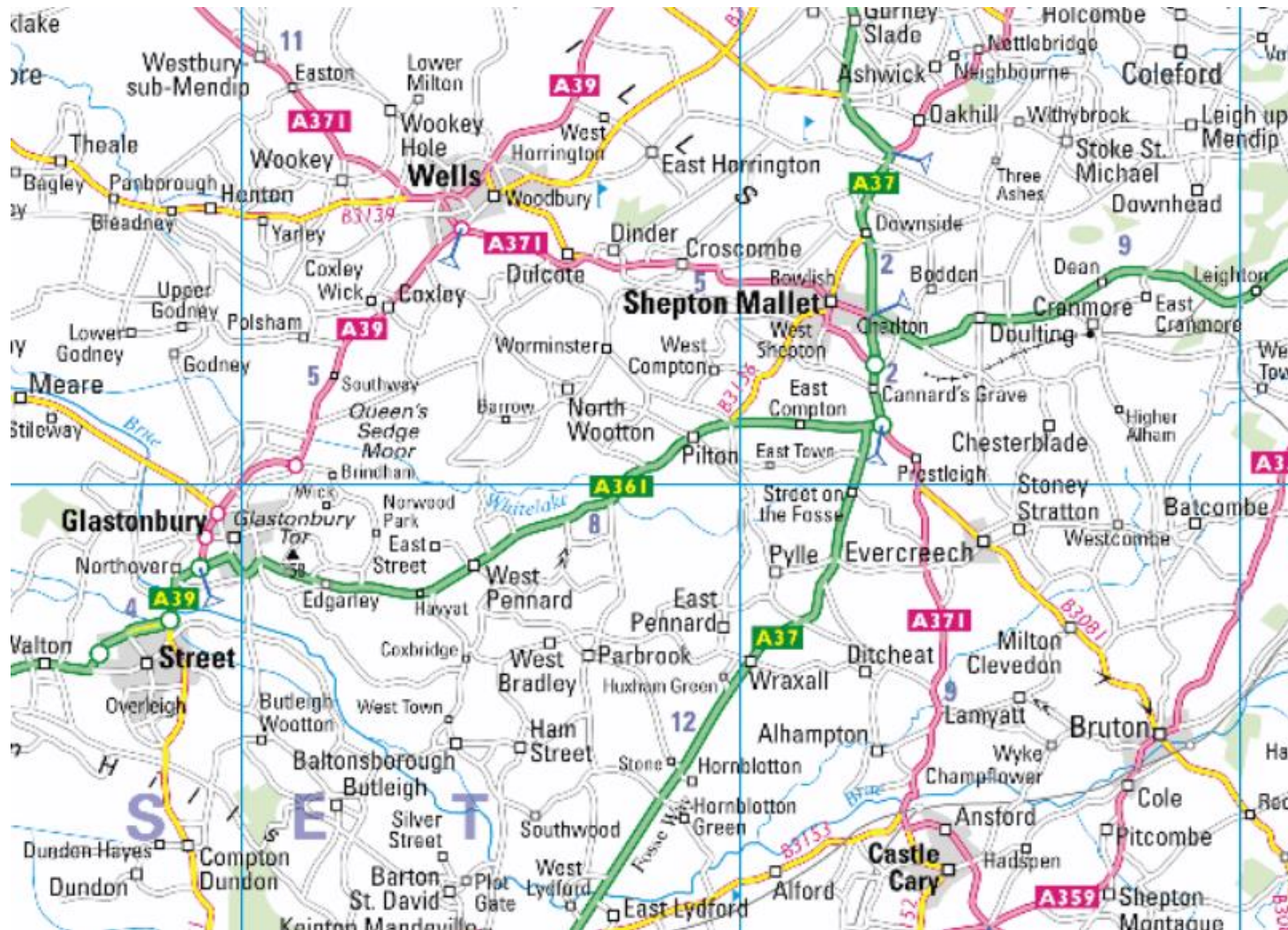
Marriages, and especially second marriages, were not infrequently to distant relatives, or to members of the *de facto* "family" of those who had travelled together on the *Mary Ann*. With such large families living in rural districts marriages between distant relatives were almost inevitable.

Some individuals seem to have rearranged the order of their names, or added a second name, after the registration of their birth. I have tried to use the name they were known by in adulthood.

In the absence of more specific detail, the place of a birth or a death is given as the Registration District where it was recorded. "Nelson" does not necessarily mean Nelson city, it could be anywhere in the Nelson District. "The Wairau" refers to what we now call Marlborough.

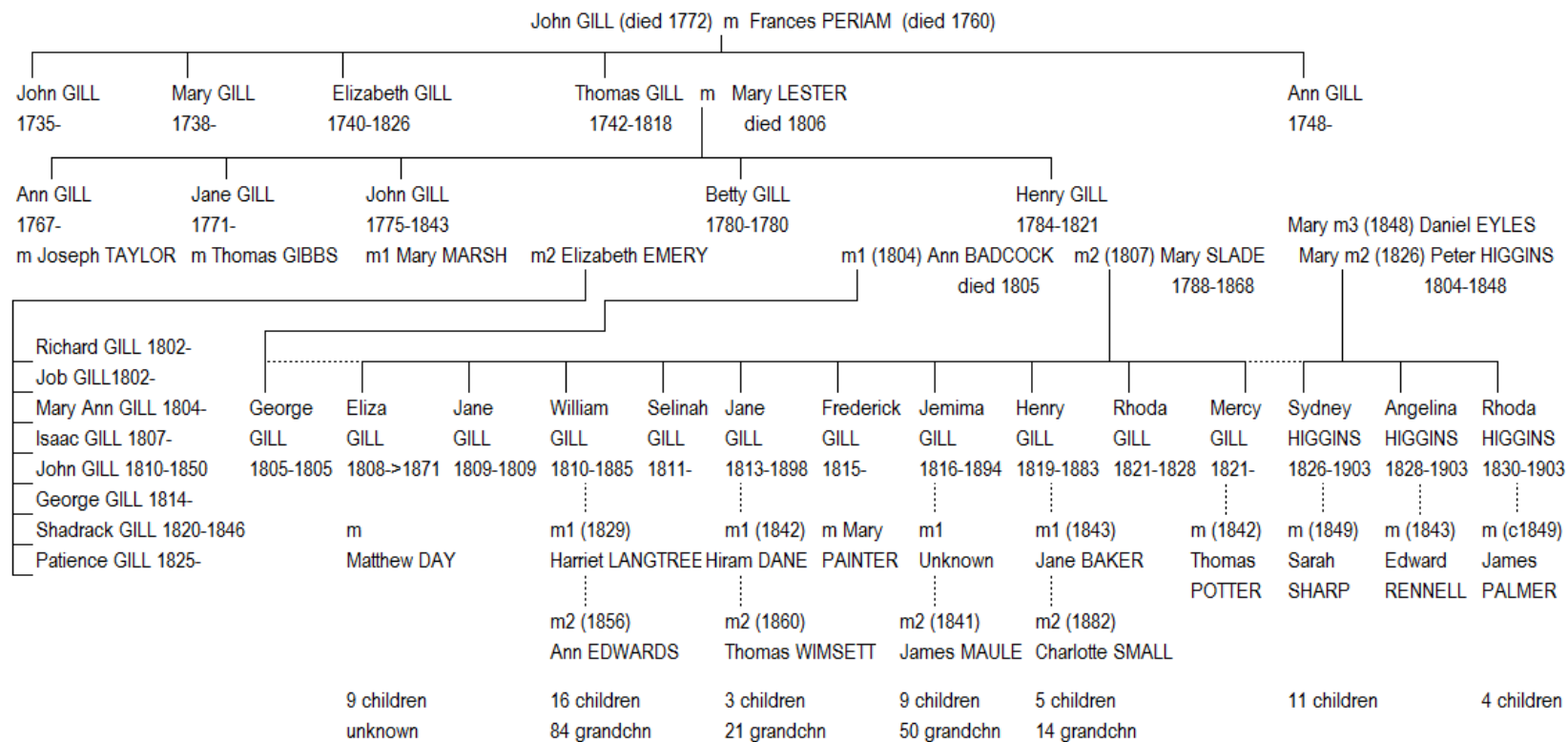
I have tried to verify information given to me by consulting public records but I would be pleased to be informed of errors or additions. There is no copyright on this work. You may take a copy if you wish. The only charge is a challenge to all readers to check those portions with which they are most familiar and inform me of any amendments. Biographical material, even a few lines, about any of the individuals mentioned, would be especially welcome.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

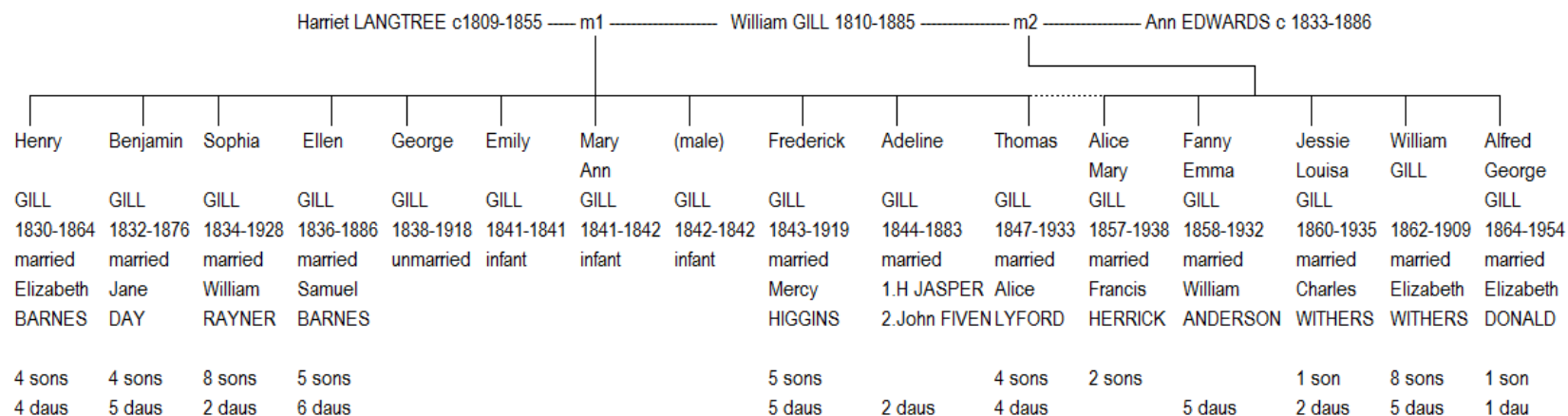


Map - vicinity of Baltonsborough, Somerset

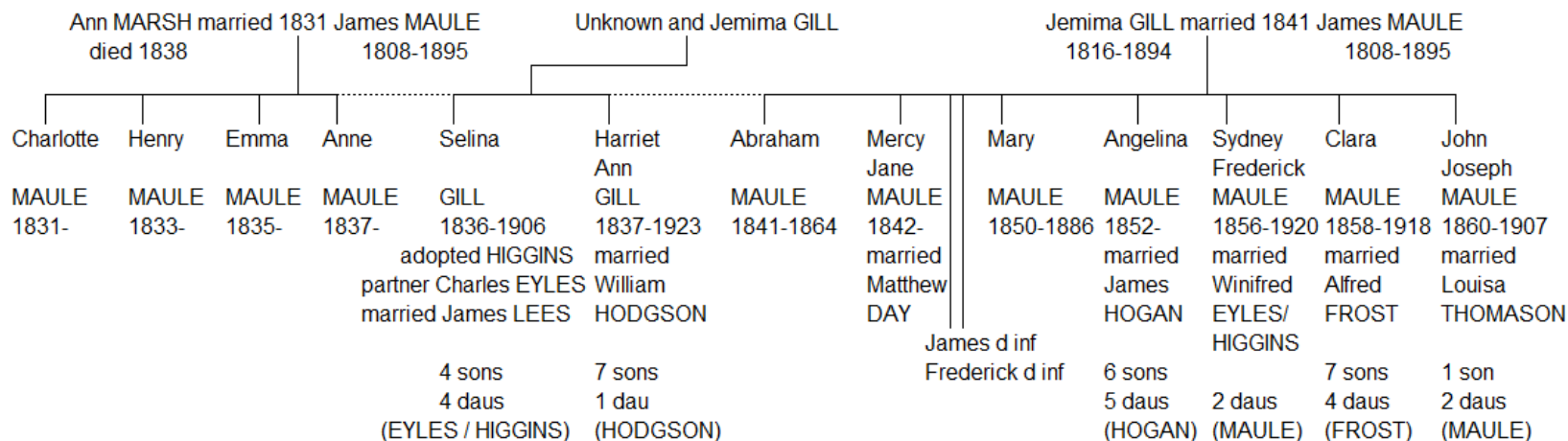
Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester



Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester



William had 16 children from 2 marriages and 84 grandchildren



First Generation - Thomas Gill and his Forebears

1. **Thomas GILL** was born about 1741, and buried on 26 Apr 1818 in Baltonsborough, Somerset, UK, aged 77.¹ He was probably the Thomas GILL who was baptised on 26 Mar 1742 in Butleigh, Somerset, the son of **John GILL** and **Frances PERIAM**.¹

Thomas married **Mary LESTER** on 18 Feb 1765 in Baltonsborough.¹ Mary was baptized on 10 Aug 1746 in West Pennard, Somerset, daughter of **John LESTER** and **Grace**,¹ and buried "wife of Thomas" on 9 Feb 1806 in Baltonsborough (age not stated).¹

Thomas and Mary had the following children:

- 2 i. **Ann GILL** baptised on 8 Nov 1767.¹ She married **Joseph TAYLOR** in Oct 1788.¹
- 3 ii. **Jane GILL** baptised on 14 Apr 1771.¹ She married **Thomas GIBBS** in Feb 1791.¹
- 4 iii. **John GILL** 1775 - 1843. *Refer to page 8*
- 5 iv. **Betty GILL** baptised on 16 Mar 1780¹ and buried on 23 Mar 1783.¹
- 6 v. **Henry GILL** 1784 - 1821. *Refer to page 8*

All the above events occurred at Baltonsborough and are recorded in the parish registers. Baltonsborough parish lies 5 miles south east of Glastonbury.

Thomas' presumed parents, **John GILL** and **Frances PERIAM** married on 9 Apr 1736 in Butleigh¹ which adjoins Baltonsborough to the west.

John and Frances had the following children baptised at Butleigh¹

- i. **John GILL** on 21 Aug 1735
- ii. **Mary GILL** on 14 Jan 1737/8
- iii. **Elizabeth GILL** on 10 May 1740, buried 7 May 1826 Butleigh aged 87
- iv. **Thomas GILL** on 26 Mar 1742 (presumed forebear of this family)
- v. **Ann GILL** on 4 Mar 1748

John GILL was buried on 31 Jul 1772 at Butleigh,¹ [this could be Frances' husband or her son], Frances GILL was buried on 20 Feb 1760 at Butleigh.¹

I am grateful to Bob Senior for drawing my attention to the full transcript of Butleigh parish records available at <http://www.butleigh.org/parishrecords/parishrecords.html>. His website also incorporates a wealth of detail about the parish and its people. See particularly his Gill entries under "Butleigh People" for details of assistance received by this family from the Overseer of the Poor.

Second Generation - Children

4. **John GILL** (*Thomas*¹) was baptised on 28 May 1775 in Baltonsborough,¹ the eldest known son of Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER. He is assumed to be the John who was buried on 8 May 1843 in Baltonsborough,¹ said to be 74 though this John is likely to have been about 69.

1841: John GILL, Baltonsborough age 65, Elizabeth 60, with John aged 30 and Patience 16. [ages rounded down]

John married **Mary MARSH** on 16 Oct 1798 in Baltonsborough.¹ Mary "wife of John" was buried there on 5 Aug 1799.¹

John Gill of Baltonsborough then married **Elizabeth EMERY** by licence on 29 Dec 1801 at West Bradley, Somerset,¹ and they had the following children baptised in Baltonsborough.¹ She was buried aged 75 on 25 Aug 1849 in Baltonsborough.

- 7 i. **Richard GILL** baptized on 7 Feb 1802.¹ He married **Angelina HAIMES** on 21 Sep 1829 in West Pennard.¹ Refer Appendix 3 for a different Richard Gill.
- 8 ii. **Mary Ann GILL** baptized on 19 Aug 1804 in Baltonsborough.¹
- 9 iii. **Isaac GILL** baptized on 1 Feb 1807 in Baltonsborough.¹ In the census of 1871 he was living at Baltonsborough, a Greenwich Pensioner, aged 65, with his 2nd wife **Ann** (nee **TRASK**) . **Emma HOLE**, his grand-daughter, aged 7, born in Baltonsborough, lived with them.
- 10 iv. **John GILL** baptized on 19 Aug 1810 in Baltonsborough.¹ He is assumed to be the John who was buried in Baltonsborough in Jul 1850, said to be 32 though this John would have been about 40.
- 11 v. **George GILL** baptized on 22 May 1814 in Baltonsborough.¹
1841: age about 25, labourer, living with 2 other men of similar age
1842: may be the George GILL, agricultural labourer, of Glastonbury who emigrated to New Zealand by *Mary Ann*.¹⁴ Refer to appendix 4 on page 51 which shows that his application was received separately after those of other family members. He is listed age 29 years, which would give a birth year about 1812. Nothing is known of this George Gill's further life after coming to New Zealand.
- 12 vi. **Shadrack GILL** baptized on 12 Mar 1820,¹ and buried, aged 25, on 28 Jul 1846 in Baltonsborough.¹
- 13 vii. **Patience GILL** baptized on 20 Mar 1825 in Baltonsborough.¹ Refer to page 13

6. **Henry GILL** (*Thomas*¹) was baptised on 18 Jul 1784 in Baltonsborough,¹ the second son and fifth child of Thomas GILL and Mary LESTER. He was buried on 22 Apr 1821 in Baltonsborough¹ at the age of 36, leaving a widow and 9 children ranging from a 13 year old to a posthumous infant.

Henry married **Ann BADCOCK** on 27 Aug 1804 at Somerton, Somerset.¹ Somerton is about 9 km south-west of Baltonsborough. Ann, "wife of Henry" was buried on 1 Oct 1805¹ at the time of George's birth.

- 14 i. **George GILL** was baptised on 6 Oct and buried "son of Henry and Ann" on 15 Dec 1805 in Baltonsborough.¹

Henry, a widower, married **Mary SLADE** on 5 Jan 1807 in Baltonsborough.¹ Assumed to be Mary, born at Ditchat, Somerset, on 1 Feb 1788, baptised 3 Feb 1788, daughter of **Thomas SLADE** and **Ann ROGERS**, refer page 10. Mary (EYLES) died on 11 Mar 1868,² and was buried at Richmond, Nelson, NZ "aged 84."

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Henry and Mary had the following children baptised in Baltonsborough:¹

- | | | | |
|----|-------|---|------------------------------|
| 15 | i. | Eliza GILL 1808 - ? | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |
| 16 | ii. | Jane GILL baptised 28 May 1809, buried 6 Aug 1809. ¹ | |
| 17 | iii. | William GILL 1810 - 1885 | <i>Refer to page 13</i> |
| 18 | iv. | Selina GILL baptised 29 Dec 1811 | <i>Nothing further known</i> |
| 19 | v. | Jane GILL 1813 - 1898 | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 20 | vi. | Frederick GILL 1815 - 1897 | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 21 | vii. | Jemima GILL 1816 - 1894 | <i>Refer to page 18</i> |
| 22 | viii. | Henry GILL 1819 - 1883 | <i>Refer to page 18</i> |
| 23 | ix. | Rhoda GILL 1821 - 1828 | <i>Refer to page 19</i> |
| 24 | x. | Mercy GILL 1821 - ? | <i>Refer to page 19</i> |

After Henry's death in 1821, Mary SLADE/GILL married her second husband **Peter HIGGINS** on 26 Dec 1826 in Baltonsborough.¹ A George Gill was witness to the marriage, possibly a brother of Henry. [Note the transcription records Mary as a spinster] Peter was baptised on 25 Dec 1804 in Baltonsborough, son of John HIGGINS and Sarah APPLEBEE.¹

Peter and Mary had the following children:

- | | | | |
|-------|------|---|-------------------------|
| 25 | i. | Sydney GILL or HIGGINS 1826 - 1903 | <i>Refer to page 19</i> |
| 26 | ii. | Angelina HIGGINS 1828 - 1903 | <i>Refer to page 21</i> |
| 27 | iii. | Rhoda HIGGINS 1830 - 1903 | <i>Refer to page 21</i> |
| 28/60 | iv. | Selina GILL adopted HIGGINS 1836 - 1906 | <i>Refer to page 39</i> |

In 1840 Peter Higgins age 35, wife 40, son 13, daughters 12, 10, 4 along with his stepdaughters Jane and Mercy, applied for assisted passage to South Australia,³³ although in the end they did not take up that offer (refer Appendices 4 & 5 page 50). Peter and Mary HIGGINS emigrated to Nelson, NZ in the *MaryAnn* in 1842 with the above four children (stepbrothers and sisters of nos 15-24). Peter was described as a labourer, aged 36, while Mary his wife was said to be 48.¹⁴ Robyn Tuckett has written: "When Peter and Mary decided to emigrate several of Mary's children from her first marriage joined them. Initially they planned to emigrate to Canada but at the last moment decided to board the *Mary Ann* which was heading for New Zealand." ²³ Robyn's informant may have confused South Australia and Canada. The dates of their applications for passage to NZ suggest it was William and Harriet who made the first move and that Peter and Mary decided to join them.

Peter and Mary settled on Section 69, south of Barton's Lane at Spring Grove. In the 1845 census of Nelson Peter is described as a sawyer, his land ½ fern and ½ trees, with 15 acres part fenced and 4 acres in various crops.¹⁶ Peter was killed while felling a tree on 12 November 1847.²⁸ This was soon after his cottage was built and his family installed in it, leaving Mary alone to bring up her four children in 'the wilderness of a bush home' to quote her grandson, George Rennell HIGGINS.³⁰ Peter was buried in Hallowell cemetery, Nelson. The Examiner reported on 13 November 1847: *An elderly man named Higgins, while working in his garden, at the edge of the wood, on Tuesday last, was struck on the nose by the branch of a tree, which had been disengaged by the wind. The bone of the nose was driven in, and inflicted an injury on the bottom of the brain. The poor man lingered until last night, and then died.*

Within 8 weeks of Peter's death Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS married her third husband **Daniel EYLES** on 3 Feb 1848.³

Daniel EYLES was also on the *Mary Ann* with his first wife Jane PRIMMER (who died on 19 Jun 1842) and 7 children. Their daughter Amelia and her second husband John HOLDAWAY built a home on their farm for Amelia's father Daniel EYLES and his second wife, Mary, and five acres were set aside for their use. Daniel and Mary were then about 56 and happy to have left their former home in Cambria Street, Nelson for the security of the farm and the nearness to their daughter.²⁸ Marion Stringer suggested that Mary and Daniel

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had a child, Daniel Eyles, but this seems improbable given Mary's age.¹⁹ Daniel died in 1870 and was buried with his wife in Richmond cemetery.

Mary's Birth (Slade)	1788	
Mary's Gill Marriage	1807	age 19
Mary's Higgins Marriage	1826	age 38 [described as "spinster"]
Mary's last child (Rhoda)	1830	age 42
Mary's Emigration	1841	age 53 (stated age 48)
Mary's Eyles marriage	1848	age 60
Mary's Death	1868	age 80 (stated age 84)

Notes on the possible ancestry of Mary SLADE, spouse of No 6:

Ditcheat is about 6 miles east of Baltonsborough. This is the parish to which Henry GILL (# 22) returned after his brief visit to NZ. He may have been returning to his mother's family.

In the Ditcheat records we find: Thomas SLADE and Ann ROGERS married 11 Nov 1787.

Mary SLADE born 1 Feb, baptised on 3 Feb 1788, daughter of Thomas SLADE and Ann ROGERS.

Thomas SLADE baptised on 13 Mar 1765, son of **James SLADE** and **Rosanna CHINNICK**

Thomas SLADE was buried on 16 Aug 1789 (aged 24 years) (Mary was their only known child).

Ann ROGERS born 10 Jul 1767 the daughter of **Mary ROGERS** (no father mentioned)

No burial or 2nd marriage for Ann ROGERS has been found.

Mary's grandparents (records at Ditcheat):

James SLADE and Rosanna CHINNICK married 20 Apr 1754.

Rosannah CHINNICK baptised on 18 May 1735, the daughter of **Thomas CHINNICK**

All aboard the *Mary Ann*.

40 known kindred of William Gill travelled on the *Mary Ann* to Nelson.

They were as follows:

- Self & Wife (William and Harriet Gill)
- 6 children (including one born on board)
- 2 sisters unmarried (Jane and Mercy Gill)
- 1 brother unmarried (Henry Gill)
- 1 cousin unmarried (George Gill)
- Mother (Mary Higgins)
- Stepfather (Peter Higgins)
- 1 stepbrother (Sydney Higgins)
- 2 stepsisters (Angelina and Rhoda Higgins)
- 1 niece/adopted stepsister (Selina Higgins)
- 1 future son-in-law (William Rayner who would marry Sophia)
- 1 future step-father (Daniel Eyles)
- 8 future stepbrothers and sisters (the Eyles children, Amelia travelled as Mrs Thomas Cresswell, later Mrs John Holdaway)
- 1 future de facto nephew-in-law who would first become his step-brother (Charles Eyles who would partner Jemima's daughter Selina)
- 11 future in-laws of his unborn son Thomas, members of the Lyford family.

During the voyage a meeting of emigrants was held on board the *Mary Ann* on 12 January 1842, which laid the foundations of the first Benefit Society, and of the Nelson Institute. Mr Gill was included on the committee appointed to make preliminary arrangements to promote the proposed Society. The purpose of the Institute was to diffuse literary and scientific information, by means of a reading room, a public library, and the delivery of public lectures, etc.²²

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Berth allocations in the *Mary Ann* steerage deck are listed in the following table. The shading identifies William's kin. This is a listing of names only, for the layout of the area refer to the plan of the *Mary Ann*. The names in bold are not on the plan but appear in the passenger list. They have been slotted into any available space, though the partitions between single and married accommodation were probably moved to accommodate the extra unmarried males and females in their appropriate quarters. The Gill family is shown to be occupying two berths. These were approx 6 feet long by three feet wide, in two tiers. Three year old George would have been expected to share his parents' bunk, with Ellen (5) Sophia (7) Benjamin (9) and Henry (11) in the bunk above. Conditions were incredibly crowded, and in the midst all of this Harriet would give birth to another baby before they arrived in Nelson. [A Gill child might have shared with the Higgins's.]

Single Men:

Berth No 1	James Barton	Berth No 7	Emery Houndsell
Berth No 2	Edward Cresswell	Berth No 8	William Houndsell
Berth No 3	William Eyles	Berth No 9	Sydney Higgins
Berth No 4	William Fairhall	Berth No 10	Thomas Houseman
Berth No 5	George Gill	Berth No 11	William Lovell
Berth No 6	Henry Gill	Berth No 12	William McRae

Single men in Hammocks in Forecastle:

Berth No 1	David Matthews	Berth No 4	John Sheat
Berth No 2	David Norgate	Berth No 5	J Saunders
Berth No 3	William Rayner	Berth No 6	Henry Gill

Married Couples:

Berth No 1	Job Aldridge, wife, infant	Berth No 29	G McRae, wife, 2 infants
Berth No 2	Wm Gregory, wife, child	Berth No 30	McRae, 3 children
Berth No 3	Wm Lyford, wife	Berth No 31	A C Muir, wife
Berth No 4	L Lyford, wife, child	Berth No 32	G Packman, wife, child
Berth No 5	Lyfords 3 children	Berth No 33	James Lee, wife
Berth No 6	Lyfords 3 children	Berth No 34	Elizabeth Sheat single
Berth No 7	Wm Jennings, wife, child	Berth No 35	Wm Gill, wife, child
Berth No 8	Jennings 3 children	Berth No 36	Gill children (4)
Berth No 9	D Eyles, wife, child	Berth No 37	North 2 children
Berth No 10	Eyles 3 children	Berth No 38	Thos North, wife, infant
Berth No 11	G Smith, wife, infant	Berth No 39	North 2 children
Berth No 12	G Smith child	Berth No 40	
Berth No 13	C&I McRae, single women	Berth No 41	B Powell, wife
Berth No 14	Thos Tidd, wife, child	Berth No 42	Powell 2 children
Berth No 15	P Boddington, wife, infant	Berth No 43	Thos Towers, wife
Berth No 16	Boddington 3 children	Berth No 44	Towers 3 children
Berth No 17	Edwd Fairhall, wife, 2 inf	Berth No 45	Geo Tarr, wife, child
Berth No 18	Fairhall 3 children	Berth No 46	C Vincent, wife, child
Berth No 19	David Noakes and wife	Berth No 47	John Scutter, wife, child
Berth No 20	J Richardson, wife, 2 children	Berth No 48	Scutter 2 children
Berth No 21	J Champ, wife, child	Berth No 49	I Baggerley, wife, child
Berth No 22	Gregory, wife, child	Berth No 50	Elizabeth Harley (single)
Berth No 23	Gregory 2 children	Berth No 51	S Close, wife, child
Berth No 24	J Clark, wife, 2 children	Berth No 52	Close 2 children
Berth No 25	Thos Hopton and wife	Berth No 53	J Fuller, wife, child
Berth No 26	Higgins children (2)	Berth No 54	Fuller 3 children
Berth No 27	P Higgins, wife, child	Berth No 55	J Collins, wife, infant
Berth No 28	McRae, 3 children	Berth No 56	

Single Women:

Berth No 1	Amelia Cresswell, 5 children	Berth No 4	Ann Fairhall, Eliza Fairhall
Berth No 2	Mary Eyles, Jane Eyles	Berth No 5	M Holdaway 4 children
Berth No 3	M Wells & 2 children	Berth No 6	Jane & Mercy Gill

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Other passengers known to be from Baltonsborough on this voyage of *Mary Ann*:

John Sheat and Elizabeth Sheat, his sister;

George Tarr and family;

Stephen Close and family.

Nelson Provincial Council Votes & Proceedings 1862 Compensation claim Mr Peter Higgins by his widow Mary "now the wife of Daniel Eyles".

Third Generation Grandchildren

13. Patience GILL (*John⁴, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 20 Mar 1825 in Baltonsborough,¹ the daughter of John GILL and his second wife Elizabeth.

She had the following children (no father was named in the parish register):

- 29 i. **Abraham GILL** baptised on 12 Nov 1848, and buried on 5 May 1849 in Baltonsborough¹ at the age of 6 months. [FreeReg transcription age 6]
- 30 ii. **Charlotte GILL** baptised on 30 Jan 1853 in Baltonsborough.¹ As Charlotte BURGE she may have married **Henry EICKE** on 31 May 1871 in Victoria, Australia, and died aged 73 on 14 Jun 1926 in Trentham, Victoria, Australia.

Patience (age 28) married **John BURGE** (age 37) on 14 Feb 1853 in Baltonsborough.¹ John was born about 1816.

15. Eliza GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 24 Apr 1808 in Baltonsborough,¹ the eldest daughter of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. I have previously recorded that Eliza died at birth, relying on information supplied by a family member. However, the Baltonsborough records transcribed at www.FreeReg.org.uk, do not include Eliza Gill's infant burial and census evidence suggests that she survived.

Eliza GILL married **Matthew DAY** on 2 Feb 1829 in East Pennard.¹ Eliza's brother William was a witness. Matthew was buried in East Pennard in 1871 aged 81.¹

1841: Matthew age 40, Eliza age 35, George, William, Matthew, Jane, Henry, and Henry GALE (possibly a misreading of the record for Eliza's youngest brother Henry GILL)

1851: Matthew 50 b. East Pennard, Mary (wife) 47 b. Baltonsborough, Matthew, Henry, Frederick, Joseph, Mary (Eliza's name has apparently been misrecorded)

1861: Matthew 64 b. East Pennard, Eliza 54 b. Baltonsborough, Joseph, Mary, Elizabeth

1871: Matthew 77 b. E Pennard, Eliza 68 b. Baltonsborough, Fred 27, Mary 21, Emma 2

Eliza and Mathew had the following children:

- 31 i. **George DAY** bapt 17 Jan 1830 East Pennard¹
- 32 ii. **Matthew DAY** bapt 23 Jun 1833 East Pennard¹ married his cousin **Mercy Jane MAULE** #67 *Refer to page 41*
- 33 iii. **Jane DAY** bapt 4 Jan 1835 East Pennard,¹ no burial found, not in 1851 census
- 34 iv. **John DAY** bapt 8 Jan 1837 East Pennard,¹ no burial or census records found
- 35 v. **Henry DAY** bapt 7 Jul 1839 East Pennard¹
- 36 vi. **Benjamin DAY** born 10 Oct 1841, buried 15 Aug 1850 East Pennard, age 8¹
- 37 vii. **Frederick DAY** born 7 Mar 1844 East Pennard¹
- 38 viii. **Joseph DAY** bapt 15 Apr 1846 East Pennard¹
- 39 ix. **Mary DAY** bapt 15 Sep 1850 East Pennard¹
- 40 x. Elizabeth DAY 1854, Emma DAY 1869 not registered or baptised to this family

17. William GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 6 May 1810 in Baltonsborough,¹ the eldest son of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. He died on 17 Mar 1885³ at Kelvin Grove, Todd's Bush, Wakapuaka, Nelson, NZ, of apoplexy and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.

William's occupation in England was a stonemason. It has been suggested that he built the stone house at the foot of Gentle Annie, Wakapuaka, Nelson but this is unverified. Employment had been difficult to find in his home area, and he was walking many miles

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each day looking for work. The solution seemed to be emigration to NZ and in 1841 he embarked on the *Mary Ann*, arriving in Nelson on 8 Feb 1842, with his wife and family. At the time of application for passage to NZ, William and family resided at Baltonsborough, Town of Walton, Somerset.¹⁴ [Baltonsborough is a small village about 2 miles south-east of Glastonbury, the town of Walton is about 2 miles south-west of Glastonbury, so these appear to be alternate addresses.] Refer to page 10 for a list of other kin who travelled to NZ with William's family.

William and his family settled first as squatters at Cambria Street (Tasman St corner), The Wood, Nelson,¹⁶ on Colonial reserve backing onto tidal flats and the NZ Company turned a blind eye but after 2 years he acquired a farmlet on Section 17, Suburban North. 1845 census recorded on Cambria St with 1 acre cultivated land, 1 acre wheat, ¼ acre potatoes

In the 1849 census he is described as a squatter, living in a wooden house with a thatch roof, and owning 7 cattle, 40 goats, 1 pig and various crops including 2 acres of potatoes. The parents could read and write, but none of the children claimed those skills.¹⁷ In 1855 he voted as a land owner.

William Gill's household in 1849 census of Nelson - Wakapuaka

Total 8, 4 males and 4 females

1 male under age of 2 years This would be Thomas, b 1847

1 female between 2 and 7 years This would be Adeline, b 1844

1 male between 2 and 7 years This would be Frederick, b 1843

1 male between 7 and 14 years This would be George, b 1838

2 females between 14 and 21 yrs This would be Sophia and Ellen, b 1834-36

1 male between 21 and 45 years This would be William, b 1810

1 female between 21 and 45 years This would be Harriet, b 1811

Frederick's line appears to have been crossed out but is required if the total is 8.

From this list it appears that the baby born on Mary Ann did not survive.

Henry and Benjamin were listed separately, being old enough to leave home at 17 & 19.

Land Grant - purchase from NZ Company, No 149 William Gill, Suburban Nth, 35 acres

1866: William, "of Tod's Valley", 200 sheep.²⁷ Wool was being exported to England.

1868: Fined £1 and costs for not filing his return of sheep numbers

1870: Electoral Roll: Abode Suburban North, Property: House and Land, Sect 18 & 19.

1874: liable for the Education Rate in respect of 3 children (Jessie, William and Alfred).

1878: sons William and Alfred took prizes at Clifton Terrace School

1875: of Kelvin Grove, Suburban North 1885: of Kelvin Grove, Todds Bush, Wakapuaka.

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William first married **Harriet LANGTREY** (with consent of parents) on 7 Nov 1829 at East Pennard, Somerset. Harriet was born about 1811, and died aged 44 on 19 Oct 1855 in Nelson.² The bride, groom and both witnesses marked rather than signing the marriage record (image attached as memory to William's profile on Family Search Family Tree).

Harriet's baptism has not been found, but the following couple could be her parents: William LANGTREE married Betty STICKLAND at Ditcheat, Somerset on 30 Mar 1808. They had children baptized at Ditcheat in 1812 and 1814. Harriet would fit easily as their older child, born 1810-11. Harriet's father could be the William LANGTREE, son of Charles and Ann, baptized at Baltonsborough on 17 May 1781. Charles and Ann also had a daughter Harriet baptized at Baltonsborough on 8 May 1781, suggesting that "our" Harriet was named for her paternal aunt. [all these records from Ditcheat parish register]

[Note: For 30 years Harriet's maiden name has been recorded in my database as HUNT, a name supplied by other genealogists, though I had never been able to discover the source. In 2011 with new indexing available, a marriage record as above has been found which is very convincing. The marriage witnesses were Matthew Day, William's brother-in-law and Miriam Stickling, probably Harriet's relative. The date is 11 months before the birth of William and Harriet's first child, and the parish is about 5 km north east of Baltonsborough. An explanation for the name being previously given as HUNT is still being sought.]

William and Harriet's children were:

- | | | | |
|----|-------|--|-------------------------|
| 41 | i. | Henry GILL 1830 - 1864 | <i>Refer to page 23</i> |
| 42 | ii. | Benjamin GILL 1832 - 1876 | <i>Refer to page 24</i> |
| 43 | iii. | Sophia GILL 1834 - 1928 | <i>Refer to page 26</i> |
| 44 | iv. | Ellen GILL 1836 - 1886 | <i>Refer to page 27</i> |
| 45 | v. | George GILL 1838 - 1918 | <i>Refer to page 27</i> |
| 46 | vi. | Emily GILL 1841 - 1841 | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 47 | vii. | Mary Ann GILL 1841 - 1842 | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 48 | viii. | [unnamed] GILL (male) 1842 - 1842 | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 49 | ix. | Frederick GILL 1843 - 1919 | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 50 | x. | Adeline GILL 1844 - 1883 | <i>Refer to page 31</i> |
| 51 | xi. | Thomas GILL 1847 - 1933 | <i>Refer to page 32</i> |

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

In 17 years Harriet bore 11 children, all of whom survived to adulthood apart from the three born immediately before, during, and after the voyage to New Zealand. This may indicate economic deprivation having an adverse effect on Harriet's health at that period, so that she lacked the stamina to produce and nurture healthy babies.

Six months after Harriet's death William married **Ann EDWARDS**, daughter of George Matthew EDWARDS and Eliza RUTLAND, on 25 Mar 1856 in Nelson.³ Ann was born about 1833 in Chigwell, Essex, UK, and died aged 53 on 7 Jun 1886³ of congestion of the lungs at Nelson Lunatic Asylum. She had been admitted on 1 Nov 1885 suffering from chronic mania in an excited, noisy and unmanageable condition, about eight months after her husband's death (coroner's report). She was buried with William in Wakapuaka cemetery, alongside her step-daughter Sophia and Sophia's husband William Rayner.

1882: William Gill, junior, was charged by his mother, Ann Gill, with assaulting her. Evidence showed that the complainant and her husband, who reside at Wakapuaka, have not been living on friendly terms for some considerable time past, and latterly the son, believing his mother to be in the wrong, sided with his father. Mrs Gill against her husband's wish endeavored to take away a cask of butter, and the son at his father's request prevented her. The complainant swore that she had been struck, but this was denied by the father and son, Mr Curtis dismissed the case, stating that no assault had been proved. It was possible the complainant might have fancied she was struck, but there was no evidence to show that such was the case. The defendant was allowed £1 5s costs.

William and Ann's children were:

- | | | | |
|----|------|--|-------------------------|
| 52 | i. | Alice Mary GILL 1857 - 1938 | <i>Refer to page 34</i> |
| 53 | ii. | Fanny Emma GILL 1858 - 1932 | <i>Refer to page 34</i> |
| 54 | iii. | Jessie Louisa GILL 1860 - 1935 | <i>Refer to page 35</i> |
| 55 | iv. | William "Will" GILL 1862 - 1909 | <i>Refer to page 35</i> |
| 56 | v. | Alfred George GILL 1864 -1954 | <i>Refer to page 37</i> |

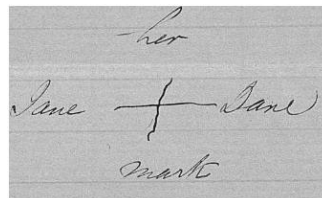
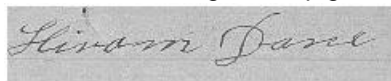
19. Jane GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 20 Jun 1813 in Baltonsborough,¹ the daughter of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. Jane (WIMSETT) died on 26 May 1898 in Nelson, aged 84.³

In 1840 her application to emigrate to South Australia was listed under her stepfather's name – Jane HIGGINS, age 20, servant of Baltonsborough, but they never travelled.³³ She came to NZ in the *Mary Ann* in 1842, Jane GILL a servant aged 21, though her age from her baptismal record was 28. On the applications for passage she is described as a dairymaid aged 21, resident at Baltonsborough, Town of Walton, Somerset.¹⁴

Parents on death certificate: William and Mary, should be Henry and Mary.

Jane first married **Hiram DANE** on 18 Jul 1842 in the Anglican Church, Nelson.¹³ Hiram was born about 1809 in Maine, USA,⁴⁸ and died on 16 Dec 1858³ in Nelson when he was 49. The newspaper reported his death "after a long illness and much bodily suffering which was borne with Christian fortitude and resignation." He was buried in Nelson. Occupation: Boatman. Religion: Baptist. He has been referred to as "Uncle Dean"²³

Will dated 8 Nov 1858, Hiram Dane, late of Maine, USA, boatman, trustees James King and Benjamin Crisp, life interest to Jane during her widowhood, then to his 3 children in equal shares, reference to ownership of Town Acre 737 in Vanguard St North. Inventory: American clock, 4 pictures, 1 fender, 2 tables, 7 chairs, 1 sofa, kitchen utensils, 1 American stove, bedstead, washstand and glass, 1 pig, total value £26/-/-



Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Jane and Hiram had 2 sons and a daughter:

- | | | | |
|----|-----|---|-------------------------|
| 57 | i. | Mary Jane DANE 1843 - 1916 | <i>Refer to page 37</i> |
| 58 | ii. | William Frederick DANE 1845 - 1911 | <i>Refer to page 38</i> |
| 59 | ii. | Henry Edward DANE 1852 - 1915 | <i>Refer to page 38</i> |

Jane married her second husband **Thomas Martin WIMSETT** on 15 Jul 1860.³ Thomas died on 26 Aug 1880 aged 69, and was buried in Fairfield, Trafalgar St, Nelson. Mrs Thomas Wimsett was among those present at the Old Settlers' Luncheon held on 21 June 1887 to mark Queen Victoria's 50th Jubilee.²² To quote Broad: *Many a tear was shed as old shipmates recalled leaving the Old Country nearly 50 years previously, the struggles in the infant days of settlement, and fond remembrances of those who had passed away.*

20. Frederick GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptized on 13 Aug 1815 in Baltonsborough, son of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE.¹ He died in 1897 in Shepton Mallet R.D. "aged 82" making him the last Gill descended from Henry and Mary in England.

1841: Frederick aged 25 and Mary aged 20 at Catshum, Baltonsborough
1851: Frederick and his wife Mary at Lottisham Green, Ditchet, Somerset.
1853: 9th July, an application was made to the NZ Company for passage to NZ for Frederick Gill age 33, Mary Gill age 32, sponsored by his brother William (already in NZ), however it appears that Frederick and Mary never travelled. Associated with their application was one for Mathew DAY age 18, who did emigrate, and would eventually marry Frederick's niece Mercy Jane MAULE, #67 below.
1861: age 45, born Baltonsborough, ag lab at Ditchet, wife Mary age 44, no children
1881: age 67, living at Shepton Mallet, with wife Mary

Frederick married **Mary PAINTER** on 20 Apr 1841 in Bath, Somerset.¹ They had no children.

21. Jemima GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 24 Nov 1816 in Baltonsborough,¹ daughter of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. She died "aged 76" on 30 Aug 1894 in Brightwater, Nelson.³

Jemima had 2 daughters, for whom no father was named:

- | | | | |
|-------|-----|---|----------------------------------|
| 28/60 | i. | Selina GILL adopted HIGGINS 1836 - 1906 | <i>Refer to pages 9 & 39</i> |
| 61 | ii. | Harriet Ann GILL adopted MAULE 1837 - 1923 | <i>Refer to page 40</i> |

On 14 Aug 1841 Jemima married **James MAULE*** in St John the Baptist, Glastonbury,¹ both "of Northload Bridge". Her brother William Gill was a witness, just six weeks before his departure for NZ. The marriage was not registered until Sept 1/4 1843 in Wells Registration District. James was born on 3 Aug 1808 in Glastonbury, Somerset, (son of James MAULE and Grace POOLE), and died "aged 92" on 26 Oct 1895 in Brightwater, Nelson. James was previously married to **Ann MARSH**, who died in childbirth at St John the Baptist, Glastonbury on 8 Aug 1838.⁶ [*Spelling usually Maul in UK records, Maule in later NZ records.]

The family lived at 201 Northload, Glastonbury in the 1851 census.
Will signed 18 Jul 1889, to wife for life, then all to John Joseph, except £10 for Clara.²⁴

James and Ann had the following children (details from 1851 census and passenger list):

- | | | |
|----|------|--|
| 62 | i. | Charlotte MAULE born about 1832 Glastonbury, a glover aged 20 in 1851. |
| 63 | ii. | Henry MAULE born about 1834, farm servant for Arthur Keen of Meare in 1851. |
| 64 | iii. | Emma MAULE born about 1835, a glover aged 16 in 1851. |
| 65 | iv. | Anne MAULE born about 1837 Glastonbury, a glover living with her Uncle William Maule in 1851. |

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

James and Jemima had 3 sons and 4 daughters:

66	i.	Abraham MAULE 1841-1864	Refer to page 41
67	ii.	Mercy Jane MAULE 1844 -	Refer to page 41
68	iii.	James MAULE 1846 – 1847	Refer to page 42
69	iv.	Frederic MAULE 1848 - 1849	Refer to page 42
70	iii.	Mary MAULE 1850 - 1886	Refer to page 42
71	iv.	Angelina MAULE 1852 - 1933	Refer to page 42
72	v.	Sydney Frederick MAULE 1856 -1920	Refer to page 43
73	vi.	Clara MAULE 1858 - 1918	Refer to page 43
74	vii.	John Joseph MAULE 1860 - 1907	Refer to page 44

The family travelled to Sydney by the *Sarah* 14 Aug 1851, (image below) ²⁹ but their method of arrival in NZ is not known. They were in NSW for Angelina's birth in 1852, but no other children were registered there. Harriet Ann's obituary [*The Press* 31 Dec 1923] suggests that they settled in NSW for a year before coming to New Zealand.

Maul	James	36				Labourer	Glastenbury Somerset	Ch of England	Both
	Jemima	36				Wife	Baltonsborough do	do	do
	Charlotte		20			Dom. Serv (maid)	Glastenbury Somerset	do	Read
	Henry		18			Labourer (son)	do	do	do
	Emma		16			Dom. Serv (daughter)	do	do	do
	Anne		14			do (do)	do	do	do
	Harriet Anne Gill		14			do (do)	do	do	Further
	Abraham			12		Son	do	do	Read
	Mercy Jane			9		Daughter	do	do	do
	Mary					do	do	do	do

22. Henry GILL (*Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 3 Jan 1819 in Baltonsborough,¹ the son of Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. He died aged 64 on 13 Feb 1883³ and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery, Nelson with headstone (partially buried).

1841 census: Henry Gill age 20-24 in household of his sister Eliza Day, East Pennard
Henry came to NZ in 1841/42 in the *Mary Ann*, but returned to England.

1851: with wife and 4 children at Lottisham Green, Ditchet, close to brother Frederick.

On 7 June 1853 he returned to Nelson by the *Maori* with three children aged 8, 6 and 4. A passage for his wife was booked but she did not travel in the end, nor did their youngest daughter Selena. The assumption is that one or other of these two was unfit to travel at that time. Their assisted passages on the *Maori*, amounting to £33, had been guaranteed to be repaid by William Gill and George Tarr. George had travelled out with the Gills to Nelson on the *Mary Ann*, and was also from Baltonsborough. In the Emigration Register the Tarr application immediately precedes the Gills. They may have been relatives.

1870: Electoral Roll: Suburban Nth; pt Section 15. Lived at Clifton Terrace, Wakapuaka.

1881: el roll farmer part sect 15 sub north residential qualification, also part sect B5 Wakatu

1883: will - to dau Emily Moore land and buildings Tory St, Nelson, pt sect 365; to dau Mary Ayton 10 acres at Suburban North, and after her decease to Mary Jane Baker Gill and her heirs; residue to present wife Charlotte Gill; Charlotte and son Edward to be executors; signed with his mark 18 Nov 1882, "having had it read and explained to me." Codicil 10 Feb 1883 building society shares and cash - £200 to wife, divide residue between 3 children.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Henry married **Jane BAKER** on 22 Apr 1843 in East Pennard, Somerset.¹ Jane was a minor, and Henry "marked" instead of signing. Jane was born about 1824 in Bristol, and died on 24 Jun 1863 according to Henry's 2nd marriage certificate.

Henry and Jane had two sons and three daughters:

- | | | | |
|----|------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 75 | i. | Edwin GILL 1843 - 1844 | <i>Refer to page 44</i> |
| 76 | i. | Edward GILL 1845 - 1923 | <i>Refer to page 45</i> |
| 77 | ii. | Emily GILL 1847 - 1922 | <i>Refer to page 45</i> |
| 78 | iii. | Mary GILL 1848 - 1924 | <i>Refer to page 46</i> |
| 79 | iv. | Selina GILL 1850 - 1860 | <i>Refer to page 47</i> |

Henry remarried **Charlotte SMALL** nee **WATT** on 8 May 1882 in Nelson.³ Charlotte was born in 1819, and died in Nelson on 23 Apr 1903.³ The *Nelson Mail* reported: Mrs Charlotte Gill, an, old and highly esteemed resident of Wakapuaka, died yesterday. The deceased lady came to the province in 1842, and has lived at Wakapuaka for 61 years. The late Mrs Gill, who was 84 years of age, was thrice married, and her last husband predeceased her. The funeral will leave Mr Thomas Small's, Todd's Bush, to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock for St. Andrew's Cemetery, at Hillside.

She was Mrs Gill of Wakapuaka, emigrated by *Sir Charles Forbes* 1842 [as Charlotte Small], present at Queen Victoria's Jubilee Dinner in 1897.

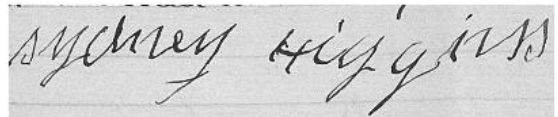
23. Rhoda GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 22 Apr 1821 in Baltonsborough and buried there on 5 Oct 1828 aged 8.¹

24. Mercy GILL (*Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptised on 25 Nov 1821 in Baltonsborough,¹ eight months after the death of her father. In 1840 her application to emigrate to South Australia was listed under her stepfather's name – Mercy HIGGINS, age 18, servant of Baltonsborough, but they never travelled.³³ In 1841 Mercy GILL applied for passage to NZ, a dairymaid, aged 18, of Charlton Mackrell, Somerset.¹⁴

Mercy married **Thomas POTTER** on 18 Nov 1842 in Nelson, N.Z.¹³ Nothing further known, possibly they did not remain in NZ.

25. Sydney HIGGINS or GILL (*Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS⁶*) was born on 10 Aug 1826 and baptised on 26 Dec 1826 in Baltonsborough¹ as Sydney GILL son of Mary GILL, widow. His mother married Peter HIGGINS the same day, and Sydney was baptised again on 10 Aug 1827 at Glastonbury,¹⁵ the son of Peter and Mary HIGGINS. He came to NZ in the *Mary Ann* in 1842 at the age of about 15, with his parents and siblings. He died aged 76 on 15 May 1903 in Spring Grove, Nelson,³ and was buried in Spring Grove cemetery.⁹

He had no schooling, but went to earn a penny a day when he was six years old, minding pigs and scaring cows off the crops for the Esquire. When he was twelve years old he worked in the stone quarry, walking six miles a day. His dinner was bread and cheese and a bottle of cider. That was the general drink in Somerset. When the Higgins family arrived at the Port [Nelson] the track was over the Port Hills, down Washington valley, through fern, flax and toi-toi to the hill where the Cathedral now stands; that was the Company's depot where they issued the rations and gave orders to the men to work - making their own huts of manuka, flax and toi-toi, and then constructing a road from the Port into the town.³⁰ Will signed 7 Feb 1889 - life interest to wife, 4 daughters living at his decease to share

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sydney Higgins". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid, with the first name "Sydney" being larger and more prominent than the surname "Higgins".

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

equally all cash in bank accounts; Alfred Ernest Higgins to have section 49 Waimea South with all the stock etc; George Reynold Higgins to have section 135 Waimea South; William Stephen Higgins to have section 136 Waimea South; nephew Harry Louis Bryant to have £50 out of the life insurance; daughters to get share of a further £100 [older sons presumably already provided for].

Sydney married **Sarah SHARP**, youngest daughter of Stephen SHARP, on 30 Jul 1849³ in Spring Grove, Nelson. Sarah was born about 1830 in Dover, Kent, came to NZ in the *Bolton* in 1842, and died on 23 Sep 1923³ in Spring Grove, Nelson. For an account of Sarah's life refer to *Married and Gone to New Zealand*³⁰ also *Petticoat Pioneers*.³¹

Sydney and Sarah had six sons and five daughters:

- 80 i. **Hannah HIGGINS** born on 7 Jan 1850³ in Spring Grove, and died aged 37 on 14 Feb 1887 at Hoult's Valley, Nelson, buried at Spring Grove.⁹ She married first **William Cruickshank Jeffreys BRYANT** (1845-1879) in 1869³ and second at Pictou on 30 Jun 1884³ to **William Edmund RUSS** (1850-1930).
- 81 ii. **Edward Robert "Ted" HIGGINS** born on 20 Oct 1851³ at Spring Grove and died on 31 Jan 1911³ at Foxhill, Nelson. He was married on 2 Jan 1875 to **Mary Louisa "Polly" LEWIS** (1855-1931).³ They had 5 sons and 4 daughters, and are buried at Foxhill.⁹
- 82 iii. **Mercy HIGGINS** born on 5 Dec 1853³ at Nelson, and died on 29 Aug 1912³ at Nelson. Mercy married **Frederick GILL** (#49 below), on 30 Jul 1873 in Spring Grove.³ They had 10 children - see below, and are buried at Waimea West.⁹
- 83 iv. **Harriet HIGGINS** born on 6 or 7 Jul 1856³ in Spring Grove, and died on 26 Jul 1918³ at Wai-iti, Nelson. She married **Elijah GRIFFITH** or **GRIFFITHS** at Nelson on 14 May 1879.³ They had 3 sons and 2 daughters, and are buried at Spring Grove.⁹
- 84 v. **Peter HIGGINS** born on 27 Sep 1858³ at Spring Grove, and died aged 53 on 11 May 1914³ at Belgrove. He married **Martha Ann LEWIS** (1863-1949) at Spring Grove on 3 Jun 1882.³ They had 3 sons and a daughter, and are buried at Foxhill.⁹
- 85 vi. **Sydney Emery HIGGINS** born on 11 Jan 1861³ at Spring Grove, and died aged 67 on 7 May 1928³ at Spring Grove. He married **Emma Bertha RUSS** (1870-1953) on 20 Apr 1887³ at Havelock. They had 4 sons and 3 daughters, and are buried at Spring Grove.⁹
- 86 vii. **Lucy Louisa HIGGINS** born on 4 Nov 1863³ at Nelson, and died on 12 Jan 1948 at Wakatu. She married **Harry Augustus RICKETTS** (1861-1939) at Brightwater on 21 Jun 1888.³ They had 1 son and 4 daughters, and are buried at Wakefield.⁹
- 87 viii. **George Rennell HIGGINS** born on 1 Apr 1866,³ at Spring Grove, and died on 7 Aug 1952³ at Nelson. He married **Alice Candace HAMMOND** (1867-1950) on 2 Oct 1890³ and lived at Fossil Farm, Spring Grove. They had 4 sons and 4 daughters, and are buried at Spring Grove.⁹
- 88 ix. **William Stephen HIGGINS** born on 24 Oct 1868³ at Spring Grove, and died aged 72 on 17 Apr 1941³ at Hamilton, NZ. He married **Magdalena "Lena" BARRY** or **BARY** (1873-1952) on 26 Dec 1892³ at Nelson. They had 2 sons and 2 daughters, and are buried at Hamilton East.⁹
- 89 x. **Julia Sarah HIGGINS** born on 22 Dec 1870³ at Spring Grove, and died on 28 Jan 1956³ at Spring Grove. She married **Thomas Rollison GREIG** (1867-1949) on 13 Aug 1892³ at Nelson. They had 3 sons and 2 daughters, and are buried at Spring Grove.⁹
- 90 xi. **Alfred Ernest HIGGINS** born on 10 Dec 1873³ at Nelson and died aged 73 on 23 Nov 1947³ at Nelson. He married **Mary Ann HAMMOND** (1873-1955) on 28 Apr 1897³ at Waimea West. They had 1 son and 1 daughter, and are buried at Spring Grove.⁹

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

26. Angelina HIGGINS (*Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS*⁶) was baptised in Jun 1828 in Baltonsborough, the daughter of Peter HIGGINS and Mary SLADE/GILL. She came to New Zealand in the *Mary Ann* with her family in 1841/42. Angelina RENNELL died on 15 Jul 1903 at Brightwater and is buried at Brightwater,¹⁹ where her siblings Rhoda PALMER and Sydney HIGGINS had both been buried in the previous 2 months. [The 1841 census in England lists her as Amelia HIGGINS.]

Angelina married **Edward George RENNELL** (1808-1865) on 18 Nov 1843, they had no children. Edward's will leaves Angelina, his widow, with a life interest, and mentions his siblings in England. A legacy is also provided for Joseph Edward RENNELL, described as "the illegitimate son of Lucy MADDOCK". This baby had been born in 1865, but his father, also Joseph, drowned 2 weeks later. The baby's 17 year old mother being unable to care for him, Edward, his great-uncle, and Angelina adopted him, only to have that plan thwarted by Edward's death later the same year.

Edward was the first teacher at the Spring Grove school. Edward and Angelina were living with her parents at the time of Peter Higgins' unfortunate death. They later lived on Section 40 at Spring Grove. Edward died on 1 Nov 1865³ and Angelina lived with her sister Rhoda until Rhoda's death. Angelina and Rhoda, of Spring Grove, were successful applicants for the Old Age Pension in 1899 - £18 each.

27. Rhoda HIGGINS (*Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS*⁶) was baptised on 14 Feb 1830 in Baltonsborough,¹ the daughter of Peter HIGGINS and Mary SLADE/GILL, and died aged 73 on 5 Jul 1903³ at Waimea South. She lived with her sister Angelina in the later part of her life, and is buried at Brightwater.

Rhoda married **Bendix Nioup ROSSENDILDER [or ROSSENDILTER]** on 15 Jun 1846 at the Wesleyan Chapel, Nelson.⁸ Nothing further is known about her husband, and she may have been quickly widowed or abandoned.

Rhoda then partnered **James PALMER**, a seaman, in the later 1840s in Wellington, NZ. Nothing is known about James' antecedents and it is even possible that James Palmer was a conveniently English sounding alias adopted by Bendix Rossendilter. James was buried on 22 Sep 1870 in Bolton St cemetery. (Refer to Appendix 6 page 52 for more about James, with his portrait.)

Rhoda and James' children were:

- 91 i. **James William PALMER** born about 1846-49 in Kaikoura, married **Emily Henrietta QUINNEY** at Motupiko, Nelson "aged 41" in 1890, and was buried at Marawera cemetery, near Tapawera, Nelson in 1919 "aged 73" according to his headstone. They had a son James Ashley Palmer born 27 Dec 1890 Wakefield.
- 92 ii. **Clara Mary PALMER** born 29 Mar 1850 in Wellington.³ Nothing further known. She may be the young woman named Clara Palmer, a patient in the Hospital, who attempted to strangle herself. She had been examined by two doctors, and committed to the Lunatic Asylum. An inquest was held on the body of a late inmate, Clara Palmer, the jury found she died from exhaustion, resulting from suicidal mania. It appeared that she injured herself by getting into a copper of boiling water. The jury added a rider that in their opinion the female attendants of the Asylum were not sufficiently numerous. She is **NOT** the Clara Palmer who married Alfred Bridges Hall, as alleged on some websites. Mrs Clara Hall was born at Waimea West on 12 Nov 1849 the daughter of John Palmer and Mary Ann, nee White. She is referred to as his daughter Clara Hall by John Palmer of Waimea West in his will proved in 1898.²⁴

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

- 93 iii. **John PALMER** born 9 Jun 1852 in Wellington
- 94 iv. **Angelina Marion PALMER** born 19 Apr 1854 in Wellington,³ died suddenly at Motupiko on 30 Jun 1892, buried Upper Motueka [refer *Colonist*]. On 20 Jul 1872 ³ she married **Charles Edwin THOMPSON** (1849-1936) at Spring Grove, Nelson. [Angelina is listed as Angelina Palmer Ross ST KILDA in the marriage index.] They had nine children including a son also **Charles Edwin THOMPSON** who married his half second cousin **Rose Ellen Susan DANE** (#192 in this pedigree). In 1908 Charles remarried **Lily Agnes DRUMMOND**.

In 1877 James Palmer and his brother-in-law Charles Edwin Thompson , applied to lease 200 acres at Motupiko.¹

Fourth Generation - Great Grandchildren

41. Henry GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 28 Sep 1830 in Baltonsborough,¹ the eldest son of William and Harriet GILL. He died on 22 Aug 1864 in the Wairau,³ after being thrown out of his dray near the Omaka Bridge. His widow had lost twins at birth at the beginning of that year, she had four children under nine, and a posthumous daughter would be born in December.

1856: labourer, householder (not freeholder) of Suburban North (Nelson Provincial Gazette)

1860: freeholder, Lower Wairau

1864: The Press reported on 9 May that gold had been discovered by Mr Henry Gill in the Wairau Valley, 2 ounces of nuggety gold having been brought into Blenheim.

1868: Big Bush Sunday School - 4 children mentioned for good attendance and recitation



Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Henry married **Elizabeth (Betsey) BARNES** (daughter of John Barnes and Mary Dunn) on 15 Jan 1856 in Nelson.³ Henry was of Lower Wairau, shearer, at the time of his marriage. Elizabeth was born about 1837 in Walmer, Kent, UK. After Henry's death Elizabeth remarried **John CAMERON** (1836-1893) in 1867.³ She died on 17 Apr 1905,³ aged 67, and was buried in Omaka cemetery (Elizabeth CAMERON).

Henry and Elizabeth had four sons and four daughters:

- 95 i. **William GILL** born in 1856³ in the Wairau (mother Betsey), and died on 12 Jun 1937, aged 80.³ He married **Maria Elizabeth CHEESEMAM** (1856-1950) on 30 Jun 1880.³ They are buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. They had 6 sons and 2 daughters. Farmer, freeholder of Grovetown, also Road Board Inspector.
- 96 ii. **Henry GILL** born in 1858³ in the Wairau. He died "aged 69" on 12 Jul 1926,³ and is buried in Omaka cemetery. 1881 El Roll Henry Gill jnr, Grovetown
- 97 iii. **Mary Elizabeth GILL** born on 1 May 1859³ in the Wairau and died on 2 Jun 1945. She married **Angus CAMERON** in 1878,³ and had 1 son, 3 daus.
- 98 iv. **Sarah GILL** born in 1860³ and was accidentally drowned in 1861³ in the Wairau
- 99 v. **James GILL** was born on 18 Jan 1862 in Lower Wairau, Marlborough³ and died aged 78 on 11 Oct 1940.³ James married **Mary Jane WORKMAN** (1869-1915) on 9 Jul 1890 at Kekerangu.³ They are buried in Omaka cemetery, and had 5 sons and 4 daughters.
- 100 vi. **George GILL** born and died on 22 Jan 1864 in the Wairau,³ twin.
- 101 vii. **Sarah GILL** born and died on 22 Jan 1864 in the Wairau,³ twin.
- 102 viii. **Harriet Adeline GILL** born in 1864 in the Wairau,³ posthumous. She married **Thomas CHANDLER** in 1885 and died aged 33 on 31 Oct 1898, buried Grovetown, Marlborough cemetery. They had 1 son and 3 daughters.

42. Benjamin GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 22 Apr 1832 in Baltonsborough,¹ the 2nd son of William and Harriet GILL. He died aged 43 on 10 Feb 1876³ a farmer of Todds Bush, Nelson, and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery (no headstone).

1856: Shepherd, Wairau, Freeholder Suburban North (Nelson Provincial Gazette)

1859: Sawyer (Nelson jury list)¹⁸

1870: Electoral Roll: Abode Wairau, Property House and Land pt sect 17 Suburban Nth.

1874: Liable for Education Rate in respect of 3 children.

1876: will filed National Archives Wellington, was signed on 19 Jan 1876 with his mark "as he was unable to write his name". This was less than three weeks before his death and marking could have been due to infirmity or illiteracy. His wife Jane received a life interest unless she remarried, then to be divided equally between the four sons. The daughters were not acknowledged. A grey mare and cart were left to the eldest son, Alfred.

Benjamin married **Jane DAY** on 31 Mar 1857.³ She may have been a relative of Matthew Day who married Benjamin's first cousin Mercy Jane MAULE (#67) below.

Benjamin and Jane had four sons and five daughters:

- 103 i. **Alfred Cornelius GILL** born on 7 Apr 1858 in Nelson,³ and died at the age of 60 on 29 Jul 1917² of Crisp St, Wakapuaka, Nelson. He "marked" instead of signing his intention to marry. Alfred married **Mary Ann Amelia AVERY** (1862-1923) on 6 Jul 1883³ in Nelson. They are buried at Wakapuaka (Baptist). Alfred and Mary Ann had 4 sons & 6 daus.
Papers throughout the country reported Mary Ann's death: *A shocking double burning fatality is reported from Rockville, Collingwood, the victims being Mrs. Mary Ann Gill and her brother, Mr. Henry Cisley John Avery, both of whom were over 60 years of age. Mrs. Gill kept house for her brother. Yesterday afternoon they went for a walk, and Mr. Avery lighted a scrub fire in rough country in two or three places. The fire burned fiercely and both Mr. Avery and Mrs. Gill*

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

were trapped in the flames. They attempted to escape by clambering up a steep gully, but were overtaken by the fire. Mrs. Gill was burned to death on the spot. Mr. Avery was found with all his clothes burned off and was taken home, where he died at 1.30 this morning. The tragedy occurred in a most secluded spot.



Wakapuaka cemetery

- 104 ii. **Eliza Jane GILL** born on 20 Jul 1859,³ and died aged 82 on 3 Mar 1941.³ Eliza married **William NEWPORT** (1853-1927) on 20 Jul 1876 at St Peters by the Strand, Nelson.³ They are buried at Wakapuaka. 1 daughter and 3 adopted chn.
- 105 iii. **Lucy Emma GILL** born on 2 Mar 1861 in Nelson,³ died on 25 Jun 1862,³ and is buried with her father in Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 106 iv. **Caroline Elizabeth GILL** was born on 6 March 1863 in Nelson,³ and died on 14 Feb 1930 aged 66.³ She married **Albert Edward TUNNICLIFF** (1869-1944) on 28 Jan 1892³ in Wakefield, Nelson. They had 1 son.
- 107 v. **[unnamed] GILL** (female) born on 29 Oct 1865, died 11 Nov 1865 age 13 days.³
- 108 vi. **Alexander GILL** born on 2 Dec 1866³ in Nelson. Mentioned in father's will. Nothing further known.
- 109 vii. **William John GILL** born on 15 Nov 1868 in Nelson.³ He died of burns aged 25, on 23 Sep 1894³ in Blenheim Hospital and is buried at Omaka cemetery.
- 110 viii. **Charles Edward GILL** born on 15 Jan 1871 in Nelson,³ and died aged 62 on 14 Jan 1933³ in Masterton. Attended Spring Grove School. He married **Eliza HARRISON** (1882-1927) on 8 Aug 1923,³ then married her sister **Sara Ann HARRISON** on 1 Aug 1929.³
- 111 ix. **Ethel Annie GILL** born on 19 May 1874,³ Gill's Valley, Nelson. Married **Charles HILL** on 19 Jan 1898³ at her stepfather's, had 1 son and 1 dau, died 1918.

Eighteen months after Benjamin's death, Jane remarried **George SHARP** (1831-1907) on 15 Aug 1877,³ at The Wood, Nelson. George was the 2nd son of Stephen SHARP,³⁰ and brother-in-law of Sydney HIGGINS who was half-uncle to Benjamin GILL. This Jane's death and burial have not been found, George is buried at Spring Grove.

In the Spring Grove school records G SHARP is listed as the guardian of Charles and Ethel.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

1907: Will - to wife Jane half the furniture, use of cottage and 1 acre at Waimea South and £20 per annum for her widowhood, £50 to son William Sharp, rest to son Thomas Sharp.

43. Sophia GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 23 Mar 1834 in Baltonsborough,¹ the eldest daughter of William and Harriet GILL. She died on 25 Jun 1928² at Todds Bush, Nelson aged 94, of senile decay (index age 96), buried Wakapuaka.

Sophia married **William RAYNER** on 6 Jul 1852³ at Wakapuaka. William died "aged 81" on 9 Sep 1907³ and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.

Sophia (aged 8) and William (aged 18) had both emigrated to NZ in 1842 with their families on the *Mary Ann*. Sophia was already married with a child of her own when her mother died in 1855 and her father remarried, and may have filled the role of surrogate mother to her younger siblings, especially Thomas aged 8.

In 1896 with her own family grown, Sophia attended her half-sister Fanny at the birth of her daughter Annie, the first white child to be born in the Rai valley.

She was almost certainly the elderly lady at Wakapuaka visited by her brother Thomas from Kaikoura and his granddaughter Faith about 1913. Faith remembered the house above the road at Clifton, with a large tree (possibly a fig) outside the back door. Photos of Sophia display a resemblance to Thomas. On the same visit Faith remembered visiting a second house in a different area. This was probably Fred Gill's family.

Sophia and William had eight sons and two daughters:¹¹

- 112 i. **William "Bill" RAYNER** born on 15 Dec 1853,³ and died on 13 Dec 1938³ in Cable Bay. He was buried in Hira, Nelson. They had 1 son and 2 daughters. On 31 Mar 1887³ in Blenheim, Bill married **Catherine CAMERON** (1860-1922). On 15 May 1924³ Bill remarried to **Clara Priscilla BOYCE** (1874-1959).
- 113 ii. **Thomas "Tom" RAYNER** born on 19 Jun 1855.³ Tom died unmarried on 24 Jun 1933,³ and was buried in Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 114 iii. **Henry "Harry" RAYNER** born on 14 Apr 1857,³ and died on 15 Nov 1925.²⁴ Harry married **Mary Ann WINDLE** at St Mary's Nelson, on 11 Oct 1887.³ They had 2 daughters. Will dated 9 Nov 1925, to wife absolutely, farmer of Takaka.
- 115 iv. **Tasman "Tas" RAYNER** born on 24 Feb 1859.³ He died on 10 Sep 1935,³ and was buried in Hira, Nelson. On 17 Jul 1890³ Tas married **Margaret CAMERON** (1862-1928), a sister of Bill's wife Catherine. They had 2 sons and 1 daughter
- 116 v. **Caroline RAYNER** born on 7 Jul 1860.³ She died unmarried on 6 Dec 1938,³ and was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson. She was admitted to Ngawhatu hospital on 23 May 1914 and remained there until her death.
- 117 vi. **Harriet RAYNER** born on 2 Nov 1862,³ died aged 4 on 17 May 1867³ of typhoid, and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery with her grandfather Gill.
- 118 vii. **Unnamed male RAYNER**, born 29 Sep and died 1 Oct 1865.³
- 119 viii. **David "Dave" RAYNER** born on 26 Oct 1866³ in Wakapuaka. He died on 1 Apr 1954³ in Blenheim and was buried in Omaka cemetery. On 13 Feb 1889³ in Richmond, Dave married **Mary Jane ALLPORT** (1868-1955). 4 sons, 1 dau.
- 120 ix. **Frederick John RAYNER** born on 29 May 1869.³ He died of jaundice on 7 Jul 1869³ and is buried at Wakapuaka.
- 121 x. **Herbert Joseph John "Herb" RAYNER** born on 28 Feb 1876³ in Motueka. He died on 23 Nov 1956.³ Herb married **Annie Bertha TAYLOR** (1880-1957) on 14 Jun 1904³ in Motueka. They had 1 son and 4 daughters.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

44. Ellen GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 27 Nov 1836 in Baltonsborough,¹ the second daughter of William and Harriet GILL. She died on 29 Nov 1886³ in Renwicktown, and was buried at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. Yvonne BURR, family genealogist, is a gt gt gdaughter.

Ellen married **Samuel BARNES** on 4 Oct 1854 at Wakapuaka. Samuel was born in 1836 at Walmer, Kent, the son of John BARNES, a Deal boatman, and Mary DUNN. Samuel died on 30 Jun 1896³ in Wairau.

Nelson Examiner 7 Oct 1854: Married at Wakapuaka on 4th instant by Rev Thomas D Nicholson, Mr Samuel Barnes to Ellen Gill 2nd daughter of Mr William Gill of Wakapuaka. Samuel was a sheep farmer in Nelson, having arrived in 1842 on the ill-fated *Lloyds* as a six year old, with his mother and sister Elizabeth, 5, who would marry Henry GILL, Ellen's brother. Two of their siblings died on the voyage, Mary-Ann 18 months and John 5 months.

Samuel and Ellen had five sons and six daughters:

- 122 i. **Mary BARNES** born on 12 May 1855, died on 19 Nov 1856³ and was buried with her parents at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim.
- 123 ii. **George Thomas Athold BARNES** born in January 1858,³ in Wairau and died aged 58 on 19 Nov 1916³ in Blenheim. He was a farmer at Seddon and married **Laura Elizabeth ANDERSON** (1873-1962) on 19 Apr 1905.³ They had 1 son and 1 daughter.
- 124 iii. **John William BARNES** born on 11 Jan 1860. He married **Margaret Catherine GARDNER nee KENNEDY** on 9 Apr 1913³ in Nelson. 1 stepson, 1 stepdau.
- 125 iv. **Ellen Harriett BARNES** born in September 1861³ in Wairau. She died of epileptic seizures on 20 Jun 1877, aged 15, and was buried with her parents.
- 126 v. **Alfred Henry BARNES** born on 10 January 1864,³ in Nelson, and died on 19 Nov 1932,³ at Otapiri, Southland. He is buried in the Eastern cemetery, Invercargill. He married **Agnes Priscilla McISAAC** (1868-1942), on 1 January 1890³ in Renwicktown, Marlborough. They had 5 sons and 4 daughters.
- 127 vi. **Adeline Mary BARNES** born on 27 Mar 1867,³ in Nelson and died on 12 Dec 1926 in Norsewood. She married **Richard Edward HAY** on 11 Mar 1892³ in Westport. They had 7 daughters and 2 sons, and are buried in Park Island cemetery, Napier.
- 128 vii. **Frederick Samuel BARNES** born on 8 June 1869³ in Nelson, and died aged 88 on 23 June 1957,³ in Blenheim. He married **Harriett HAY** (1870-1917) on 6 May 1896.³ They had 7 sons and 1 daughter.
- 129 viii. **Sarah Jane BARNES** born on 16 May 1871,³ in Lower Wairau, Marlborough, NZ, and died on 30 Apr 1959,³ in Blenheim, buried Omaka. She married **Tom Jacobs BALL** on 8 Nov 1892³ in Blenheim. They had 6 daughters and 1 son.
- 130 ix. **Sophia Elizabeth BARNES** born on 9 Jan 1875,³ in Blenheim and died on 15 Nov 1941 in Waipawa, Hawkes Bay. She married **Thomas James CUDBY** (1878-1963) on 1 Jun 1904.³ They had 3 sons and 1 daughter and are buried at Otane, Hawkes Bay.
- 131 x. **Henry Ernest BARNES** born on 10 Mar 1877,³ in Wairau, and died on 21 July 1950³ in Blenheim. He is buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. Pte 69826 Canterbury Regiment, 1st NZEF.
- 132 xi. **Margaret Ellen Harriett BARNES** born on 26 Nov 1879,³ in Wairau, and died "aged 60" on 30 Aug 1941, buried with her husband in Hastings. She married **Joseph Albury SLATER** (1880-1952) in 1912. [indexed BAINES in online marriage database] They are buried in Hastings.

45. George GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 23 Dec 1838 in Baltonsborough,¹ the third son and fifth child of William and Harriet GILL. He emigrated to New Zealand in 1841/42 with his family at the age of 3. He died on 15 Dec 1918² was buried the following day in an unmarked grave in Goodwood cemetery, Waikouaiti, Otago, NZ (age 79 in St Johns Burial Register, Waikouaiti).

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

455 443, 16 DEC 1918 GEORGE GILL 79 s/o WILLIAM GILL BORN NELSON NZ
SHEPHERD EMPLOYEE OF J.H. PRESTON RES GOODWOOD BUR GOODWOOD

Being so young when he came out to NZ he would have had no memories of England, and apparently did not talk of his English origins. His long-time employer believed he had been born in Nelson when he gave information for the death certificate.

1863: George Gill, "a man from the McKenzie Country" was sharing a room in a Papanui Hotel. While he slept £7 or £8 was stolen from his purse, which contained £50 - Lyttleton Times

The later part of George's life was spent in the employ of James Henry Preston, run-holder of Haldon Station in the Mackenzie Country from 1889. Rabbits had become a very serious problem at this time necessitating the employment of professional rabbiters like George. James Preston was the executor and trustee of George's will, made in 1903 and signed with a cross, and also provided for him in his old age, as described by Frances Preston in *A family of wool gatherers*, page 70:

An elderly couple lived in a tiny shingle-roofed cottage on a 48 acre farm between Centrewood and the main road; Mrs McNicol was the first midwife in the Palmerston district. When she died in 1899, the old man offered to sell his land to JH [Preston]. George Gill, an ancient [he would have been about 62!] rabbitier who had become quite a hermit, was brought down from Haldon to live in McNicol's cottage for the remainder of his life. The Centrewood family could keep an eye on him, and see that he was supplied with all he needed. The old man lived until 1918 when he was buried in St Paul's graveyard.

George's association with the Prestons may have commenced much earlier. In 1859 James' father, Joseph had purchased Centrewood run on the Otago coast near Waikouaiti and, experiencing difficulty stocking the land, decided to bring sheep from Nelson. George Gill was a drover from the Nelson area and may have been engaged by Preston to assist. The account of the epic drive, with 2 drovers, through half the length of the South Island is from Frances Preston's book, page 25:

They set to and drove [200 hoggets] from Nelson down to Oamaru and put them on the run at the Kakanui range. There were no roads, only Maori tracks. North of the Waimakariri River, somewhere near Hanmer, they had to shear them so that they could cross the rivers; because they had to swim every stream, long wool would have made it difficult. As it was, freshly shorn, they were able to survive the crossings of the rivers and only 2 were lost.

Robert Pinney in *Early South Canterbury Runs*, p53, writes of Jock Fraser and his son Hugh driving sheep from Nelson to Ben Ohau in the McKenzie country in 1859 and mentions George Gill being in the party. It is not clear if this was the same trip on which Preston brought his sheep. By a strange coincidence Fraser's Ben Ohau run was almost next door to the Haldon run, but Haldon would not be occupied by the Prestons for another 30 years. Ben Ohau lay to the west of the confluence of the Ohau and the Pukaki rivers (where Twizel now stands), whereas Haldon was downstream from the confluence of the Ohau, Pukaki and Tekapo rivers, on the north bank of the Waitaki.

George made his will in 1903 and signed with his mark. He left his brother Thomas a life interest, with the capital to be divided among Thomas's children after his death. Edie bought a car with her share. The estate was sworn at under £2,400 when George died in 1918. This was a considerable sum at that time and would have enabled George to live comfortably in his own home had he chosen independence, but he apparently preferred to remain in the care of the Prestons, first at Haldon and finally at Goodwood, Waikouaiti.

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We can only speculate about the source of his funds. The possibility that he inherited from his parents can be readily dismissed. His parents were not wealthy and he had 10 surviving siblings to share in anything his parents might leave. Like his brother Thomas he appears to have moved away from the family base in Nelson after his father remarried and produced a second family. The will suggests that he never learned to sign his name, and with no particular skills his accumulated savings from droving and rabbiting are likely to have been minimal. However, through the 1860s – 1880s, many New Zealand males dreamed of making their fortunes from gold. Few succeeded, but possibly George Gill was one who did. There has been a suggestion in the family that he went to South Africa and possibly his good fortune came from there.

We might also speculate on how much contact the apparently illiterate George on a back country station in the McKenzie country could have had with his brother Thomas in Kaikoura. Occasional news carried by itinerant stockmen was probably the best that could be hoped for.

46. Emily GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 22 Mar 1840 in Baltonsborough and buried there on 17 Apr 1841.¹

47. Mary Ann GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 1841/42 on the *Mary Ann* en route to NZ. She died at the age of 5 months, of convulsions, in 1842 in NZ.²⁰

48. [unnamed male] GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was probably born late in 1842 in Nelson and died after 2 days, of weakness.²⁰ Harriet would have had to become pregnant again almost immediately after his birth to produce Frederick in August 1843.

49. Frederick GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 9 Aug 1843 in Wakapuaka, Nelson,¹³ the fourth son of William and Harriet GILL. He died aged 75 on 22 Nov 1919 in Redwood Valley, Nelson,² and was buried with his wife in Waimea West, Nelson.

1870: Electoral Roll - Abode Suburban Nth, Property Section 21.

1876: farmer of Spring Grove warning rabbit hunters off his land

1887: member of an Appleby householders' committee

1917: of Redwood Valley (Stones Directory)

1919: will divided residue between Harold and Thomas, after leaving £50 each to Albert William Gill, Annie Louise Gill, Alice May Henge, Amy Helen McPherson, and Harriet Strange. Arthur seems to be left out but may have been provided for separately.

Frederick married **Mercy HIGGINS** (# 82 above), daughter of Sydney HIGGINS, on 30 Jul 1873³ in Spring Grove, Nelson. Mercy was born on 5 Dec 1853, and died aged 59 on 29 Aug 1912 in Nelson.³ Mercy and Fred were half-cousins, grandchildren of Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS/EYLES.

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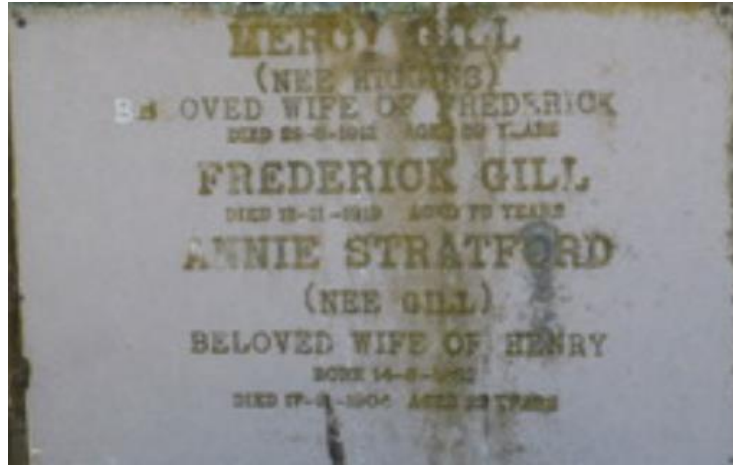


Image: Findagrave.com

Fred and Mercy had five sons and five daughters:

- 133 i. **Archie GILL** born and died in 1874 in Waimea South, Nelson.³
- 134 ii. **Harriet Sarah Henrietta GILL (Hetty)** born on 16 Mar 1876 at Waimea South,³ and died on 21 Sep 1959 in Nelson.³ She married **William STRANGE** (1867-1946) on 15 Jan 1908 in Waimea West.³ They had 3 daughters and 2 sons.



Wakapuaka cemetery

- 135 iii. **Amy Helen GILL** born on 26 May 1878³ in Waimea South, Nelson. Amy died aged 83 on 1 Jul 1961.³ Amy married **Ernest McLaren "Scott" McPHERSON** (1870-1954) on 2 Jun 1897.³ They had 2 sons and 2 daughters.
- 136 iv. **Albert William GILL** born on 17 Mar 1880³ in Waimea South, Nelson. He died on 4 Aug 1955.³ Of Redwood Valley in 1917 (Stone's). Albert married **Mary Alice Jane CHAPMAN** (1880-1964) on 30 Jul 1902.³ They are buried at Richmond cemetery, Nelson.²⁵ They had 1 daughter.
- 137 v. **Annie Louisa GILL** born on 14 Aug 1882³ in Waimea South, Nelson, and died on 17 Nov 1904, buried aged 22 at Waimea West.⁹ Annie married **Harry STRATFORD** on 6 Oct 1902³ in Redwoods Valley. They had 1 daughter.

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- 138 vi. **Harold Sidney GILL** born on 10 Feb 1886 ³ in Waimea South, Nelson. Harold died on 22 Apr 1975 in Nelson.² No surviving children on death certificate. Occupation "Retired" on Electoral Roll 1966, "Watersider" in 1974. In 1957 he was of Dorset St, Richmond, in 1917 "of Redwood Valley". Harold married **Martha Vida RUSS** (1881-1967) in 1928.³ No children.
- 139 vii. **Arthur Edward GILL** born on 12 Jan 1888 ³ in Waimea South, Nelson, and died aged 82 on 22 Jun 1970 in Wellington.³ At Redwood Valley school 1901.²¹ Fruitgrower of Redwood Valley (Stone's 1917). Served WWI Unmarried.
- 140 viii. **Thomas Henry GILL** born on 1 Mar 1890 ³ in Waimea South, Nelson. At Redwood Valley School 1901.²¹ Thomas died on 5 Jul 1970. Pte 61134 Cnty Regt Of Redwood Valley in 1917 (Stones) Thomas married **Emily Frances BRADER** (1890-1984) on 22 Jul 1925.³ They are buried in Marsden cemetery, Nelson.
- 141 ix. **Alice May GILL** born on 16 May 1893 ³ in Waimea South, Nelson. At Redwood Valley school 1901.²¹ May died on 14 Nov 1964. She married **Harold HENDE** (1884-1974) on 1 Jun 1915 ³ in Wakefield, Nelson.
- 142 x. **Rita Adeline GILL** born on 23 Jun 1898 ³ in Waimea South. At Redwood Valley School 1911 and has her photo in the Appleby School centennial booklet.²¹ Rita married first **Claude Ernest Charles GRANGER** (1907-1936 accidentally killed) in 1929.³ She married second **William HARTLEY** in 1939,⁸ and third **William Charles COLLINS** in 1970. She died on 26 Jul 1982, cremated at Wanganui.^{3, 9}

50. Adeline GILL (*William* ¹⁷, *Henry* ⁶, *Thomas* ¹) was born on 9 Nov 1844 in Nelson,¹³ the third surviving daughter of William and Harriet GILL. She died on 26 Apr 1883 in Nelson,³ and was buried in Nelson.

Adeline married **Henry Lawry Godel JASPER** on 4 Aug 1862 ³ in Nelson at the residence of Rev E Thomas. Henry died on 16 Jul 1867 in Nelson.³ There were no children. Henry had previously been married to Bertha (or Mathia) Mills JASPER (died 1862). At various times he was proprietor of the Mitre Hotel (1859), Thistle Inn, Bridge St, (1863), and the Pier Hotel, Haven Road (1865). Henry's will initially granted his "dear wife" the benefit of his estate for her widowhood only, after which it would pass to the children of brother Charles Henry JASPER, a mariner, of the Island of Jersey. A codicil signed 3 days before he died left Adeline his household furniture and effects, and his grey mare *Polly*.

Adeline remarried **John FIVEN** (1843-1916) on 1 Feb 1870.^{3, 18}

Another old resident in the person of Mr John Fiven passed away at his residence Tory street, yesterday, after a long illness. The deceased was born in Nelson 73 years ago, and had resided here during the whole of his lifetime. He was a coachsmith by occupation, and until his retirement he was in the employ of Messrs Balme and Co. for whom he worked for many years. At one time he took a keen interest in rose culture, and was a successful exhibitor at the Nelson Horticultural Society's shows in the early days. The deceased was a very old member of the Oddfellow's Order. About two years ago he met with an accident while cycling up the Maitai, sustaining a broken thigh, from the effects of which he never properly recovered. The deceased leaves a widow*; and one daughter.¹⁸

*John had remarried Margaret Johnstone GRAHAM in 1888.

Adeline and John had 2 daughters:

- 143 i. **Ada Adelaide FIVEN** born 1870 in Nelson, died unmarried 1945. She may be the Ada Fiven referred to in the following item (1883): *Mr Milner Stephen gave a public healing for the poor in the Drill Hall this afternoon, One case which has come under our notice is that of Miss Ada Fiven of Nelson, who has for eight years been suffering from hip disease and for five years using crutches, during which time she has never been able to place her heel on the ground. Her leg was*

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- 1¾ inches short, but has been fully lengthened by Mr Stephen and on Saturday morning she was able to walk to her residence with a small stick.*
- 144 ii. **Hilda Viola FIVEN** born in 1873 in Nelson.³ She died (youngest daughter of John Fiven) after a short illness at her father's residence, Tory Street, on 6 Sep 1892^{3, 18} at the age of 19 and was buried in Wakapuaka, Nelson with her parents.

There was no continuing line of Gill descendants. Ada and her stepmother were to share the income in John's will 50/50 with a minimum of £91 p.a. supplemented from capital if necessary. After the decease of both the residue was to go to John's nephew. Value under £2,500.

51. Thomas GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 22 Sep 1847 in Nelson, the fifth surviving son of William and Harriet GILL. He was baptised by Rev. John Aldred (Methodist), on 23 Jan 1848 in Nelson.¹² Thomas died of burns aged 86 on 29 Sep 1933 in Kaikoura² and is buried there with his wife. His death certificate describes him as a labourer, but he had previously been a small farmer. Freeholders of NZ: Gill Thomas, labourer, Kaikoura, 12 acres, £108 value

Thomas married **Alice LYFORD**, daughter of Thomas LYFORD and Sarah RICHARDSON, on 11 Jul 1870² at Clarence Ferry, Marlborough. Alice was born on 10 Oct 1853 in Nelson, and died on 14 May 1928 in Kaikoura.²

1874: warning trespassers off his land, rural section 29 Kaikoura

1908: Thomas Gill (witness in case involving disputed timber) sawmiller, Kaikoura, stated that he had been working on Mr Paige's property for the past twelve months. He had cut about 48,000 feet since Mr Paige had been in possession. The royalty was 1s a hundred, and 1s 6d for totara. He estimated that about 40,000 foot remained to be cut. There was very little totara left. [This was probably Thomas' son, also Thomas]

After raising her family Alice lived alone at Beach Road, Kaikoura and was well known as nurse and midwife in the district. She lived with Belvie and Pat Smith at the time of her death.

Refer to page 48 for Thelma MONEY's reminiscence of her grandfather, Thomas GILL.



Kaikoura cemetery – photo courtesy Find a grave.com

Thomas and Alice had four sons and four daughters:

- 145 i. **Clara GILL** born at Clarence Bridge, Kaikoura in 1873,³ and died there aged 31

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- on 3 Jan 1904.² Clara married **John Richard "Jack" TIMMS** (1873-1953) on 12 Aug 1895 in Blenheim.³ They had 1 son. After Clara's death Jack remarried her cousin Agnes GILLING.
- 146 ii. **Adeline "Minnie" GILL** born on 11 Jul 1876 in Kaikoura,³ and died on 14 Apr 1955.³ She married **Arthur Alexander BREMNER**, a farm labourer, on 13 Jun 1894.³ They had 3 sons and 2 daughters.
- 147 iii. **Walter GILL** born on 16 May 1878³ in Kaikoura. He died on 18 Jun 1954³ in Kaikoura. He managed various sheep stations in the Kaikoura district. Walter married his cousin **Margaret "Maggie" GILLING** (1885-1961), daughter of Benjamin GILLING and Clara LYFORD, on 22 Apr 1908.³ They had 3 sons and 2 daughters, including Thelma MONEY, family genealogist.
- 148 iv. **Thomas GILL** born on 8 Jul 1880³ in Kaikoura and died aged 79 on 4 May 1960.³ Thomas married **Fredreka Muriel TEMPLEMAN "Reka"** (1886-1963) on 21 Mar 1906.³ They are buried in Kaikoura.⁹ They lived with Gill seniors in Pools Road, Mt Fyffe, Kaikoura, and had 4 sons and 5 daughters. Descendants are mentioned in *Donegal to Blackguard's Corner A History of the Boyd Family of Kaikoura* by Murray A Boyd 1992.
- 149 v. **Henry Albert GILL** born on 15 Sep 1882³ in Kaikoura, and died on 21 May 1956.³ Albert married **Kate RENWICK** (1887-1942) on 30 Mar 1904.³ Kate and Albert lived initially on his parents' farm, later on various other family properties, and eventually settled at Beach Road, Kaikoura. They had 2 sons and 5 daus.
- 150 vi. **Alice Edith "Edie" GILL** born on 25 Apr 1884³ in Kaikoura and died on 6 Oct 1963³ in Christchurch. Edie married **Edmund Sutherland "Ted" PALMER** (1871-1948), son of Edward Oscar PALMER and Elizabeth MORRISON, on 18 Dec 1902 in Kaikoura.³ They had 3 sons and 4 daughters. Edie was grandmother to Judith MOULDER, grandmother-in-law to Mary SKIPWORTH, family genealogists. Refer to page 42 for a reminiscence of Edie.
- 151 vii. **Violet Evelyn GILL** born on 4 Oct 1886³ in Kaikoura, died there on 4 Aug 1963.³ Violet married **Edward "Ned" SHARPLIN** on 5 Dec 1906 in Kaikoura.³ They had 502 sons. Ned was from an Oxford, Canterbury family. He was a widower, and had been twice to the Boer war.
- 152 viii. **Harold Lionel GILL** born on 19 Feb 1890³ in Kaikoura and died on 23 Aug 1904 in Kaikoura.³

FATAL ACCIDENT.

TWO LADS KILLED.

[SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.]

KAIKOURA, August 27.

Two lads (Brunel, aged 18, and Gill, aged 14) were killed in the Hapuku River on Tuesday evening through the capsizing of a light dray, timber laden, driven by the elder lad. Death was instantaneous.

The *Otago Witness* reported in more detail: Last week was the saddest in the history of the district for many a long day. Emile J. Brunel and Lionel Gill, two lads, both the youngest sons of fond mothers, were capsized into the Hapuka stream at a rough, narrow ford, and crushed or drowned under a drayload of timber. Sympathy for the bereaved families is deep and general, and the attendance at the funeral was very large. Lionel Gill had often desired to visit the sawmill, - but his mother's consent had been withheld. On the fatal morning he won her permission, and kissed her ere he left home. Lighthearted, the lads drove down the road, and late at night the shocking news came to Mount Fyfe.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

52. Alice Mary GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 21 December 1856 in Nelson, [unnamed female]³ the eldest daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS. She died on 2 Feb 1938 at Motueka.³

Alice married **Francis William HERRICK** on 18 Feb 1880³ in Lower Moutere, Nelson. Francis was born in 1855 and died aged 84 in 1939 in Nelson.³ They were buried in Lower Moutere.

Francis Herrick: Farmer, Sunnyside, Lower Moutere, freehold section comprised 250 acres, conveniently subdivided into paddocks. The soil is suitable for the cultivation of wheat and oats, of which it yields excellent crops, and also all kinds of fruit. Mr Herrick was born in the Waimeas and has been settled in the Moutere district for over 40 years. Oddfellow, member Roads Board, School Committee. [Cyclopedia of NZ]

Francis and Alice had two sons:

- 153 i. **Francis Hubert "Bert" HERRICK** born 26 Nov 1883 in Nelson,³ and died on 21 Jan 1948, aged 64.³ On 16 Dec 1919³ he married **Agnes Amelia KRAMMER** (1890-1970). They are buried at Lower Moutere.
- 154 ii. **Howard Vyvyan HERRICK** born on 17 Sep 1885 in Nelson,³ and died on 28 May 1905, at the age of 19, in Lower Moutere, Nelson,³ and was buried at Lower Moutere.

A Florence HERRICK has been suggested as a third child of Francis and Alice, but no birth registration was found. The Florence Herrick registered in 1880 was from a different family.

53. Fanny Emma GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 27 Sep 1858³ at Wakapuaka, Nelson, the second daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS. She died 17 Jan 1932³ at Nelson, and was buried with her husband at Rai Valley.

She taught at Happy Valley school, Hira from 1875 to 1895. She was the first teacher in the area and commenced teaching at the age of 16. The committee reported satisfaction with her work initially. In 1877 the Inspector noted "*Excellent order is kept,*" in 1879 "*the children are very orderly and obedient.*" In 1881 "*They have an excellent teacher whose heart is in her work.*" Good reports were issued through to 1889. However, the 1890 report stated: *On roll, 25. The children attending this little school gave but a poor account of themselves on examination day, only two of those whose work was recorded acquitting themselves even fairly well. Arithmetic, English, and Handwriting were the weakest points. The older scholars, were quite at sea in paper-work. Some of the scholars had attended very badly. The upper classes somewhat redeemed themselves by the readiness of their answers in History and Geography.* A letter was received by the Education Board "asking the Board's consideration and giving extenuating circumstances for the poor examination."

Then charges were brought that Mrs Anderson had been improperly assisting her students at the examinations, but the committee did not uphold the complaint. 1891, 92, 93 reports were satisfactory. In 1894 the School Committee received a complaint that Mrs Anderson had locked a number of the children out of the school, and had tied the hands of one child behind its back, also that the proper play time had not been allowed. An explanation was sought, but Mrs Anderson failed to reply, showing disrespect for the Committee.

In 1895 examination results were disappointing, and Mrs Anderson's resignation was accepted a few months later. By then she had 4 of her own children on the roll, at a time when the combination of motherhood with employment was very unusual. The family story was "*that she was sacked by the "city fathers" for incompetence. Apparently lost control of the kids. She locked officials out of the school; and there was a fair old to do about it all.*"

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Fanny married **William ANDERSON** on 10 Dec 1881 at Nelson.³ William was born 25 Jul 1858 at Wakapuaka, and died on 15 Mar 1925³ at Rai Valley. He was buried at Rai Valley, being the first burial at the then new Rai cemetery.

Fanny and William had five daughters:

- 155 i. **Daisy Louise ANDERSON** born on 1 May 1883³ at Wakapuaka, and died on 26 Sep 1954³ at Blenheim, buried at Rai. Daisy married **William WILSON** (1873-1939) on 16 Oct 1907³ at Bulford, Rai Valley.
- 156 ii. **Daphne Frances ANDERSON** born 13 Feb 1885³ and died on 8 Aug 1945.³ Daphne married **William Charles Jeffreys BRYANT** (1870-1947) on 2 May 1906.³ They had 6 sons. William and Daphne were half second cousins, both being grandchildren of Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS/EYLES. William's mother was born Hannah HIGGINS (#80 above).
- 157 iii. **Dorothy May "Dolly" ANDERSON** born on 2 May 1886 in Happy Valley.³ She died on 24 Aug 1975,³ and was buried in Rai Valley. Dolly married **Ashley Keith EDWARDS** (1885-1944), son of Alfred Rutland EDWARDS and his 2nd wife Harriet WINNETT on 28 Jan 1913.³ Ashley's father and Dolly's grandmother, Ann EDWARDS, were brother and sister, making this couple aunt and nephew respectively. They had 1 son and 2 daughters.
- 158 iv. **Kathleen Isabel ANDERSON** born 19 Feb 1888³ in Nelson. Kathleen married **Gordon Charles WEBB** (1886-1942) of Havelock North on 28 Jun 1911.³ Kathleen died aged 83 in 1971,³ buried in Rai Valley. They had 3 children.
- 159 v. **Annie Rai ANDERSON** born on 2 May 1896,³ first white child born in Rai Valley. She died unmarried on 5 May 1964,³ and was buried in Rai Valley.

54. Jessie Louisa GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 26 Oct 1860 in Nelson,³ the third daughter of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS. She died in Nelson at the age of 75 on 17 Jan 1935 (the day following her husband's death),³ and is buried at Wakapuaka.

Jessie married **Charles George WITHERS** on 29 Jul 1886.³ He died on 16 Jan 1935 in Nelson.³ Jessie and Charles had two sons and two daughters:

- 160 i. **Alan (or Allen) Leslie WITHERS** born 6 Apr 1887³, attended Happy Valley school, enlisted WWI discharged as deserter, nothing further known.
- 161 ii. **Laurie Frances WITHERS** born on 4 Mar 1890³ in Nelson. Laurie died unmarried on 11 Jun 1967³ at the age of 77 and was buried with her mother at Wakapuaka.²⁵ Attended Happy Valley school, of Wellington East in 1919 Electoral Roll.
- 162 iii. **Rita Elizabeth WITHERS** born on 15 Jan 1893.³ Rita married **Alfred RUTLAND** on 15 Apr 1914.³ (Husband and wife were related, Rita's maternal gt grandmother being a Rutland.) They had 1 son and 1 daughter.
- 163 iv. **John WITHERS** born 5 Apr 1894 and died on 7 Apr 1894.³ Buried with his mother.

55. William "Will" GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 19 Aug 1862 in Nelson,³ the elder son of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS. He died aged 47 on 19 Aug 1909³ in Wakapuaka, Nelson, and was buried in Hira.

1872: awarded first prize in 2nd class at Clifton terrace school in 1872.²⁷

1881: El Roll farmer, Grove Town, Wairau

1882: Farmer, Wakapuaka 741 acres, value £1420 [Freeholders of NZ]

1896: of *Thackwood*, Nelson, dairy farmer, Waimea County Councillor,

Chairman Wakapuaka Roads Board, Member school committee.¹⁸ County councillor

Inventory on death: Money in house £25; Furniture etc £17; Stock & Implements £734;

Life Insurance £127; Shares £25; Land c £3000; Total c £4000. Debts c £2000.

Will left widow Elizabeth a life interest, or £200 if she remarried; then equally to children.

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

Will married **Elizabeth Mary WITHERS** on 23 Oct 1886 in St Andrews, Hillside, Nelson.³ Elizabeth was born in 1865 in Nelson. She died aged 81 on 12 Aug 1946 in Seddon³ and was buried in Hira. In 1922 she was living with her son Percy.

Will and Elizabeth had eight sons and five daughters:

- 164 i. **Percy Weston GILL** born on 12 Mar 1887 in Nelson.³ He died aged 71 on 30 Dec 1958.³ Served 58761 Rifle brigade. At the end of the war Percy married **Beatrice JONES** (1891-1982) about Sep 1919 in Dudley Registration District, UK.⁷ They are buried at Wakapuaka.⁹ In 1925 he was of Washington Valley, Nelson
- 165 ii. **Roland Ray GILL** born on 19 Jan 1889 in Nelson,³ and died aged 73 on 30 May 1962.³ He was a farmer of Brightwater in 1922. Roland married **Jane Bain FOSTER** on 16 Dec 1914 at Wakapuaka.³ Jane was born on 23 August 1895 at Denniston, Westport and died on 28 Jun 1950 [Jane Scott Gill]. Their ashes are interred at Wakapuaka.⁹ Jane's birth is now registered as Jane Scott Bain FOSTER. Of Motueka 1911, Buller 1925 They had 10 children.
- 166 iii. **Lilian "Tot" GILL** born on 21 Oct 1890 in St Andrew's church Wakapuaka.³ She died on 9 Jan 1978³ in Wairau Hospital, Blenheim. Tot married **John Henry LEONARD** on 31 Dec 1913,³ and remarried **Henry Udall FRANCE** (1897-1954) in 1951.⁸ She had twins in Australia who died at birth and a stepson Peter FRANCE. Henry's will left all his property to Lilian.
- 167 iv. **Cyril Norman GILL** born on 7 May 1892 in Nelson.³ Cyril died aged 75 on 5 Jun 1967³ in Blenheim. Served 1st NZEF 6/3395. Telegraph linesman in 1922. He married **Dora Veronica O'BRIEN** (1899-1961) on 3 Apr 1918.³ They are buried in Omaka cemetery.⁹ Of Blenheim 1925 They had 4 children
- 168 v. **John William Steeden GILL** born on 20 Oct 1894 in Nelson.³ He died on 29 Dec 1963 in Nelson (index age 68).³ Served 42799 Pte, Canterbury Regiment Farmer of Rockville in 1922. John married **Rosa Alice BARNES** (1896-1987) on 16 Apr 1919.³ Buried at Wakapuaka, Nelson.⁹ Of Rockville 1925. 2 children
- 169 vi. **Francis Henry GILL "Frank"** born on 21 Apr 1897 in Nelson.³ Francis died aged 67 on 7 Jun 1964³ in Nelson. Dairy farmer, Wakapuaka. Francis married **Amy Elizabeth FROST** (1895-1981) on 15 May 1918 in Nelson.³ They are buried in Hira cemetery, Nelson.⁹ Of Wakapuaka 1925 They had 4 children
- 170 vii. **Doris Elizabeth GILL** born on 20 Mar 1899 in Nelson.³ Doris married **Henry Behan "Harry" EASTON** (1889-1940) on 21 Feb 1918.³ Brian Easton, journalist, is a descendant. Doris remarried **Henry Abel MURCH** (1905-1980) in 1950,⁸ and died on 19 Oct 1977.³ They had seven children
- 171 viii. **Rona Cicely GILL** born on 28 Mar 1901 in Nelson,³ died aged 66 on 21 Sep 1967.³ Rona married **Alexander Hailstone STANLEY** (1900-1952) on 5 Jul 1922.³ They had six children.
- 172 ix. **Alfred Hector GILL** born in 1902, died 1 Apr 1903 aged 6 months, buried at Hira cemetery.⁹
- 173 x. **Hazel Mary "Mollie" GILL** born on 14 Apr 1904 in Nelson.³ She died on 17 Feb 1988.³ Mollie married **Edward Bernard "Ted" FITZPATRICK** (1893-1967) on 28 Apr 1926³ and lived at Blenheim. They are buried at Omaka cemetery.⁹ 7 chn
- 174 xi. **Norah Kathleen "Kath" GILL** born on 26 Jan 1906 in Nelson,³ and died on 20 Apr 1992.³ Kath married **Philip CHARLES** (1895-1970) on 11 Feb 1924 in Nelson.³ They are buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.⁹ They had 3 children
- 175 xii. **Dudley Charles Harold GILL** born on 21 Jul 1908,³ and died on 5 Feb 1985³ in Nelson. Dudley married **Dede May JELLYMAN** (1911-2001) on 23 Aug 1933 in Nelson.⁸ They had no children and are buried at Marsden Valley cemetery.
- 176 xiii. **William GILL "Bill"** born posthumously on 12 Oct 1909 in Nelson.³ He died aged 48 on 11 May 1958.³ William married **Betty Eileen AKEHURST** (1913-1993) in 1934.⁸ They are buried at Whakatane cemetery.⁹ 3 children

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56. Alfred George GILL (*William*¹⁷, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 2 May 1864 in Nelson,² the second son of William GILL and Ann EDWARDS. He died on 18 Aug 1954 in Piha Auckland,³ at the age of 90, and was buried in Hira cemetery Nelson. He farmed at Wakapuaka.²⁶ Awarded first prize in 4th class at Clifton Terrace school in 1872.²⁷ Farmer Wakapuaka.

1888: fined £3 for failure to attend as Nelson City Rifle Volunteer

Will signed with a mark on 2 Aug 1954 appoints his two children as executors, and divides his property equally between them.

Alfred married **Elizabeth Ann DONALD** on 30 Aug 1888 in Nelson.³ Elizabeth was born on 2 Jul 1868³ in Nelson, and died on 15 Dec 1934 in Atawhai, Nelson,³ and was buried in Hira.

Alfred and Elizabeth had one son and one daughter:

- 177 i. **Irene May "Rene" GILL** born on 2 Aug 1889 in Wakapuaka, Nelson,³ and died on 31 Dec 1969³ in Piha, Auckland, NZ. Rene married **Alfred Cyril WRIGHT** (1890-1956) on 19 Oct 1910 in St Peter's, Wakapuaka, Nelson.³ They had 3 sons. Rene and Alfred divorced and Rene remarried **Mervyn Eric OTTO** (1898-1973) on 27 Mar 1926³ in Auckland. Mervyn later married Rene's niece, Jean GILL. Refer Nicholas P Wright website for Wright descendants.³⁴
- 178 ii. **Donald Douglas "Jack" GILL** born on 2 Aug 1891³ and died on 3 Jun 1968³ in Auckland. 6/234 Pte, Canterbury Regt. Reported wounded in action 1915. Farmer Te Atatu, councillor, Gill Avenue named for family. Jack married **Myra Myrtle BURN** (1893-1970) on 1 Mar 1916 in Nelson.³ They had 2 sons and 3 daughters.

57. Mary Jane DANE (*Jane GILL*¹⁹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born about 1843 in Nelson, the daughter of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL, and died aged 72 on 19 Jan 1916.³ Buried at Karori cemetery, Wellington. Her birth was apparently not registered.

In 1861³ when Mary Jane was 17, she first married **Henry WIMSETT** (1841-1894), son of Thomas Martin WIMSETT, her stepfather.

Will of Henry Wimsett, blacksmith, 1894, personal estate to sons Horace and Herbert Henry equally, land in Hardy St to Horace, land in Waimea St to Herbert Henry, no mention of wife or other children. Mary Jane remarried soon after his death, possibly they were estranged, Henry died at his brother's house.

Mary Jane and Henry had 5 sons and 3 daughters [often indexed Winsitt / Wirmsett / Winisett]:

- 179 i. **Horace WIMSETT** born in 1861³ in Nelson and died aged 86 on 8 Sep 1947.³ He married **Sarah DEVANNY** in 1888,³ they had 4 sons and 2 daughters.
- 180 ii. **Mary Jane WIMSETT** born in 1862³ in Nelson and died in 1902. She married **Alfred Henry READ** in 1899, they had 3 daughters.
- 181 iii. **Ann Louisa WIMSETT** born in 1864³ in Nelson and died in 1946. She married **George Frank Bennett SMALLBONE** in 1885, they had 1 son and 2 daughters.
- 182 iv. **Alice WIMSETT** born in 1865³ in Nelson, and died on 14 Jan 1910 in Wellington.³ She married **James Barry MARTIN** on 27 Sep 1888.³ They had 2 sons and 1 daughter. They are buried in Karori cemetery Wellington.
- 183 v. **Maude Field WIMSETT** born in 1867³ in Nelson, and died aged 63 on 23 Dec 1929.³ She married **James George BENNETT** (1863-1931) in 1888.³ They had 1 son and 1 daughter. They are buried in Waikumete cemetery, Auckland.
- 184 vi. **Ada Emily WIMSETT** born in 1869³ in Nelson and was buried on 7 Oct 1891 in Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 185 vii. **Herbert Henry WIMSETT** born in 1870³ in Nelson and died aged 72 on 20 Jul 1942.³ He married **Helen HILL** (1874-1954) in 1892.³ They had 2 sons and 1 daughter and are buried at Karori cemetery.

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- 186 viii. **Oscar Hiram WIMSETT** born in 1872 ³ in Nelson, and died aged 71 on 17 Jul 1943.³ He married **Jane Miriam NEAL** in 1895,³ but had no children.
- 187 ix. **Amy May WIMSETT** born in 1879 ³ Nelson, and died aged 27 on 25 Dec 1906.³ She married **Hedley THOMPSON** in 1903.³ They had 1 child. She married secondly **Edward Thomas ROSE** in 1941.
- 188 x. **Dagmar Iva WIMSETT** born in 1881 ³ in Nelson and died aged 69 in 1950.³ She married **Bertram Carey BALLINGER** (1883-1940) in 1915.³
- 189 xi. **Myra Lee WIMSETT** born in 1883 Nelson.³ She never married, and died aged 77 in 1960 ³ and is buried in Purewa cemetery, Auckland.

On 13 May 1895 when Mary Jane was 51, she married secondly **Daniel GELLING** (1852 - 1932),³ in Wellington, witnesses Rose Dane, Alice Martin, William F Dane.

58. William Frederick DANE (*Jane GILL* ¹⁹, *Henry* ⁶, *Thomas* ¹) was born about 1845 in Nelson, the son of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL and died at the age of 65 on 19 Feb 1911,³ farmer, of Braeburn, Lower Moutere, Nelson. His birth was apparently not registered.

His death certificate gives his mother's name as Mary Jane Dane, formerly Eyles instead of Jane Dane formerly Gill. The informant was a neighbour, C E Thompson, probably Charles Edwin Thompson who had married William's daughter Rose. Note that William's maternal grandmother was Mary Slade/Gill/Higgins/Eyles - Thompson was apparently unaware of her first marriage to Gill. The forename confused Jane with her daughter Mary Jane both of whom had married Wimsetts. Probate documents show assets less than £250.

William married **Susan KING** on 16 Oct 1873 ³ in Lower Moutere. Susan was born in 1846/47, arrived in NZ in 1849 in the *Mariner*, and died in Nelson on 14 Mar 1904, when she was 58.³

William and Susan had one son and two daughters:

- 190 i. **Ann Jane DANE** born on 2 Dec 1875 in Nelson.³ Nothing further known.
- 191 ii. **Frederick William DANE** born on 10 Dec 1878 ³ in Nelson and died on 20 Jun 1956, when he was 78. On 6 May 1911 ³ when he was 33, Frederick married **Alice Eliza BRUNELL** (1882-1965), in the Nelson Registry Office. They are buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. They had 3 daughters.
- 192 iii. **Rose Ellen Susan DANE** born on 4 Oct 1879³ in Nelson, and died in 1934. In 1905³ she married **Charles Edwin THOMPSON** (1875-1943), son of Charles Edwin THOMPSON and Angelina PALMER (# 94 above). Husband and wife were both great grandchildren of Mary SLADE/GILL/HIGGINS/EYLES, making them half second cousins. Rose and Charles had 1 son and 2 daughters.

59. Henry Edward DANE (*Jane GILL* ¹⁹, *Henry* ⁶, *Thomas* ¹) was born on 29 Jun 1852 in Nelson,³ the son of Hiram DANE and Jane GILL, and died aged 63 in Wellington on 29 Oct 1915.³ He was buried with his wife in Karori Cemetery, Wellington.

On 22 Jan 1878 ³ when he was 25, Henry married **Hannah HONE**, daughter of Thomas HONE & Eleanor DRAPER in the Congregational Church, Hardy Street, Nelson. She had arrived in the colony 3 weeks previously, and declared there was no-one in NZ with authority to give consent to her marriage under age. She was born on 18 Dec 1858 in Sibford Gower, Banbury, Oxford, England, and baptized there at the age of 10, on 28 Oct 1869 [info from family]. She died aged 60 in Wellington, on 12 Jul 1919.³ She was of St Vincent St, Nelson in 1893 EI Roll.

Henry and Hannah had three sons and seven daughters:

- 193 i. **Charles Edward DANE** born on 10 Dec 1878 ³ in Nelson, and died on 26 Jun 1922 ³ in Wellington of peritonitis, when he was 43. He was probably unmarried.

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- 194 ii. **Henry Hiram DANE** born on 26 Dec 1879 in Nelson.³ He died on 8 Mar 1881³ in Nelson by accidental drowning, and was buried in Nelson.
- 195 iii. **Clarris Rose DANE** born on 24 Jul 1881³ in Nelson and died aged 66 on 3 Nov 1947³ in Wellington, when she was 66. She was buried at Karori cemetery. She married first **Ngan GOW** in 1903,³ and second **William James TYNAN** in 1911.³ She had a daughter (Dane) who died in infancy, and adopted her niece and nephew (Tynan).
- 196 iv. **Hannah Jane DANE** born on 21 Jun 1891³ in Nelson and died on 8 Oct 1958³ at the age of 67. In 1909 she was convicted of stealing clothes valued at 15 pounds and ordered to make restitution. On 13 April 1909 when she was 18, she married **Francis William HERRING**.³ They were divorced in 1928. On 4 Dec 1930³ she married her second husband **George ADDLEY** (1883-1957). George and Hannah are buried in Karori cemetery. She had 1 son and 1 daughter Herring, and 4 sons, 4 daughters Addley.
- 197 v. **Helen Elizabeth "Ellen" DANE** born on 26 Dec 1892³ in Nelson, and died aged 52 in Auckland on 4 May 1945,³ and was buried in Waikumete Cemetery, Auckland. Ellen first married when she was 17 to **William Henry ADAMS**, on 3 Dec 1910³, at 127 Tory Street, Wellington. The marriage ended in divorce after 13 years desertion. William was born in 1885/1886 in Wimbledon, Surrey, England. On 4 Jul 1930 when she was 37, Ellen married secondly **Alfred BUCKLEY**, in Wellington.³ Alfred was born in London, England. She had 1 son Adams. Probable mother of at least one of the children adopted by her sister Clarris Rose.
- 198 vi. **Denis Richard DANE** born on 25 Nov 1894³ in Nelson and died on 5 Oct 1978³ in Waipukurau when he was 84. In 1924, when he was 30, he married **Lillian Edith BURDITT** (1904-1979).
- 199 vii. **Louisa May DANE** born on 5 Apr 1896³ in Nelson and died aged 77 on 24 Feb 1974³ in Wellington and was buried in Makara cemetery. In 1915 at the age of 19, she married **Rudolph FINDERUP** (1889-1978). They had 3 sons and an adopted daughter.
- 200 viii. **Violette Florence DANE** born on 17 Aug 1898³ in Nelson and died aged 79 on 1 Aug 1977.³ She married **Paul Harold Norman HEIDENSTROM** (1895-1977) in 1919 when she was 21. They had 1 adopted son.
- 201 ix. **Henrietta DANE** born on 17 Aug 1898³ (twin) in Nelson, and died on 7 Sep 1898³ aged 3 weeks.
- 202 x. **Lillian Evelyn DANE** born on 11 Nov 1899³ in Nelson and died on 18 Mar 1933 in Auckland, aged 34. On 21 Dec 1917³ at the age of 18, she married **William John FRENCH** (1881-1955). She was also known as **Lillian CLEAVER** - refer burial Waikumete cemetery. 5 sons, 4 daus. Her death was registered as Lilian Evelyn FRENCH aka CLEAVER in 1933.

60. Selina GILL adopted HIGGINS (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 2 Feb 1836 in Baltonsborough, the daughter of Jemima GILL and an unnamed father,¹ and died aged 71 on 20 Sep 1906,³ buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim. She was adopted by her maternal grandmother Mary, by then HIGGINS, appeared as Selina Higgins in the 1841 census of Peter Higgins' household, and came to New Zealand as Selina Higgins on the *Mary Ann* at the age of six.

Selina and Charles GILL are the registered parents of a female child born on 17 Oct 1854 in Nelson.³ Selina was single and 18 years old at that time. The father Charles "Gill" may have been the same Charles EYLES with whom Selina had 8 other children.

From c1860–1886 she lived in a *de facto* relationship with **Charles EYLES**, 4th son of Daniel EYLES and Jane PRIMMER. Charles was born on 26 Jan 1821 at Lasham, Hampshire, England,⁵ and died on 5 Apr 1886 Lower Wairau.³ He was buried in Taylor cemetery, Blenheim. Charles was married to **Ann (or Mary Ann) DUNKLEY** and had 5 children of that marriage. Though not blood relations, Charles and Selina were close kin through the marriage of Charles'

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father to Selina's grandmother. Charles Eyles' will (probate value 2,500) mentions daughters Harriet (Mrs Aberhart) and Caroline (Mrs McMillan), daughter Esther, son Walter Nugent Eyles, and putative sons Charles and Albert. It appears that Charles did not recognize most of Selina's children.

Charles and Selina had three sons and five daughters some of whom used their mother's surname:

- 203 i. **Cecilia EYLES or HIGGINS** born on 4 Feb 1860 in Blenheim,³ and died on 14 May 1927³ at Stratford. On 21 Nov 1879³ she married **Robert Henry WITT** (1858-1935). They had 14 children
- 204 ii. **Charles EYLES** born on 9 Mar 1861 in Blenheim,³ and died on 22 Jul 1945³ at Blenheim aged 84. He was buried with his wife at Omaka Cemetery.²⁵ On 30 Jul 1891 he married **Rose Helen REID**³ (1871-1951). They had one son.
- 205 iii. **Lucy Louisa GILL or EYLES** born on 9 Dec 1864 in Blenheim,³ and died on 18 Sep 1950 at Blenheim. In 1896³ she married **Samuel Arthur James TIMMS** (1862-1952). They had no children.
- 206 iv. **Frederick William EYLES** born on 13 Aug 1865,³ and died on 10 Jan 1957³ aged 91. He was buried with his wife at Omaka Cemetery, Blenheim.²⁵ He married **Mary Lucy Davis FREEMAN** (1868-1946) in 1908.³
- 207 v. **Albert Edward GILL or EYLES** born on 16 Nov 1866 in Blenheim,³ and died on 11 Feb 1933 in Hobart, Tasmania, will proved Blenheim mentions widow **Florence Minnie EYLES** and adopted son **Thomas EYLES**. He married 8 Nov 1900 at Hobart to **Florence Minnie WILLIAMS** who died 3 Apr 1933 aged 54.
- 208 vi. **Florence EYLES** was born on 2 Dec 1869 in Blenheim,³ and died on 6 Sep 1962 (reported age 94).³ She first married **Frederick Arthur LEVY** on 23 Jan 1889,³ and married secondly **Canute Anderson HAUBERG** (1856-1944) on 30 May 1904.³ Florence and Canute are buried at Wakapuaka, Nelson.
- 209 vii. **Winifred EYLES or HIGGINS** born on 13 Aug 1871 in Blenheim³ and died on 17 Jan 1946,³ and was buried in Kopuatama cemetery, Stratford. On 12 Feb 1892³ in Havelock, Marlborough, she married her half uncle **Sydney Frederick MAULE** (1856-1920), #72 below. They had 3 children.
- 210 viii. **Amy Gertrude EYLES** born on 23 Jun 1875 in Blenheim,³ and died on 22 Mar 1945.³ She married **William George STANTON** (1870-1966) on 25 Nov 1891.³

After Charles' death, Selina HIGGINS married **James LEES** on 12 May 1892³ in Blenheim. James was a produce merchant, born at Old Monkland, Scotland, he died on 13 July 1905 at the age of 64, and is buried at Omaka cemetery, Blenheim, with his wife. James and Selina had no children.

61. Harriet Ann GILL adopted MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born about 1837 in Glastonbury, Somerset, the daughter of Jemima GILL and an unknown father. She was bapt Harriet Ann MAUL on 9 Mar 1851 (with her half sister Mary) at St John the Baptist, Glastonbury,⁵ parents James and Jemima Maul of North Load Street. She died on 25 Dec 1923 and was buried with her husband in Brightwater, Nelson.³ *Refer to page 47 for a clipping of her obituary.*

1851: glover aged 16 born Glastonbury, with her mother and stepfather [Harriet MAULE]
 1851: came to NZ with her mother, stepfather and siblings, listed as Harriet Ann Gill MAUL
 Unable to read or write at age 14 - refer immigrants listing, page 16.

A letter from Mrs Elisabeth HODGSON stated that an error was made when the maiden name MAULE was used on Harriet's death certificate, and that the family had persuaded the Registrar-General to alter it back to the correct name (presumably Harriet Ann GILL). I am uncertain if this actually happened.

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Harriet Ann married **William HODGSON** on 26 Aug 1857 in Richmond, Nelson.³ William was born about 1820, died on 26 August 1907,³ his 50th wedding anniversary, in Brightwater. Will 1896 left everything to wife Harriet Ann for life, then to daughter Sarah Jane. 3 sons exors.

Harriet Ann and William had seven sons and one daughter:

- 211 i. **John HODGSON** born in 1858 [unnamed male].³ Left home at 15, nothing further known
- 212 ii. **William HODGSON** born on 2 Jan 1860,³ died aged 87 on 13 Jan 1947.³ Farmer, Okamarino - refer Cyclopedia of NZ. William married **Susanna SWAFFORD** (1871-1956) on 6 Oct 1890³ in Kaituna, Marlborough. They had 4 sons and 4 daughters, and are buried in Omaka cemetery.
- 213 iii. **Frederick HODGSON** born on 10 Nov 1861,³ died on 10 Jul 1933³ in Mangawai, Northland, NZ. He married **Annie ONION** (1872-1928) on 5 Apr 1893.³ They had 3 sons and 3 daus.
- 214 iv. **James HODGSON** born on 18 Aug 1863,³ died on 7 Sep 1891.³ James married **Emma Jane COOK** on 7 May 1890.³ They had 1 son.
- 215 v. **Abraham HODGSON** born on 11 Jun 1866,³ died on 29 Jul 1938.³ Abraham married **Amelia "Minnie" GIFFORD** (1864-1929) on 15 Aug 1895.³ They had one son and one daughter, and are buried in Omaka, Blenheim.
- 216 vi. **Samuel HODGSON** born on 19 Oct 1868,³ and died on 3 Oct 1940.³ Samuel married first **Mary Frances NOLAN** (1879-1898) on 27 Jul 1896,³ second **Ellen O'SULLIVAN** (1867-1903) on 18 Apr 1901,³ third **Mabel Theresa CUNDY** (1880-1955) on 20 Nov 1915,³ in Blenheim. He had one child from each marriage. Dawn PEARSON and Elisabeth HODGSON, family genealogists, were granddaughter and granddaughter-in-law of Samuel and Ellen.
- 217 vii. **Sarah Jane "Sally" HODGSON**, a dwarf, born on 24 Nov 1870,³ died on 17 Feb 1940³ and is buried in Omaka cemetery, Blenheim.
- 218 viii. **Clement George HODGSON** born on 24 Jun 1873,³ died on 27 Mar 1958.³ Clement married **Emma Eliza NEWMAN** (1877-1957), daughter of Harry NEWMAN, on 23 Jul 1898.³ They had 2 sons and 2 daughters.

66. Abraham MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 4th quarter 1841 in Wells Registration District UK,⁷ and baptized on 5 May 1844 at St John the Baptist, Glastonbury, son of James and Jemima Maule.¹ He was a scholar age 11 living at home in 1851, and died on 23 June 1864,³ aged 22 ½ years, of phthisis, buried at the inscription at Brightwater cemetery, Nelson.

1864: will at Archives New Zealand, Abraham Maule formerly of Blenheim but now residing at Spring Grove, leaving his mother Jemima a life interest, then to divide between her children: Mary, Angelina, Clara, Sydney, John.

67. Mercy Jane MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was bapt on 5 May 1844 (with her brother Abraham) at St John the Baptist, Glastonbury,¹ daughter of James and Jemima Maule, a scholar in 1851. No birth registration found, age 7 in 1851 census. Her death has not been traced. She was not mentioned in her brother Abraham's 1864 will.

Mercy Jane married **Matthew DAY** on 14 Dec 1861³ at Spring Grove, Nelson. Matthew was christened at East Pennard, son of Mathew Day and his wife Eliza, on 8 Feb 1829, and died aged 68 on 1 Jul 1902 at the Old People's Home, Nelson [*Colonist*]. Matthew and Mercy Jane were first cousins, their mothers (Eliza and Jemima Gill) being sisters (refer #15 and # 21 above). Matthew's 1853 application for passage to NZ is associated with that of his uncle Frederick Gill (who did not in the end emigrate) and sponsored by his uncle William Gill who was already in New Zealand. Matthew and Mercy Jane had a stillborn child in 1864. A newspaper notice on 29 March 1867 indicated that her husband would not be responsible for her debts.

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She is mentioned in the will of Joseph Page "*I bequeath unto Mercy Jane Day who has been living with me for some years all my goods for her use absolutely*" signed May 1884, died 1889. Sworn by Mercy Jane, wife of Matthew Day, at under 100 pounds.

68. James MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 1846 in Wells RD, UK. He was buried on 21 Jan 1847, an infant of North Load Bridge, at Glastonbury St John, Somerset.

69. Frederic MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 1848 in Wells RD, UK. He was buried on 27 May 1849, age 1 of North Load Bridge, at Glastonbury St John, Somerset.

70. Mary MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born 1850, bap on 9 Mar 1851 of North Load Street, parents James and Jemima Gill, at Glastonbury St John.¹ She died on 30 Jul 1886 at White's Point, Upper Buller, Westland.² The *Nelson Mail* reported her "..... the wife of George White aged 39, beloved daughter of James and Jemima Maule of Spring Grove."

Mary married **George WHITE** in 1868.³

George and Mary had 3 sons and 3 daughters:

- 219 i. **Mary Jemima WHITE** was born on 8 Mar 1869³ in Motueka, NZ.
- 220 ii. **James George WHITE** was born on 20 Oct 1876³ in Spring Grove.
- 221 iii. **John Harold WHITE** was born on 7 Aug 1878³ in Spring Grove.
- 222 iv. **Ernest Florian WHITE** was born on 14 May 1880³ in Lyell, NZ.
- 223 v. **Margaret Maude WHITE** was born on 7 May 1882³ in Lyell.
- 224 vi. **Florence Clara WHITE** was born on 18 Jul 1884³ in Lyell.

71. Angelina MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 23 Dec 1852 in New Haven, Sydney,⁴ and baptised on 23 Dec 1852 and on 2 Oct 1853 in Cooks River, Enfield, Cumberland, NSW Australia.³⁵ She died "aged 84" on 5 Feb 1933,³ and was buried "aged 82" with her husband in Motueka.

Angelina married **James Henry HOGAN** (1852-1921) on 15 Aug 1872,³ in Spring Grove, NZ.

Angelina and James had 6 sons and 7 daughters:

- 225 i. **Mary Ann Maude HOGAN** born 1873.³
- 226 ii. **Florence Edith Clara HOGAN** born on 14 Mar 1875,³ and died in 1930.³ She married **Henry Truefitt PEARCY** on 15 Sep 1897.³ They had 2 sons and 1 dau.
- 227 iii. **Lettie Beatrice Georgina HOGAN** born on 13 Apr 1878.³ She married **Arthur WADE** (1870-1939) on 22 Jan 1898.³ Headstone Karori cemetery: Arthur William beloved husband of Lettie WADE died 18 May 1939 aged 69 yrs..... And Lettie.
- 228 iv. **Emma Rosina Henrietta HOGAN** born on 4 May 1880,³ in Herbert, North Otago, and died of rheumatic fever, aged 27 in 1907³ in Motueka. She married **Amos Joseph SUTTON** (1878-1950) on 30 Jan 1902 in Gisborne.³ 2 children
- 229 v. **James Henry HOGAN** was born on 17 Jun 1882,³ and died in 1970.³ He married **Ellen Caroline Maria HOLLIS** in 1904.⁸
- 230 vi. **Mabel Estella Blanche HOGAN** born on 25 Jul 1884,³ and died in 1959.³ She married **Francis Hugh WILLIAMS** in 1906.⁸
- 231 vii. **John William HOGAN** born on 11 Sep 1886.³ He married **Ruby Lillian HUNT** in 1911.⁸
- 232 viii. **Josephine Augusta Lilian HOGAN** born 21 Dec 1888, died 27 Sep 1958
- 233 ix. **Nolan Leslie HOGAN** born on 14 Apr 1892,³ and died aged 8 in 1899.³
- 234 x. **Darcy Raymond Maule HOGAN** born on 12 Jul 1893³ at Motueka [1893/2797] and died in 1978.³ He married **Vivian Beatrice Jane AYLWARD** in 1915.⁸
- 235 xi. **Cyril Ralph Howard HOGAN** born on 26 Jun 1896³ at Motueka, and died in 1961.³ He married **Edith Amy COTTON** in 1917.⁸

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- 236 xii. **David Henry Hollis HOGAN** born on 16 Feb 1901,³ and registered David Henry HOLLIS in Wellington. A second record in 1901 is in the name David Henry Hollis HOGAN. His birth was re-registered David Henry Hollis HOGAN in 1959, he died in 1963.³ He married **Emily Elizabeth MATTHEWS** in 1929.⁸
- 237 xiii. **Vera Rayner HOGAN** born on 3 Aug 1908³ in Dunedin and registered first Vera Rayner 1908, then Vera Hogan 1908, suggesting an adoption. Her birth was re-registered Vera Rayner HOGAN in 1972. She married as Ruby Vera HOGAN on 1 August 1934 in Motueka to Leo Bertram QUINNEY, and was known as Ruby. Ruby Vera QUINNEY died in 1994, birth date was given as 2 August 1908.

IN MEMORIAM

HOGAN.—In loving memory of our dear mother, Angelina Hogan, who passed away 5th February, 1933.
 "Loving thoughts true and tender
 Just to show that we remember."
 —Inserted by Ruby and Leo. Quinney.

72. Sydney Frederick MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 10 Jan 1856² (unnamed male) in Waimea South, Nelson, the son of James MAULE and Jemima GILL, and died aged 66 on 29 Mar 1920.³ He was a labourer killed by accidental upturning of a wagon on main road from Motueka to Pokororo. His death certificate gives his mother's name as Angelina (nee Eyles) - confusion with his sister. It also states his daughters were aged 12 and 9, though actually 27 and 24. [Note that the identification of the 1856 baby as Sydney is tentative, as he gave his birthplace as Sydney when registering his daughters. He may have been misinformed about the whereabouts of his birth. No Sydney registration found.]

Sydney married **Winifred EYLES or HIGGINS** (1871-1946), # 209 above, on 12 Feb 1892³ in Havelock, Marlborough. Sydney's half-sister Selina thus became his mother-in-law. [Note the marriage is stated incorrectly to have occurred in Sydney on Lily's birth registration.]

Winifred had a daughter for whom no father was named:

- 238 i. **Minnie Eva Selina HIGGINS (adopted MAULE)** born on 24 Jun 1889³ in Nelson, and died on 19 Nov 1918. She married **Edward Henry NEWLAND** (1875-1952) on 1 Jul 1912 in Stratford, NZ. They are buried in Stratford Kopuatama cemetery.

Sydney and Winifred had 2 daughters:

- 239 i. **Isabella Louisa MAULE** born on 20 Oct 1892³ at Okaramio, Marlborough, and died on 18 May 1976.³ She married **Russell Edward TILL** (1892-1976) on 23 Dec 1909 in Eltham, NZ.² They were cremated in Hamilton.
- 240 ii. **Lily Gertrude MAULE** born on 4 Apr 1895² in Palmerston North and died on 14 Aug 1977.³ She married **Arthur Norman ALDRIDGE** (1886-1970) on 27 Dec 1911² in Stratford, Taranaki. They are buried in Te Kuiti.

73. Clara MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 23 Dec 1858 at Brightwater died on 7 Sep 1918,³ dearly beloved wife of Alfred Frost. Won prize 11-12 years at Spring Grove School 23 Jan 1871. Birth registration not found, date from family may be incorrect as Abraham's will lists her before Sydney.

1861: Alfred Frost b1847 son of William James Frost giving evidence in court

1864: Jane wife of John Frost claiming an assault in court, evidence from dau Leah, son Alfred

1873: Alfred Frost married Emily Wright at Nelson

1875: 1 Oct death of Charles William Frost age 10 weeks at Beachville, bur 2/10/75 WKCE06018_A
 Alfred Frost and Emily had a son Alfred born 1874, died 1894 in tree felling accident, age 20 bur WKCE06018_B

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Emily Frost died age 25 bur 6/8/1875 WKCE06018

1879: Alfred Frost married Clara MONK dau of James Monk, corrected to Clara Maule of Springrove

Clara married **Alfred FROST**, son of William John Forrester FROST and Jane TANNER, on 28 May 1879² in the Congregational Church, Nelson. Witnesses were John Maule and F. Adam. Alfred was born on 25 Mar 1848 in Whitehall, London, England, a widower at the time of his marriage to Clara, he died in 1932. They are buried in Wakapuaka cemetery.

Clara and Alfred had seven sons and four daughters:

- 241 i. **Emily Pope FROST** born on 15 Jan 1872³ in Nelson. She died unmarried on 20 Sep 1934 leaving a will naming as sole beneficiary her "half sister Ethel Leya Ahlstrom, widow." (Registered as Emily POPE - birth parents not known, could have been Emily WRIGHT and ___ POPE.) Buried at Wakapuaka cemetery, Nelson "Emily, beloved daughter of Alfred Frost died Sept 20 1934. At Rest." Age 62 in burial record.
- 242 ii. **Francis Albert Maule FROST** born on 3 Sep 1875³ in Nelson (no father named in birth registration of Francis Albert MAULE son of Clara.)
- 243 iii. **Ethel Leah FROST** born on 6 Feb 1880³ in Nelson, and died on 11 Mar 1953³ in Nelson. She married **John Albert AHLSTROM** (1875-1924) on 7 Apr 1909.³ John and Ethel were involved in the disputed will of an elderly lady in their care, widely reported in the newspapers in 1913.
- 244 iv. **Elsie Maude FROST** born on 28 Jun 1882³ in Nelson, and died unmarried on 21 Jul 1956³ in Nelson. She is buried with her mother in Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 245 v. **Beatrice Violet Susanna FROST** born on 30 Mar 1884³ in Nelson, and died on 31 May 1962³ in Gisborne. She married **Ernest William O'GRADY** (1893-1918) 28 Dec 1915.³ Ernest was killed at Messines, France. One daughter
- 246 vi. **Harold Alfred Leslie FROST** born on 22 Apr 1886³ in Nelson, and died on 12 Dec 1955,³ tomato grower of Nelson, cremated at Wakapuaka.
- 247 vii. **Victor Ashley FROST** born on 8 Jun 1890³ in Nelson and died on 17 Aug 1917 in Battle of Messines, France.¹⁰
- 248 viii. **Augustus FROST** born on 27 Jun 1893³ in Nelson, and died a gardener of Nelson aged 71 on 17 May 1965,³ He married **Amelia Margaret LAIRD** (1896-1939) on 19 Feb 1913³ in Nelson, buried in Wakapuaka cemetery.⁹ 7 chn
- 249 ix. **Nolan FROST** born on 4 Sep 1896³ in Nelson, and died on 2 Oct 1968³ in Nelson. He married **Edythe Myra PRITCHARD** in 1932.⁸ They are buried in Marsden Valley cemetery.⁹
- 250 x. **Newton Howard FROST** born on 5 Jun 1898³ in Nelson, and died on 18 Jul 1946³ in Nelson. He married **Cecilia Elizabeth BURT** (1905-1981) on 30 Sep 1924.³ They are buried in Wakapuaka cemetery.⁹
- 251 xi. **Stanley Clive FROST** born on 11 Oct 1900 in Nelson,³ and died on 14 Oct 1966³ in Nelson. He is buried in Marsden Valley cemetery.⁹

74. John Joseph MAULE (*Jemima GILL*²¹, *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 1860 in Spring Grove³ the son of Jemima GILL and James MAULE, and baptised on 15 Dec 1861 at Brightwater. He died at the age of 47 at Waimea South on 23 Nov 1907,³ and is buried with his wife in Brightwater cemetery.

His will left everything to his wife for life, then to children (not named) equally.

John married **Louisa THOMASON** on 23 Jan 1884³ in Nelson. She died aged 76 on 22 Sep 1939 in Nelson.³ Some genealogists have listed Louis Maule as a younger brother of John Joseph. I believe it is a confusion with his wife Louisa, based on a misreading of her headstone.

John and Louisa had 1 son and 2 daughters:

- 252 i. **Maude Susan MAULE** born on 27 Jul 1884³ in Wakefield, and died aged 31 on

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- 2 Nov 1915.³ At Spring Grove School 1889 - 1898. Maude married **James Harris CHING** (1869-1943) on 4 May 1904,³ the second of his three wives.¹⁹
- 253 ii. **Abraham Arthur MAULE** born on 5 Jul 1885.³ Abraham died on 12 Jun 1908 at the age of 22, and was buried with his father. At Spring Grove School 1889 - 1898. Death registration not found in on-line index.
- 254 iii. **Eva Mary "Tiny" MAULE** born on 1 Dec 1887³ in Brightwater. Tiny died aged 23, on 12 Jan 1911 in Motueka,³ and is buried with her father in Brightwater.

75. Edwin GILL (*Henry*²², *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born on 14 Aug 1843 in Ditcheat, Somerset,¹ the son of Henry and Jane GILL. He was buried "an infant" on 14 Mar 1844 in Ditcheat.¹

76. Edward GILL (*Henry*²², *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptised on 14 Dec 1845 in Ditcheat, Somerset,¹ the son of Henry and Jane GILL. He died on 18 Apr 1923² in Nelson, aged 78.

1851 census: age 5, born Ditcheat, with parents at Lottisham Green, Ditcheat.

Dolly Edwards (#157) suggested that her mother had two half-brothers, Ted and Fred. Fred was correct, but Tom was the other half-brother nearest to her mother's age. This Edward, cousin to Tom and Fred, may have been the Ted referred to. Dolly's statement should have been "half-brothers Tom and Fred, and cousin Ted."

1870: Electoral Roll: Farmer, Wakapuaka. Abode Wakapuaka Road, 10 acres pt sect 16.

1874: Responsible for 1 child under the Education Rate

Men from all round the district served on the Suburban North Road Board, responsible for all roads in the area apart from the main highway. Edward Gill of Atawhai was the Board's overseer, clerk and returning officer for 40 years. His association with the roads went back at least to 1872 when he is recorded as having secured a small contract connected with the construction of the original road from Happy Valley to the Whangamoa Saddle.²⁶

1913: will - Farmer Wangamoa 232 acres (sections 2,3,4, and 19 Block 1 Tapamutu Survey District), left the farm and stock to Howard after a life interest to his wife, Beatrice and Howard to share all other assets equally.

Edward married **Mary SCADDEN** on 11 Jan 1865 in Nelson.³ Mary was born about 1845, died on 30 Sep 1931,³ and was buried with her husband at Wakapuaka cemetery.²⁵

Edward and Mary had 1 son and 1 daughter:

- 255 i. **Beatrice Mary GILL** born on 8 Oct 1865³ in Nelson, and died on 21 Jan 1948³ in Nelson. Beatrice married **Arthur DODSON** (1856-1935) on 17 Apr 1895³ in St Peter's, Wakapuaka, Nelson (described as "only daughter" on her marriage). They had one daughter, and are buried in Wakapuaka.
- 256 ii. **Edward Howard Victor GILL** born on 3 Mar 1886³ in Nelson. Although born 20 years after his sister, his relationship is confirmed in his father's will which refers to him as "my son Edward Howard Gill." He died aged 61 on 19 Nov 1946,³ and was cremated at Karori, Wellington. Howard married **Hilda Adine HEBBERD** (1886-1972) on 21 Dec 1910 in Nelson.³ She was buried in Marsden cemetery, Nelson. Howard was a law clerk in 1907 (witness to George Sharp's will). They had 1 son and 1 daughter.

77. Emily GILL (*Henry*²², *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was born in 1847 in Ditchest (according to 1851 census) and registered (unnamed female) Mar quarter 1847 in Shepton Mallet,⁷ the daughter of Henry GILL and Jane BAKER. She died on 1 Jul 1922 in Nelson,³ and is buried with her husband in Wakapuaka cemetery.

Emily married **Henry MOORE**, a bootmaker, at Henry's father Charles' residence, Post Boy Hotel, Vanguard Street, Nelson, on 10 Nov 1868.^{3, 18} Henry was born on 18 Sep 1846 in

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Bradfield, Berkshire, UK, and died on 7 Oct 1922 in Nelson.³ Additional details of this family are available at www.moore.org.nz.

Emily and Henry had 3 sons and 6 daughters:

- 257 i. **Harry Charles MOORE** born on 23 Oct 1869³ in Nelson. Henry died aged 92 on 13 Dec 1961³ in Waimarama, Hawkes Bay. Bootmaker of Nelson. He married **Eda KARSTEN** (1872-1960) on 18 Oct 1897³ in Palmerston North. They had 2 sons and 3 daughters and are buried in Havelock North.
- 258 ii. **Edmund Gilchrist MOORE** born on 2 Nov 1870³ in Nelson, and died there on 22 Jun 1954.³ Edmund married **Ellen Byrne O'NEILL** (1865-1929) on 28 Oct 1895.³ Edmund was a Nelson bootmaker. They had 2 sons and 1 daughter.
- 259 iii. **Herbert Hartfield Harman MOORE** born on 7 or 9 Feb 1872³ in Nelson, his death has not been traced. Herbert married **Louisa Maud WILDBORE** (1881-1926) on 7 Nov 1898³ in Palmerston North. They had 3 sons and 5 daughters, the couple separated about 1907. Louisa remarried **Leonard Joseph WILLIAMS** in 1922, stating she had been a widow since 1912.
- 260 iv. **Ida Laura MOORE** born on 23 May 1873³ in Nelson, and died on 10 Mar 1941³ in Auckland. Ida married **Newton Charles HOLDAWAY** (1868-1949) on 5 Dec 1894³ in Christ's Church, Nelson. He was a coachbuilder. They lived at Richmond, Nelson, Kaponga, Bulls, Levin, Auckland and Marton.²⁸ They had 1 son and 1 daughter.
- 261 v. **Beryl MOORE** born on 7 Sep 1874 in Nelson,³ and died aged 79 on 30 Jul 1954,³ in Hastings. She married **Ernest Herbert DONKIN** (1873-1926) on 5 Apr 1899³ in Nelson. Beryl was a teacher. They had 2 sons and 6 daughters.
- 262 vi. **Emily MOORE** born on 20 Feb 1876,³ died on 7 Sep 1957³ and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery, Nelson. She married **Frederick PAGET-JONES** in 1927.³ Her will left everything to her sisters Gertrude and Doris.
- 263 vii. **Gertrude MOORE** born on 8 Mar 1877.³ She died on 11 Sep 1966,³ unmarried, and was buried at Wakapuaka cemetery.
- 264 viii. **Amy MOORE** born on 6 Apr 1878³ in Nelson. She died on 18 Jul 1963,³ and was buried at Wakapuaka. Amy married **Edmund Charles SHEA** (1874-1930) on 7 Nov 1898.³ Edmund was a tally clerk, they lived at Tahuna, Nelson.¹⁹ They had 2 sons and 3 daughters.
- 265 ix. **Doris MOORE** born on 3 Feb 1893 in Nelson.³ Doris died on 13 Oct 1980,³ in Nelson, unmarried.

78. Mary GILL (*Henry*²², *Henry*⁶, *Thomas*¹) was baptized on 25 Jun 1848 in Ditcheat,¹ and registered Jun quarter 1848 at Shepton Mallet,⁷ the daughter of Henry GILL and Jane BAKER. She died on 23 Oct 1924 in Nelson,³ aged 77.

Mary had a daughter with **Cornelius HEBBERD**, (who is named on the birth certificate):

- 266 i. **Mary Jane Baker "Janie" GILL** born on 2 Sep 1866² in Nelson, and died on 29 Jan 1923³ in Nelson. Janie married **George Daniel MOULDER** (1864-1952) on 16 Sep 1891 in Nelson.³ They had six children and are buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. He was a labourer at Wakapuaka in 1894.²⁷

Mary married **Thomas HAYTON**, a gardener, on 8 May 1882 in Nelson.³ Thomas was born in 1853 in Sunderland, UK, and died on 20 Oct 1898³ in Nelson, intestate (assets under £700). They are buried in Wakapuaka cemetery. Thomas was a farmer at Wakapuaka in 1894.²⁷

Mary and Thomas had 2 sons:

- 267 i. **Thomas Edward HAYTON** born on 24 Jun 1888³ in Nelson, and died on 14 Dec

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1975³ in Nelson. Thomas married **Olive Reubena BARNETT** (1891-1965) on 28 Aug 1912³ in Upper Takaka, Nelson. They had 2 sons and 3 daughters, and are buried in Marsden Valley cemetery. They were the grandparents of Jan STEVENSON, family genealogist.

- 268 ii. **John Henry "Jack" HAYTON** born on 9 Jun 1890³ in Nelson, and died on 1 Aug 1977³ in Richmond, Nelson. Jack married **Trixie Irene HODGSON (Rene** pronounced "Reen") (1899-1990), on 29 Mar 1922.³ Rene was daughter of Clement George HODGSON (#218 above), and a 2nd cousin once removed of her husband Jack, both descending from Henry GILL and Mary SLADE. They had 2 sons.

79. Selina GILL (*Henry²², Henry⁶, Thomas¹*) was baptized on 25 Oct 1850 in Ditchat,¹ and registered Jun quarter 1850 at Shepton Mallet.⁷ She was buried, "aged 10", on 18 Apr 1860 in Baltonsborough.¹

1851: at home aged 9 months in census of Evercreech

1853: a passage to NZ was not booked for her on the *Maori*, perhaps she was not well enough to travel, and in the end her mother, who had been booked to travel, stayed behind with her.

Nelson Mail 29 Dec 1923: Death of Harriet Hodgson, #61 above.

The death of Mrs William Hodgson, which occurred at Spring Grove on the 26th December, removes another of the now small band of early settlers. She was born in Wiltshire, and came out with her parents to New South Wales. The family remained there a year and then came to Nelson, 73 years ago. They first settled at Stoke; but eventually removed to Spring Grove, where the deceased spent the remainder of her life. She married the late Mr William Hodgson in 1857, and leaves a family of five sons and one daughter—Messrs William, Abraham and Samuel Hodgson (all of Marlborough), Frederick (Auckland), George (Spring Grove) and Miss Hodgson (Spring Grove). The late Mrs Hodgson enjoyed excellent health up to two years ago, when she began to fail, though she was able to keep about up till last Sunday, when she had a seizure from which she never recovered.

Appendix 1: A reminiscence of Thomas Gill of Kaikoura (#51)

by Thelma Money, his granddaughter

Family genealogists had struggled for 25 years to find documentary evidence of the birth and parentage of Thomas GILL. It was not until 2001 that a chance remark led to the discovery of his baptism in the Methodist records, a possibility which had been discounted because all of his siblings had been baptised in the Anglican church. The baptismal record agrees with the date of birth estimated from his marriage and death records, and places him firmly as the youngest child of William and Harriet GILL, who arrived in Nelson on the *Mary Ann* in 1842. In the Nelson census of 1849 he is listed as a two year old male child at the home of William GILL. Another pointer to his position in the family was the visit of Harold GILL to his Uncle Tom while passing through Kaikoura on his honeymoon. Harold's father Fred was Tom's brother.

Thomas GILL's mother passed away when he was eight years of age, and within a few months his father had remarried. Thomas left Nelson as a young man to seek employment in Kaikoura, where there were many large sheep runs and sawmills. Conditions were apparently to his liking, because he settled down in the district and at 23 married Alice LYFORD, a daughter of Thomas and Sarah LYFORD, who ran the accommodation house and ferry at the Clarence, north of Kaikoura. The marriage took place there in 1870 on 11 July.

Eight children were born to the marriage - Minnie, Clara, Walter, Thomas, Albert, Edith, Violet, and Lionel. On 23 August 1904 their youngest son Lionel drowned. In company with another youth of 18 years he attempted to make a crossing of the swollen Hapuka river in a horse drawn dray. The other youth was also drowned. The death of their 14 year old son came as a severe blow and Alice felt bitter towards her husband. Against her wishes he had given the boy permission to make the fatal crossing and she blamed him for the boy's death. The marriage finally broke up, Thomas left the family home, and upon the marriage of his eldest son Walter to Margaret GILLING in 1908, made his home with them until his death 25 years later.

"Gangy" as he was known to family and neighbours, had a generous and loving nature. He lived in a bach apart from the house and spent his early retirement days tending a large garden and spoiling the grandchildren. What a treat it was to be offered a sticky blackball or peppermint from Gangy's jar!

A few years before his death Gangy inherited a legacy from his brother George from which he drew the interest only. From being generous, the legacy changed Gangy into more or less a miser. There were no more threepences or sixpences for us when he asked us to run a message. Instead our mother found she had to make up the difference between what he gave us for a tin of No. 3 Bulldog tobacco or a packet of blackballs, and their actual cost. His parting words "keep the change" as we rode off on our bikes used to be the last straw! No wonder the old sock hanging under his bed began to bulge with his savings!

Another masterpiece of Gangy's was the time he decided to paint his gig. It didn't matter to him that the wheels were caked with lumps of dried mud, Gangy just painted over mud and all. The result when the mud fell off can well be imagined. He cleaned his shoes after the same manner.

Another time Gangy had a most troublesome toothache. His groans and moans about the said tooth almost drove us to distraction. One day Gangy could take no more and with the aid of a pair of pliers, he removed the offending tooth. Proudly he came and told my mother what he had done and remarked in all innocence "Funny thing about that tooth Mag, it never ached!"

It is a very sad thing now to write about Gangy's death and what led up to his untimely end. Just prior to his death he had become increasingly senile and difficult to live with, imagining among other things that my mother was turning people against him. This was most certainly untrue. This must

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have been an extremely difficult time for our mother with our father away from home during the week, managing Rakanui, a sheep station just south of Kaikoura.

Two weeks before Gangy's death, a close neighbour, Jack McInnes, called at our home. He had leased one of our paddocks to grow oats and had come along to check their growth. The oat paddock was alongside Gangy's bach and our mother asked Mr McInnes to have a chat to Gangy, and he agreed.

Imagine the shock he felt when he saw Gangy lying on the ground with a rifle and an empty bottle of gin beside him. I heard his urgent call to get my mother, and I looked up to see Mr McInnes having great difficulty climbing over the barbed wire fence. Between us we managed to get Gangy back onto his bed. There were no injuries, just a case of him completely out to the effects of the gin bottle. Gangy was not a drinker, but he must have obtained the gin from someone.

My father came home that evening, and with his brother Albert stayed up all night in case there was trouble when Gangy sobered up. The fact that he was found lying at the side of his bach, facing the direction of the house, disturbed everyone. Had he intended to shoot our mother? The thought was frightening.

My father and Uncle Albert made several checks on the bach but each time found Gangy "out to it." About 2 a.m. they heard a thumping noise and raced out to the back to find Gangy lying on the floor, his arm still in the grate of his little stove. It appeared that he had woken up feeling cold and had tried to put wood on the fire, and in the process had caught his arm.

He received dreadful burns, and his arm was reduced to a blackened, skinless mess. To me as a 13 year old, it was a sight I was never to forget. On his second visit, the doctor ordered Gangy to hospital where he lingered for about ten days, all the time pleading in his confused and painful state, to see Mag. Her name was on his lips until he died on 29 September 1933 from shock and toxæmia following the accidental burns to his arm. Our mother collapsed after his accident and it was many weeks before she regained her health.

Appendix 2: Aunt Edie [Alice Edith GILL #150] *by Thelma Money, nee Gill. 2001*

I have fond memories of Aunt Edie. She was a softly spoken gentle lady well liked by her nieces and nephews. Along with Aunt Jess, a younger sister of my mother, they were my favourite aunts. My father often spoke of his sister Edie and was closer to her than other members of his family. My mother and Aunt Edie were always good friends.

I remember Aunt Edie and Uncle Ted living on their small farm on Mt Fyffe Road. [Kaikoura 1920s] Their property was not far from the junction with Hawthorne Road. Our family lived about mid way down this road. It was possible to take a short cut between our properties by going across farm land. Aunt Edie was always willing to lend a hand when needed by her extended family. She stayed at our home when Allan was born in July 1923, and again when our youngest brother Ben was born in April 1925. The two eldest in our family and I were born at our grandmother Clara Gilling's house on Beach Road but that is another story.

Aunt Edie was 'clever' with her hands. She did beautiful needlework, skills inherited from the Gill and Lyford women folk. Her Aunt Sophia Rayner (nee Gill) is mentioned in the Rayner family book as making all her own clothes entirely by hand and decorating them with beautiful bead work. When I was about five years old Aunt Edie made me a coat from rabbit fur, very sought after in those days. I was the envy of my friends and one day I was allowed to wear it to school. My joy vanished at the play interval when an older Maori girl was noticed parading around in my coat. A teacher made her return it to the cloak room and I never wore it to school again. When I out grew

Descendants of Thomas Gill and Mary Lester

the coat I used it in my doll's pram until the moths got at it and it was thrown out. Aunt Edie made a coat for my sister Margaret that year.

I am not sure of the year Aunt Edie and Uncle Ted moved down to Christchurch. It must have been prior to May 1928 because Uncle Albert and Aunt Kate were living in the house on Mt Fyffe Road at that time. Grannie Alice Gill passed away on the 14th May and I remember going to the house with my friend Doreen McInnes to take a wreath my mother had made. Aunt Kate took us in to the room where Granny Gill was 'lying'. It must have been a strange feeling for me because although she was my grandmother I didn't know her. She had lived apart from our grandfather Gangy who lived with my family. This arrangement meant my father was more or less cast out by his mother for twenty years although his brothers and sisters were always part of his life. Sadly his mother's funeral was on the 16th May, his 50th birthday. I can still recall the bruising on Granny's face when I saw her that day. A short time before she had been struck by a horse and gig driven by a grandson-in-law as he turned around a corner of the house where she had been minding their children. On her death certificate the cause of death was given as endocarditis (heart) problem and syncope for one year which may have caused a black out and her collapsing on the ground just before she was struck by the gig.

The decision of Aunt Edie and Uncle Ted to move to Christchurch was one made by several other families in the district. There were very few opportunities for young people in the small town. Andrew was now at secondary school age and he would have a better education in the city. In 1933 when I started high school in Kaikoura all the Forms were located in one room in the primary school. We did have two male teachers. Today there is an up to date high school situated in the other end of town. Lyford was already in the building trade and Faith nursing. Aunt Edie confided to our mother that she couldn't bear to see Faith settled down back in Kaikoura maybe with a farmer milking cows. Our mother must have had similar views because after Margaret moved to Wellington around 1935 my brothers and I were encouraged to join her when the time came for us to find employment. Cousin Colin Gill, a son of Uncle Tom and Reka, is the only one of my generation still living in the district.

At the end of 1928 during the school holidays I went down to see Aunt Edie and Uncle Ted. I travelled to Parnassus by bus and then went on the train to Christchurch. I was eight years old and it was the first time I had seen a train. I had a lovely holiday - never felt homesick which made it easier for everyone. Faith came home to visit when off duty and Andrew was enjoying school holidays like me. I was a little in awe of him, probably because at 14 he was a lot older than my younger brothers. A few months later Margaret went down there for a holiday. She had long hair which at just going on seventeen she 'hated' and all her pleas to have it cut were ignored. Margaret confided her problem to Aunt Edie and arrived home looking a different person and attractive. Our mother accepted the change in good heart probably due to the fact that our Aunt Edie had a part of it.

During the years of World War Two I was manpowered to work at Bonds Hosiery Mill in Wellington. I often had the opportunity to speak to cousin Lyford who was building extensions to the plant. Later he built Harry Squires Hostel in Taranaki Street. Our Margaret and his wife Eileen were great friends. Whenever our mother came to Wellington for a holiday she would pay Eileen a visit. On several occasions when I would travel to Kaikoura for the Christmas period with my own family Andrew would call at our home with his wife and young children. My parents really appreciated Andrew keeping in touch.

Around 1952 our father was taken ill and rushed to Christchurch Hospital for an operation. Our mother stayed with Aunt Edie for the two weeks and Margaret went down from Wellington for part of the time. After our father's death in June, 1954 I never had the opportunity to see Aunt Edie again. She passed away in 1963 two years after our mother. I have always remembered my special aunt after all these years have passed and I am now old myself.

Appendix 3: Richard Gill of Pelorous, NZ

William Gill from Baltonsborough had a cousin Richard, raising the possibility that the Richard Gill who died at Pelorous on 13 May 1858, was a relative of the Nelson Gills.

Richard Gill died intestate but his probate papers at Archives NZ (AAOO 17070 W5410 9 /365) establish that he was from an unrelated family, his brothers and sisters being:

William Gill of Islington, Middlesex, carpenter

Baxter Gill of Sleaford, Lincoln, bootmaker

George Gill of Helpringham, Lincoln, farmer

Thomas Gill of Windmill St, Middlesex, ham and beef cutter

Mary Gill of Surfleet, Lincoln, spinster

Elizabeth, wife of William Garratt of Surfleet, Lincoln, bootmaker

Ann, wife of George Easton of Fishtoft, Lincoln, farmer.

He was not the Richard Gill, miner from Cornwall aged 23, who emigrated to Otago in the Ruapehu arriving in 1887.

Appendix 4: Register of Emigrant Labourers applying for Free Passage to South Australia 1836–1841

7273	28Feb1840	Peter Higgins	lab Ballonsborough, Glastonbury
		ages Male 35, Female 40, children Male 13, Females 12, 10, 4	
		agent Dr Bernard	
7274	28Feb1840	Jane Higgins	servant Ballonsborough, Glastonbury age 20
		agent Dr Bernard	
7275	28Feb1840	Mercy Higgins	servant Ballonsborough, Glastonbury age 18
		agent Dr Bernard	

Note: Jane and Mercy are listed with their stepfather's surname in the Australian list above, but father's name in NZ list below.

In the end they did not take up the offer to travel to South Australia.

I am indebted to Sue Morgan, another Baltonsborough researcher, for bringing these Australian records to my attention.

Appendix 5: Register of Emigrants applying for Passage to NZ

3358	TARR, George and Elizabeth (baker of Baltonsborough)	
3359	GILL, William 31, Harriet 31 (of Baltonsborough)	1528
3424	HIGGINS, Peter 36, Mary 48, Sydney 15, Angelina 14	1531-33
3425	GILL, Jane 23 (dairymaid of Baltonsborough)	1524
3426	GILL, Henry 21 (aglab of Baltonsborough)	1525
3427	GILL, Mercy 19 (dairymaid of Charlton Mackrell)	1526
3939	GILL, George 29 (aglab of Glastonbury)	1523

Refer CO 205/270-273 Immigration Registers 1839-1850 Archives NZ Repro 6

Numbers to left are from Register of Applications for Passage

Numbers to right are from Embarkation Register

Ship *Mary Ann* 600 tons Capt Thos Bolton, West India Docks, sailed 24 Sep 1841 Deal.

Appendix 6: James Palmer spouse of #27 Rhoda Higgins

I have been contacted by Mark Humphreys from Tasmania [mailto:thehumphreys@gmail.com] a descendant of James and Rhoda who was trying to make sense of the information he had gleaned about his family. He wrote: *I am a descendant of James Palmer who fathered a child, James William Palmer, born at Kaikoura to Rhoda Higgins in 1849* [source: marriage record of James William Palmer and Emily Henrietta Quinney 21 May 1890]. He wondered if this related to the Palmer family of Nelson and Kaikoura of which I have written elsewhere. I advised him that this birth predated the arrival of "our" Palmers in Kaikoura by about 15 years, making it unlikely that there was any relationship. However, I was still very interested because of the Higgins connection.

James William's birth year, 1849, as calculated from his stated age at marriage, is very early for Kaikoura. One possibility would be that James was employed at the whaling station. Alternatively, they could have been in Kaikoura because of James' involvement in coastal shipping.



To learn more about this James Palmer I searched the NZ newspapers database *Papers Past*, finding several men of that name, all but one of whom were eliminated because of conflicting details. The remaining James Palmer came to public notice because of repeated convictions for drunkenness in Wellington and Auckland throughout the 1860s. The *Wellington Independent* 1 Oct 1870 reported his death: "A man named James Palmer, a very old sailor on this coast, and a long resident in Wellington, dropped down in an apoplectic fit on board the *Ruby*, and died almost instantaneously. He was a huge, short-necked, deep-chested man, and had for many years been a very hard liver." His death does not seem to have been registered, but his unmarked grave is noted in the Bolton St, Wellington, burials database. The report of his death fits well with family legend and various court reports which support an association with the coastal trade. Three of his children were born in Wellington, and the Kaikoura connection is supported by his death aboard the *Ruby*, a schooner which serviced the Wellington Kaikoura run for many years. Then there is this family portrait, alleged to be of James Palmer, which seems to match very well the man described above short-necked, deep chested.

1848 James Palmer, seaman, listed at Luton Row, Port Nicholson Jury List – NZ Gazette.
Similar listings continue throughout the 1850s, with the address Manners St or Te Aro flat

My Palmer family correspondent also mentioned his nana having had a portrait of Martha Rutherford, mother of Ernest, the world renowned physicist who was born in Nelson. It turned out as follows:

Martha and Charles Edwin Thompson were siblings brought from Hornchurch in Essex to Nelson, New Zealand as children by their mother and her Shuttleworth relatives soon after the death of their father in 1853. Martha married James Rutherford and had 12 children, the fourth of whom became Ernest, Baron Rutherford of Nelson. Charles married Angelina Palmer (#94 in this work) and farmed at Spring Grove, Nelson where they raised 9 children. Something of their story was recorded in the NZ Herald 30 October 1934 on the occasion of Martha's 92nd birthday.^{18, 3}

Appendix 7: Edward Gill 1886-1915 NZDF 5/1539

A brief mention is included here because of possible confusion, although it seems likely that this Edward Gill was not related to the present family. According to army records he was born on 17 Dec 1896 in Wanganui, although no birth registration has been found. He named his brother John Gill, address Taihape or Ohinewai, Waikato, as next of kin. Edward gave his last address as Kekerangi, Blenheim on enlistment, but this does not necessarily indicate relationship to the Nelson / Marlborough Gills.

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