

# **Descendants of**

# **Philip SKIPWORTH**

## **of South Kelsey, Lincolnshire, UK**

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## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey



*image courtesy Richard Croft at commons.wikimedia.org*

**Skipworth Family Tomb in St Mary's churchyard, South Kelsey**

# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

## Introduction

I have been reluctant to write this chapter in the Skipworth series because it deserves a more serious study than I am able to offer from New Zealand. However, for completeness I will set down what I know about this group, in the hope that my work will form a useful starting point for someone willing to investigate in greater depth.

This was the senior line of a family of Skipworths, whose origins have been traced with reasonable certainty back to about 1600 in my paper *In the Beginning*.<sup>29</sup> The present chapter traces their spectacular rise in status from Philip Skipwith, yeoman of Alvingham who died with goods valued at £253 in 1720, to George Skipworth of South Kelsey, his great grandson, Barrister, J.P., Deputy Lieutenant of the County, and significant landowner, who died worth £190,000 in 1829.

I am not able to account for their changed status in detail, but I can offer some indications:

- they were ambitious and interested in taking advantage of eighteenth century improvements in stock breeding and agricultural practices, and they also took an interest in their community
- they appear to have deliberately funnelled their wealth to the eldest son, seeking to find a wife with money to establish younger sons
- although I do not have details of all the dowries I suspect the family wealth of the heir was increased in each generation by the wife's contribution.

The old aristocracy were not particularly happy with the rise of families like the Skipworths. The following was found at Lincoln Archives, but I do not know the author:

*The Skipworths rose, like the Dixons, from Lindsay yeoman stock, but they rose much more dramatically. It was Philip Skipworth's acquisition of a large estate in South Kelsey between 1802 and 1808 that prompted William Dixon's outburst against speculators and land jobbers. But before the end of the nineteenth century the Skipworth entailed estate had passed into the hands of mortgagees, and part of the unentailed estate passed to the Rev T G Dixon.*

A difficulty arose when Philip of South Kelsey's eldest son, another Philip, failed to produce children. By the time this became evident the second son Thomas had entered the church, and was apparently not considered a suitable heir to the estate, so the third son George succeeded.

In the next generation the estate, already encumbered with significant debt, passed to George's eldest son, George Borman Skipworth. Whether through ill-luck or bad management, G B Skipworth saw his father's achievements whittled away and eventually surrendered to creditors. He probably blamed the Government for his downfall, and there is no doubt that the abolition of the Corn Laws had a depressive effect on Lincolnshire farming in general, but the changes should not have bitten so deeply if he had been less flamboyant in his lifestyle.

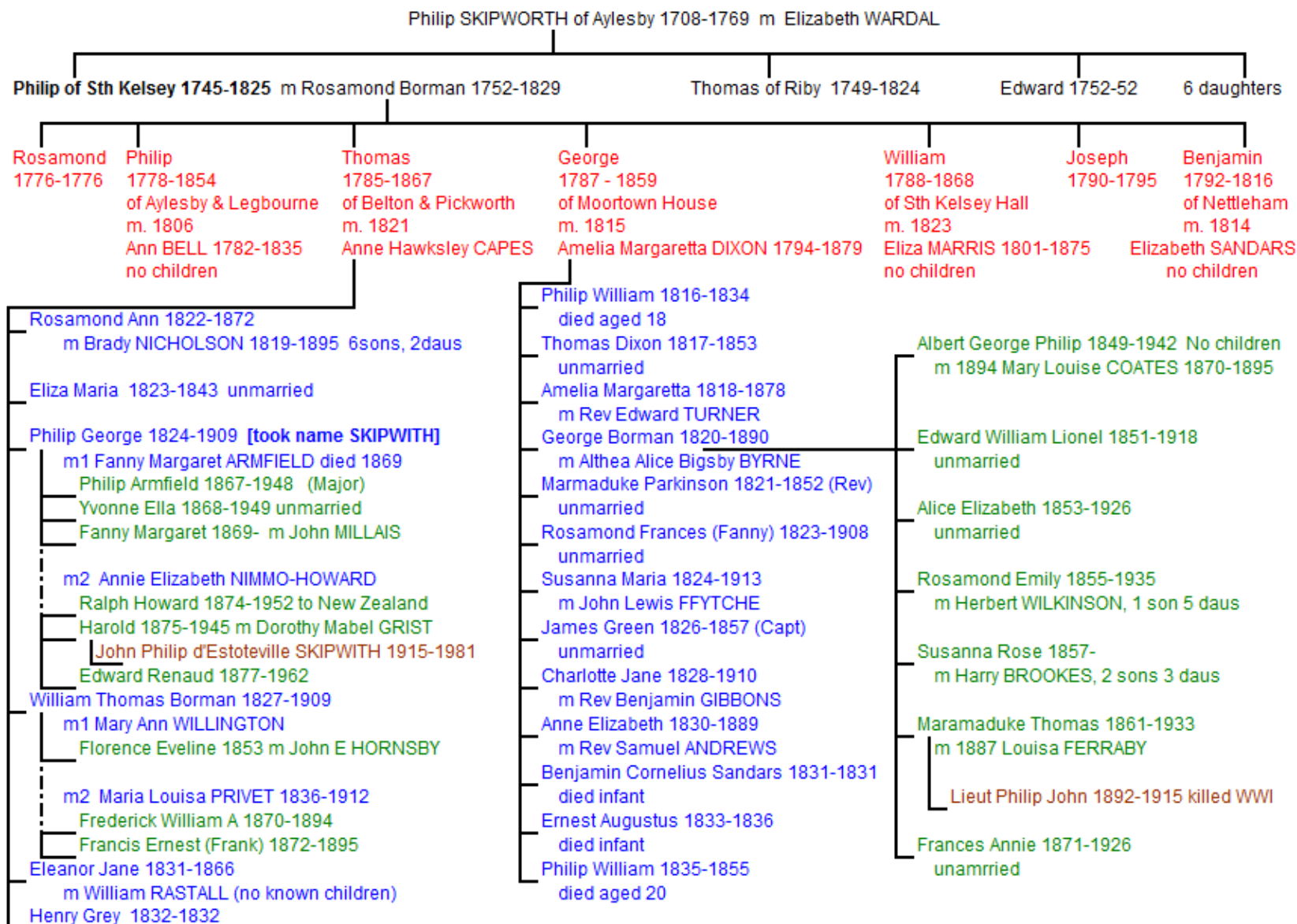
In parallel with the family's shrinking fortune came a significant reduction in family sizes. Whereas Philip of South Kelsey had 11 Skipworth grandsons, he had nine Skipworth great grandsons, and only two great great grandsons who carried the name. I believe that the name is now extinct in this branch.

I am indebted to Jean Collins for providing a fuller understanding of the history of South Kelsey.<sup>18</sup> Jean has written: *The Skipworths .... were a benevolent influence in the village. As Lords of the Manor they played their part in the provision of various public amenities and social services, which could be seen as appropriate, for South Kelsey had been good to the Skipworths.*

As always, I would be pleased to receive additional information, or corrections [mkip@xtra.co.nz](mailto:mkip@xtra.co.nz)

Abbreviations: MI - Monumental Inscription RD - Registration District

# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey



# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

## *First Generation (Parents and Siblings)*

**1. Philip SKIPWORTH of Aylesby**, son of **Philip SKIPWORTH of Alvingham** and **Rebecca WILSON**, was baptised on 6 Mar 1708 in Alvingham, Lincolnshire, UK<sup>1</sup> and was buried on 19 Jul 1769 in Aylesby, Lincolnshire.

The spelling of his surname varied through his lifetime, Skipwith in his baptism, and usually Skipworth in later years. He signed Alvingham Bishops Transcripts in 1740 "Philip Skipwith", but in 1743, and 1744 he signed "Skipworth". For convenience I have referred to him and his children throughout this document as Skipworth.

Under his mother's will (1734) he was residuary beneficiary of his late father's property at Alvingham, and continued to reside there till the 1750s, removing to Aylesby Manor farm before the birth of his youngest child in 1759.

Philip lived through a period of change in Lincolnshire farming. Advances were being made in soil husbandry, improving productivity by introducing occasional cropping on land that previously had only been used for rough grazing. The use of fertilizers, improved seed strains, improved stock breeding, and more efficient farming practices were all in their infancy, but in the aggregate contributed to the increased prosperity of Philip of Aylesby, compared with his father. He started investing in freehold land when this was available. Whereas his father had been described as a yeoman farmer, this Philip was referred to as a grazier, suggesting a change of focus in his farming. His interests diversified as he became more prosperous, an example being the building of the *Fleece Inn* in Caistor.

Land purchases might be quite small parcels, e.g. 76 acres at Tetney in 1797 [1 DIXON 1/J/2/1].

Will proved 17 Oct 1769 Philip Skipworth of Aylesby, grazier  
To Elizabeth, wife, all my lands etc in South Somercotes, North Somercotes, Yarborough and Grainthorpe for life then to executors  
To daughter Martha lands in Saltfleetby  
To Elizabeth, wife, household goods, plait, lining and furniture  
To daughter Martha £150  
To daughter Jane Whitworth £100  
Residue of goods, chattles, money (excepting £100 given to wife in her father's will and her personal estate), security for money and my said lands to be equally divided between sons Philip and Thomas my executors and ask them to maintain Martha as long as she please to live with them  
To my sister Susanna Wilkinson widow, and my ant Faith Willson widow, £3 apiece yearly for life  
Signed 4 Apr 1768, Witnesses Andrew Dunham, William Phillips, Elizabeth Phillips

In 1776 (the year of his elder son Philip's marriage) his widow Elizabeth renounced her interest in the estate, in favour of an annuity of £34, and his younger son Thomas released his interest in Somercotes and Grainthorpe property for property at Yarborough.<sup>13</sup> In 1791 Susanna renounced her annuity.<sup>32</sup>

Philip married **Elizabeth WARDAL**, daughter of Thomas WARDAL and Jane JOHNSON of Aylesby. Elizabeth was baptised on 30 Jun 1716 at Scartho, and buried on 10 Apr 1779 in Aylesby. The marriage has not been traced, but is likely to have been at Aylesby.

The Kirkby pedigree of these Skipworths records her father as Thomas Wardal of Aylesby and notes at the end of her entry: [1776 July 2 Elizabeth Skipworth, widow of Philip Skipworth late of Aylesby].<sup>14</sup> I take this to be a quote from a Wardell will, but I have not seen it. Refer to Appendix 1 for what I take to be Elizabeth's family, but note that it does not mention a Skipworth marriage. It does however note "Alvingham" after Elizabeth's name, which was Philip's parish at the time of his marriage.

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Philip and Elizabeth's children were:

2	i.	<b>Rebecca SKIPWORTH</b> 1739 - 1740	<i>see below</i>
3	ii.	<b>Frances SKIPWORTH</b> 1741 - 1742	<i>see below</i>
4	iii.	<b>Jane SKIPWORTH</b> 1743 -	<i>see below</i>
5	iv.	<b>Philip SKIPWORTH of South Kelsey</b> 1745 - 1825	<i>refer to page 7</i>
6	v.	<b>Elizabeth SKIPWORTH</b> 1747 - 1748	<i>see below</i>
7	vi.	<b>Thomas SKIPWORTH of Riby</b> 1749 - 1824	<i>refer Skipworths of Rothwell<sup>28</sup></i>
8	vii.	<b>Edward SKIPWORTH</b> 1752 - 1752	<i>see below</i>
9	viii.	<b>Martha SKIPWORTH</b> 1753 - 1824	<i>see below</i>
10	ix.	<b>Faith SKIPWORTH</b> 1759 - 1759	<i>see below</i>

Elliott's chart <sup>23</sup> adds a George to the above list: I take this to be an error for George (#14 below), Philip's grandson. Kirkby also includes this George "of Sth Kelsey and Rothwell," apparently following Elliott, but offers no detail.<sup>14</sup>

### Siblings of the above Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey:

2. **Rebecca SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 2 Mar 1739 in Alvingham,<sup>1</sup> and buried there 28 May 1740.<sup>1</sup> Named for her paternal grandmother.

3. **Frances SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 26 May 1741 in Alvingham,<sup>1</sup> and died there 9 Jun 1742.<sup>1</sup>

4. **Jane SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 31 Jan 1743 in Alvingham.<sup>1</sup> Named for her maternal grandmother. She married **WHITWORTH** (of Cuxwold) and received £100 in her father's will. Nothing further known, her marriage has not been traced.

6. **Elizabeth SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 9 Jan 1747 in Alvingham,<sup>1</sup> and buried there 28 Apr 1748.<sup>1</sup>

8. **Edward SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 8 Mar 1752 in Alvingham,<sup>1</sup> and buried there 5 Jun 1752.<sup>1</sup>

9. **Martha SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 28 Oct 1753 in Alvingham.<sup>1</sup> She was unmarried, and received £150 plus lands in Saltfleetby in her father's will of 1769. She is easily confused with her cousin Martha born in 1758, daughter of Thomas of Grimoldby, who married Edward Wilson.<sup>29</sup>

10. **Faith SKIPWORTH** was baptised on 22 Mar 1759 in Aylesby<sup>1</sup>, and was buried there on 4 Mar 1760.<sup>1</sup> Named for her mother's sister.



# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

## Second Generation (Self)

**5. Philip SKIPWORTH of South Kelsey** (*Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 22 Jan 1745 in Alvingham,<sup>1</sup> died on 21 Feb 1825 and was buried in Aylesby at age 80. The register records "brother of Thomas Skipworth of South Kelsey".<sup>1</sup>

JP & DL (Deputy Lieutenant of Lincolnshire)

- 1745: spelling Skipwith in his baptism, but Skipworth on most occasions through his life.
- 1766: witness to marriage of William White to Mary Burton at Riby
- 1769: executor of his father's will
- 1791: witness to marriage of Thomas Healey and Rachel Borman at Irby on Humber
- 1798: said to have paid 600 guineas for the hire of a New Leicester ram for one season.<sup>16</sup>
- 1802: purchased an estate from Francis Foljambe of 4,500 acres at Sth and Nth Kelsey, initially in a partnership, and by 1808 had taken over the whole. [1 DIXON 1/F/1/9]  
Owned land also in Keelby, Rothwell, Raud, Caistor, and elsewhere about 1805
- 1803: took an active part in the formation of the Lincolnshire Legion of Volunteers enrolled to defend the county from the threatened invasion of Napoleon, gave a large subscription and promised personal service for his sons.
- 1805: moved to South Kelsey from Aylesby about this date
- 1811: gave up his "right of warren" at Sth Kelsey,<sup>18</sup> recognising that rabbits were not the most productive use for his land.
- 1813: of South Kelsey Hall - agent in sale of late Jonathon Field estate

A moated Manor House had been built at South Kelsey in Tudor times by the Ayscough family, but by the early 19th century it had fallen into decay and was finally pulled down and replaced by a new South Kelsey Hall. This was Philip's home when he purchased the South Kelsey estate, but he was soon to build a grander home nearby, which he named Moortown House. South Kelsey Hall has been pulled down once more,<sup>18</sup> and a Farm Park now operates at Hall Farm.

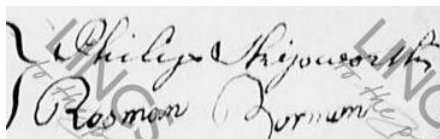


*image courtesy South Kelsey village website*

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1825: LCC Will dated 4 May 1824, proved 11 July 1825, George Skipworth son sole exec. bequeathed £5,000 to son William, £4,000 to son Philip on condition that he makes no large provision for his wife\*, and £50,000, to be raised on settled estate, to son George; also devising to George several specific estates in fee simple, and all his ready money, out of which George is to pay his debts; South Kelsey House to his wife for life and 7 acres, various other lands in trust to Jonathan Field of Laceby and Thomas Skipworth of South Kelsey (brother) in trust for George subject to an annuity of £100 for wife Rosamund, then to Philip eldest son of George, or in default heirs of Thomas Dixon (2nd son) or in default again to heirs of George Borman (3rd son of said George).<sup>25</sup>  
[\* I take this to be ensuring that the money would not pass to his daughter-in-law's relatives.]

Philip married **Rosamond BORMAN**, daughter of Thomas BORMAN, grazier of Irby, by licence on 13 Jul 1776 in Irby upon Humber, Lincolnshire.<sup>1</sup> Marriage settlement dated 11 Jul 1776. Rosamond was born about 1752, died on 18 May 1829 in South Kelsey, aged 78, and was buried on 20 May 1829 in Aylesby.<sup>1</sup> MI



Signatures of Philip and Rosamond from their marriage entry.  
image courtesy LincstothePast.com

1784: legatee of her father

1824: received £100 p.a. in her husband's will and right to occupy Sth Kelsey House for life.

Philip and Rosamond's children were:

- |    |      |  |                         |
|----|------|--|-------------------------|
| 11 | i.   | <b>Rosamond SKIPWORTH</b> 1776 - 1776                        | <i>Refer to page 10</i> |
| 12 | ii.  | <b>Philip SKIPWORTH of Aylesby &amp; Legbourne</b> 1778-1854 | <i>Refer to page 10</i> |
| 13 | iii. | <b>Thomas SKIPWORTH of Belton</b> 1785 - 1867                | <i>Refer to page 12</i> |
| 14 | iv.  | <b>George SKIPWORTH of Moortown</b> 1787 - 1859              | <i>Refer to page 14</i> |
| 15 | v.   | <b>William SKIPWORTH of Sth Kelsey Hall</b> 1788 - 1868      | <i>Refer to page 16</i> |
| 16 | vi.  | <b>Joseph SKIPWORTH</b> 1790 - 1795                          | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |
| 17 | vii. | <b>Benjamin SKIPWORTH</b> 1792 - 1816                        | <i>Refer to page 17</i> |



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey



Grave of Philip and Rosamond Skipworth, St Lawrence Aylesby  
image courtesy Brian Chester <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~engggfhg/aylesby>



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

### *Third Generation (Children)*

**11. Rosamond SKIPWORTH** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 3 Nov 1776 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> and was buried there on 20 Nov 1776.<sup>1</sup>

**12. Philip SKIPWORTH of Aylesby & Legbourne** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 23 Aug 1778 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> died on 17 Sep 1854 in Legbourne, Lincolnshire,<sup>4</sup> and was buried aged 76 on 20 Sep 1854 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> MI.

Bearing the same name as his father, it has not always been possible to ascertain which man was referred to in newspaper reports, and some confusion may have arisen.

As the eldest son, he would have been expected to continue the development of the estate created by his father. He no doubt had made an advantageous marriage to Ann Bell in 1806, but by the time of his father's death in 1825 it was clear that there would be no children. He therefore entered into a resettlement in which he renounced his rights to the South Kelsey estate, retaining his grandfather's original farm at Aylesby. In 1848 he gave up his residence there and returned to Legbourne where he owned an estate of 485 acres. In 1851 he employed 20 men and 4 servants on this property. To avoid confusion with his grandfather I have referred to him as Philip of Legbourne, though the greater part of his life was lived at Aylesby. The Legbourne estate was sold following his death.

He had a particular interest in stock breeding, continuing to improve the widely renowned Aylesby flock of Leicester sheep established by his father. On his retirement in 1848 the flock of 400 ewes was sold for £1,500. He is recorded as a judge of long wool sheep at the Royal Agricultural Show, and on other occasions as judge of sheep and pigs at shows in Yorkshire, and of cattle in Ireland and in Yorkshire. In 1810 he sold a bull calf for £140.

1815: Philip Skipworth Steward at Grimsby Races

1818: P Skipworth Aylesby on the jury for an enquiry about lands in Nth & Sth Somercotes and other coastal parishes to discover lands left high and dry by the sea that could be claimed by the crown, the last such enquiry having occurred in the reign of William and Mary. 1620 acres were found. Assume Philip and his father had been accessing free grazing, at least in summer months, on this waste land. The area is described as the Lincolnshire marshes and would be very wet in winter.

1818: The following case, argued in the Court of King's Bench, is transcribed here because it gives some insight into farming arrangements. [The matter being argued was whether the servant had gained a settlement at Aylesby, but that is irrelevant to our story.]

*"A pauper, being a married man, agreed with one Skipworth, a farmer in the parish of Aylesby, to serve him for a year as a confined labourer in husbandry (that is, to work for him and for no other person during the term of service.) By the agreement, the pauper was to have 20l a year for wages, a house and garden, a piece of land for planting potatoes, the milk of a cow, which was to run on a field near the house, and also the privilege of feeding a pig on the same field. The cow was to be Skipworth's cow, and it went on different parts of the farm, but was milked by the pauper. Skipworth's house was about a hundred yards distant from the house in which the pauper lived, and a turnpike road ran between them. The pauper and his family had the house to themselves ..... lived in the house in Aylesby a year and a half. If he had not had the house, he would have had more wages, and a house was necessary for the performance of his service. The annual value for the pasturage for the cow, of the grazing of the pig, of the house and garden, and of the piece of potato ground together exceeded 10l. Without the house the annual value was under 10l."* ["l" is taken to mean pounds]

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

He is taken to be the following Philip Skipworth, though it could equally have been his father.  
Advertisement *Morning Chronicle* 12 Jun 1823: The Lincolnshire Ox A prodigious ox, 464 stone to be seen Horse Bazaar, Portman Square for a month, admission 1/- then auctioned.



THE FAMOUS LINCOLNSHIRE OX Painter J. Barenger, 1823<sup>15</sup>  
Fed by the Right Honble. Lord Yarborough Brocklesby under the direction of the Honble Chas A. Pelham, M.P., to whom this plate is dedicated ..... The Lincolnshire ox was got by Young Fortune, the property of Phillip Skipworth, Esqr. .... Live weight; 464 stone. Dimensions: Five feet six inches in height of the shoulder, 11 feet 10 inches from the nose to the setting of the tail, .....

Comments such as the following, in the *Illustrated London News* 1864, indicate his standing in Shorthorn breeding circles: *"Forty years ago the late Mr Robinson went on a pilgrimage to Philip Skipworth, of Aylesby, for pure blood, and so the herd has gone on ..."*

1836: Village Guardian Aylesby - Poor law Union

Community activities included membership of a committee tasked with attracting investors for a new pier for Grimsby in 1838, and President of the Grimsby Mechanic's Institute 1838. He was noted as one of those "on the hustings" at a very large meeting of Lincolnshire landowners in support of the Corn Laws. 2,500 people were said to have been present.<sup>19</sup> Landowners were totally opposed to repeal of the Corn Laws (which prohibited imports of cheap wheat from Europe). They argued that great advances in the prosperity of Lincolnshire during the first half of the nineteenth century had only been possible because of the Corn Laws. They also argued that labourers as well as landowners had benefitted. Their concerns proved to be well grounded, as by the end of the century, with protection abolished, the bulk of the Skipworth estate had passed into the hands of creditors, and farmers' sons and labourers alike were looking for opportunities to emigrate.

He has been described *"For many years a noted sportsman and follower of the Brocklesby Hunt."* Sportsman in this context implied hunting and steeplechasing. He served as President of the Brocklesby Hunt, and as Steward of the Brocklesby Hunt steeplechase.

A painting of Philip survives, but I have not been able to obtain an image of it. The *Grimsby Telegraph* reported on 9 Oct 2008 (not entirely accurately):

*Painting is now home to roost. Last week, a painting [by Bennett Hubbard (1806-1890)] was sold at a West Country auction house. Dated 1844, it was of a local squire on his horse, one Philip Skipwith (for some time, the family name was spelled Skipworth and some of my readers will know of the Skipworth Arms at Moortown). Skipwith lived at Aylesby and was, in his time, High Sheriff of Lincolnshire and a local magistrate. A farmer, particularly of Lincolnshire Longwool sheep, he was an enthusiastic rider to hounds and won the sobriquet Galloping Skipwith. The picture was specially commissioned by the local hunt - presumably the Brocklesby when the first Earl of Yarborough was Master. Skipwith's brother, Thomas, became the vicar of Belton and Wroot. I'm told the picture has returned to the county to where it properly belongs.*

Philip married **Anne BELL** on 19 Dec 1806 in Irby upon Humber,<sup>7</sup> daughter of Christopher BELL and his wife Elizabeth. Anne was baptised on 1 May 1782 in Laceby, Lincolnshire, and died aged 53 on 5 Oct 1835 in Aylesby, where she was buried.<sup>1</sup>



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Gravestone at St Laurence, Aylesby  
Philip Skipworth died 17th Sep 1854 age 76;  
also Anne died 3rd Oct 1835 age 53

*image courtesy Brian Chester*



**13. Thomas SKIPWORTH of Belton** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 15 Oct 1785 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> died on 10 May 1867 in Folkingham, Lincolnshire,<sup>4</sup> at age 81, and was buried aged 82 on 14 May 1867 in Belton in Axholme, Lincolnshire.<sup>2</sup>

After the death in 1854 of his elder brother, Philip, he became the senior representative of Philip Skipworth of Alvingham (died 1689). As discussed above, being childless, his brother Philip renounced his rights to the estate, which was resettled on the third son George, bypassing Thomas who would have expected to succeed in the normal course. I have not seen documentation which explains this decision, but it must have been difficult for Thomas.

1814: appointment to perpetual curacy at Belton - *Jackson's Oxford Journal* 23 Apr 1814  
1841: age 49 Belton clergyman wife, 5 children, 2 servants  
1843: boy convicted of stealing 2 apples from Thomas' garden  
1845: man charged in court accused of stealing Thomas' plank  
1845: in court seeking to break injunction preventing him from ploughing up glebe pasture  
1847: bankruptcy notice in *The Times*, occupation clerk in one notice, miller in another  
1840s on list of railway supporters, brother William also  
1851: age 62, of Belton, Perpetual Curate of Belton, wife, daughter  
1861: age 70, Rector of Pickworth, living with his daughter Eleanor and 1 male servant

Abstract of dissertation for Certificate in Local History, Nottingham Uni. Margaret Miller 2002:  
*Thomas Skipworth (1785-1867) was the second son of Philip Skipworth of Aylesby - a respected and wealthy Wolds farming family. Thomas was an attorney's clerk before entering the church aged 29. As a non-graduate and with the limited theological training of the period he was appointed in 1814 to three Lincolnshire livings - Rector of Pickworth near Folkingham, perpetual Curate of Belton in Axholme and Rector of Wroot near Belton (though the latter was removed from him in 1832 partly at the request of the parishioners). The combined livings gave him an income of £740, a sum considered more than reasonable for the times. He inherited £5000 from his father in 1825.*

*Skipworth chose to live in Belton, married Anne Capes (of the solicitor's family in Epworth) in 1820 and they brought up five surviving children. He remained at Belton until 1856, neglecting his parochial duties. Instead he involved himself in the commercial activities of brick making and gypsum manufacture in Belton and the neighbouring hamlet of Low Burnham. He was often absent during the week, selling his products at markets and fairs.*

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

*This secular activity was taking place at a time when the Church of England in general and the Diocese of Lincoln in particular were attempting to improve the image of the church after the complacency of the eighteenth century. Similarly the role of the parochial clergy was beginning to be professionalised.*

*Ecclesiastical legislation (Pluralities Act 1838 and Church Discipline Act 1840) both had relevance for Skipworth, as did the appointment of the progressive Bishop Kaye in 1827, who was determined to rid the diocese of its many problems. Kaye's revival of the post of Rural Dean to help in dealing with recalcitrant clergy meant that Skipworth's mercenary activities were being monitored by Rev W.B. Stonehouse - Rural Dean for the Isle - and a relation by marriage. [Thomas's youngest brother Benjamin had died in 1816 leaving a widow who remarried Stonehouse.] Nevertheless the complexities of ecclesiastical law meant that the Bishop preferred to let well alone hoping the civil courts would become involved. This occurred in 1847 when Skipworth faced the Bankruptcy Courts after an over ambitious watermill project. After sequestration of his churches and with family support, he finally retired to his other living at Pickworth. Ironically his trading activities, illegal in ecclesiastical law, allowed him to be termed bankrupt, not insolvent, and so he escaped a prison sentence.*

*Bishop Kaye's correspondence in Lincoln Archives concerning Skipworth (not previously used by researchers) has been the basis for this study. Posing the question why did Skipworth become involved in commercial activity, allowed the conclusion to be that personality and circumstances were probable reasons. However, the study has also provided a colourful illustration of the reforming times of the nineteenth century and also important details of the Isle gypsum industry have been revealed which can be developed in the future.*

The following newspaper cutting<sup>11</sup> has been drawn to my attention by Margaret Miller, who wrote: "It is undated and unreferenced and anonymous in writer and subject. As such, it is not reliable evidence and may contain certain inaccuracies. Nevertheless, if an assumption is made that it is Skipworth who is being described, it suggests that he was soft hearted, foolish and ambitious and used money to achieve popularity."

### *"The Apostle of the Isle"*

*One little homely lesson we may certainly learn at Belton. A predecessor of the present incumbent - there is no reason to mention a name - had a fortune of £30,000 when he came reside at Belton, and we were told in the village that he was by no means niggardly with his money. His popularity was enormous; his church was crowded, his name was exalted, and he was hailed with the high-sounding name of the Apostle of the Isle. And he seems to have deserved all the good things said of him. Evidence of his readiness to spend his money is yet to be seen in the pretty little cottage in the half-timbered style which he erected for his gardener, and he use a large piece of land also for the erection of glass houses. But in various ways, into which detail we need not enter, his money went, and he degenerated, financially, very rapidly. Later years found him a poor man. And humanity in Belton and in those other parts of the Isle of Axholme whence his admirers were wont to concentrate in his church proved to be the same as elsewhere and as it has been since the beginning of time. Where now were those who shook him by the hand and called him friend? Where now were the crowded congregations that expressed themselves so deeply touched by his eloquent preaching? Where now were those who fawned upon him and snatched eagerly at the golden crumbs that fell all too liberally from his table? His friends fell away, and if they saw him coming along the street passed by on the other side. The church attendance dwindled rapidly - dwindled to nothing at all. He was eventually declared a swindler, and no opprobrium seemed too bad to heap upon him. They tell in Belton still of how in winter he has come to his church, found no one there but the faithful clerk and gone home without holding any service. So quickly may be pricked the bubble popularity; so soon is shattered the idol whose seal is of gold and silver, and whose worshippers see not him but that which is his.*

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Thomas married **Anne Hawksley CAPES** on 21 May 1821 in Epworth, Lincolnshire, daughter of George CAPES. Anne was born about 1797 and died aged 58 on 9 May 1855 in Belton in Axholme.<sup>4</sup>

1841: age 41 at home Belton; 1851: age 53 at home Belton

Thomas and Anne's children were:

18	i.	<b>Rosamond Ann SKIPWORTH</b>	1822 - 1872	<i>Refer to page 18</i>
19	ii.	<b>Eliza Maria SKIPWORTH</b>	1823 - 1843	<i>Refer to page 18</i>
20	iii.	<b>Philip George SKIPWITH</b>	1824 - 1909	<i>Refer to page 18</i>
21	iv.	<b>William Thomas Borman SKIPWORTH</b>	1827 - 1909	<i>Refer to page 19</i>
22	v.	<b>Eleanor Jane SKIPWORTH</b>	1831 - 1866	<i>Refer to page 20</i>
23	vi.	<b>Henry Grey SKIPWORTH</b>	1832 - 1832	<i>Refer to page 20</i>

**14. George SKIPWORTH of Moortown** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 5 Aug 1787 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> died on 21 Dec 1859 in South Kelsey, at age 72, and was buried there on 29 Dec 1859.<sup>2</sup>

JP and DL Co Lincoln, owned over 6000 acres in Lincolnshire, of Moortown House,  
Lord of the Manor of Caistor

Described as "farmer" in younger children's baptisms, then as "esquire", and by 1829 "gent".

1823, 1824 voted at South Kelsey

1825: succeeded to the greater portion of his father's estates at South Kelsey and elsewhere



An early photo of Moortown house, showing the west wing which has since been demolished.

*image courtesy South Kelsey village website*

In St Mary's register the locality is first Moortown, later Morton, and by 1830 Morton Hill

In 1824 George's mother was left the right to occupy South Kelsey House for her widowhood, suggesting that George's residence was Moortown House, but other than that I have not found a date for the building of the latter.

1836: Sth Kelsey Guardian [of the poor] for Caistor Union

1837: at meeting North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society

1836: appointed to committee at meeting called to develop Grimsby Pier.

1839: at meeting at Brigg for defeating the Anti-Corn laws agitators

1841: age 50, independent at Sth Kelsey, with wife, mother-in-law, 6 children at home, governess, 5 female and 1 male servant

1844: at a meeting in support of railway development

1846: South Kelsey party of 5 at Louth Hunt Ball

1849: appointed Deputy Lieutenant of the county

1851: age 61 JP, DL 1606 acres 45 labourers, butler, footman, housekeeper, ladies maid, 2 housemaids, kitchen maid, market woman, 5 unmarried daughters at home

1853: gifted the stained glass east window to St Mary's church

1855: High Sherrieff of Lincolnshire



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1859: Brass tablet in South Kelsey church displaying arms of Skipwith impaling Dixon

1859: probate granted to Rev John Parkinson £190,000

1889: South Kelsey church was restored by his daughter Fanny in his memory

MI: Large tomb (image page 2) inscribed: *Blessed be the God and the father of our Lord Jesus Christ who hath begotten us again to be a living hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. In memory of George Skipworth esq of Moortown House in this parish, J.P. Dep Lieutenant, who departed this life December 21 1859 aged 72 years, Also Amelia Margaret Skipworth died December 10 1875 aged 85 years. In affectionate remembrance of Philip William eldest son of George Skipworth esq of Moortown House in this parish and Amelia Margaret his wife who departed March 22 AD 1834 aged 18 years, Also of Benjamin and Ernest Augustus sons of the said George and Amelia Margaret Skipworth who departed this life in their infancy, Also the Rev Marmaduke Parkinson Skipworth Curate of Banbury, Oxon, son of said George and Amelia Margaret Skipworth who departed this life November 14 AD 1852 aged 31 years, Also Thomas Dixon Skipworth son of the said George and Amelia Margaret Skipworth who departed this life AD 1853 aged 35 years, Also of Philip William youngest son of said George and Amelia Margaret Skipworth who departed this life February 14 AD 1855 aged 19 years, Also James Green Skipworth R.N.Lincoln Militia, son of the said George and Amelia Margaret Skipworth who departed this life October 17 1857 aged 31 years, also Amelia Margaret eldest daughter and wife of the Rev E B Turner died 24 July 1876 aged 58 years buried at Oxford cemetery, Also Ann Elizabeth 5th daughter and wife of Rev S W Andrews died 16 April 1889 aged 59 years buried at Claxby, Also Charlotte Jane 4th daughter and wife of the Rev B Gibbons died 10 March 1910 aged 82 years buried at Stourport, also Susanna Maria 3rd daughter and wife of J Lewis FFitch of Thorpe Hall died 11 March 1913 aged 88 years buried at Freshwater, also Rosamond Frances 2nd daughter of the said George and Amelia who departed this life August 30 AD 1908 aged 84 years.*

This monument had been classified a Grade II listed building [www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk](http://www.britishlistedbuildings.co.uk)

**OBITUARY** - The late George Skipworth Esq. died after a long illness at Moortown House on Wednesday last. The deceased was a County Magistrate and Deputy Lieutenant, was Lord of the Manor of Moortown and Caistor and possessed a very handsome property. His loss will be deeply felt by the poor, to whom he was a generous friend in the time of need, and the tenantry has lost one of the best landlords. The deceased who was 73 years of age, has left 5 daughters, four of whom are married. George Borman, his only surviving son, comes into possession of the Manorial rights of Caistor and Clixby and the estates situate in North Kelsey and the adjoining parishes.

George married **Amelia Margaretta DIXON (Emily)** on 9 Mar 1815 in Holton le Moor, Lincolnshire,<sup>1</sup> daughter of William DIXON and Amelia Margaretta PARKINSON. Amelia was born on 31 Aug 1794, died on 10 Dec 1879 at Risley Hall, Shardlow, Derbyshire, UK<sup>4</sup> at age 85, and was buried on 17 Dec 1879 in South Kelsey.<sup>2</sup> [A burial entry is also recorded at Shardlow]

1851: at home Sth Kelsey [Emily]

1859: succeeded to considerable estate under her husband's will. Lady of Manor of Caistor.

1861: age 64 born Holton le Moor, of Risley Hall, Shardlow, Derbyshire, with daughter Rosamond, visiting daughter & son-in-law Annie & Samuel Andrews, staff: butler, footman, cook, ladies maid, housemaid, kitchenmaid

1873: owned 870 acres in Co Lincoln, annual value £1476 [Lincolnshire Landowners Return]

1880: probate to Philip George S of Heathfield Bagshot, nephew (a lawyer) £14,000

Amelia brought £5000 to her marriage, which guaranteed her an income of £200 p.a. in widowhood. This may account for the family estate passing to George, rather than to his elder brother Thomas.

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

George and Amelia's children were:

24	i.	<b>Philip William SKIPWORTH</b>	1816 - 1834	<i>Refer to page 20</i>
25	ii.	<b>Thomas Dixon SKIPWORTH</b>	1817 - 1853	<i>Refer to page 20</i>
26	iii.	<b>Amelia Margaretta SKIPWORTH</b>	1818 - 1878	<i>Refer to page 21</i>
27	iv.	<b>George Borman SKIPWORTH</b>	1820 - 1890	<i>Refer to page 21</i>
28	v.	<b>Rev Marmaduke Parkinson SKIPWORTH</b>	1821 - 1852	<i>Refer to page 22</i>
29	vi.	<b>Rosamond Frances SKIPWORTH (Fanny)</b>	1823 - 1908	<i>Refer to page 22</i>
30	vii.	<b>Susanna Maria SKIPWORTH</b>	1824 - 1913	<i>Refer to page 23</i>
31	viii.	<b>Capt James Green SKIPWORTH</b>	1826 - 1857	<i>Refer to page 23</i>
32	ix.	<b>Charlotte Jane SKIPWORTH</b>	1828 - 1910	<i>Refer to page 23</i>
33	x.	<b>Anne Elizabeth SKIPWORTH</b>	1830 - 1889	<i>Refer to page 24</i>
34	xi.	<b>Benjamin Cornelius Sandars SKIPWORTH</b>	1831 - 1831	<i>Refer to page 24</i>
35	xii.	<b>Ernest Augustus SKIPWORTH</b>	1833 - 1836	<i>Refer to page 24</i>
36	xiii.	<b>Philip William SKIPWORTH</b>	1835 - 1855	<i>Refer to page 24</i>

Moortown House - late 20th century -  
no longer a working farm.

The house has since been split into  
two units.

*image courtesy Sharyn Skilton*



**15. William SKIPWORTH of South Kelsey** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 21 Sep 1788 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> died on 4 Mar 1868 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> at age 79, and was buried there on 11 Mar 1868.<sup>2</sup> MI

Owned land at Ashby in Bottesford and Melwood in Owston Isle of Axholme

1836: Waddingham Guardian [of the poor] for Caistor Union

1837: at meeting North Lincolnshire Agricultural Society

1841: age 50 at Sth Kelsey, with wife, 3 servants and an ag lab

1842: W Skipworth in chair at Brigg Agricultural assn

1845: on committee for Louth & Gainsborough Railway

1851: age 62, farmer 570 acres with 7 labourers and 2 indoor servants

1854: Executor to brother Philip

1852: mentioned as a Conservative candidate for North Lincs but declined the honour.

1852: North Lincs Election: The return of Mr Christopher and Mr Stanhope was celebrated on Friday week at Kirton-in-Lindsay, by the agriculturalists of that district. The chairman (Mr William Skipwith of Kelsey) said "The country would expect from the Government something more than a mere acknowledgement of the distress which existed amongst the agricultural body, since the second largest county in England had returned all Protectionists, to strengthen the hand of the Earl of Derby." <sup>26</sup>

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1861: age 72, farmer of Kelsey Hall, 4 house servants

1871: donated £45 to Lincoln Penitent Females Home on its establishment - White's Directory

1868: [Death] on the 4th [March] at Kelsey Hall, Lincs, William Skipworth esquire, aged 79.<sup>10</sup>

1868: will proved by Brady Nicholson of Sturton Grange, nephew in law, probate £16,000

Photographs of William and of his wife's portrait are at Lincoln Archives 1 DIXON 21/2/9-10

William married **Eliza MARRIS** on 3 Sep 1823 in Great Limber, Lincolnshire,<sup>1</sup> married by Rev Thomas Skipworth, William's brother. Eliza was baptised on 18 Oct 1801 in Great Limber, daughter of Thomas Marris and Mary, nee Empson,<sup>14</sup> sister of Mary Marris, first wife of Philip Skipworth of Laceby. She died on 7 Oct 1875 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> and was buried there aged 73 on 14 Oct 1875.<sup>2</sup> MI They had no children.

1851: age 48 at home Sth Kelsey      1861: age 59, wife, born Gt Limber

1871: age 69, Sth Kelsey, widow, head, farmer 580 acres, 9 labourers, 6 boys, 65 yr old visitor, general servant, cook, housemaid, groom, footman

1875: will proved by Henry Green Skipworth of Rothwell, gent (her sister's son, who received a legacy) and Edward Boorne of South Kelsey £8000.

**16. Joseph SKIPWORTH** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 28 Aug 1790 in Aylesby, and was buried there on 27 Dec 1795.<sup>1</sup>

**17. Benjamin SKIPWORTH** (*Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 2 Feb 1792 in Aylesby,<sup>1</sup> died on 15 Apr 1816 in Owston Ferry, Isle of Axholme, at age 24, and was buried on 19 Apr 1816 in Aylesby.<sup>2</sup>

farmer & grazier, owned 528 acres at Nettleham

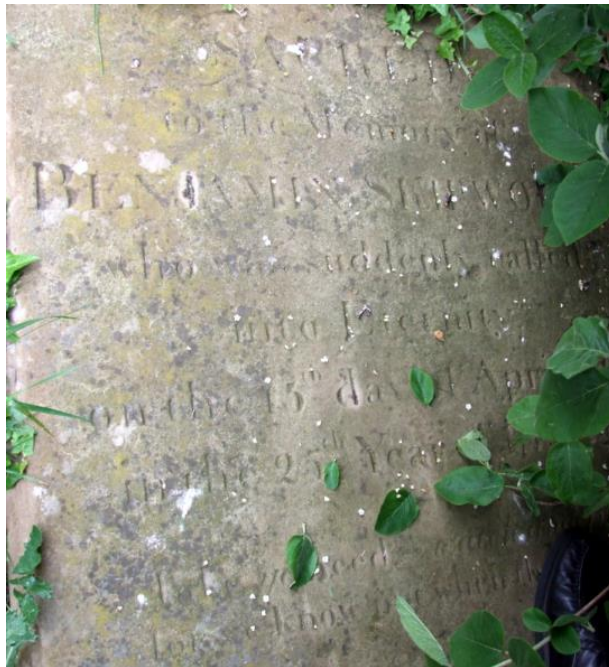
Probate: Benjamin Skipwith of Nettleham Stow Admons 1811-20/104

Benjamin married **Elizabeth SANDARS** on 9 Dec 1814 at Owston Ferry, daughter of **Cornelius SANDARS**, they had no children.

Elizabeth remarried **William Brocklehurst STONEHOUSE** on 29 Oct 1832 at Owston Ferry.

MI of Benjamin Skipworth "who died suddenly ...." at St Laurence Aylesby

*image courtesy Brian Chester*



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

### *Fourth Generation (Grandchildren)*

**18. Rosamond Ann SKIPWORTH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 3 Mar 1822 and baptised on 28 May 1822 in Belton in Axholme,<sup>6</sup> and died in 1872<sup>4</sup> at age 50.

1841: age 18 at home Belton [Rosamond A]

1854: beneficiary of her uncle Philip Skipworth's will.

Rosamond married **Brady NICHOLSON** on 16 Nov 1843 in Belton in Axholme.<sup>4</sup> Brady was baptised on 12 Nov 1819 in Wootton, Lincolnshire, and died in 1895<sup>4</sup> at age 76. 6 sons, 2 daughters. In 1881 Brady farmed 737 acres employing 14 men, 4 boys. The story of these Nicholsons is told in *The Middling Sort*.<sup>30</sup>

**19. Eliza Maria SKIPWORTH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 6 Apr 1823 and baptised on 28 May 1823 in Belton in Axholme.<sup>6</sup> She died on there on 17 Apr 1843<sup>4</sup> at age 20.

1841: age 17 at home Belton

**20. Philip George SKIPWITH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised in 1824 in Belton in Axholme, died on 5 Jun 1909 of Northbrick House, Hundleby nr Spilsby, Lincolnshire,<sup>4</sup> at age 84, and was buried in Hundleby.

Owned estate at Melwood in the parish of Owston, Isle of Axholme, and Lord of the Manor of Ashby, entry in Burke's Landed Gentry.

In the resettlement of Philip's grandfather's estate, the bulk of the family fortune bypassed his father Thomas in favour of his uncle George. However, financial provision for Philip as Thomas' eldest son would also have been part of the package.

When his father died in 1867 Philip became the senior lineal descendant of Philip Skipwith of Alvingham - no resettlement could take that honour from him. He took this responsibility seriously, reverting to the Skipwith spelling for the surname, as used by his great, great grandfather.

Philip was interested in knowing more of his family history, and commissioned the preparation of a chart to investigate the relationship of his ancestors to the ancient family of the baronets Skipwith. The work was completed in 1898, sparking widespread interest. We have a letter written to Willie Skipworth in New Zealand, which reports: "P G Skipworth had a family tree made back to William Ist reign. Fitz [Willie's brother] has been to see it ....." Fitz and Willie were PG's third cousins.

I believe this is the chart held by the Society of Genealogists in London, but they had no information about its provenance. There are in fact two charts, one for the baronets Skipwith, on a sheet 6 feet wide, and a separate sheet for the Skipworths 4 feet wide.<sup>22, 23</sup> They appear to have been compiled by Walter Theodore Timbrell Elliott. The Skipwith chart presents information which is easily verified from published sources such as Burke's Peerage, and Notes on the Heralds' Visitations of Lincolnshire etc. The Skipworth chart appears to have been compiled from parish registers and wills held at Lincoln Archives, supplemented by correspondence with family members. Most of the details are correct, but the relationship of the Rothwell family and their descendants in Dublin and Sussex to those from South Kelsey was not correctly understood.

The weak point is the link between the two charts. Modern Skipworths are shown descending from a Tudor family of Skipwiths at Utterby, but the dates do not fit and there is no supporting evidence.

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1841: age 16 at home Belton  
 1841: P Skipworth a candidate in mock election at York Collegiate  
 1842-1853: played cricket for various Yorkshire and NE Lincolnshire clubs  
 1851: age 26 visitor in Lound household at Wakefield, Yorkshire  
 1855: won mile race in 5 mins 20 secs at Cambridge Emmanuel vs St Johns  
 1854-62: solicitor of Milnthorp, Wakefield  
 1861: age 35, born Belton, solicitor at Wakefield, with married couple live-in housekeeper  
 1871: age 46, widower, landowner, visiting Briggs family at Marske, Yorkshire.  
 1872: age 42, Esq, JP, Matric Magdalen Hall, Oxford 11 Mar 1872  
 1872: Lieut Royal Nth Lincs Militia, resigned 1873  
 1873: Barrister at Law, Inner Temple 1873: 2nd marriage  
 1877: of Prestbury Priory Gloucestershire  
 1880: of Heathfield Bagshot, Windlesham, executor for his aunt Amelia  
 1881: age 56, Barrister, no practice [= retired?] of Windlesham, Surrey, household included parents and 5 children, a French governess, a nurse, a housemaid and a cook.  
 1891: age 66, JP Barrister, Newspaper editor, of 65 de Parys Ave, Bedford with wife, 2 sons, 2 dau, cook and parlourmaid  
 1892: Owned 523 acres in County Lincolnshire ann val £560. [Landowners England & Wales]  
 1896: Kelly's Directory - esquire, of Hundleby, County Magistrate  
 1897: age 72, gent, travelling New York to Liverpool  
 1901: age 76, living on own means with wife at Bournemouth, Hants.

Philip married **Fanny Margaret ARMFIELD**, daughter of Rev. George Armfield, Vicar of Armley, Co. York on 12 Oct 1865 in the parish church Leeds, Yorkshire, UK.<sup>4</sup> Fanny died on 23 Dec 1869 in 35 Oxford Terrace, Hyde Park, London, aged 25.<sup>4</sup>

Philip and Fanny's children were:

37	i.	<b>Major Philip Armfield SKIPWITH</b> 1867 - 1948	<i>Refer to page 25</i>
38	ii.	<b>Yvonne Ella SKIPWITH</b> 1868 - 1949	<i>Refer to page 25</i>
39	iii.	<b>Fanny Margaret SKIPWITH</b> 1869 -	<i>Refer to page 25</i>

Philip next married **Anne Elizabeth NIMMO-HOWARD** on 1 Jan 1873 in Girton, Nottinghamshire, UK.<sup>4</sup> Anne was born about 1846 in Helensburgh, Dunbarton, Scotland and died in 1925 in Kettering RD, UK<sup>4</sup> aged about 79.

1881: age 35, born Helensburgh, at home Windlesham  
 1891: age 43, at home Bedford  
 1901: age 55, born Glasgow, widow [incorrect], boarder Bournemouth, own means

Philip and Anne's children were:

40	i.	<b>Ralph Howard SKIPWITH</b> 1874 - 1952	<i>Refer to page 26</i>
41	ii.	<b>Harold SKIPWITH</b> 1875 - 1945	<i>Refer to page 26</i>
42	iii.	<b>Edward Renaud SKIPWITH</b> 1877 - 1962	<i>Refer to page 27</i>

**21. William Thomas Borman SKIPWORTH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 28 May and baptised on 7 Oct 1827 in Belton in Axholme,<sup>6</sup> died in 1909 in Wandsworth RD, UK<sup>4</sup> at age 82, no probate found 1909-11.

1853: clerk at Railway Office, residing Lowther St York (birth of Florence)  
 1861, 1881: not found in either census - could have been out of country  
 1871: age 46, born Belton, William J Skipworth, commission agent, living with brother-in-law Privet (coffee house keeper) wife, and 1 yr old son.  
 1891: age 65 born Belton, Consulting Gas Engineer, living in 3 rooms Battersea, wife and son  
 1901: age 74 living in 1 room Battersea, gas engineer of (or?) insurance agent

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

William married **Mary Ann WILLINGTON**, daughter of James Willington, servant, on 22 Aug 1853 in St Marylebone Christ Church, London.<sup>31</sup> They had two daughters:

- |    |     |   |                         |
|----|-----|---|-------------------------|
| 43 | i.  | <b>Florence Eveline SKIPWORTH</b> 1853 - 1934 | <i>Refer to page 27</i> |
| 44 | ii. | <b>Rose Edith SKIPWORTH</b> b & d 1855        | <i>Refer to page 28</i> |

William next married **Maria Louisa PRIVET** (marriage record not found). Louisa was born about 1836 in Stockwell, Surrey, UK and died in 1912 in Wandsworth RD,<sup>4</sup> aged about 76.

- 1871: age 35, [Maria L Skipworth born Stockwell, Surrey] living with husband and infant son with her brother Alfred Privet
- 1881: family not found
- 1891: age 55, [Louisa Skipworth, born Clapham, London]
- 1901: age 64, [Elizabeth (error?) Skipworth, born Clapham, London]
- 1911: age 75, Wandsworth, London [Marie Louisa] living alone, widow own means, 46 yrs married, 2 children dead

William and Louisa's children were:

- |    |     |   |                         |
|----|-----|---|-------------------------|
| 45 | i.  | <b>Frederick William A SKIPWORTH</b> 1870 - 1894    | <i>Refer to page 28</i> |
| 46 | ii. | <b>Francis Ernest SKIPWORTH (Frank)</b> 1872 - 1895 | <i>Refer to page 28</i> |

**22. Eleanor Jane SKIPWORTH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 7 Mar 1831 in Belton in Axholme,<sup>6</sup> and died on 27 Nov 1866 in Folkingham, Lincolnshire, aged about 35.

- 1851: age 20, at home with parents at Belton
- 1861: age 29, born Belton, living with widowed father at Pickworth
- 1866: wife of William Rastall, formerly Skipworth Spinster, late of West St, Folkingham, died 27 Nov 1866, probate to said William Rastall of Salford, wool buyer £100

Eleanor married **William RASTALL**, wool merchant of Pickworth, on 18 Mar 1862 in St Pancras Chapel, London.<sup>31</sup>

**23. Henry Grey SKIPWORTH** (*Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born about 1832, was baptised on 14 Jan 1832 in Belton in Axholme,<sup>6</sup> and was buried there on 1 Jun 1832.<sup>2</sup>

**24. Philip William SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 5 Mar 1816 and baptised on 8 Mar 1816 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 22 Mar 1834 in South Kelsey, at age 18, and was buried on 27 Mar 1834 in South Kelsey St Mary.<sup>1</sup> The newspaper announced: death of Philip William, eldest son of George of Moortown on Saturday week, at his father's residence, after a long and severe suffering, sustained with pious resignation.<sup>27</sup>

**25. Thomas Dixon SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 19 Jun 1817 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died aged 35, at Moorton House, eldest surviving son of George Skipworth Esq.<sup>7</sup> on 10 Apr and was buried aged 35 on 16 Apr 1853 in South Kelsey.<sup>2</sup>

- Trinity Coll, Camb. BA 1840, MA circa 1845
- 1817: named Dixon for his maternal grandfather
- 1841: age 20, at home
- 1844: at charity ball in Hull
- 1851: age 33 born Lincoln, gentleman, visitor at boarding house in Great Malvern, Worcester, with brother James [Shipworth]



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1853: died at Moorton House, eldest surviving son of George Skipworth Esq.

**26. Amelia Margaretta SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 8 Sep 1818 and baptised on 12 Sep 1818 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> She died on 24 Jul 1878 in Offord Cluny, Huntingdonshire, UK at age 59, and was buried in Offord Cluny.

1840: the Misses Skipworth attended a ball at Hull

1841: age 20 at home

1851: age 21 unmarried at home [Margaretta]

Amelia married **Edward Blomfield TURNER** on 6 Aug 1857 in South Kelsey.<sup>4</sup> Edward was a widower with three young daughters. The Right Rev John Jackson, Bishop of Lincoln officiated at the ceremony. Edward was born in 1816, son of Lt Gen Charles Turner, Col 19th Regt., and died in 1906 at age 90. 1 daughter who died young.

1838: BA Ch Coll Camb, Rector of Offord Cluny 1850-1880

1891: of 6 Connaught Square, Hyde Park

**27. George Borman SKIPWORTH**, JP & DL (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 8 Jan 1820 and baptised on 9 Jan 1820 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 25 Feb 1890 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> and was buried aged 70 "of Moortown House" in St Kelsey St Mary on 1 Mar 1890.<sup>1</sup>

Stone Cross - George B Skipworth who died February 25 1890 in his 71st year. In loving memory. Also Althea Alice his wife who died October 21 1894 in her 63rd year.

1820: the name Borman honours his maternal grandmother's family

1841: age 20, attorney's clerk at Newark

1845: Barrister at Law, - called to the bar of the Middle Temple

1851: age 31, practicing barrister, Eastcott Place, St Pancras, London

1852: of 8 New Sq Linc Inn & 4 Eastcoat Pl, Hamstead Rd London - PO Directory

1859: succeeded in 1859 to the entailed estates of his father (the only surviving son)

1861: age 41, land proprietor of 2500 acres, 3 female servants, no children at home, Mrs Jane Byrne 35 (a cousin?), and daughter Alice J Byrne age 4 visiting

1871: age 51, born Sth Kelsey, landowner, with wife, chn William L, & Alice E at home, plus 2 housemaids, cook, kitchenmaid, footman

1873: owned 5542 acres in Co Lincoln, annual value £6629 [Lincolnshire Landowners Return]

1873: Tichborne affair - The heir to the Tichborne baronetcy had disappeared while abroad. An imposter came forward, supported by GBS and others, but was convicted of fraud. GBS declared the Judge was biased and incompetent, and was convicted of contempt of court, sentenced to 3 months imprisonment and fined £500.

In a letter to his supporters, who were raising money to pay his fine, he wrote that he, thank God, felt the first day in prison to be "the happiest and proudest of his life." He gloried in what he had done for that noble-hearted hero and martyr, the Tichborne Claimant. He later published a 63 page pamphlet justifying his actions: G B Skipworth, *On his imprisonment*, George Parker, Caistor [1873] copy British Library. He also petitioned the House of Commons praying for redress for the injuries inflicted upon him by fine and imprisonment. The papers reported: "*The intensely stupid document was read at the table, but nobody paid the slightest attention to its request, and it was then chucked into a waste paper basket.*" Refer also Appendix 2.

1874: One of very few among the local gentry to support farmworkers' trade unions, invited to chair the meeting at a large demonstration at Market Rasen. His speech was reported "..... A good deal has been said about labourers' grievances, and he thought they had some foundation for

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

*complaint, not alone on account of not being sufficiently paid for their services, but also for bitterness they had experienced from employers when they had the hardihood to form themselves into an Union for mutual support and defence. He could not understand the arbitrary principle of men being discharged - not because they were bad or disobedient workmen - but because they were inheriting a little more intelligence from their combination as members of the Union. ...."*

- 1876: petitioned House of Commons for restoration of fine unjustly levied (Titchborne case)
- 1881: age 61, landowner and barrister, at home with 2 unmarried sons, 1 unmarried daughter, 2 married daughters, son-in-law, grandson, plus 8 servants
- 1890: towards the end of his life cut off the entail & the whole estate passed to the Equitable Insurance Co. The family appear to have continued to occupy Moortown House for a little longer, but by 1905 a new owner was in residence.
- 1890: Obituary notice *Illustrated London News* At Moortown House..... Barrister at Law of the Middle Temple, .. Deputy Lieutenant and a Justice of the Peace for Lincolnshire.
- 1890: no probate found for husband or for his wife in 1894

George married **Althea Alice Bigsby BYRNE** on 17 Aug 1846 in Old Church, Saint Pancras, London.<sup>4</sup> Althea was bapt on 10 Nov 1830 in Newark on Trent, Nottinghamshire (parents Charles Bigsby and Elizabeth Burn),<sup>6</sup> died on 21 Oct 1894,<sup>4</sup> and was buried aged 63 "of Moortown House" in South Kelsey St Mary on 25 Oct 1894.<sup>1</sup>

- 1851: age 20, Alice, her widowed mother Elizabeth visiting
- 1861: age 31, no children at home, pregnant with Marmaduke, sister-in-law and niece visiting
- 1871: age 40, younger children away from home, Alice pregnant
- 1891: age 60, widow head of household at Sth Kelsey

George and Alice's children were:

- |    |      |  |                         |
|----|------|--|-------------------------|
| 47 | i.   | <b>Albert George Philip SKIPWORTH</b> 1849 - 1942  | <i>Refer to page 28</i> |
| 48 | ii.  | <b>Edward William Lionel SKIPWORTH</b> 1851 - 1918 | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 49 | iii. | <b>Alice Elizabeth SKIPWORTH</b> 1853 - 1926       | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 50 | iv.  | <b>Rosamond Emily SKIPWORTH</b> 1855 - 1935        | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 51 | v.   | <b>Susanna Rose SKIPWORTH</b> 1857 -               | <i>Refer to page 29</i> |
| 52 | vi.  | <b>Marmaduke Thomas SKIPWORTH</b> 1861 - 1933      | <i>Refer to page 30</i> |
| 53 | vii. | <b>Frances Annie SKIPWORTH</b> 1871 - 1926         | <i>Refer to page 30</i> |

**28. Rev Marmaduke Parkinson SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 28 Aug 1821 and baptised on 2 Sep 1821 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 14 Nov 1852 in Brighton, Sussex,<sup>10</sup> at age 31, and was buried in St Kelsey St Mary on 20 Nov 1852.<sup>1</sup>

- Educ Queens Coll, Oxon & St Mary's Hall Oxon, S C L
- 1821: named for his maternal grandmother, who was a Parkinson
- 1841: age 15, living with Vicar of Bonby, (one of 4 15 yr olds who were presumably pupils)
- 1850: ordained Deacon
- 1851: age 28, curate, living alone at Banbury, Oxfordshire

**29. Rosamond Frances SKIPWORTH (Fanny)** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 21 Nov 1823 and baptised on 14 Dec 1823 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> She died at 16 Granville Place, Portman Square, London on 30 Aug 1908 at age 84,<sup>4</sup> and was buried in South Kelsey.

Joint Lady of the Manor of Caistor and of Althorpe, Co Lincoln (with her sister Susanna)

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Fanny was a shrewd business woman who managed her considerable fortune with skill. After her brother George had lost most of his money, the outlook for the family would have been bleak without Fanny's help. But her death in 1908 released capital to her nephews George and Lionel which enabled them to retire in comfort. Skipworth Street in London is said to indicate an estate she developed. She restored South Kelsey church in memory of her parents, and donated land for a children's playground at South Kelsey. She is remembered on a plaque in St Mary's belfry: *"In gratitude to Almighty God for the kindness and love of Rosamond Frances Skipworth (born 21st November 1823 at Moortown House, died 30th August 1908), 2nd daughter of George & Amelia M Skipworth, her sisters Susan and Charlotte and 19 nephews and nieces have given 3-3/4 acres of land to the people of her native parish as a playground for their use forever. By love serve one another."*

1841: listed as Rachel aged 15 at home in census  
1851: age 26 at home Sth Kelsey  
1861, 1871: living with her widowed mother at Riseley Hall, Derbyshire  
1880: residuary beneficiary in her mother's will (after bequests to married daus. and charity)  
1891: aged 61, living at 16 Granville Place, with 2 Lady's maids, a cook, a housemaid  
1901: aged 70, living on own means London, St Marylebone,  
1908: probate £10140. refer *Lincolnshire Star* 12 Sep 1908 page 8f for her funeral

**30. Susanna Maria SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 31 Oct 1824 and baptised on 4 Nov 1824 in South Kelsey, by her uncle Rev Thomas Skipworth.<sup>1</sup> She died in Mar 1913 at age 88, and was buried in Freshwater, Isle of Wight.

1841: not found in census 1851: age 24 at home Sth Kelsey  
of Terrace House, Freshwater, Isle of Wight in 1902

Susanna married **John Lewis FFYTCH**, JP & DL on 28 Oct 1858 in South Kelsey.<sup>4</sup> John was born on 6 Dec 1816 and died on 14 Feb 1902 at age 85. They had 1 daughter.

Educ Louth & Lincoln Coll Oxford BA 1838 MA 1843, High Sheriff 1865  
or Thorpe Hall nr Louth, afterwards Freshwater, Isle of Wight, F.S.A.  
Owned 2146 acres Co Lincoln annual value £3488 [Landowner of England and Wales]  
A first cousin of Lord Tennyson the Poet Laureate

**31. Capt James Green SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 26 Jan 1826 and baptised on 29 Jan 1826 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 17 Oct 1857,<sup>4</sup> and was buried there aged 31 on 22 Oct 1857.<sup>1</sup>

Named for his mother's gt grandfather, Rev James Green.  
Educated Rugby - source schools lists  
Capt Royal North Lincoln Militia  
1841: not found in census,  
1851: age 24 born Lincoln, gentleman, visitor at boarding house in Great Malvern, Worcestershire,  
with brother Thomas

**32. Charlotte Jane SKIPWORTH** (*George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 12 Jan 1828<sup>1</sup> and baptised on 14 Apr 1828 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> She died on 10 Mar 1910 in Hartlebury, Worcester, UK at age 82.

1841: age 10 at home 1851: age 22, at home Sth Kelsey

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Charlotte married **Rev Benjamin GIBBONS** on 15 May 1851, at South Kelsey. 8 sons and 5 daughters.  
They were married by Rev. Dr Parkinson.

**33. Anne Elizabeth SKIPWORTH** (*George<sup>14</sup>, Philip<sup>5</sup>, Philip<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 6 Mar 1830 and baptised on 8 Jul 1830 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> She died on 16 Apr 1889 at Claxby Rectory, Lincolnshire, at age 59. She had no children.

1841: age 10 at home                      1851: age 19 at home Sth Kelsey  
1861: age 27, visiting her widowed mother with her husband (curate, age 36)

Anne married **Rev Samuel Wright ANDREWS**, MA of Claxby Lincs, on 29 Sep 1853 in South Kelsey.<sup>4</sup> Samuel was born on 3 Aug 1823 and died on 5 Mar 1905 at age 81.

**34. Benjamin Cornelius Sandars SKIPWORTH** (*George<sup>14</sup>, Philip<sup>5</sup>, Philip<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 28 Jul 1831 and baptised on 1 Aug 1831 in South Kelsey.<sup>17</sup> He died aged 6 weeks on 12 Sep 1831 and was buried in South Kelsey St Mary on 15 Sep 1831.<sup>1</sup>

Named for his uncle Benjamin Skipworth who married the daughter of Cornelius Sandars. Benjamin had died in 1816, but his widow did not remarry until 1832.

**35. Ernest Augustus SKIPWORTH** (*George<sup>14</sup>, Philip<sup>5</sup>, Philip<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 4 Jun 1833 and baptised on 16 Aug 1833 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 24 Feb 1836 in South Kelsey, aged 2 years 8 months, and was buried in South Kelsey St Mary on 27 Feb 1836.<sup>1</sup>

**36. Philip William SKIPWORTH** (*George<sup>14</sup>, Philip<sup>5</sup>, Philip<sup>1</sup>*) was born on 19 Mar 1835 and baptised on 8 Jun 1835 in South Kelsey.<sup>1</sup> He died on 14 Feb 1855 in Brighton<sup>4</sup> at age 19, and was buried on 20 Feb 1855 in South Kelsey Saint Mary.<sup>1</sup>

"Students at Cambridge" Trinity  
1841: age 5 at home  
1847: age 11, admitted Westminster School  
1851: age 15, boarder at Westminster St Peter, No 1 Little Dean's Yard, 26 students.  
1851: played cricket for the "next nine" against the first eleven at Westminster, later for first XI  
1853: played cricket for Town Boys against the Queen's scholars  
1855: died at 12 Marine Parade Brighton, son of George Skipworth, High Sheriff

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

### *Fifth Generation (Great Grandchildren)*

**37. Major Philip Armfield SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 28 Sep 1867 at Field Head, Wakefield, Yorkshire,<sup>4,10</sup> and died on 2 Dec 1948 in Geneva, Switzerland.

1867: birth registration Skipworth, named for his mother's family, Armfield  
1871: age 3, at home Prestbury  
1881: age 13, born Wakefield, pupil at Woking 1882: at Sherborne School (1 year)  
1887: entered Royal Artillery 2nd Lieutenant; 1890: Lieutenant; 1898: Captain; 1904: Major.  
1891: not found in English census  
1899-1900: served Boer war, wounded, discharged from hospital 2 May 1900  
1901: age 33, Captain, Royal Field Artillery, visiting South Kelsey, with wife, no children  
1911: not found in census, nor his wife  
1912: Philip petitioned for divorce citing Jeanna's adultery, case apparently did not proceed [Divorce Court File Number 2239 for 1912 at National Archives viewed on Ancestry.com]  
1929: Philip & Jeanna Skipworth travelled 1st class Bombay to London, army officer retired, last permanent residence India, intended res. England, United Services Club, Pall Mall  
1932: aged 64, retired army officer, travelled Marseilles to London, with Jeanne aged 57, last permanent residence France  
1948: newspaper records the death of Philip Armstrong Skipwith Geneva - Lt Col, RA, on 2 Dec 1948 in Geneva. The name and rank were incorrect.  
1948: probate of Philip Armfield Skipwith of Hotel Balmoral Geneva at Clinique Generale Geneva admon to solicitor for Jeanna Caroline Augusta Skipwith widow effects £241 8.6.in England.

Heir male of Philip Skipwith of Alvingham who died 1689

Philip married **Countess Jeanna Carolina Augusta VON ROSEN** on 25 Sep 1898 in the English Church, Stockholm. Jeanna was born about 1875 in Seveden, Sweden.

Countess, dau. of late Count Nils von Rosen, Marshal to the Court of the King of Sweden.  
1901: Jeanna, naturalised British subject, visiting at Moortown House with her husband.

**38. Yvonne Ella SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 23 Jan 1868 in Stanley, Yorkshire,<sup>4</sup> and died unmarried in 1949 in Bristol RD, aged 80.

1871: age 2 at home Prestbury Priory, Gloucestershire  
1881: age 12, at home Windlesham, Surrey  
1891: age 20, at home with parents, no occupation  
1901: not found in census, possibly abroad  
1911: Royal Soldiers' Daughters Home Rosslyn Hill Hampstead - PO Directory  
Legatee of Hon Mrs Edward Stanhope of Reevesby Abbey<sup>14</sup>

**39. Fanny Margaret SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 13 Dec 1869 in London.<sup>19</sup> Her mother died about the time of her birth. Fanny died in 1960 aged 93 in Horsham, Sussex.

1881: age 11 at home with father and step-mother  
1891: age 21 at home  
1960: probate £8,800

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

Fanny married **John Guille MILLAIS** (1865-1931) of Horsham, Sussex, son of Sir John MILLAIS, Bt on 1 Oct 1894 in Kettering, UK.<sup>4</sup> Refer to Burke's Baronetage for descendants and to Wikipedia for an account of his work as ornithologist and bird painter. 2 sons, 2 daus.

Edited "Life and Letters" of his father, with the assistance of P G Skipwith, his father-in-law

**40. Ralph Howard SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1874 at Prestbury Priory, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, UK<sup>4</sup> died on 2 Oct 1952 in Hamilton, NZ at age 78, and was cremated at Waikumete cemetery, Auckland, NZ.

1881: age 7, at home Windlesham, Surrey  
1891: age 17, bank clerk living at home Bedford  
1895: of Albert Hotel Queen St Auckland New Zealand, 1000 shares in Invicta Gold Mining Kuaotuna  
1896: R H Skipwith, settler, 5000 shares @ 1/- ea in Big Reef Gold Mining Coy, Thames, NZ  
1904: applications for letters patent abandoned re locking rail and tramway doors  
1907: travelled Wellington to Southampton, single, journalist aged 32  
1908: applied for letters patent re concrete flooring - Christchurch address  
WWI: served, NZ Army  
1915: Clerk of Scales, Wellington Racing Club [Skipworth]  
1933: farmer of "Melwood", Dannevirke, NZ, soldier settler farm 123 acres - Lands Dept file  
1952: racing starter of Cambridge New Zealand, will proved Hamilton, brother Edward sole beneficiary, a witness was the hospital ward sister - probate £2667  
marriage indexed Skipworth, death of husband and wife both indexed Skipwith

Ralph married **Ethel Jessie HUME (nee KNIGHT)** on 19 May 1920 in Wellington, NZ.<sup>20</sup> Ethel was born in Sep 1880, died on 22 Jan 1937 aged 56, and was buried in Hamilton East Cemetery, NZ.<sup>21</sup>

daughter of Thomas Knight, at school Newbury Palmerston North, New Zealand 1887 - 1890

**41. Harold SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1874 in Prestbury, Gloucestershire, UK<sup>4</sup> and died on 28 December 1945 of Thornbury House, Thornbury, Gloucestershire, UK aged 71. Probate £310 to widow Dorothy Mabel Skipwith.

1881: age 6, scholar at home with parents  
1891: age 16, boarder at Lincoln - presumably at school  
1901: age 26, single, living alone, electrical engineer, born Cheltenham, Gloucestershire  
1921: Harold Skipworth, engineer, travelled Bombay to Southampton with Dorothy Mabel and John Philip age 6. Dorothy's age 46 in the passenger list, Harold's age 27, should be 46 (they have been reversed). Permanent address India.

Harold married **Dorothy Mabel GRIST** in 1914 in St Augustine's Church, Lewisham, London.<sup>4</sup> Dorothy was born in 1894 in Southwell, London, and died in 1993 in Hampshire, UK at age 99. [Further research: her will should indicate if she had surviving issue]

1921: age 26, travelled London / Gibraltar with son, last perm residence England, next India  
1947: age 52, widow, travelled Southampton to New York, permanent address Surrey.

54 i. **John Philip d'Estoteville SKIPWITH** 1915 - 1981

*Refer to page 31*



## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

**42. Edward Renaud SKIPWITH** (*Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 29 May 1877 in Prestbury Priory, Gloucestershire,<sup>4</sup> and died in 1962 in Devon RD.

1877: birth announced *John Bull* magazine - Skipworth  
1881: age 3, at home Windlesham, Surrey  
1891: age 13, at home Bedford, scholar  
1891-1893 Educated Felstead school  
1900: in Sth Africa with West Australian Mounted infantry  
1910: Western Australia Electoral Roll Violet & Edward both voted (not seen - Ancestry.com)  
no date: mining engineer of Ohai NZ (according to Kirkby pedigree - could this be Ohai?)  
1914: Wellington East NZ Electoral Roll  
1916: age 37, married, commercial traveller, travelled Wellington to San Francisco, next of kin in NZ was his brother, Wellesley Club, Wgtn.; permanent address London  
1921: accompanied by Violet, last permanent residence South Africa, occupation commercial, travelling 2nd class CapeTown to Southampton  
1926: age 48 married, journalist, previously in Canada 1906, next of kin Mrs E S, 116 Stockwell Park Rd, passport issued 1914 Wellington  
1931: age 53 married, travelled Liverpool Quebec, journalist in transit to China, ticket paid by *Financial Times*, prev. in Canada 1926-27, next of kin: wife Violet, Hillingden, Mdx  
1932: travelled Kobe, Japan to Vancouver, journalist, born Cheltenham, US visa issued at Shanghai, permanent residence London  
1933: travelled Capetown Southampton, journalist address 72 Coleman St London EC2  
1934: travelled Lisbon to Southampton, journalist  
1936: travelled Southampton to US, journalist, permanent address Hillingden, Mdx  
1952: next of kin on brother's burial, address 30 Sharp's Lane, Ruislip, Middlesex, UK

Edward married **Violet Gustele** [surname not known]. Violet died in 1977 in Devonshire, UK.

1949 New Plymouth (NZ) electoral roll

**43. Florence Eveline SKIPWORTH** (*William Thomas Borman*<sup>21</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 28 Dec 1853 in York, Yorkshire,<sup>5</sup> and died aged 80 in 1934 in Conway RD, UK.

1871: age 17 b York, boarder and monitor National School, St Michael's, Wantage, Berkshire  
1881: age 25 born York, schoolmistress boarding at Markfield, Leicester

Florence married **John Edward HORNSBY** in 1887 in Wortley, Yorkshire.

They had a son: **Hornsby, John Philip Skipworth**



**Cemetery:** Sailly-Saillisel British Cemetery  
**Country:** France  
**Area:** Somme  
**Rank:** Captain  
**Official Number:**  
**Unit:** A Coy. 10th Bn. South Wales Borderers.  
**Force:** Army  
**Nationality:** British  
**Details:**  
Killed in action 2nd September 1918. Age 29. Son of John Edward and Florence Eveline Hornsby of Ormiston Morfa Rd. Llandudno. VI. H. 7.

*image courtesy The War graves Photographic Project*

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

**44. Rose Edith SKIPWORTH** (*William Thomas Borman*<sup>21</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 31 May 1855 in Little Bytham, Lincolnshire. Her birth was registered in Southwell R.D. March ¼ 1855 and her death in Sept ¼ 1855 in Bourne R.D.

**45. Frederick William A SKIPWORTH** (*William Thomas Borman*<sup>21</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born about 1870 in Camberwell, Surrey,<sup>4</sup> and died in 1894 in St Geo Han Sq RD, UK<sup>4</sup> aged about 24.

1871: age 1 born Camberwell, nephew living with parents in home of Alfred Privet  
1881: not found  
1891: age 21 Teacher of Pianoforte

**46. Francis Ernest SKIPWORTH (Frank)** (*William Thomas Borman*<sup>21</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1872 in Lambeth RD, UK<sup>4</sup> and died aged 22 in 1895 in Dartford RD, UK<sup>4</sup>.

Identified by Frederick's birth 2 years prior in same RD. Mother had 2 children dead in 1911.  
1891: age 19, patient at Dareth in Kent

**47. Albert George Philip SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 30 Apr 1849 in Notting Hill, London,<sup>4</sup> and baptised on 13 Aug 1851 in St Pancras Church, City Road, London.<sup>6</sup> and died in 1942 in Horncastle RD, UK at age 93.

1849: birth registration Albert George Philip, baptism George Philip  
1851: age 1 at home [Albert G]  
1861: age 11 born London, pupil at school at Bury St Edmonds with his brother Lionel  
1868: Cirencester Agricultural College - Diploma and Haygarth gold medal  
1871: missing from census, possibly abroad with his sisters Rosamond and Susanna  
1881: age 31, farmer at Sth Kelsey Hall, 560 acres 14 men 2 boys, unmarried, with live in stockman & housekeeper and their son, plus female servant age 16  
1891: aged 41, Sth Kelsey, farmer, with widowed mother, brother E W Lionel - farmer, sisters Alice housekeeper, Frances governess, 3 Wilkinson grandchildren  
1896: George Philip & Lionel of Moortown House, farmers - Kelly's Directory  
1901: age 51, of Moortown House, farmer employer, head, widower, born Nottinghill, with Edward, Alice, 2 servants, Philip Armfield Skipwith and wife visiting, cook and housekeeper  
1908: legatee of his aunt Rosamond Frances Skipworth  
1911: age 61 widower at Horncastle with Alice and Ed William Lionel private means, niece Phyllis H Wilkinson age 27, no occupation, house with 14 rooms, no live in staff  
1914: of Tattershall, Lincolnshire

In his retirement George pursued interests in local history. Refer papers at Lincoln Archives LLHS 1/1 1910-1912 also 1-DIXON 19/6 - letters mainly relating to various proposed books and articles on historical topics, including a history of Lincolnshire, the history of Tattershall and a number of letters concerning some proposed improvements to Tattershall Market Place. Drafts for a proposed book "Some Lincolnshire Byways" by Edgar Chamberlain and George P Skipworth are held at LLHS 2. Skipworth, G P *Tattershall Castle, Lincs. The mystery of the mantelpieces*. [c1930?] Foster Library [Lincoln Archives] R BOX L.TATT.749.62 SKI

George married **Mary Louise COATES**, dau. of William Henry Coates JP, farmer, and Elizabeth Anne (dau. of Thomas Johnson Borman) on 26 Sep 1894 in Searby, Lincolnshire.<sup>4</sup> Mary was born in 1870, died on 1 Aug 1895,<sup>4</sup> at age 24, and was buried in South Kelsey.<sup>2</sup>

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1901: probate of Mary Louise Skipworth of Moortown wife of George Philip S £430

MI: (large stone tomb) Mary Louisa wife of George Philip Skipworth died Aug 1 1895 aged 24 years.

**48. Edward William Lionel SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 28 Jan 1851 in Notting Hill, London,<sup>4</sup> and baptised on 13 Aug 1851 in St Pancras Old Church.<sup>6</sup> He died aged 67 on 30 Apr 1918 at *The Lodge*, Tattershall,<sup>4</sup> and was buried on 3 May 1918 in Tattershall.

1851: first quarter, birth registration male (no name)

1851: age 2 months [Ernest]

1861: age 10 pupil at school with brother George at Bury St Edmunds [Lionel E]

1871: age 20, at home [William L.] no occupation

1881: age 30, at home [Edward W.] farmer

1891: age 40, at home [E. W. Lionel]

1901: age 50, born Nottingham, Farmer employer, of Moortown House South Kelsey, aged 50

1908: a legatee of his aunt Rosamond Frances Skipworth

1911: private means, living with brother and sister at Tattershall

1918: probate £1291 to brother George and sister Ann Eliz.

**49. Alice Elizabeth SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 9 Aug 1853 in Richmond, Surrey, and died aged 72 on 13 Mar 1926 at *The Lodge*, Tattershall. Probate £929

1861: age 7 born Bewark [Newark?], at a school in Bury St Edmunds Suffolk

1871: age 17 at home

1873: 1st Aug - attended 1st L.L.H. Ball at Town Hall, Grimsby, where she danced with Willie Skipworth, her 3rd cousin from Howsham shortly before his departure for NZ. Willie entered her name as Alice Skipwith on the programme ticket, and her mother Mrs Skipwith, showing that this section of the family were at least for a time favouring the Skipwith spelling.

1891: age 37: housekeeper for her widowed mother at Sth Kelsey

1901: age 47, living at Sth Kelsey with her brothers Edward and Philip

1911: age 57, Elizabeth Alice at Horncastle RD with brothers Edward & Philip

1919: joint proprietress of The Lodge Tearooms, Tattershall (with her sister Frances)

**50. Rosamond Emily SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>18</sup>, *George*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1855 in Newark, Nottinghamshire,<sup>4</sup> and died on 20 May 1935 in Bournemouth, Dorset, UK at age 80.

1861: age 5, born Newark at school in Bury St Edmunds with sister Alice

1881: age 25, visitor at Moortown House with husband and unnamed infant

1911: age 55, living in Kingsbridge, Devon with her husband and daus Alice and Winifred

Rosamond married **Herbert Rokebey WILKINSON** of 1st Dragoon Guards on 2 Jun 1880 in South Kelsey.<sup>4</sup> Herbert was born about 1855 in Kensington, London. 1 son, 5 dau

1892: of Brockleby 1910: of London 1901: age 46, living on own means, Bournemouth

**51. Susanna Rose SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born in 1857 in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.<sup>4</sup>

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

1861: pupil at Bury St Edmonds

Susanna married **Harry BROOKS** on 4 Jun 1878 in South Kelsey.<sup>4</sup> Harry was born about 1852 in Croxby, Lincolnshire, and died in Nov 1907 in Canada aged 55. 3 daughters, 2 sons.

In their marriage record Harry's father's occupation is a footman. However by 1881 Harry was a farmer with 591 acres at Keelby, employing 10 men and 7 lads, also a cook, a general servant, and a 15 yr old nurse for the two children aged 2 and 6 months. Susanna was visiting her parents at South Kelsey on census night.

**52. Marmaduke Thomas SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 9 Jun 1861 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> and baptised there on 13 Aug 1865. He died on 7 Nov 1933 aged 72.

Educated Clifton College - a public school at Bristol

1871: age 9, Thomas S, pupil at Bury St Edmonds Suffolk, 3 teachers, about 25 boys

1881: age 19, at home, Sth Kelsey

1891: not found, Kirkby pedigree says "sometime resided in Florida, USA"

1892: described as lemon grower in son's baptism at Sth Kelsey<sup>18</sup>

1892: T Skipworth age 29 passed through Ellis Island, entering the US

1901: age 39, retired, *The Shrubberies*, Bracebridge, Lincolnshire

1905: Councillor, Kesteven County Council - refer Historical Directories on line

1911: age 49, *The Shrubberies*, Bracebridge, with wife and Annie Bowman age 24

1933: probate £4000

Some Directories list Francis Skipworth at *The Shrubberies*, probably an error.

Thomas married **Louisa FERRABY** on 9 Jul 1887 in Brigg RD, Lincolnshire.<sup>4</sup> Louisa was baptised on 15 Apr 1855 in Searby, and died aged 88 on 19 Apr 1943 in Bracebridge.<sup>8</sup> 5th dau and co-heiress of John Ferraby Esq of Wootton Hall, JP, by his wife Abigail dau and co-heiress of John Evratt Esq.

1901: age 45, born Wootton

1943: Louisa Skipworth, *The Shrubberies* Brant Road Bracebridge died at Southcliffe Nursing Home, Lincoln. Probate £33,490 to solicitor.

Thomas and Louisa had a son:

55            i.        **Lieut Philip John SKIPWORTH (Jack)** 1892 - 1915

*Refer to page 31*

**53. Frances Annie SKIPWORTH** (*George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 21 Jul 1871 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> died unmarried aged 55 on 23 Oct 1926 at *The Lodge*, Tattershall. probate £2679

1881: age 9, at home

1891: age 19, at home Moortown

1901: age 29, visitor at Southampton, Highcliff

1911: age 39, at Tendring, Essex, visitor

1919: joint proprietress of The Lodge Tearooms, Tattershall (with her sister Alice)

## Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

### *Sixth Generation (2x Great Grandchildren)*

**54. John Philip d'Estoteville SKIPWITH** (*Harold*<sup>41</sup>, *Philip George*<sup>20</sup>, *Thomas*<sup>13</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was born on 4 Jul 1915 in Croydon, Surrey,<sup>4</sup> and died aged 66 in 1981 in Greenwich RD, UK.<sup>4</sup>

1915: the third name d'Estoteville was not included in his birth registration  
1921: age 5, travelled London to Gibraltar with mother, destination India for permanent res.  
1921: age 6, travelled Bombay to London with parents  
1938: unattached list, Indian Army (London Gazette)  
1939: 2nd Lieut, Indian Army

John married **Joyce R MADDOCK** in 1948 in Devon Central RD. [John P A E Skipwith in index].<sup>4</sup>  
A Joyce Rosalind Skipwith died on 5 Sep 1964 in South eastern Surrey.<sup>4</sup> Probate £27,131. No children found in births registrations. John remarried **Margaret I COOPER** in 1965 in Tavistock, Devon RD.<sup>4</sup>

**55. Lieut Philip John SKIPWORTH (Jack)** (*Marmaduke Thomas*<sup>51</sup>, *George Borman*<sup>27</sup>, *George*<sup>14</sup>, *Philip*<sup>5</sup>, *Philip*<sup>1</sup>) was baptised on 15 Jan 1892 in South Kelsey,<sup>4</sup> died on 7 Aug 1915 in Turkey aged 23, and was buried at Helles Memorial, Turkey, panel 117 to 119.<sup>9</sup>

Educated Clifton College and Woolwich Military College.  
1901: age 9, born Lincoln, living at Bracebridge, Lincs.  
1911: Philip John Skipworth, Gentleman Cadet from Royal Military College appointed 2nd Lt to Royal West Riding Regt. London Gazette 10 Oct 1911, also 12 Mar 1915  
1913: age 21 single, arrived Chicago from London on SS Minnetonka, occupation none  
1915: Philip Skipworth army officer age 23, travelled New York to Liverpool, address Bracebridge, Lincoln, last permanent residence USA

Lieutenant, Duke of Wellington's (West Riding Regiment) 11th Bn. attached Manchester Regiment 5th Bn., died 7 Aug 1915, age 23, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Skipworth, of Bracebridge, Lincoln.

In proud and honoured memory of the men of Bracebridge  
who gave their lives for the World's freedom  
in the Great War 1914-1919 - Jack Skipworth



# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

## Appendix 1: Wardell family of Elizabeth Skipworth

Evidence for the relationship of Elizabeth Skipworth to this Wardell family comes from the Skipworth pedigree,<sup>14</sup> which gives her father as Thomas Wardal of Aylesby then notes: [1776 July 2nd Elizabeth Skipworth, widow of Philip Skipworth], apparently a quote from a Wardell will which I have not seen. However I am reasonably confident that the following is Elizabeth's birth family.<sup>12</sup> Both families lived at Aylesby, and had similar status.

### First Generation:

1. **Christopher WARDELL** b. c. 1625, farmer, bur 28 Apr 1687, Saltfleetby St. Peter, Lincolnshire,
  - m. (1) **Lydia** ??? WARDELL, bur 23 Mar 1666/7, Saltfleetby St. Peter, died about 1666
  - m. (2) Elizabeth DALE 1 Aug 1667, Saltfleetby St. Peter, bur 9 Jan 1671/2, Saltfleetby St. P
  - m. (3) Jane HUNDLEBY, 16 Jan 1672/3, Saltfleetby St. P, bur 11 Apr 1693, Saltfleetby St. P

Children by Lydia ??? WARDELL:

2. i. **Matthew WARDELL** 1657 - 1720 see below
3. ii. Jane WARDELL b. 1659, Saltfleetby St. Peter
4. iii. Francis WARDELL b. 1662, Saltfleetby St. Peter, bur 23 Mar 1668, Saltfleetby St Peter
5. iv. Female WARDELL b. 13 Jan 1666, died at birth Saltfleetby St Peter

Children by Elizabeth DALE:

6. v. Mary WARDELL b. 1668, Saltfleetby St. Peter,
7. vi. Joane WARDELL b. 2 Oct 1670, Saltfleetby St. Peter,
8. vii. Frances WARDELL b. 28 Dec 1671, Saltfleetby St. Peter, died young

Children by Jane HUNDLEBY:

9. viii. Christopher WARDELL b. 1675, Saltfleetby St. Peter
10. ix. William WARDELL b. 1677, Saltfleetby St. Peter
11. x. Sarah WARDELL b. 1681, Saltfleetby St. Peter,
12. xi. George WARDELL b. 1683/4, Saltfleetby St. Peter, bur 7 Mar 1683/4, Saltfleetby St P
13. xii. John WARDELL b. 1685, Saltfleetby St. Peter,

### Second Generation:

2. **Matthew WARDELL** (*Christopher*<sup>1</sup>) bap 1657, Saltfleetby St Peter, bur 25 Oct 1720, Grimsby
  - m. (1) **Faith WEST** 30 Apr 1683, in Yarburgh, bur 19 Dec 1697, Yarburgh, Lincolnshire
  - m. (2) Elizabeth PATCHETT 29 Apr 1699, in Welton Le Wold, Lincolnshire d. post 1720.Matthew served as Alderman in Grimsby Parish. In his will Matthew is described as a "gentleman." He left goods valued at over £242 pounds, plus 5 acres of land, 6 horses, 2 foals, 8 young beasts, 3 cows and other farm stock. (*Wardall Genealogy* Robert Elayer).

Children by Faith West:

14. i. Faith WARDELL b. 1683, Yarburgh, bur 22 Jan 1683, Yarburgh
15. ii. **Thomas WARDELL** b. 1684/5 (see below)
16. iii. Christopher WARDELL b. 1688, bur 5 May 1738 Laceby, Lincolnshire (issue)
17. iv. Matthew WARDELL b. 1690 Yarburgh, mar Lydia ??? (issue)
18. v. James WARDELL b. 1693, Yarburgh, bur 30 Jun 1695, Yarburgh
19. vi. Faith WARDELL b. 1695, Yarburgh
20. vii. Lydia WARDELL b. 1697, Yarburgh, m. 3 Jul 1721, Grimsby, Richard Snow.

Children by Elizabeth PATCHETT:

21. viii. John WARDELL b. 1699/1700, bur 22 Mar 1700/01, Grimsby,

### Third Generation:

15. **Thomas WARDELL** (*Matthew*<sup>2</sup>, *Christopher*<sup>1</sup>) b. 1684/5, Farmer, bur 1 Dec 1748, Aylesby
  - m. **Jane JOHNSON**, 28 Apr 1713, Scartho, Lincolnshire, bur 9 Jun 1736/7, Aylesby,Thomas was churchwarden Scartho 1715; churchwarden Aylesby 1733, 1735 and 1737. Children:
  22. i. Thomas WARDELL bap 10 Jul 1714, bur 19 Oct 1746 Aylesby (issue)
  23. ii. **Elizabeth WARDELL** bap 30 Jun 1716, Scartho, Alvingham.
  24. iii. Matthew WARDELL b. 1718/9, Scartho, bur 10 Mar 1718/9, Scartho,
  25. iv. Matthew WARDELL b. 1724, Scartho,
  26. v. Faith WARDELL 1727-1732, Aylesby



# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

## Appendix 2: The Tichborne Case

CONVICTION OF THE TICHBORNE CLAIMANT  
AND MR. SKIPWORTH  
FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.  
(Times, 20 Jan 1873)

The last of many strange episodes in the inexhaustible Tichborne case terminated yesterday in the Court of Queen's Bench, which had never, perhaps, been so thronged even during the most exciting stages of the great trial.

It will be remembered that on Monday week Mr Whalley and Mr Guildford Onslow were summoned before the Court to account for language used by them at St. James's Hall in promoting the so-called Tichborne Defence Fund, and that, having apologised for this language, they were condemned to pay a fine of £100 each.

On that very evening another meeting was held at Brighton, under the presidency of Mr Skipworth, a member of the bar, who had also been chairman at St. James's Hall, and who had just been hearing the judgment pronounced in the Court of Queen's Bench on Messrs Whalley and Onslow.

On the following Wednesday the Lord Chief Justice called the attention of the Attorney-General to the reports of this meeting, at which the claimant himself was present, observing that if those reports were correct, a fresh and still grosser contempt of Court had been committed at Brighton. Accordingly, on Saturday last, Mr Hawkins, at the request of the Attorney-General, moved that Mr Skipworth, who resides near Lincoln, should be required to attend the Court and answer for the contemptuous words attributed to him. Mr Justice Blackburn, however, after perusing the report, was of opinion that an order should be issued, on the authority of the Court itself, against the Claimant as well as against Mr Skipworth, and both appeared yesterday in person before all the Judges of the Queen's Bench, except the Lord Chief Justice.

After the affidavits in support of the order had been read, Mr Skipworth handed in a paper to be read by one of the Masters, whereas the Claimant, declining the assistance of counsel, followed with an effective address on his own behalf.

Upon full consideration, the Court found both guilty of a wilful contempt, but thought it right to draw a distinction between them as regarded the degree of criminality and the measure of punishment. Mr Skipworth was therefore sentenced to be imprisoned for three months in Holloway gaol and to pay a line of £500. The Claimant was simply required to give security, in a sum of £1,000 on his own recognisances and those of a surety, against the repetition of a similar offence during the next three months; and, the recognisances having

been perfected on the spot, he was forthwith discharged.

No one who reflects dispassionately on the circumstances will be disposed to regard these sentences as unduly severe. While there is something, at first sight, repugnant to English feeling in the spectacle of a Court enforcing respect for its own dignity by pains and penalties, not a word can be said against the exercise of this power in the present instance. Never was there a more outrageous and deliberate contempt of Court, or one more directly calculated to prejudice the administration of justice than was brought home to Mr Skipworth and the Claimant.

In his speech from the chair at Brighton, Mr Skipworth not only denounced the punishment inflicted on Messrs Whalley and Guildford Onslow in unmeasured terms, vowing that he would have cut off his hand or gone to prison rather than apologise, but defied the Lord Chief Justice to meddle with himself, roundly charged the whole Court of Queen's Bench with partiality, and declared the Lord Chief Justice in particular unfit to preside at the forthcoming trial. The Claimant emphatically reiterated this last statement, and protested that the Lord Chief Justice had prejudged his cause four years ago by speaking of him at a club as a rank impostor.

Upon this and other grounds he announced his intention to hold the Lord Chief Justice, in turn, responsible for a contempt of Court, as well as to petition Parliament against being tried by him. In other words, a prisoner on bail for perjury, aided and abetted by a barrister, indulged at a public meeting in the most insolent abuse of a judge who, in the discharge of his duty, had dared to impose moderate fines on two others of his partisans, and who might possibly have to sit in judgment on himself.

No sentimental considerations whatever can outweigh the necessity of checking so unscrupulous an attempt to embarrass the course of justice by popular clamour or intimidation. Had the case been reversed — had the Lord Chief Justice and his brethren dismissed the charge against Messrs Whalley and Onslow as groundless, and had they been thereupon attacked by parties interested in the prosecution as they have been by parties interested in the defence — every one would have felt that it was a monstrous interference with a pending trial, and must be sternly put down. But society has its rights as well as individuals, and were it possible for the promoters of this agitation to succeed in the objects they manifestly have in view, it is not the Crown, but the nation at large, that would sustain a grievous wrong. At the same time, the Court probably showed a wise discretion in dealing more leniently with the Claimant than Mr Skipworth.

# Philip Skipworth of South Kelsey

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### Further Reading

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Society for Lincolnshire History and Archeology - 12 Volume History of Lincolnshire, especially  
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#18 above - Jean Collins, *South Kelsey* This work contains much additional detail about the Skipworths

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