

The

BASS

families of

Raunds, Northampton
and surrounding areas,
Northamptonshire

The BASS families

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The BASS families

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Towns and villages

Village	Dates	Family names
BDF Riseley	1600 on	Bromwell
BDF Thurleigh	1590 - 1670	Crosse, Bennit
BDF Harrold	1645	Bromwell / Hatfield
BDF Oakley	1690	Bromwell / Petty
NTH Raunds	1680 on	Brown / Geary / Bass / Moore / Penn
NTH Higham Ferrers	1700	Geary / Teer
NTH Harpole	1795	Trasler / Bass / Tressler
NTH Northampton	1800 on	Bass / Fox / Tompkins
BDF Keysoe	1725	Bromwell / Cook
HUN Elton	1800	Moore

Census records – Northampton and Raunds

Village	Address	Census	Family	Ref
Kettering	North-hall Street	1871	Bass	058OC
Kingsthorpe	Birchfield Road, 2	1901	Bass	014O
	Kingsley Terrace, 1	1901	Bass	028 / 029
Northampton	Abington Street, 75	1881	Bass	028 / 029
	Adams Avenue, 76	1901	Bass	056QA
	Augustin Street, 13	1881	Reeve	028JD
	Bailiff Street	1871	Major	028M
	Bailiff Street, 52	1881-91	Bass	056QA
	Bath Street	1841	Bass	056 / 057
	Bearwood Street, 29	1901	Bass	056RA
	Black Lion Terrace, 1	1871	Reeve	028J
	Bostock Avenue, 92	1901	Bass	014 / 015
	Broad Street, 52 (Rising Sun)	1891	Bass	056QB
	Colwyn Road, 92	1891	Bass	028k
	George Street, 20	1861	Bass	056
	Harding Terrace, 42	1861	Bass	056QA
	Kingsley Gardens (Basses houses)	1891	Bass	
Laurence Street, 54	1871	Bass	056QA	
Northampton	Lower Mounts, 32	1861	Fox	028L
	Lower Mounts, 36	1871-91	Fox	028L
	Market Square, 12	1851 – 71	Bass	058 / 059
	New Town Road, 22	1861	Bass	058OB
	Northampton Union workhouse	1881	Bass	056Q
	Princess Street, 12	1871	Bass	028 / 029
	Pytchley Street, 8	1901	Fox	028L
	Scarletwell Street	1841	Bass	058 / 059

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	Scarletwell Street, 87	1861-71	Bass	056Q
	Sheep Street, 59	1991-01	Bass	029M
	Somerset Street, 47	1891	Bass	056RA
	St George Street, 20	1861	Bass	056 / 057
	St George Street, 26	1871	Bass	056 / 057
	St Giles Street, 75	1871	Bass	030
	Vernon Street, 22	1871-01	Bass	058OB
Raunds	Arnsby's Hill	1881	Nunley	056OB
	Baker's Arms	1891	Bass	058PE
	Bridge Street	1891	Bass	058o
	Brook Street, 10	1871	Bass	056OA
	Brook Street, 4	1871	Bass	058o
	Brook Street, 5	1871	Bass	056O
	High Street	1891	Bass	056OA
	Hill End	1881	Bass	058o
	Manor Street	1901	Bass	058o
	Marchant's Lane	1851	Bass	056O
	Marshall's Lane, 2	1871-81	Bass	058OA
	Midland Road	1901	Hall	058ODE
	Rotten Row	1841	Bass	112 / 113
	Rotten Row	1901	Harris	058Pf
Rushden	Crab Street East Side, 1	1881	Bass	058OC
	Crabb Street, 13	1891	Bass	058OC
	Crabb Street, 28	1901	Bass	058OC
Stanwick	Blind Street	1871	Bass	056OD
Weedon Beck	Lower Weedon	1861	Reeve	028J

Earliest records

The pages of this document contain the sum total of my research to date concerning the family of George Henry BASS, one of my eight great-grandparents.

Genealogy charts have been included, where possible, to assist in keeping the various family relationships in relation one to another.

Although my great-grandfather's name on this branch is BASS, the earliest records found so far refer to the BROMWELL family which, with the assistance of the IGI, can be traced back to the early 1600s.

BASS is not an uncommon surname, and there are hundreds to be found in Northamptonshire alone. However, since later generations are known to have lived in Raunds, a village about 14 miles to the northeast of Northampton, a search was concentrated on records from there.

The earliest record found so far on this branch of the family is of a male BASS (no forename given) who was born about 1536 at Raunds. He (presumably) married, and three sons were born; Gilbert, Thomas and George. Each of these sons married, although the records do not give their wives' forenames, referring to them simply as 'Mrs Gilbert', 'Mrs Thomas', 'Mrs George'! Each of these three families produced children.

However, there are no records of any BASS baptisms at Raunds between 1700 and 1779, and no marriages before 1756. Consequently no connection has been proved between these early Basses and my own family, which appears at Raunds with the marriage of William BASS and Elizabeth BROWN in 1796.

G8 and G7 – BASS and UNDERWOOD families

William BASS and Mary UNDERWOOD were two of my 5xgt-grandparents. They were married on 14 NOV 1764¹ at Woodford by Thrapston, a village about three miles north-west of Raunds. Unfortunately the marriage entry in the Bishop's Transcript is split across two pages, and the actual date in November is missing; the banns were called on 21st October, 28th October and 4th November. Fortunately the entry in the marriage register is clear enough, showing the marriage date as the 14th November.

The entry also shows that while Mary was from Woodford William was from Melchbourne, which is about five miles from Raunds but in precisely the opposite direction from Woodford. It is about three miles south of Hargrave, where he was baptised.

There is more than one possibility for William's birth, and without further information it is not possible to trace this line further back.

Mary UNDERWOOD, daughter of William and Susannah, was baptised on 27 FEB 1736 in the parish of Woodford by Thrapston.

Children

Son William was baptised on 24 MAR 1765 at Woodford², but no further children have been found from this marriage. It is possible that William and Mary moved to Melchbourne, especially if William had a job there.

¹ marriage register and Bishop's Transcripts for Woodford by Thrapston

² baptism register and Bishop's Transcript for Woodford by Thrapston

G6 – BASS family

Elizabeth BROWN, the eldest daughter of Robert and Mary, married William BASS on 18 FEB 1796¹. They were two of my 4xgt-grandparents.

Although I have not confirmed birth or baptism for either William or Elizabeth (but see the previous section), I have discovered nine children from this marriage².

In 1841 William, a smith, and Elizabeth were living in Raunds³ with three of their children: Robert, Thomas and Joseph. Hannah, their second daughter, had died at the age of 12; William, Elizabeth, John and George had already married and left home.

Robert, the third child, had married and become widowed (see later); his son George was also living in the house, as were Joseph's wife Jane with their daughter Hannah and baby son Robert.

Elizabeth (née BROWN) and William BASS are buried together in the churchyard at Raunds. The inscription on their gravestone reads 'In Affectionate Remembrance of Elizabeth Bass died 6th January 1843 aged 73 years and William husband of the above died 7th June 1849 aged 84 years also Thomas son of the above died 22nd February 1882 aged 69'. William was born, therefore, in about 1765, and Elizabeth about 1770.

William (1797 – 1874) 056

William was one of my 3xgt-grandfathers and his history continues below.

*Elizabeth (1798 – ?)*⁴ 056N

The next baptism was that of Elizabeth, on 01 JUL 1798. She married George MOORE.

*Robert (1800 – 1884)*⁵ 056O

Robert was baptised on 23 JUN 1805⁶, together with Hannah and John, although census records show that he had been born about five years earlier. He married twice, and was buried at Raunds on 14 NOV 1884⁷.

Hannah (1803 – 1812)

Hannah was baptised along with two of her brothers on 23 JUN 1805⁸. She was buried, at the age of 12, on 19 MAY 1815⁹, which indicates that she had been born in about 1803.

*John (1805 – 1882)*¹⁰ 056Q

John BASS was baptised on 23 JUN 1805¹¹, and married Emma PENN on 21 MAY 1832.

¹ marriage register for Raunds, p136

² baptism register for Raunds

³ 1841 census return for Rotten Row, Raunds, HO107/802

⁴ see Appendix 056N

⁵ see Appendix 056O

⁶ IGI

⁷ burial register for Raunds, p40, and tombstone (see related Appendix)

⁸ IGI

⁹ burial register for Raunds, p8

¹⁰ see Appendix 056Q

¹¹ IGI

Samuel (1808 – 1879) ¹ **056R**

Samuel was baptised on 03 NOV 1811², the same day as George, but was born probably three years earlier³.

George (1810 – 1878) **058**

After the baptisms of John, Robert and Hannah in 1805 there seems to have been a gap of some years before George was baptised on 03 NOV 1811⁴, having been born a year or so earlier⁵. George is another of my 3xgt-grandfathers and his story continues in the next section.

Thomas (1813 – 1882) ⁶ **058N**

Thomas was baptised on 31 JAN 1813⁷. He never married and died in 1882 aged 69.

Joseph (1815 – 1849) ⁸ **058O**

The last child born to William and Elizabeth was Joseph, baptised on 19 NOV 1815⁹.

¹ see Appendix 056R

² IGI

³ from information in census returns

⁴ IGI

⁵ from other sources, mainly census returns

⁶ see Appendix 058N

⁷ IGI

⁸ see Appendix 058O

⁹ IGI

G5 – BASS family (1)

William, the eldest son of William and Elizabeth, was born in about 1797; he doesn't appear in the Raunds baptism register. The surrounding parishes have been searched, without success, and he may never have been baptised.

He has been found in four census entries (1841 – 1871) and all agree that he was born around 1796 – 97.

He married Anne TRASLER (born about 1796 in Harpole, about four miles west of Northampton¹). A marriage between William BASS and Ann TRESSLER took place at Harpole on 05 JUN 1825²: with the agreement of the two names, the name of the bride's village and the date (their first child, Hannah, was baptised in July 1826) it is very likely that this is the correct marriage.

It seems that shortly after the marriage they moved to Raunds, William's home village; this is where Hannah was baptised.

They had, in all, five children; at the time their last child, George, was born (1838) the family lived in Bath Street in Northampton and William's occupation was shown as 'shoemaker'.

The 1841 census shows the family still living in Bath Street³. The three eldest daughters were 'shoe closers' while William was described as a 'cordwainer'. In the following census William and Anne, with all their five children, are shown still living at the same address⁴. All five, together with their father, were employed in the shoe trade; both Williams, father and son, were 'shoe makers' while the girls were all 'shoe closers'.

By 1861 William and Ann had moved to St George Street⁵; only Elizabeth (aged 26, and a shoe machine fitter) and George (23, a shoe checker) were living with them. Hannah, their eldest daughter, had married and she and her husband Thomas Robinson were living in the house in Bath Street. Ten years later on still and William and Anne had moved along the same road to number 26⁶ where they were sharing the house with Thomas and Hannah. William died on 22 FEB 1874⁷ of old age aged 78 and in 1881 Anne was living alone at the same address⁸. She died in the first few months of 1889⁹ aged 92.

*Hannah (1826 – ?)*¹⁰

028J

Hannah, the first child and eldest daughter, was baptised on 07 JUL 1826¹¹ at Raunds.

*William (1828 – 1888)*¹²

028K

William was born about 1828. He married late in life and died in 1888.

¹ This information taken from census returns

² Northamptonshire Marriages CD

³ 1841 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/814/11 f35 p23

⁴ 1851 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/1739

⁵ 1861 census return for 20 St George Street, Northampton, HO108/935

⁶ 1871 census return for 26 St George's Street, Northampton, RG10/1481

⁷ death certificate

⁸ 1881 census return, RG11/1545

⁹ ONS death reference for Anne TRASLER aged 92, Q1/1889, Northampton, 3b 36

¹⁰ see Appendix 028J

¹¹ Raunds baptism register

¹² see Appendix 028K

Mary (1830 – ?)¹

028L

Mary, the second daughter, was baptised in 1830. She married William Henry FOX.

Elizabeth (1835 – ?)²

028M

The remaining daughter of William and Anne, Elizabeth, was baptised about 1835. In 1862³ she married Thomas Lovell MAJOR.

George (1838 – ?)

028

Finally, the second son George, baptised in 1838, was one of my eight great-great-grandfathers. At the age of 12 he was described as a 'shoe-closer'; ten years later he was a 'shoe checker' and still living with his parents, but in 1867 married his cousin Betsy BASS⁴ (the daughter of George and Betsy née Bromwell).

¹ see Appendix 028L

² See Appendix 028M

³ ONS marriage reference for Thomas Lovell MAJOR and Elizabeth BASS, 3/1862, Northampton, 3b 109

⁴ marriage certificate

G5 – BASS family (2)

George BASS was the seventh child and fifth son of William and Elizabeth. He was born in about 1811.

On 19 FEB 1833 he married Betsy BROMWELL¹, who had been born in about 1811 in Riseley, Bedfordshire. Riseley is about six miles SSE of Raunds.

Only two children have been found from this marriage, both born in Northampton: George, born 22 SEP 1838 and Betsy, my great-great-grandmother, born 12 JUL 1842. Not a great deal of imagination shown in christening the children!

At the time their daughter Betsy was born (1842) the family lived in Scarletwell Street², possibly not far from George's brother John. The birth certificate shows not the signature of Betsy (the mother) but her mark.

A 'G. Bass, watchmaker' is shown as living in George Row, Northampton, in the Post Office Directory for 1847/8 although no trace can be found of him at that address in either the 1841 or 1851 census. Is this the same George or a red herring?

In the 1861 census the family (George and Betsy senior, plus children George and Betsy aged 22 and 18 respectively) were living in Market Square, Northampton³. Both father and son were watchmakers; the senior was a 'jobbing watchmaker', the junior a 'watchmaker optician'. Betsy (junior) was a dressmaker.

Ten years later, in 1871, George and Betsy senior were still at the same address; George is a 'watchmaker and builder'. Son George, by now aged 32 and a 'watchmaker and optician', as he had been ten years earlier, was still at home with his parents.

The Post Office Directory for 1877 shows 'George Bass & Son, Watchmakers' at 59 Sheep Street. George died in the following year, on 09 MAY 1878. Luckily, or fortuitously, he had made a will only three days earlier in which his abode was confirmed as 59 Sheep Street. They can only have been there a few years as the 1871 census shows 59 Sheep Street as 'building' (which I take to mean 'being built'). His estate was listed as less than £300 and extracts from the will are shown overleaf.

One of the witnesses to the will was William Henry FOX, his niece Mary's husband. As has already been mentioned (see Appendix 4B3), William and Mary were living at 36 Lower Mounts in both 1871 and 1881: he was a 'Solicitor's Managing Clerk'.

One of the beneficiaries named in the will is Eli WARREN. A Thomas WARREN married Eliza BROMWELL, from Riseley, in 1817 – it is likely that Eliza and Betsy were related.

<p>George BASS the elder of 59 Sheep Street, watch and clock maker and builder... ... to my son George BASS the younger of 59 Sheep Street and Eli Warren of Clare Street Northampton, builder. ... to my wife Betsey BASS my daughter Betsey BASS wife of my nephew George BASS (son of my brother William BASS deceased) ... <i>George BASS the younger and Eli WARREN were named as trustees and executors.</i></p>
--

<p><i>The will was signed on 06 MAY 1878. Witnesses were: Wm Hy Fox, 36 Lower Mounts; Joseph Woods, 82 Horsemarket George BASS died on 09 MAY 1878 at 59 Sheep Street, Northampton. Estate under £ 300. The will was proved at Northampton on 07 JUN 1878.</i></p>
--

George's will is particularly valuable as it establishes that Betsy, his daughter, and George (his son-in-law and Betsy's husband) were indeed cousins.

¹ marriage certificate

² birth certificate for Betsy BASS

³ 1861 census for 12 Market Square, Northampton, RG9/938 f103 p13

Following her husband's death Betsy moved to live with her daughter and son-in-law, Betsy (junior) and George, in Abington Street¹ (see below). She died in 1890², outliving her daughter (see below) and her death was registered in the first quarter of that year in Northampton.

George (1838 – 1917)³

029M

George was born on 22 SEP 1838, and he married Annie (1845 - ?). Probate was granted on 21 DEC 1917 so presumably he died earlier that year.

Betsy (1842 – 1886)

029

Betsy, one of my gt-gt-grandmothers, was born on 12 JUL 1842. She married her cousin George (the son of William and Anne) on 10 JUN 1867.

¹ 1881 census for 75 Abington Street, Northampton, RG11/1543 f42 p14

² ONS death reference for Betsy BASS aged 79, Q1/1890, Northampton, 3b 71

³ see Appendix 029M

A plethora of Georges

All these Georges and Williams make tracing the family line very confusing, particularly with the marriage of cousins. In an attempt to clarify the various relationships the diagram included may help.

G4 – BASS family

At the date of their marriage, 10 JUN 1867¹, George was living at 21 St George's Street (his parents were shown at 20 St George's Street in the 1861 census) and Betsy in Market Square, presumably at number 12 with her parents. They were married in the Castle Hill Chapel, an Independent church.

Four years after their wedding, the 1871 census shows George and Betsy living in Princess Street² with their son George Henry (born 02 MAR 1869³) and George's brother elder William who by this time was 43 and not yet married. George, who in 1861 was a 'shoe checker', was now a 'shoe manufacturer' and William a 'shoeman's assistant'. Later in that year, on 06 OCT 1871⁴, their first (and only) daughter Lilian was born.

The Post Office directory for 1877 shows a George Bass⁵, a shoe manufacturer, at 'Lower Mounts'. Is this anywhere near Princess Street? – perhaps this was a workshop? Princess Street, together with most of Newlands (see the STEVENS book) was demolished in 1972.

By 1890, however, there was no Bass shown in Lower Mounts although William FOX and his wife Mary (nee BASS) were still living there.

By 1881 George and Betsy had moved to Abington Street⁶. As well as George Henry and Lilian (clearly shown as 'Selina' in the census return), who by this time were 12 and 10 respectively, they a son shown only as 'F. E.' who was just 2 years old. They were also providing a home for Betsy senior, by now a widow. Ann (George's mother) too was by now a widow, her husband William having died in 1874.

Betsy died on 24 MAR 1886⁷, aged only 43, at home in Abington Street; the cause of death was shown as 'epilepsy, many years; palpitation and irregular action of heart, one year'. The Post Office Directory for 1890 shows a 'Geo Bass' living at 1 Kingsley Terrace, which probably refers to this George; the census for the following year shows him as a widower, living in Kingsley Gardens with the three children. By 1901 he was living in Kingsley Terrace: he was no longer working but 'living on [his] own means'.

Two years later, in 1903⁸, and aged 65, George married Margaret BASS. She was the widow of George's first cousin (another George), who had died on 02 OCT 1896⁹ (see page 37 for further details). They lived in Raunds, in Margaret's home in Brook Street¹⁰, together with her niece Emily DISHER and a servant, Annie WARNER.

Margaret died on 07 OCT 1921, and was also buried in Raunds Methodist churchyard¹¹; George died aged 85 in 1924¹².

¹ marriage certificate

² 1871 census return for 12 Princess Street, Northampton, RG10/1482

³ birth certificate for George Henry BASS

⁴ birth certificate for Lilian BASS

⁵ *op cit*

⁶ 1881 census return for 75 Abington Street, Northampton, RG11/1548

⁷ death certificate

⁸ ONS marriage reference for George BASS and Margaret BASS, Q1/1903, Thrapston, 3b 254

⁹ see page 39

¹⁰ 1911 census for 50 Brook Street, Raunds, RG14/8620 ED6 SN440

¹¹ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist Church, Raunds

¹² ONS death reference for George BASS aged 85, Q1/1924, Thrapston, 3b 251

George Henry (1869 – 1945)

014

George Henry Bass was my great-grandfather. On 07 JUN 1892 he married Caroline Ann STEVENS in the same Castle Hill Chapel¹ where his parents had been married 24 years earlier. The story is continued in a separate booklet ('Recent Generations').

Lilian (1871 – 1895)

014N

Lilian was born towards the end of 1871² and she died at the age of 23 in 1895³. George and Caroline's first child, my grandmother, who was born the same year, was named after her.

Frank Edward (1874 – ?)⁴

014O

Frank Edward (the mysterious 'F. E.') was born towards the end of 1873⁵. He married twice.

¹ marriage certificate for George Henry BASS and Caroline Ann STEVENS

² ONS birth reference for Lilian BASS, Q4/1871, Northampton, 3b 50

³ ONS death reference for Lilian BASS aged 23, Q3/1895, Northampton, 3b 29

⁴ see Appendix 014O, page 31

⁵ ONS birth reference for Frank Edward BASS, Q4/1873, Northampton, 3b 57

G9 – BROWN family

The IGI shows three possible entries for a William BROWN baptised at Raunds in the last quarter of the 17th century¹:

date	parents
25 JUN 1682	Thomas, Elizabeth
19 AUG 1691	Thomas, Elizabeth
09 JUN 1695	William, Elizabeth

If the parents were the same Thomas and Elizabeth in each of the first two cases then it is likely that the first William died, although the NBI records no burial of a William in Northamptonshire before 1713.

Without further information it is impossible to tell which (if any) of these three is my 6 x gt-grandfather William. However, he married in 1721 (see page 20) and the only other marriage of a William BROWN at Raunds was in 1749. Thus it is likely that my ancestor was one of the two Williams born towards the end of the 17th century.

A William was buried on 12 AUG 1716 at Raunds but the register gives no further details; it also records the burial of a 'William the elder' on 30 JUL 1733.

¹ a span of 20 years is chosen because he married in 1721; a range of 1680 to 1700 (his age at marriage would have been between 21 and 41) seems reasonable

G8 – BROWN family

William BROWN and Lucy GEARY, two of my 6xgt-grandparents, were married at Raunds on 12 JAN 1721/22¹. Lucy had been baptised at Raunds, on Christmas Day 1701², daughter of William GEARY and Elizabeth.

William and Lucy had eight children³, two of whom – both named Alice – died in infancy⁴. The baptism entry for the youngest son, Robert, records that his father William was a shepherd.

The burial register for Raunds records the burial of Lucy, widow of William, on 17 APR 1764⁵. The only entry for a William in the burial register between 1741 and 1764 is on 18 AUG 1756, recording the burial of 'William, son of John and Mary'; however, this appears to refer to a completely different family, in which a William was baptised on 25 MAY 1755. The NBI contains no records for any GEARY at Raunds.

Robert (1741 – ?)

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William and Lucy's youngest child, Robert, was baptised on 22 NOV 1741⁶; he was my 5xgt-grandfather. The line continues in the next section.

Other children

There is no information about the other children of the family apart from the dates of baptism:

Elizabeth was baptised 03 MAR 1722/23 and married Thomas FLINTHAM on 01 NOV 1747

William was baptised 07 MAY 1725 and married Mary KNIGHTON on 25 MAR 1749

Susannah was baptised 27 AUG 1727; she married John KIRKE on 13 FEB 1746/7

Anne was baptised 05 DEC 1731; she married Henry FRYER, of Ringstead, on 04 APR 1752

Alice was baptised 26 MAY 1734 and buried 14 JUN 1735

John was baptised 16 MAY 1736

Alice was baptised 04 MAR 1738/9 and buried 05 JUN 1740.

¹ Raunds marriage register

² IGI listing

³ Raunds baptism register

⁴ Raunds burial register

⁵ *op cit*

⁶ Raunds baptism register

G7 – BROWN family

Robert, baptised at Raunds on 22 *NOV 1741*, was one of my 5xgt-grandfathers.

He married Mary, although the marriage appears not to have taken place at Raunds and Mary's surname is unknown. However, four children from the marriage were baptised there.

Elizabeth (1771 – ?)

113

The eldest, Elizabeth, was baptised on 25 *AUG 1771*¹. She was one of my 4xgt-grandmothers and married William BASS; her story is continued on page 8.

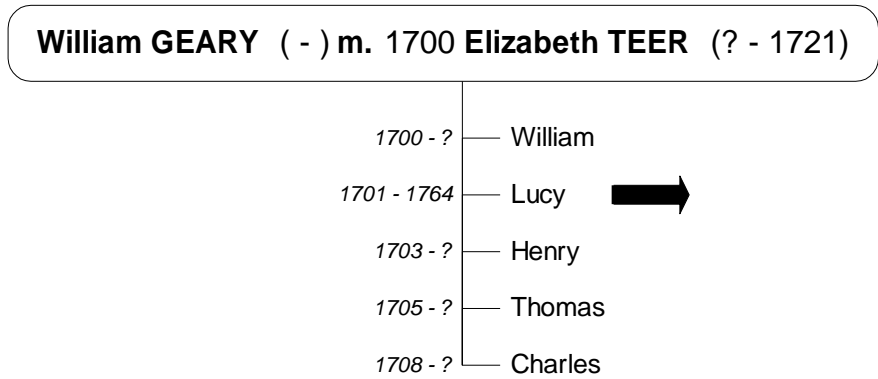
Other children

The baptism register contains no information regarding the other children other than the baptism dates: Mary 11 *FEB 1774*; Ann 05 *JAN 1777*; William 24 *FEB 1779*.

¹ Raunds baptism register

G9 – GEARY family

The IGI records the baptisms of five children born to William GEARY and Elizabeth TEER. Both William and Elizabeth had been born in Raunds¹, but for some reason they were married at Higham Ferrers, a village about four miles to the south-west, on 11 MAR 1699². Both Elizabeth and William were buried at Raunds³; Elizabeth on 09 MAR 1717 and William on 02 DEC 1740.



William was baptised at Raunds on 13 JUN 1700.

Their second child and first daughter, **Lucy**, was one of my 6xgt-grandmothers. She was baptised on 25 DEC 1701, at Raunds⁴. She married William BROWN in 1721 and her line continues on page 20.

Henry was baptised on 26 OCT 1703.

Thomas was baptised on 23 DEC 1705.

There are no GEARY burials recorded in the NBI for Northamptonshire before 1781.

¹ information from Tony GEARY

² marriage register for Higham Ferrers

³ IGI (both burials)

⁴ IGI

G12 – BROMWELL family

The origins of the Bromwell family have been traced back to the mid-16th century, although this has only been possible for two reasons: first, the family appears to have remained in one small village for two and a half centuries, and second, the records of baptism and marriage have been discovered through the IGI (and have not all yet been verified). All the records below are from Riseley, in Bedfordshire.

The earliest records found are the baptisms of John and his elder brother Josias, 'about' 1600 and 1599 respectively. Neither of their parents is named.

G11 – BROMWELL family

All dates of burials at Riseley are taken from the NBI.

Josias married Margaret CROSSE on 02 DEC 1617; she had been born in about 1596 in Thurleigh, a small village about three miles south of Riseley. They had four children:

Thomas, baptised about 1618, died on 20 DEC 1630¹;

Their second son, also **Thomas**, was baptised on 26 JAN 1623. His father is recorded as Josua but this is probably the same family, although there is no ready explanation why two children should both be named Thomas. A Thomas was buried at Riseley on 02 MAY 1699 and it is possible that this is the same Thomas; alternatively this could have been the burial of his cousin, John's son (see below);

Alice, the first daughter and third child, was baptised on 16 MAR 1628;

The last child, **Amy**, was baptised on 17 OCT 1630 and buried on 10 JAN 1654.

Josias died and was buried at Riseley on 20 APR 1631. A 'widow' BROMWELL was buried on 01 APR 1638 and this could well have been Margaret.

John BROMWELL married Katherine (surname unknown) on 29 SEP 1620. They were two of my 9xgt-grandparents and they had six children, all baptised at Riseley.

William, baptised 15 APR 1621, married Ann HATFIELD on 15 APR 1645 at Harrold; he was buried on 04 SEP 1658;

Mary was baptised on 19 SEP 1624;

Elizabeth, baptised on 02 MAR 1627, married Henry BENNIT [sic] on 31 OCT 1655 at Thurleigh;

Ann was baptised on 27 MAR 1631;

John, one of my 8xgt-grandparents, was baptised on 23 NOV 1634. He married Katherine SPERRY on 07 JUL 1667 and their line is followed on page 24;

Their youngest child, **Thomas**, was born in 1637, baptised on 11 FEB 1638, and married Martha SMITH on 08 JAN 1668. They had two children. The NBI records the burial of a Thomas at Riseley on 23 APR 1731 and it is possible this is the same Thomas (but see above).

Katherine died and was buried on 03 SEP 1656.

¹ both these dates are from the IGI

G10 – BROMWELL family

John BROMWELL married Katherine SPERRY on 07 JUL 1667. She was the first of four children baptised by father John and mother Alice; the family is shown opposite.

John and Katherine had only two children that were baptised at Riseley. Katherine died and was buried at Riseley on 14 JUN 1697; John died in either 1702 or 1705¹.

The younger child, **Alice**, was baptised on 16 SEP 1672; no record of her marriage or burial has been found.

William, baptised about 1668, married Frances PETTY on 06 FEB 1689 at Oakley; they were two of my 7xgt-grandparents and the line continues on page 24.

G9 – BROMWELL family

William BROMWELL married Frances PETTY on 06 FEB 1689 at Oakley; they were two of my 7xgt-grandparents. Frances had been born in Riseley in about 1670: her mother was Dorothy, but her father's name is not recorded².

Three of their children were baptised at Riseley.

Thomas, the eldest child, was baptised on 24 SEP 1693³;

William, my direct ancestor, was baptised on 08 MAR 1696 and married Elizabeth COWLEY on 02 SEP 1720. The line continues on page 24.

The youngest child found so far, **Frances**, was baptised on 19 MAY 1700. A Frances BROMWELL married Jn (John) NUEL on 22 OCT 1716; if this was 'our' Frances then perhaps she had not been baptised as an infant.

William died aged only 35 and was buried on 20 JUN 1703, a little more than a year after his father, and when his third child was only three years old. Frances survived him by almost a quarter of a century; she was buried on 07 JAN 1728.

G8 – BROMWELL family

William BROMWELL married Elizabeth COWLEY on 02 OCT 1720. She had been born in about 1697 and baptised on 24 JUL 1698; her parents were William and Elizabeth. The Riseley register records just two children, and no others have been found within Bedfordshire.

William was baptised 12 JUL 1730.

John, baptised about 1733, was my direct ancestor. His story is continued on page 25.

It is likely that Elizabeth died in 1761; the NBI records a burial at Riseley on 30 APR 1761.

However, it is possible that this referred to another Elizabeth, the daughter of John BROMWELL, born only the previous year (although an infant death was often noted as such in the register); John was William's nephew, the son of his brother Thomas.

¹ the NBI shows two burials of a John BROMWELL at Riseley: 13 JAN 1702 and)\$ MAY 1705. Without further evidence it is not possible to say which of these applies to John, husband of Katherine

² IGI

³ see Appendix Thomas

G7 – BROMWELL family

John (1733-1774) and Sarah ROBINSON were married at Riseley on 11 OCT 1762: they were two of my 5xgt-grandparents. Sarah's parents were John ROBINSON and Mary ASPLAND. No record of their marriage has been found in the IGI; although there is a reference to the baptism of Edward APSLAND at Riseley on 07 MAY 1677, and the Riseley registers contain many references to this family.

John and Sarah had three children¹. NBI records show the burial of a John BROMWELL at Riseley on 03 JAN 1774, but this cannot be attributed unequivocally to this John.

James, baptised about 1765, was my direct ancestor. He married Elizabeth MARSHALL in 1796 and died in 1822. Their story continues on page 25.

Sarah was baptised on 24 JUN 1770; Martha on 10 JAN 1773.

G6 – BROMWELL family

James BROMWELL and Elizabeth MARSHALL were married on 18 JAN 1796 in Melchbourne²; this is the neighbouring village to the north, about three miles from Riseley, and is where Elizabeth had been born in about 1775. Her parents were Richard and Elizabeth; their marriage is not recorded in the IGI.

Betsy, one of my 4xgt-grandmothers, was baptised at Riseley on 21 NOV 1811³. The ancestral line continues on page 14.

The IGI shows three other children, siblings to Betsy:

John was baptised on 09 OCT 1796.

Elizabeth was baptised on 20 MAY 1798 and married Thomas WARREN on 25 DEC 1817, at Northampton St Sepulchre.

James was baptised on 16 FEB 1800.

It is likely that there were other children between James and Betsy, but none has been found in the Riseley register.

Elizabeth died and was buried, at Riseley, on 12 SEP 1820; James survived her by two years and was buried on 03 DEC 1822.

¹ the baptism dates for the three children are taken from the IGI

² IGI

³ IGI

G6 – TRASLER family

Very few records have been found of the TRASLER family, with the exception of the marriage of Ann TRESSLER to William BASS on 05 JUN 1825 at Harpole, Northamptonshire. A possible baptism for Ann has been found¹ on 04 JAN 1790. Her parents were William and Mary.

¹ Freereg.org.uk: baptism of Ann TRASLER 04 JAN 1790 NTH Harpole

Appendix 014O – Frank Edward BASS (1874 – 1943)

Frank Edward (the mysterious 'F. E.' of the census return) was born towards the end of 1873¹. His first wife was Selina GREEN, daughter of Frederick Walter, a grocer, and Charlotte. She had been born on 23 NOV 1872, and baptised just before her 18th birthday on 07 NOV 1890². At the time of her baptism the family address was 'The Market Place'. She and Frank married in 1897³, and they lived in Northampton⁴ not far from his brother and sister-in-law, George and Caroline. However, after only a few years Selina died at the age of 29⁵ and on 22 OCT 1903, less than two years later Frank married again⁶, this time to Mary DUMAYNE. She was a year younger than Frank⁷, the daughter of John and Sarah. This wedding took place at St Edmund, Northampton.

Frank and Mary lived at 59 Bostock Avenue in Northampton. They had one son, whose name at birth was registered as Frank Harold, but who appears in the 1911 census as Harold Frank.

Mary owned a car, and she was similar in temperament to Caroline, Frank's sister-in-law. The two ladies would go shopping together in Bedford, where apparently the shops were better than those in Northampton.

Frank died on 02 DEC 1943; his address at the time was 15 Park Avenue North, Northampton. He was 70⁸. Probate was granted to Barclays Bank Ltd. and his effects amounted to £24,171 11s 3d.

¹ ONS birth reference for Frank Edward BASS, Q4/1873, Northampton, 3b 57

² these dates and the address from the baptism register for St Giles, Northampton

³ ONS marriage reference for Frank Edward BASS and Selina GREEN, Q4/1897, Northampton, 3b 220

⁴ 1901 census for 2 Birchfield Road, Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton, RG13/1428 f172 p25

⁵ ONS death reference for Selina BASS aged 29, Q1/1902, Northampton, 3b 49

⁶ ONS marriage reference for Frank Edward BASS and Mary DUMAYNE, Q4/1903, Northampton, 3b 131

⁷ ONS birth reference for Mary DUMAYNE, Q3/1876, Northampton, 3b 68

⁸ ONS death reference for Frank E Bass aged 70, Q4/1943, Northampton, 3b 47; date of death from probate register

Appendix 028J – Hannah BASS (1826 – 1901)

Hannah was the first child and eldest daughter of William BASS and Anne TRASLER. She was born in Harpole, the same village as her mother, and baptised on 07 JUL 1826. She appears in the 1841 and 1851 census returns, living with her parents in Bath Street, Northampton.

In the will (below) of Hannah's brother William, dated 1888, she is one of the beneficiaries, and is named as Hannah REEVE. The ONS does not record the marriage of a Hannah BASS to anyone named REEVE between 1840 and 1890, which raises the possibility that Hannah's marriage to her Mr REEVE was a second marriage.

FindMyPast shows the marriage of a Hannah BASS in Q4/1859¹, when Hannah would have been 33, to Thomas ROBINSON, although all the parish registers within the Northampton registration district have been searched and this marriage has not been found.

The 1861 census shows Thomas and Hannah ROBINSON, ages 37 and 35 respectively, living at 42 Bath Street, Northampton St Sepulchre. The following census return, that for 1871, records Thomas and Hannah living at 26 St George's Street and sharing the house with William and Ann, Hannah's parents, who were by now aged 74 and 75. Ten years later Thomas and Hannah were still at the same address. No children from the marriage have been found.

FreeBMD records the death of Thomas ROBINSON, at the age of 59, in 1881².

One year later the marriage of Hannah ROBINSON and David REEVES was registered in Northampton³. David was some 13 years younger than Hannah, and the 1891 census shows him as employed by her. They were living at the same address, 26, in St George's Street. David died aged only 51 in 1895⁴.

Hannah's death was registered, in Northampton, in 1901⁵. She died in the workhouse.

028K	William BASS of 92 Colwyn Road (late High Street) Northampton, shoe manufacturer (formerly shoe manufacturer's foreman)...
028k	. . . to my wife Sarah BASS . . .
028	. . . my brother George BASS . . .
028J	. . . my three sisters Hannah REEVE,
028L	Mary FOX,
028M	Elizabeth MAJOR . . .
028I	. . . my brother-in-law William Henry FOX . . .

¹ ONS marriage as stated to Hannah BASS, Q4/1859, Northampton, 3b 218

² ONS death registration of Thomas ROBINSON, aged 59, Q3/1881, Northampton, 3b 89

³ ONS marriage of David REEVES and Hannah ROBINSON, Q4/1882, Northampton, 3b 177

⁴ ONS death registration of David REEVES, aged 51, Q3/1895, Northampton, 3b 41

⁵ ONS death registration of Hannah REEVES, aged 75, Q2/1901, Northampton, 3b 33

Appendix 028K – William BASS (1828 – 1888)

William was the second child and the eldest son of William and Anne, and was born about 1828. In 1851 he was a shoemaker¹ and living with his parents in Bath Street; ten years later the census records him living in Peckham (south London)² where he was a 'boot maker'. Presumably the move didn't give him the independence he was looking for, as by 1871 he was back in Northampton, now living with George and Betsy, his brother and sister-in-law, and their family³. He was still unmarried, at the age of 43.

The 1881 census records a William BASS and his wife Sarrath (presumably Sarah) living at High Street, Northampton Priory St Andrew⁴. There were no children.

He was then aged 54, and a 'marker (shoe)'. A few years later, on 17 MAR 1888, he made a will in which he mentions his wife Sarah and several of his siblings. The ONS records only one marriage of a William BASS to a Sarah between 1845 and 1881 in Northamptonshire; this was registered in Market Harborough district⁵ in 1880 and was of a 'William Needham BASS'. No other occurrence of 'Needham' has been found. If this is not the right one then it is possible that William and Sarah were never legally married.

He died a couple of months later on 13 MAY 1888 leaving an estate of £943 19s 1d. The will gives his address as '92 Colwyn Road (late High Street)', and this was the address where Sarah was living in 1891⁶. The census return for that year shows her as 'living on own means', although she had taken in a lodger, so presumably William's money had lasted. The Post Office Directory for 1890 shows a William Bass at 92 Colwyn Road. As William's will does not mention any children, it is probable that the Directory simply wasn't kept up to date properly.

¹ 1851 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/1739 f504 p25

² 1861 census return for 4 Acorn Terrace, Peckham, Camberwell, Surrey, RG9/384 f61 p21

³ 1871 census return for 12 Princess Street, Northampton, RG10/1482 f122 p81

⁴ 1881 census return for High Street, Northampton Priory St Andrew, RG11/1550 f101 p30

⁵ ONS marriage reference for William Needham BASS and Sarah Jenkins LEACH, Q2/1880, Mkt Harboro, 7a 41

⁶ 1891 census return for 92 Colwyn Road, Northampton, RG12/1199 f27

Appendix 028L – Mary BASS (1830 – ?)

Mary, the second daughter of William and Ann, was born about 1830. The 1851 census return of that year shows Mary as unmarried and living with her parents in Bath Street, Northampton.

In 1857 she married William Henry FOX¹, probably the son of William FOX; William senior had been born in Bedford in 1803 and was shown in the 1851 census return at Bath Street² earning a living as a shoemaker. The 1861 census return shows William and Mary, with daughter Mary, at 32 Lower Mounts³, but in both the 1871⁴ and 1881⁵ census returns William Henry and Mary were living at 36 Lower Mounts, with William a 'solicitor's managing clerk'. They had at least four children: Mary M, Jane A, Elizabeth E and Gertrude (in the 1871 census return 'Elizabeth' appears as 'Esther').

They were still at the same address in 1891⁶; with them was a 'boarder', Henry FOX, who was 91. This was perhaps an uncle, although no relationship is given. Ten years further on, in 1901⁷, they had changed address, but only by about a quarter of a mile. On census night their youngest daughter Gertrude, still unmarried at the age of 32, was with them, as was their second daughter Jane EVERITT and her three daughters Dorothy, Eleanor and Florence.

William died aged 75 in 1905⁸, and some time after this Mary moved to live with her daughter Jane in Edmonton, where she appears in the 1911 census return⁹ before dying in 1914¹⁰ at the age of 73.

Mary Morton (1858 – ?)

028LA

Mary was born in 1858¹¹. In 1889¹² she married George SIMMONS, a coach builder. However, the 1891 census return, two years later, shows Mary and George living in Waterloo (a northern suburb of Liverpool)¹³ with three children, the eldest aged 10. That this is the right family is confirmed by George being a coach builder, both George and Mary having been born in Northampton, and Mary's sister Gertrude FOX living with them. Mary's age is shown as 32, giving additional confirmation.

The address was the same ten years later, in 1901¹⁴; by this time another daughter, Gladys, had been born. The 1911 census return¹⁵ shows the family still in the same house, but reveals that there were eleven rooms, showing that the family was very well-to-do. The form

¹ ONS marriage for William Henry FOX and Mary BASS, Q4/1857, Northampton, 3b 190

² 1851 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/1739 f500

³ 1861 census return for 32 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG9/937 f14 p28

⁴ 1871 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG10/1484 f52-54

⁵ 1881 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG11/1548 f22

⁶ 1891 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG12/1197 f38 p30

⁷ 1901 census reference for 8 Pytchley Street, Northampton St Giles, RG13/1424 f45 p41

⁸ ONS death reference for William Henry FOX, Q2/1905, Northampton, 3b 28

⁹ 1911 census return for 19 Bulwer Road, Upper Edmonton, MDX, RG14/7361 ED11 SN144

¹⁰ ONS death reference for Mary FOX aged 84, Q1/1914, Edmonton, 3a 656

¹¹ ONS birth reference for Mary Morton FOX, Q2/1858, Northampton, 3b 62

¹² ONS marriage reference for George SIMMONS and Mary Morton FOX, Q2/1889, Northampton, 3b 103

¹³ 1891 census return for 24 Norma Road, Waterloo, Lancashire, RG12/2982 f118 p52

¹⁴ 1901 census return for 24 Norma Road, Waterloo, Lancashire, RG13/3445 f75 p42

¹⁵ 1911 census return for 24 Norma Road, Waterloo, Lancashire, RG14/22311 ED12 SN169

shows that only two children had been born to the marriage – possibly George misunderstood, and entered the number of children still living at home.

No conclusive death has been found for Mary.

Jane Ann (1863 – ?)

028LB

Jane's birth was registered in Northampton in 1863¹. She married Edward EVERITT in 1885²; they had at least three children. The family hasn't been found in the 1891 census but in 1901³ Jane was staying or living with her parents in Pytchley Street. With her were the three children from her marriage: Dorothy (1887), Eleanor (1888) and Florence (1890). Gertrude, Jane's sister, was also in the house.

By 1911⁴, ten years later, Ann and Edward (plus the three daughters) were living in Upper Edmonton. Edward was a 'leather bag cutter', while Dorothy and Florence were both working in the printing industry where Florence was an 'acrograph artist'⁵. Jane's mother Mary, by this time a widow, was living with them.

Elizabeth Esther (1866 – ?)

028LC

Elizabeth (shown as Esther in the 1871 census return) was registered as 'Eliza' on her birth in 1866⁶. She married Franklin Hyde CARTER in 1889⁷. He was a commercial traveller, from Bristol. By 1891⁸ they were living in Abington Avenue with a one-year-old daughter Gwendoline; Franklin was a 'commercial traveller'.

Ten years later they were at the same address⁹, and son Franklin (1892) and daughter Georgiana (1893) had been added to the family. Franklin (father) was a 'traveller' in the leather trade. By 1911 they had moved to Bailiff Street and Franklin was a shopkeeper. The three children were still living at home.

Franklin died in 1930, aged 70¹⁰; no conclusive death for Elizabeth has been found.

Gertrude (1868 – ?)

028LD

Gertrude was born in 1868¹¹. She has been traced in each census return.

In 1871¹² and 1881¹³, aged 2 and 12 respectively, she was living with her parents. By 1891¹⁴ she was either living with or staying with her sister Mary and her family in Waterloo, near Liverpool, but ten years later she had returned to Northampton to live once again with her parents, who were also providing a home for sister Jane and her three children.

¹ ONS birth reference for Jane Ann FOX, Q2/1863, Northampton, 3b 62

² ONS marriage reference for Edward EVERITT and Jane Ann FOX, Q3/1885, Northampton, 3b 157

³ 1901 census return for 8 Pytchley Street, Northampton, RG13/1424 f45 p41

⁴ 1911 census return for 19 Bulwer Road, Upper Edmonton, MDX, RG14/7361 ED11 SN144

⁵ Acrography, also known as gypsographic printing, uses a plaster engraving made from a mould

⁶ ONS birth reference for Eliza FOX, Q1/1866, Northampton, 3b 90

⁷ ONS marriage reference for Franklin Hyde CARTER and Elizabeth Esther FOX, Q1/1889, Northampton, 3b 110

⁸ 1891 census return for 128 Abington Avenue, Northampton, RG12/1199 f92 p38

⁹ 1901 census return for 128 Abington Avenue, Northampton, RG13/1422 f55 p14

¹⁰ ONS death reference for Franklin H CARTER aged 70, Q3/1930, Northampton, 3b 34

¹¹ ONS birth reference for Gertrude FOX, Q3/1868, Northampton, 3b 72

¹² 1871 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG10/1484 f53 p39

¹³ 1881 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG11/1548 f22

¹⁴ 1891 census return for 2 Norma Road, Waterloo, Liverpool, RG12/2982 f118 p52

The 1911 census return contains an entry for Gertrude FOX, aged 42, single, a housekeeper, born in Northamptonshire¹. This probably is 'my' Gertrude, as there is no other likely entry, but she was living at West Kirby, in Cheshire. If this is indeed the right Gertrude then perhaps she found employment through a contact of Mary and her husband George; somewhat strangely the census form (Gertrude is the sole entry at the address) is annotated 'British subject by parentage'.

No marriage has been found, neither has a conclusive death been established.

¹ 1911 census return for 18 Princes Avenue, West Kirby, RG14/21953 f12 p263

Appendix 029M – George BASS (1838 – 1917)

George was born on 22 SEP 1838¹, the first child of George BASS and Betsy (nee BROMWELL). In 1871, aged 32, he was a 'watchmaker and optician', and living with his parents at 12 Market Square². Five years later, at the age of 38³, he married Annie DARLOW. She had been born in London, about 1844; there are two possibilities for her birth⁴.

In the 1881 census return⁵ they, together with their two children⁶ (Thomas, 1879, and Annie, 1881), were living in the house at 59 Sheep Street formerly occupied by his father George who had died three years earlier. George was by now described as a 'watch and clock maker'. The family remained at this address until at least 1901⁷; the census of this year shows son George as a 'plumber's apprentice' (he also appears, as a scholar, in the 1891 census return⁸).

The census return for 1911⁹ shows that they had moved to Langham Place; just George and Annie, together with son George, were living there although they were now employing a servant.

Langham Place was the address at which George died on 06 SEP 1917, aged 78¹⁰. The death certificate shows his profession as 'retired watchmaker and jeweller (master)', and the cause of death as 'senile decay'; the death was registered by son Thomas, of 26 Colwyn Road.

His will, signed on 06 OCT 1914, lists no fewer than 28 houses! Extracts are shown. Probate was granted on 21 DEC 1917.

George BASS, 11 Langham Place, Gentleman...

. . . my wife Annie BASS . . . my sons Thomas BASS and George BASS. . .

. . . my three houses in Kingsley Road, my five houses in Kingsley Gardens, my house in Langham Place . . .

. . . my five houses in Lower Thrift Street, my house in Upper Thrift Street, my house in Hester Street . . .

. . . my six houses in Letts Road Far Catton, my two houses in St George's Place, my two houses in Sheep Street with the shops and warehouses adjoining or near thereto and my houses in Semilong Road . . .

. . . my daughter Annie Tompkins . . .

Signed 06 OCT 1914; a codicil written 23 DEC 1914 mentions

. . . *George and Annie as tenants-in-common . . . {the house at} 26 Colwyn Road (occupied by Thomas) . . . {the house at} 93 Colwyn Road (occupied by John T. Farrell) . . .*

Probate was granted on 21 DEC 1917

¹ ONS birth reference for George BASS, Q3/1838, Northampton, 15 285

² 1871 census return for 12 Market Square, Northampton, RG10/1487 f126 p5

³ ONS marriage reference for George BASS and Annie DARLOW. Q4/1876, Northampton, 3b 198

⁴ ONS birth reference for Ann Martha DARLOW, Q2/1844, St Luke's, 2 270 or Ann DARLOW, Q4/1844, Clerkenwell, 3 89

⁵ 1881 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG11/1545 ED11 f14

⁶ ONS birth references (both Northampton) for Thomas BASS, Q1/1879, 3b 57 and Annie BASS, Q1/1881, 3b 58

⁷ 1901 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG13/1425 f54

⁸ 1891 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG12/1195 f65

⁹ 1911 census return for 11 Langham Place, Northampton, RG14/8389 ED1 SN74

¹⁰ death certificate

The will indicates that their daughter Annie later became Mrs Tompkins: in fact she married Edgar TOMPKINS¹ in 1900, when she was only 19.

Annie (George's widow) died aged 85 in 1930².

Thomas, the first son, married Florence in 1902³. By 1911 they were living at 26 Colwyn Road (this was one of the houses referred to in George's will). They had one son, who was aged 7, and living with them was a spinster aunt of Florence's. A likely death for Thomas was in 1930, at the early age of 51⁴.

The second child, **Annie**, married Edgar TOMPKINS in 1900 and by the time of the census the following year they were living in Kingsthorpe⁵, a suburb of Northampton. Edgar, about five years older than Annie, was a baker and came from Finedon. They had no children, but did have a female servant – shown as a journeyman baker! From the 1911 census⁶ we learn that Edgar had a second name, Oscar. By this time they had three daughters and one son – and again one servant, this time male, again a journeyman baker. On 02 FEB 1915 Edgar enlisted in the Army at Aldershot, to serve 'for the duration'; the address he gave was High Street, Broughton. The enlistment form shows that he was not willing to be vaccinated. He joined the Army Service Corps and was posted to Salonica on 28 DEC 1915, but returned on 20 OCT 1916 when he was discharged as being 'no longer physically fit for war service'; the address then given was 8 Burns Street, Northampton

George became a plumber's apprentice and later a plumber; he was still living with his parents in 1911.

¹ ONS marriage reference for Edgar Oscar TOMPKINS and Annie BASS, Q4/1900, Northampton, 3b 172

² ONS death reference for Annie BASS aged 85, Q1/1930, Northampton, 3b 90

³ ONS marriage reference for Thomas BASS and Florence Nellie FOSTER, Q3/1902, Northampton, 3b 187

⁴ ONS death reference for Thomas BASS aged 51, Q4/1930, Northampton, 3b 76

⁵ 1901 census return for 12 Semilong Road, Kingsthorpe, Northampton, RG13/1427 f74 p38

⁶ 1911 census return for 5 Augustin Street, Northampton, RG14/8424 ED 2 SN 212

Appendix 056N – Elizabeth BASS (1798 – c1864)

Elizabeth was baptised on 01 JUL 1798 and the two census returns in which she is listed confirms this as her YoB. On 08 NOV 1824 she married George MOORE, a shepherd, at Raunds¹; he seems to have worked at Elton, in Huntingdonshire, although the 1841 census return states that he was not a native of that county. This village is only just across the Northamptonshire border and is about 16 miles north-east of Raunds.

They appear to have lived in Elton following their marriage and had, in all, just three children². The 1841 census return³ shows the family at an address in Town Street, Elton; George was an 'ag lab'. Sharing the house with them were another 'ag lab' and an iron moulder.

George died in 1847⁴; the 1851 census return shows Elizabeth as a widow⁵ and the 'occupation' column records her as a 'shepherd's widow'. In the census taken ten years later Elizabeth was a schoolmistress⁶; with her were the two younger children, George (aged 26 and a shepherd) and Mary (23, a teacher). Elizabeth died in either 1863 or 1865⁷.

¹ Raunds marriage register, p48

² Samuel (1831), George (1835) and Mary Ann (1838)

³ 1841 census return for Town Street, Elton, HO107/452 f6/9 p11

⁴ ONS death reference for George MOORE, Q4/1847, Oundle, 15 206

⁵ 1851 census for Elton, Huntingdonshire, HO107/1746 f568

⁶ 1861 census, RG9/963 f177 p28, Beulah Place

⁷ ONS death reference for Elizabeth MOORE, Oundle, either Q4/1863 3b 131 or Q3/1865 3b 134

Appendix 056O – Robert BASS (1800 – 1884)

Robert, the third child and second son of William and Elizabeth, was baptised at Raunds on 23 JUN 1805, along with John and Hannah. From the various census returns in which he appears he had been born in about 1800.

He married Sarah COLES on Christmas Day 1833. They had one son, George, who was baptised on 06 JUL 1834¹.

Sarah died aged only 27 and was buried on 21 JUL 1835, just eighteen months after her marriage. Some eight years later, on 07 MAY 1843², Robert married again, to Mary STEVENS, who came from Rushden and was about six years younger than Robert.

The 1851 census return shows them living in Marchants Lane, Raunds³, with three children of their own⁴, as well as George, Robert's son from his first marriage. Thomas, Robert's younger brother, was living with them and was a watchmaker; they were also providing a home for a younger Robert, the son of Joseph and Jane (Joseph was the youngest son of William and Elizabeth, and brother to both Robert and Thomas).

In 1861 they were living in Raunds⁵ (the census return gives no further address) with children George, Sarah and Joseph. The whole family, apart from Mary, worked in the shoe trade. Thomas BASS, aged 48, was still lodging with them. Their immediate neighbours were Jane, the widow of Robert's younger brother Joseph, and five of her six children.

The 1871 census shows Robert still living in Raunds⁶, in Brook Street, with wife Mary and brother Thomas. Jane was still living next door.

In 1881 Robert and Mary were living at the same address⁷ as ten years earlier, still with Thomas, and perhaps not far from Robert's son George by his first marriage. Thomas was still a watchmaker, although he is described as 'lodger' and not 'brother'. Mary was here shown as having been born in Raunds, although the 1851 and 1861 censuses showed her birthplace as Rushden.

Robert died in 1884 at the age of 84⁸, confirming his year of birth as 1800. The churchyard at Raunds contains a gravestone bearing the inscription 'In Affectionate Remembrance of ROBERT BASS died 12 NOV 1884 aged 84'.

His widow Mary lived a further 14 years and moved in with her daughter Sarah and her husband Harris (see below) to live at Bythorn, Huntingdonshire⁹; Mary died in 1898¹⁰. Bythorn, now in Cambridgeshire, is about six miles north-east of Raunds.

George (1834 – 1896)

056OA

George, baptised on 06 JUL 1834, later became a grocer and draper, and on 06 SEP 1870¹¹ married Margaret SMITH, herself a draper and daughter of John Smith, a lace dealer. She

¹ IGI

² Raunds marriage register, p46

³ 1851 census for Marchant's Lane, Raunds, HO107/1745 f296b

⁴ Sarah (1843), Robert Stevens (1845), Joseph (1848)

⁵ 1861 census return for Raunds (no further address given), RG9/960 f164 p38

⁶ 1871 census return for 5 Brook Street, RG10/1509 f159 p7

⁷ 1881 census return for Brook Street, Raunds, RG11/1583 f78 p15

⁸ ONS death reference for Robert BASS aged 84, Q4/1884, Thrapston, 3b 122

⁹ 1891 census return for Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG12/1221 f131 p10

¹⁰ FreeBMD for Mary BASS aged 92, 3/1898, Thrapston, 3b 126

¹¹ Raunds marriage register, p1

had been born on 21 APR 1835¹. In 1871 they were living in Brook Street, Raunds². They appear to have had no children. George died on 02 OCT 1896 and was buried in Raunds churchyard³; in 1903 Margaret married a first cousin of her late husband (another George, my 2xgt-grandfather – see page 17). She survived her first husband by some 25 years, dying on 07 OCT 1921, and was also buried in Raunds Methodist churchyard⁴.

Sarah (1843 – 1900)

056OB

Sarah was born towards the end of 1843⁵. On 27 NOV 1865⁶, at the age of 23, she married Harris NUNLEY at Raunds; Joseph and George BASS, presumably her brother and stepbrother, were the witnesses.

Harris was a shoemaker and had been previously married. His father William, who had been a labourer, had died before 1851⁷: in that year his family were living in Thorp End, Raunds, with mother Sarah and children Sarah Ann (1836), Eunice (1838), William (1840) and Harris (1841). The two daughters were employed as 'horse hair tyers' [sic] while Sarah was a charwoman. Their father had possibly been a brother of Joseph NUNLEY, whose daughter Sarah married Sarah Bass's cousin John).

At about the same time one of Sarah's first cousins, another Sarah BASS, married Thomas HALL.

The 1861 census return shows Sarah, aged 17 and a 'shoe binder', living in Raunds with her parents Robert and Mary.

Sarah and Harris had at least six children. By the time the 1871 census return was taken⁸ they had been married a little over five years and had two children – Robert, aged 4, and Sarah aged 8 months. Harris was a 'shoemaker' while Sarah was a 'cloth boot closer'. In 1881⁹ they were still living in Raunds with the five eldest children. Harris and Robert William, the elder son, were 'shoe riveters'.

Ten years later, in 1891¹⁰, the family had moved to Huntingdon, to the village of Bythorn. Annie and Mary, the two youngest children, were still with their parents who were also providing a home for Comfort GROSS, shown as an aunt of Harris's, and Mary BASS, Sarah's widowed mother. Harris was by now a 'grocer and newsagent'.

Sarah died in 1900 at the age of 56¹¹; Harris remained in Bythorn and the 1901 census shows him living with daughter Annie next door to Sarah's brother Joseph and his second wife (see next page). He later moved to Wiltshire and survived Sarah by 16 years, dying at the age of 75 in 1916¹². His death was registered in Chippenham.

¹ IGI

² 1871 census for 10 Brook Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f159 p8

³ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist Church, Raunds

⁴ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist Church, Raunds

⁵ ONS birth reference for Sarah BASS, Q4/1843, Thrapstone, 15 369

⁶ Raunds marriage register, p219 and ONS marriage reference for Harris NUNLEY and Sarah BASS, Q4/1865, Thrapstone, 3b 414

⁷ 1851 census return for Thorp End, Raunds, HO107/145, f308

⁸ 1871 census return for Raunds, RG10/1509 f131 p9

⁹ 1881 census return for Arnsby's Hill, Raunds, RG11/1583 f46 p13

¹⁰ 1891 census return for Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG12/1221 f131 p2

¹¹ ONS death reference for Sarah NUNLEY aged 56, Q3/1900, Thrapston, 3b 109

¹² ONS death reference for Harris NUNLEY aged 75, Q2/1916, Chippenham, 5a 72

Robert Stevens (1845 – 1852)

0560C

Robert and Mary's first son, Robert, was born in 1845¹ and died in 1852².

Joseph (1848 – 1912)

0560D

Joseph was the third child of Robert and Mary. He was born towards the beginning of 1848³ although it seems that his birth was never registered. Towards the end of 1868⁴ he married Tryphena CURTIS. She was about six years older than Joseph – her birth was registered in Northampton in 1842⁵, although the census returns in which she appears show her age based on a year of birth of about 1846 – and had been born in Chelveston, another small village just a couple of miles from Raunds.

For many years they lived in Blind Street, Stanwick⁶, the next village to Raunds and only about a mile away. In 1871 Joseph was a shoemaker, as he had been while living with his parents, but ten years later he was shown as a draper and grocer.

The 1891 census return⁷ shows, surprisingly, that Joseph and Tryphena had moved to Layton with Warbreck. This is a township in Bispham parish, Lancashire, and it contains the town of Blackpool; it is some 170 miles from Stanwick. Joseph was a salesman and presumably some connection with his job had necessitated the move. None of the census entries show any children.

Tryphena died in 1895⁸ at the age of 49, still in the Blackpool area. For some reason Joseph moved to Rugby during the next few years, where he married Alice HOLDING in 1899⁹. Two years later Joseph and Alice are recorded in the 1901¹⁰ census return at Bythorn, in Huntingdonshire, where once again Joseph was a shoemaker – perhaps they returned to this area to be near his widowed brother-in-law Harris NUNLEY. Whether this was the reason or not, by 1911 he had returned to Raunds, where he and Alice were living in Wellington Road¹¹.

Joseph died aged 64¹² in 1912. Rather strangely, his death was registered in Derby. However, Alice returned to Raunds, where she died in 1919 at the age of 58¹³.

¹ ONS birth reference for Robert Stephens BASS, Q4/1845, Thrapstone, 15 349

² ONS death reference for Robert Stevens BASS, Q4/1852, Thrapston, 3b 112

³ ONS birth reference for Joseph BASS, Q1/1848, Thrapston, 15 372

⁴ ONS marriage reference for Joseph BASS and Tryphena Elizabeth CURTIS, Q4/1868, Thrapston, 3b 431

⁵ ONS birth reference for Tryphena CURTIS, Q2/1842, Northampton, 15 294

⁶ 1871 and 1881 census returns for Blind Street, Stanwick; RG10/1509 056OD and RG11/1582 f46 p13

⁷ 1891 census return for 12 Hyde Road, Layton with Warbreck, LAN, RG12/3455 f37 p15

⁸ ONS death reference for Tryphena Elizabeth BASS aged 49, Q2/1895, Fylde, 8e 512

⁹ ONS marriage reference for Joseph BASS and Alice Eliza HOLDING, Q3/1899, Rugby, 6d 1099

¹⁰ 1901 census return for White Hart, Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG13/1453 p1

¹¹ 1911 census return for Wellington Road, Raunds, RG14/8620 ED6 SN350

¹² ONS death reference for Joseph BASS aged 64, Q1/1912, Derby, 7b 720

¹³ ONS death reference for Alice E BASS aged 58, Q3/1919, Thrapston, 3b 162

Appendix 056Q – John BASS (1805 – 1882)

John BASS, baptised on 23 JUN 1805 along with Elizabeth, Robert and Hannah, was the fifth child and third son of William and Elizabeth. The various census returns indicate a year of birth of 1805 and this perhaps prompted the baptisms of the others!

He married Emma PENN at Northampton St Sepulchre on 21 MAY 1832. By 1841 they were living in Scarletwell Street, Northampton¹ and they were at the same address for the next three census dates^{2,3,4}. They had three children, all boys⁵, although Samuel appears only in the 1841 census and died early in 1842⁶.

In each census the men were all shown as 'shoemakers' while Emma was a 'shoe binder'. Emma died towards the beginning of 1880⁷ and the 1881 census shows John, a widower, in the Northampton workhouse⁸. He died early in the following year⁹.

John (1834 – 1911)

056QA

John was born in about 1834 (as shown in the various census returns). Towards the beginning of 1860¹⁰ he married Mary Ann Walter HILL, who was also from Northampton; she was about eight years younger than he. They started their married life in Harding Terrace¹¹ but had moved to Laurence Street by 1871¹², where they were living with three children and a servant. Their eldest child, Emma, was born in 1860 but died in 1864¹³. They had eight children in all.

Some time after 1871 they moved to Bailiff Street, where they remained for many years – they are recorded there in the 1881¹⁴ and 1891¹⁵ census returns. This is less than half a mile from Harding Terrace. Throughout all this time the male members of the family were all employed in the shoe trade, while Ellen and Amy were schoolteachers. By the time of the 1901 census¹⁶ they had moved again, to Adams Avenue, further to the east.

John died in 1911¹⁷ at the age of 77; Mary survived him for a further 11 years and died aged 80 in 1922.

A march was organised from Raunds to London in 1905, following much strike action because of dissatisfaction with wage levels. It started on Monday 8th May with 115 marchers, an eleven-strong band and a cycle corps of three. Among the marchers was Frank BASS, the

¹ 1841 census for Scarletwell Street, Northampton, HO107/814/12 f10 p12

² 1851 census for Scarlet Well Street, Northampton, HO107/1739 f480

³ 1861 census for 87 Scarletwell Street, Northampton, HO108/936 f46

⁴ 1871 census for 87 Scarlet Well Street, Northampton, RG10/1480 f62 p11

⁵ John (1834), William (1838), Samuel (1841)

⁶ ONS death reference for Samuel BASS, Q1/1842, Northampton, 15 237

⁷ ONS death reference for Emma BASS aged 73, Q1/1880, Northampton 3b 40

⁸ 1881 census for Northampton Union workhouse, RG11/1550 f137 p14

⁹ John BASS aged 76, Q1/1882, Northampton, 3b 34

¹⁰ ONS marriage reference for John BASS and Mary Ann Walter HILL, Q1/1860, Northampton, 3b 136

¹¹ 1861 census return for 42 Harding Terrace, Northampton, RG9/937 f104 p14

¹² 1871 census return for 54 Laurence Street, Northampton, RG10/1482 f74 p43

¹³ ONS death reference for Emma BASS, Q3/1864, Northampton, 3b 48

¹⁴ 1881 census return for 52 Bailiff Street, Northampton, RG11/1546 f54 p52

¹⁵ 1891 census return for 52 Bailiff Street, Northampton, RG12/1196 f5 p3

¹⁶ 1901 census return for 76 Adams Avenue, Northampton, RG13/1423 f11 p13

¹⁷ ONS death reference for John BASS aged 77, Q3/1911, Northampton, 3b 68

youngest of John and Mary's children, and second cousin to my great-grandfather, George Henry. One of the cycle corps was a J. BASS, but no age is given; this could easily have been John, Frank's elder brother, but there are several other possibilities.

William [056QAB] was the second child, born on 20 APR 1864¹. He lived with his parents, John and Mary Ann, at 52 Bailiff Street until his marriage, on 05 NOV 1893, to Elizabeth Constance DUDLEY at St Laurence, Northampton. Their first home was at 97 Oliver Street, Kingsthorpe², about 1½ miles from Bailiff Street, from where their first child Constance Mary was baptised (at St Matthew) on 13 MAY 1894. For some reason they had moved two houses along the road, to 93, by the time Frank William was baptised on 16 OCT 1898. Sometime between the censuses of 1901³ and 1911⁴ the family moved to Norwich, to live at 21 Caernarvon Road. The 1939 Register then shows them at 165 Percy Road, Twickenham; by this time Frank had left home and was presumably in the Services. William died in October 1948.

Frank [056QAH] was the youngest child born to John and Mary Ann; he was baptised at St Sepulchre, Northampton, on 28 MAR 1880⁵, and the register records that he had been born in June the previous year. Father John was a 'machiner top closer'. Frank married Ethel Maud TEBBUTT at

William, the second child of John and Emma, was born in about 1838, although it seems that his birth was never officially registered⁶. He was still living with his parents in 1871, by which time he was 33, but the following year he married Mary Emma KNIGHTON on 29 AUG 1872⁷; she had been born towards the end of 1848⁸.

Mary died less than four years later on 13 JUN 1876⁹ and was buried in Raunds churchyard; no children have been found.

William has not been found in the 1881 census; in 1891¹⁰ he was a resident in the 'Rising Sun Lodging House', where he was shown as a 'newsagent'. He died later the same year¹¹ aged 53.

Samuel (1841-42) 056QC

Samuel, the third child of John and Emma, was born in early 1841 and died less than a year later¹².

¹ from the 1939 Register

² baptism register for St Matthew, Northampton

³ 1901 census for 93 Oliver Street, Northampton, RG13/1428 f108 p33

⁴ 1911 census for 21 Caernarvon Road, Norwich, RG14/11309 ED20 SN42

⁵ baptism register for St Sepulchre, page 310

⁶ there are no birth registrations of a William BASS in Northamptonshire before Q3/1843

⁷ Raunds marriage register, p19

⁸ ONS birth reference for Mary Emma KNIGHTON, 4/1848, Thrapston, 15 347

⁹ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist Church, Raunds

¹⁰ 1891 census reference for 52 Broad Street, Northampton, RG12/1195 f82 p17

¹¹ ONS death reference for William BASS aged 53, Q2/1891, Northampton, 3b 54

¹² ONS birth and death references for Samuel BASS, both Northampton, Q2/1841, 15 294 and Q1/1842, 15 237

Appendix 056R – Samuel BASS (1808 – 1879)

Samuel was baptised (at Raunds) on the same day, 03 NOV 1811¹, as George, his younger brother, but he had been born three years earlier.

In 1832 he married Mary ODELL² in her village of Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire – this is about 13 miles south of Raunds – and they settled in the village. She had been baptised on either 20 MAY 1807 or 26 MAY 1807³, the daughter of James and Margaret.

In the 1841 census⁴ Samuel was a blacksmith (perhaps *the* village blacksmith). With him and Mary were their four children⁵; all had been born in the village. They were living in the High Street.

The 1851 census⁶ shows them at the same address. Mary and Susannah, the eldest child, were shown as lace makers, while George was a labourer. Sarah was staying with her aunt and uncle at Riseley⁷, five miles to the north. These were Edward MILLARD and Sarah (nee ODELL) who had been married in 1847 in Bedford⁸.

Ten years later, in 1861⁹, the address was 'Fleuton End'. With Samuel and Mary were Susannah (aged 27 and listed as an invalid) and Sarah (22, a lace maker).

A further ten years on the family were still in the same place¹⁰: Samuel, still a blacksmith, was described as '1 year paralytic' [sic], and Susannah was described as '18 years invalid'. A nine-year-old niece Caroline is listed. Her surname is hard to read and appears to be STENNOR, but as she was born in Milton Ernest she was probably from Mary's side of the family.

Samuel died towards the end of 1879¹¹. Two years later Mary, by now living in No. 4 Almshouse in the village¹², was still living with Susan(nah) who is shown as having a 'diseased spine – 27 years'. Also with them is Jesse BAY, described as 'grand-daughter' and aged 9. She had been born in Limehouse. Mary died very soon after the census had been taken in 1881 at the age of 74¹³.

Susannah (1834 – 1902)

056RA

Susannah was the first child of Samuel and Mary. By the age of 17, in 1851¹⁴, she was a lacemaker living at home in Milton Ernest with her parents and siblings George and Hannah. She appears never to have moved away as each census return (for references see her parents, above) shows her living with them: by 1861 she was shown as an invalid and ten years later the census in 1871¹⁵ records her as having been an invalid for 18 years – that is, since 1853, when she was 19. Whether this was caused by an accident or ill-health I am not likely to discover.

¹ Raunds baptism register

² IGI marriage reference for Samuel BASS and Mary ODELL, 09 JUL 1832, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire

³ IGI reference to baptism of Mary ODELL, of James and Margaret, 20 or 26 MAY 1807, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire

⁴ 1841 census for High Street, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, HO107/7/9 f9 p12

⁵ Susannah (1834), George (1835), Sarah (1839), Hannah (1841)

⁶ 1851 census for High Street, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, HO1071751 f11

⁷ 1851 census return for Princes Street, Riseley, Bedfordshire, HO107/1751 f553 p26

⁸ IGI reference to marriage of Edward MILLARD and Sarah ODELL, 28 MAR 1847, St Peter, Bedford

⁹ 1861 census for Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, RG9/986, f50 p2

¹⁰ 1871 census for Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, RG10/1588 (or 1533) f54 p3

¹¹ Samuel BASS aged 72, 4/1879, Bedford, 3b 214

¹² 1881 census for No. 4 Almshouse, Milton Ernest, RG11/1615 f48 p3

¹³ ONS death reference for Mary BASS aged 74, Q2/1881, Bedford, 3b 185

¹⁴ 1851 census return for High Street, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, HO1071751 f11

¹⁵ Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, RG10/1588 (or 1533) f54 p3

In 1881, by which time she was living with her widowed mother Mary in one of the village almshouses, she is recorded as having a 'diseased spine 27 years'. She was 47 by this time. Mary died shortly after the census was taken; perhaps Susannah was no longer entitled to live there, perhaps she chose to move – whatever the reason, by the time the census was taken in 1891¹ she was living alone but in Northampton. Ten years later² she was living with her younger sister Sarah and her husband. Only a year later, in 1902, she died at the age of 69³.

George (1835 – 1911)

056RB

George was born in about 1835. By the age of 16 he was a labourer, and living with his parents in Milton Ernest.

In 1856⁴ he married Emma LAMB, who was a couple of years older than he and from Souldrop, a delightfully-named village halfway between Milton Ernest and Rushden. They had only one child, George Thomas, born in 1860⁵. The census of the following year⁶ shows the family living in Bedford, where George was a labourer.

Ten years later, in 1871⁷, he was employed as a 'striker in iron works'; the family had moved, but was still in Bedford. Many of his neighbours were also employed in the iron works. Later he became a 'blacksmith striker', although the 1881 census⁸ does not state whether this was within the iron works. The family had moved less than a quarter of a mile, with George Thomas still at home; he was shown as a printer. By 1891⁹ father George was a 'blacksmith's hammerman': their address had changed again, still within Bedford but a couple of miles to the southwest.

By 1901¹⁰ both George and Emma were in their mid-60s. George had apparently retired as his occupation was shown as 'living on own means'; they had once again moved house but this time just along the road, from number 29 to number 77.

The census return for 1911¹¹ shows George living alone, as a widower; he had moved house to Russell Street. He died later the same year aged 76¹². The only death of an Emma BASS registered within Bedfordshire between 1900 and 1930 is one that was registered in 1904¹³, but this gives Emma's age as 81, ten years too old. However, this is likely to be the correct one.

George Thomas became a printer. At the age of 20, in 1881¹⁴, he was still living with his parents but seven years later he married Mary HIBBERD in 1888¹⁵. They had at least two children. In 1891 he was a compositor and the family had moved to Stoke

¹ 1891 census return for 47 Somerset Street, Northampton, RG12/1198 f150 p37

² 1901 census return for 29 Bearwood Street, Northampton St Sepulchre, RG13/1425 f33 p7

³ ONS death reference for Susannah BASS, Q4/1902, Northampton, 3b 39

⁴ ONS marriage reference for George BASS and Emma LAMB, Q1/1856, Bedford, 3b 449

⁵ ONS birth reference for George Thomas BASS, Q2/1860, Bedford, 3b 326

⁶ 1861 census return for 15 Derby Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG9/989 f93 p18

⁷ 1871 census return for 24 Holme Street, Bedford & Cardington, RG10/1543 f10 p11

⁸ 1881 census return for 42 Pilcroft Street West, Bedford, RG11/1622 f39 p31

⁹ 1891 census return for 29 Stanley Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG12/1249, f66 p38

¹⁰ 1901 census return for 77 Stanley Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG13/1489 f112 p5

¹¹ 1911 census return for 5 Russell Street, Bedford, RG14/8851 ED14 SN85

¹² ONS death entry for George BASS aged 76, Q3/1911, Bedford, 3b 377

¹³ ONS death reference for Emma BASS aged 81, Q4/1904, Ampthill, 3b 224

¹⁴ 1881 census return for 42 Pilcroft Street West, Bedford, RG11/1622 f39 p31

¹⁵ ONS marriage reference for George Thomas BASS and Mary HIBBERD, Q2/1888, Holborn, 1b 1050

Newington¹; ten years later² he had become a printers' reader and they had moved just two doors along from their previous house. Staying (or living?) with the family was George RAY, another 'printer compositor', the son of George's aunt Hannah (see page 44).

The 1911 census return³ shows George and Mary, with children Harold and Elsie, still at the same address; Harold had become an apprentice compositor.

Sarah (1839 – 1904)

056RC

Sarah was the third child of Samuel and Mary; she had been born in 1839⁴. She is recorded in the 1851 census return⁵ as living in the household of Edward and Sarah MILLARD, shown as 'niece'. If she was indeed a niece then Sarah MILLARD is likely to have been a sister of Mary, Sarah's mother. Ten years later, in 1861, she was back with her parents and elder sister Susannah in Milton Ernest. She was a lace-maker, as was her mother.

In 1863⁶ she married Joseph WOODS. They appear to have had no children⁷, but entered into what seems to have been a successful business. In 1871⁸ Sarah was a milliner, with Joseph a 'drill machinist'. Ten years later⁹ they had moved to Northampton where he was a 'hatter and dyer'; Sarah was still a milliner but also part of the household was a servant, another milliner.

Perhaps the hat trade didn't work out as they intended, for by 1891 Joseph and Sarah were living in Blackpool¹⁰ – within a couple of miles of Joseph BASS, Sarah's cousin (Joseph's father Robert was the elder brother of Samuel, Sarah's father – see page 38). Joseph (WOODS) was now a confectioner, Sarah had no occupation – but two servants, both confectioners, were living in the house. Her cousin Joseph was a salesman, so perhaps he was selling the confectionery that his cousin's family was making.

Tryphena, the wife of Sarah's cousin Joseph BASS, died in 1895 (see above), following which he married again, in Rugby. This may have prompted a move by Sarah and Joseph WOODS, for by 1901 they had moved back to Northampton¹¹, to the very same house in which they had been living 20 years earlier. They were also providing a home for Susannah, Sarah's elder sister, who was an invalid.

Ten years later the 1911 census shows Joseph and Sarah, now aged 71 and 72, living in Greyfriars Street, Northampton¹²; the sheet states that one child, now dead, had been born to the marriage but the child has not been traced.

A possible death for Joseph was in 1914, at the age of 74¹³; it is likely that Sarah died aged 87 in 1927¹⁴.

¹ 1891 census reference for 93 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG12/181 f16 p29

² 1901 census return for 89 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG13/205 f126 p47

³ 1911 census return for 89 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG14/1015 ED11 SN124

⁴ ONS birth reference for Sarah BASS, Q2/1839, Bedford, 6 47

⁵ 1851 census return for Princes Street, Riseley, HO107/1751 f553 p26

⁶ ONS marriage reference for Joseph WOODS and Sarah BASS, Q3/1863, Bedford, 3b 481

⁷ the 1911 census return indicates that one child was born (although it probably didn't survive infancy)

⁸ 1871 census return for 9 St Loyes, Bedford & Cardington, RG10/1543 f93 p6

⁹ 1881 census return for, RG11/1545 f29 p13

¹⁰ 1891 census return for 14 Abington Street, Layton with Warbreck, RG12/3452 f120 p12

¹¹ 1901 census return for 29 Bearwood Street, Northampton St Sepulchre, RG13/1425 f33 p7

¹² 1911 census return for 25 Greyfriars Street, Northampton, RG14/8397 ED9 SN296

¹³ ONS death reference for Joseph WOODS aged 74, Q1/1914, Northampton, 3b 99

¹⁴ ONS death reference for Sarah O WOODS aged 87, Q1/1927, Northampton, 3b 89

Hannah Odell (1841 – 1914)

056RD

Hannah was Samuel and Mary's youngest child, born in Milton Ernest towards the end of 1840¹. She was, presumably, given the second name Odell after her mother.

By the age of 20 she was working as a live-in servant for Elizabeth BASS in Bedford². This Elizabeth hasn't been positively identified but as she had been born in Stilton, Huntingdonshire, in about 1785 she may not have been a relation. Earlier census returns show that she was a retired innkeeper; her husband William (who was roughly the same age as Elizabeth and who died in 1846³) was an 'ag lab'. In 1841 they had been living in Woodhurst, in Huntingdonshire.

In 1867 Hannah married Thomas RAY in Bedford⁴. He was a labourer, a couple of years older than Hannah, from the same village. By 1871⁵ they had two children, Frederick (1868) and George (1870). Living in the same house were two of Thomas's brothers, William and George, who had both been born in Milton Ernest. Unaccountably, though, the family was living in Limehouse, part of Stepney; although ten years later⁶ they were back in Bedford with an additional two children, Charles Thomas (1875) and Lizzie Mary (1879), where Thomas was a 'labourer in iron works'. Somewhat confusingly, Frederick and George were both born in Milton Ernest according to the 1871 census return, but in Limehouse according to the later. This latter version is probably correct.

The 1891 census return shows that the family had moved house, but a matter of only a few hundred yards. Son Thomas was a 'compositor's apprentice', while his younger brother George, himself a 'printer compositor', was living with his cousin⁷ George Thomas BASS, another compositor (see page 42).

Ten years later, in 1901⁸, Thomas (Hannah's husband) seems to have disappeared as the census return shows her as 'head', though still 'married'. No obvious death has been found for him, although a possibility was in 1899⁹. By this time she had moved to Northampton, and was providing a home for Charles and (Elizabeth) Mary, as well as a couple from Stockport with a baby.

In 1903, at the age of 24, Mary married Fred GREEN¹⁰ in Northampton, and by the time of the 1911 census¹¹ they were providing a home for Hannah, Mary's mother, who died just three years later aged 73¹².

¹ ONS birth reference for Hannah Odell BASS, Q4/1840, Bedford, 6 42

² 1861 census return for 3 Adelaide Place, Bedford St Paul, RG9/989 f128 p18

³ ONS death reference for William BASS, Q2/1846, St Ives, 14 143

⁴ ONS marriage reference for Thomas RAY and Hannah BASS, Q1/1867, Bedford, 3b 368

⁵ 1871 census return for 29 Dagleish Street, Limehouse, Stepney, RG10/550 f136 p26

⁶ 1881 census return for 17 Little Pilcroft Street, Bedford, RG11/1622 f29 p12

⁷ George Thomas was the son of George BASS, brother of Hannah, George RAY's mother

⁸ 1901 census return for 71 Broad Street, Northampton, RG13/1425 f74 p44

⁹ ONS death reference for Thomas RAY aged 63, Q4/1899, Mile End, 1c 330

¹⁰ ONS marriage reference for Fred GREEN and Mary Elizabeth RAY, Q1/1903, Northampton, 3b 108

¹¹ 1911 census return for 4 Lorne Road, Northampton, RG14/8391 ED3 SN71

¹² ONS death reference for Hannah RAY aged 73, Q1/1914, Northampton, 3b 96

Appendix 058N – Thomas BASS (1816 – 1882)

Thomas was baptised fifteen months after Samuel and George on 31 JAN 1813¹.

The 1841 census return² shows that he lived with his parents, William and Elizabeth, until he was at least 25.

He became a watchmaker and for most of his adult life – as shown by the census returns from 1851 to 1881³ – he lodged with his brother Robert, and never married.

The only other mention of him is on the tombstone of his parents, William and Elizabeth, (see page 10) following his death in 1882 at age 69.

¹ IGI

² 1841 census return for Rotten Row, Raunds, HO107/802 f21

³ see appendix 056O for details

Appendix 058O – Joseph BASS (1815 – 1849)

The youngest child born to William and Elizabeth was Joseph, baptised on 19 NOV 1815 at Raunds¹. He married Jane MANNING² on Christmas Day 1835³. Jane, the daughter of Sarah (née ROWE) and John MANNING, was born in Woodford, a village about four miles north-east of Raunds, in 1814. Jane was one of seven children, two of whom (Thomas and James) emigrated to the USA.

Joseph and Jane had five children before Joseph died towards the end of 1849⁴ – and from the evidence of the 1861 census another daughter, Mary, was born in 1854⁵. All five children married.

In 1851 Jane, a widow, and four children were living in Marchants Lane, Raunds⁶ close to Robert, Jane's brother-in-law (with whom Robert, her second child, was staying).

Ten years later the address in the 1861 census return⁷ is given simply as 'Raunds'. Another daughter, Mary, had joined the family by this time (see below). In 1871 John and Mary were the only two children living at home, which was now in Brook Street⁸, next door to Robert BASS, the same brother-in-law.

In 1881 Jane, by now a widow of 32 years, was living with Mary and her husband Walter KNIGHT at Hill End, Raunds⁹. She later moved to live with her eldest daughter Hannah Elizabeth and her husband George and the 1891 census shows her living with Hannah at Bridge Street, Raunds¹⁰.

By 1901 the sisters Eliza, Emily, Mary and Amy (all daughters of Hannah) were living together at Manor Street, Raunds, and their grandmother Jane was living with them¹¹. She died on 14 JUL 1910, aged 95, at Meadow View, Raunds, and was buried in Raunds Methodist churchyard¹². The death was registered by Amy BEEBY, Hannah's youngest daughter.

Hannah (1838 – 1919)

058OA

Hannah Elizabeth was born in 1838¹³ and married George BEEBY, a shoemaker, on 11 AUG 1862¹⁴. He had been born in about 1832, the son of William BEEBY and Elizabeth PENTELOW, although he had not been baptised until 17 APR 1840. In 1851 he was living with his parents in Marchants Lane¹⁵; Hannah was living in the same road with her

¹ Raunds baptism register

² much of the information concerning Jane Manning comes from Tanya Harrington, a descendant

³ Raunds marriage register

⁴ ONS death reference for Joseph BASS, Q4/1849, Northampton, 15 219

⁵ ON S birth reference for Mary Bass, Thrapston, 3b 145

⁶ 1851 census return for Marchants Lane, Raunds, HO107/1745 f296b

⁷ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

⁸ 1871 census return for 4 Brook Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f159 p7

⁹ 1881 census return for Hill End, Raunds, RG11/1583 f71 p1

¹⁰ 1891 census return for Bridge Street, Raunds, RG12/1221 f87 p3

¹¹ 1901 census return for Manor Street, Raunds, RG13/1454 f15 p21

¹² MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist Church, Raunds

¹³ ONS birth reference for Hannah BASS, Q4/1838, Thrapston, 15 333

¹⁴ Raunds marriage register, p184

¹⁵ 1851 census return for Marchants Lane, Raunds, HO107/1745 f295

widowed mother Jane and three younger siblings, and she was still living in her mother's house ten years later¹, a year before her marriage.

By 1871² George and Hannah (Hannah E, according to the census) were living in Marshalls Lane and they were still there in 1881³. They had six children⁴.

George was a deacon at the Baptist Church for 19 years⁵ and died⁶ soon after the census was taken on 14 JUN 1881⁷. The 1891 census return shows Hannah as 'Anna' and her place of birth as Ringstead (the village just north of Raunds), but four of her daughters were still at home and she was also providing a home for her mother-in-law Jane BASS.

Hannah has not been found in either the 1901 or 1911 census returns, and no conclusive death has been discovered. The ONS reports no deaths of a Hannah BEEBY in Northamptonshire between 1891 and 1940, but one possibility is that of an Ann BEEBY in 1906⁸. The death of a Hannah BEEBY aged 80 was registered at Wigton in 1919⁹ but there is no obvious reason why she should have travelled so far (Wigton is in Cumbria, about ten miles south-west of Carlisle). Another possibility is that she remarried, but no marriage of a Hannah BEEBY in Northamptonshire has been found between 1885 and 1901.

Robert (1841 – 1892)

058OB

Robert, the eldest son of Joseph and Jane, was born in MAR 1841 and in 1851 was staying (or living) with his uncle Robert in Marchants Lane¹⁰, Raunds.

Ten years later, in 1861¹¹, he was boarding in New Town Road, in Northampton, with William and Mary MOORE – these were probably his aunt Elizabeth's brother-in-law and his wife. He married Zillah CLARK (born about 1841¹² in Raunds) towards the end of 1862¹³.

By the time of the next census, in 1871¹⁴, they were living in Vernon Street in Northampton where they remained for the rest of their lives. Robert was a shoemaker. Their only child Joseph was born in 1875¹⁵ and he appears in the 1881 census return¹⁶.

By 1891¹⁷ Joseph was an 'eyeletter', still living at home with his parents; the household also included a 7-year-old niece, Kate MARRIOTT. This could have been a niece from Zillah's side of the family; she had been born in Oxfordshire.

¹ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

² 1871 census return for 2 Marshals Lane, Raunds, RG10/1509 f184 p58

³ 1881 census return for Marshals Lane, Raunds, RG11/1583 f 75 p9

⁴ Eliza Lavinia (1864), Sarah (1867), Emily (1870), Kate (1872), Mary (1875), Amy (1878)

⁵ information from Tanya Harrington

⁶ ONS death reference for George BEEBY aged 49, Q2/1881, Thrapston, 3b 121

⁷ information from Tanya Harrington

⁸ ONS death reference for Ann BEEBY aged 65, Q4/1906, Wellingborough, 3b 76

⁹ ONS death reference for Hannah BEEBY aged 80, Q4/1919, Wigton, 10b 670

¹⁰ 1851 census return for Marchants Lane, Raunds, HO107/1745 f296b

¹¹ 1861 census return for 22 New Town Road, Northampton St Andrew, RG9/937 f64 p36

¹² ONS birth reference for Zillah CLARK, Q2/1841, Thrapston, 15 363

¹³ ONS marriage reference for Robert BASS and Zillah CLARK, Q4/1862, Northampton, 3b 214

¹⁴ 1871 census return for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG10/1484 f112 p44

¹⁵ ONS birth reference for Joseph BASS, 1/1875, Northampton, 3b 68

¹⁶ 1881 census return for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG11/1197 f108 p35

¹⁷ 1891 census return for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG12/1548 f93 p13

Robert died in 1892¹; at the time of the next census, 1901, Zillah was living alone, still at the same address in Vernon Street². She died in 1910³ aged 68.

William (1843 – 1907)

058OC

William, born about 1843⁴, lived with his parents in Raunds until at least 1861⁵; on the census return of that year he was a shoemaker. Ten years later, in 1871, he was described as a shoe finisher and lodging in Kettering⁶ with Charles LILLEMAN, a shoe riveter, and his family.

For some reason he then travelled to Newcastle, where in 1878⁷ he married Martha WILSON. She had been born in that city on 24 MAY 1856^{8,9}. They had nine children¹⁰ between 1879 and 1890: the first two were born in Newcastle before the family returned to Rushden¹¹, where the remaining children were born at various addresses in Crabb Street.

The 1881 census return¹² shows the family (William, Martha, and the two eldest sons Thomas and John). Ten years later, at a different house in the same street¹³, they had been joined by a further six children.

The most likely death for Martha was in 1894 at the age of only 39¹⁴, although there is no obvious reason why the death should have been registered at Bedford. As Thomas, their eldest child, would have been only 15 she is unlikely to have been living with any of the children. Somewhat strangely William is shown as married rather than widowed in the 1901 census return¹⁵. He died in 1907¹⁶.

Frederick, their seventh child, was born in 1886¹⁷. He married Fanny UNDERWOOD in 1914¹⁸; the marriage was registered in Wellingborough, and they lived at 10 Pemberton Street, Rushden before he joined the 7388 7th Bn Northants Regiment. They had one daughter, Marjorie. Frederick died a sergeant on 25th March 1918 in the Somme: his death is commemorated on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

Arthur married Celia Ethel HOOTON.

¹ ONS death reference for Robert BASS aged 51, 3/1892, Northampton, 3b 32

² 1901 census for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG13/1423 f188

³ ONS death reference for Zillah BASS aged 68, 1/1910, Northampton, 3b 45

⁴ ONS birth reference for William BASS, Q3/1843, Thrapston, 15 33? or 35?

⁵ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

⁶ 1871 census return for North-hall Street, Kettering, RG10/1503 f121 p36

⁷ ONS marriage reference for William BASS and Martha WILSON, 3/1878, Newcastle T, 10b 165

⁸ ONS birth reference for Martha WILSON, 3/1856, Newcastle Tyne, 10b 2

⁹ precise date from an internet source

¹⁰ Thomas (1878), John William (1879), Walter (1881), George (1882), Kate (1883), William (1885), Frederick (1886), Arthur (1889), Mary Jane (1892)

¹¹ most of the information about William's family comes from Sue Hazell

¹² 1881 census return for 1 Crabb Street East Side, Rushden, RG11/1568 f71 p13

¹³ 1891 census return for 13 Crabb Street, Rushden, RG12/1211 f111 p3

¹⁴ ONS death reference for Martha BASS aged 39, 3/1894, Bedford, 3b 176

¹⁵ 1901 census return for 28 Crabb Street, Rushden, RG13/1441 f64

¹⁶ ONS death reference for William BASS aged 64, 3/1907, Wellingborough, 3b 67

¹⁷ ONS birth reference for Frederick BASS, Q3/1886, Wellingborough, 3b 141

¹⁸ ONS marriage reference for Frederick BASS and Fanny UNDERWOOD, Q2/1914, Wellingborough, 3b 342

Sarah (1846 – 1911)

058OD

Sarah, born towards the end of 1846¹, married Thomas Ekins HALL on 30 NOV 1865². Thomas had been born in 1840³, the son of James, a brazier; at the time of the marriage he was a shoemaker, while Sarah was a shoecloser.

The 1871 census shows Thomas and Sarah living in Raunds⁴ with son Joseph, 4, and daughter Flora, 2. George HALL, probably a brother, was living next door with his family. Ten years later, in 1881⁵, the address was still the same but the family now comprised six children.

Thomas died in 1888⁶ at the age of 47.

At the time of the next census, in 1891, Sarah and her youngest child, Annie, was visiting Joseph and Mary KNIGHTON⁷ and their family in Colchester – both Joseph and Mary had been born in Raunds. Joseph was the younger brother of the Mary Emma KNIGHTON who married Sarah's cousin William; their father, Thomas, was a grocer & draper in Raunds. Whether this was a brief visit or a longer stay will probably never be known, but by 1901 Sarah was once again living in Raunds⁸ with her two youngest daughters, Sarah and Annie; on this occasion Sarah declared her age as 59 (it should have been 55). A nine-year-old niece, Mary Jane BASS, was also living with them: she had been born in 1892⁹ and was almost certainly the daughter of William and Martha. Her birth was registered in Wellingborough; her place of birth was given on the census return as Rushden, which is within the Wellingborough district.

The household was just the same ten years later, in 1911¹⁰, but they had moved to a different address in the village.

A likely death for Sarah is that registered in Wellingborough in 1911, when she was 67¹¹.

John (1849 – 1916)

058OE

John was the youngest son of Joseph and Jane and was born about 1849. Like the rest of his family, he was a shoemaker and, until just before his marriage, he lived with his widowed mother Jane.

In 1872¹² he married Sarah Rhoda NUNLEY, probably a relative of the Harris Nunley who married John's cousin Sarah on 23 MAY 1872¹³. In 1851 Sarah (John's future wife) had been living at Thorp End, Raunds¹⁴, with her parents Joseph and Alice, a barber and shoe binder respectively. Also in the house with Sarah, aged three, were Alfred (1839), Mary Emma (1842), Owen (1844) and Joseph, aged nine months. At the time of her marriage Sarah was

¹ ONS birth reference for Sarah BASS, 2/1846, Northampton, 15 339

² Raunds marriage register, p220

³ ONS birth reference for Thomas Ekins HALL, 3/1840, Thrapston, 15 359

⁴ 1871 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f117 p49

⁵ 1881 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG11/1583 f117 p41

⁶ ONS death reference for Thomas HALL aged 47, 2/1888, Thrapston, 3b 116

⁷ 1891 census return for 110 Winchester Avenue, Colchester, RG12/1406 f108 p27

⁸ 1901 census return for Midland Road, Raunds, RG13/1454 f21 p33

⁹ ONS birth reference for Mary Jane BASS, 1/1892, Wellingborough, 3b 130

¹⁰ 1911 census return for 12 North Street, Raunds, RG14/8619 ED5 SN27

¹¹ ONS death reference for Sarah HALL aged 67, Q3/1911, Wellingborough, 3b 157

¹² ONS marriage reference for John BASS and Sarah Rhoda NUNLEY, 2/1872, Thrapston, 3b 364

¹³ Raunds marriage register, p14

¹⁴ 1851 census for Thorp End, Raunds, HO107/1745 f313

employed as a machine minder, while John was a shoemaker; by this time Sarah's father Joseph was a coal merchant.

Until 1877 John had worked in the shoe trade, but after that date he kept a boot and shoe shop. By 1881 he and Sarah were living in Marshalls Lane, Raunds¹; they had no children. Ten years later, in 1891², their address was 'Baker's Arms' in Raunds but no further clue is given. John was listed as a 'boot manufacturer', with Sarah shown as 'assistant'. Another assistant was John's niece, 19-year-old Kate BEEBY, one of the daughters of his sister Hannah.

By 1901³ they were providing a home for two nieces: Kate BEEBY and Bertha HALL, both 28 years old. These were the daughters of John's sisters Hannah and Sarah respectively. John kept in touch with his uncles in America and transcripts of some of his letters are on file.

He died on 22 JAN 1916⁴. Probate was granted to Sarah, his widow, and John William NUNLEY, retired schoolmaster. Sarah lived a further twenty years and died on 03 DEC 1937. Both are buried in the Methodist churchyard at Raunds⁵.

Mary (1853 – 1861)

058OF

The youngest daughter was Mary. She was born on 15 SEP 1853⁶; that is, five years after Joseph's death. No father is shown on her birth certificate. Both the 1861 census⁷ and the following one⁸ show her living with Jane.

On 04 MAY 1879⁹ she married Walter KNIGHT and the certificate shows her father as 'Joseph'; her age is given as 25, which confirms her year of birth. It is likely that Mary was indeed Jane's daughter (born to her at the age of 39) or she could possibly have been Hannah's daughter, born when Hannah was about 15; in either case she was illegitimate. Walter was two years younger than Mary and the son of Matthew, a shoemaker.

The 1881 census¹⁰ shows Walter and Mary, together with Mary's mother (grandmother?) Jane living in Raunds. Only four years later Walter died, at the young age of 29¹¹, and the 1891 census¹² shows the widowed Mary as housekeeper to James HARRIS, a widower with two young daughters. A Joseph MANNING, probably some relation of Mary's mother Jane, lived close by.

Six years later Mary and her erstwhile employer James were married¹³, although this second marriage for each of them lasted only a little over a year, as James died early in 1899¹⁴. The 1901 census shows Mary (by now Mary HARRIS, of course) living in Rotten Row with Amy and Kate – who are shown on the census return as 'daughters' but are really step-daughters,

¹ 1881 census return for Marshall Lane, Raunds, RG11/1583 f74 p7

² 1891 census return for Baker's Arms, Raunds, RG12/1221 f74 p7

³ 1901 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG13/1454 f52

⁴ probate register for John BASS

⁵ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist church, Raunds

⁶ information from Tanya HARRINGTON

⁷ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

⁸ 1871 census return for 4 Brook Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f159 p7

⁹ Raunds marriage register, p67

¹⁰ 1881 census for Hill End, Raunds, RG11/1583 f71 p1

¹¹ ONS death reference for Walter KNIGHT aged 29, 3/1885, Thrapston, 3b 95

¹² 1891 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG12/1221 f71 p31

¹³ ONS marriage reference for James HARRIS and Mary KNIGHT, 3/1897, Thrapston, 3b 453

¹⁴ ONS death reference for James HARRIS aged 48, 1/1899, Thrapston, 3b 135

being the daughters of James from his first marriage. Rotten Row was the road in which Mary's parents Joseph and Jane started their married life. Another family living in the same road at the same time was that of Alfred HALL (possibly relatives of Thomas HALL, the husband of Mary's sister Sarah). In the neighbouring house was the family of Ralph PENTELOW (the mother of George BEEBY, married to Mary's eldest sister Hannah, was born Elizabeth PENTELOW; it is likely that she was the sister of Ralph's great-grandfather James). A Walter BEEBY also lived along the road.

Mary died in 1915¹ aged 61.

¹ ONS death reference for Mary HARRIS aged 61, Q1/1915, Thrapston, 3b 349

Appendix 432M – Thomas BROMWELL (1693 – ?)

Thomas, baptised on 24 *SEP* 1693 at Riseley, was the eldest child of William BROMWELL and Frances PETTY.

He married Elizabeth COOK on 10 *OCT* 1725 at Keysoe. They had four children:

Elizabeth was baptised on 12 *MAR* 1727.

Frances, perhaps named after Thomas's sister, was baptised on 14 *APR* 1728 and died the following year;

William was baptised on 25 *JAN* 1730 and died in 1786;

The fourth child, **John**, was baptised in about 1731. He married Elizabeth WHITE on 11 *OCT* 1756 and they had one daughter Elizabeth, baptised 13 *JAN* 1760.

It is likely that Thomas's wife Elizabeth then died, perhaps in childbirth, for there is another marriage recorded of Thomas to Ann WILLIAMSON on 10 *APR* 1732 at Milton Ernest. This marriage produced a further three children: Ann, baptised 13 *APR* 1735; Mary, baptised 16 *FEB* 1738; and Thomas, baptised 26 *APR* 1741.

Other records

BASS is not an uncommon name and it should come as no surprise to discover that there are many records of the name that don't appear to fit into the family.

IGI

All the following instances are shown as occurring in Raunds.

The IGI shows an Elizabeth BASS, daughter of John and Elizabeth, baptised on 23 JUN 1805. This would give the possibility of a John BASS, brother of my 3xgt-grandfather William.

There is an entry in the IGI for a Hannah Elizabeth, daughter of John, baptised in 1839. No John found yet fits although it is likely that this is an error and the father's name was Joseph, in which case this is the Hannah daughter of Jane (nee MANNING) and Joseph.

Geographical connections

Northampton

Most of the city streets referred to in this book are close together in the centre of Northampton. Bath Street and Scarletwell Street are adjacent, to the west of Horsemarket; St George's Street is just to the north, with Sheep Street running south from one end; Lower Mounts is a continuation of St George's Street, with Abington Street (now part of the Grosvenor shopping centre) and Market Square running off it. Princess Street was demolished in 1972 (see page 17).

Colwyn Road is a little to the north-west of this group of streets.

Raunds

Marshalls Road, Brook Street and Hill Street, all in Raunds, meet at the Square; Marshalls Lane and Marchant Lane appear not to have survived to the present day. The recreation ground in Marshalls Road is along the road to the west, away from the village centre.

Other sources

'Raunds' (a book recording the history of the village) shows a photograph of 'Mr & Mrs John Bass in the garden of their newly-built house in **Lawson Street**. John Bass (1849-1916), bootmaker and retailer, owned a shop facing the Square, next to the chemist. At the rear of his property was a mixture of business premises and small dwellings known as Bass's Yard. In about 1896 John Bass's mother gave the land for the recreation ground in Marshalls Road.'

This is likely to have been John [058OE], the third son of Joseph and Jane; the dates of both birth and death correspond. The census return for 1901 shows their address as 'High Street', which forms part of the Square; he was a shoemaker. There is no Lawson Street in present-day Raunds.

It is also recorded in archives within Raunds Public Library that under a Bass charity dated 22 APR 1898 'land was conveyed to the Urban District Council by Margaret BASS to be used as a public recreation ground'.

This would seem to indicate that Margaret is the name of John's mother, assuming the two plots of land are the same, which seems likely. However, John's mother was Jane and it does appear that one account or the other is incorrect. Furthermore, since Jane's husband (Joseph BASS) died in 1849 she had been a pauper, later a charwoman, and from at least 1881 had lived with one or other of her daughters. In 1895, aged 80, she was living with Hannah and her family and it seems unlikely that she would have been in a position to give land for use as a recreation ground.

Other records

It is more likely that the second account, that land was given by Margaret BASS, is correct, and that Margaret was the wife of George BASS [056OA] who had died on 02 OCT 1896 (see page 36 for further details). They had no children; George had been a grocer and draper and Margaret had been a draper and was the daughter of a lace dealer. Following her husband's death she may well have been in a position to have given some land to the Council. If this is so then the last sentence of the excerpt from the book *Raunds* is incorrect.

The same book relates 'an alarming incident' in 1904 concerning a house in **Hill Street**, occupied by Mr George Gaunt but owned by John BASS.