

Hezmalhalch

Introduction

It all began when, as a child, I was given to understand that I had inherited the Hezmalhalch leg (I think that meant it was somewhat bandy) and that the name of Hezmalhalch had romantic origins going back to Bonnie Prince Charlie and the 1745 rebellion. My father was probably right about my leg; I am less sure about Prince Charlie. Be that as it may, the name Hezmalhalch is so unusual, not to say improbable, that when I began to research my family history and learnt that my great-grandfather really was called Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder, I quickly found myself collecting every reference to the name that I could find. It soon became clear that there has never been more than a handful of Hezmalhalches but that the name does still survive, just. This is an attempt to draw together as much of the family history as I have been able to discover, showing how we all stem from the same ancestor, Richard Hezmalhalch, born sometime in the second half of the 17th century. On practical grounds alone, it has been impossible to follow the fortunes of the female side of the family once they have married and taken on a new name.

The Name Hezmalhalch

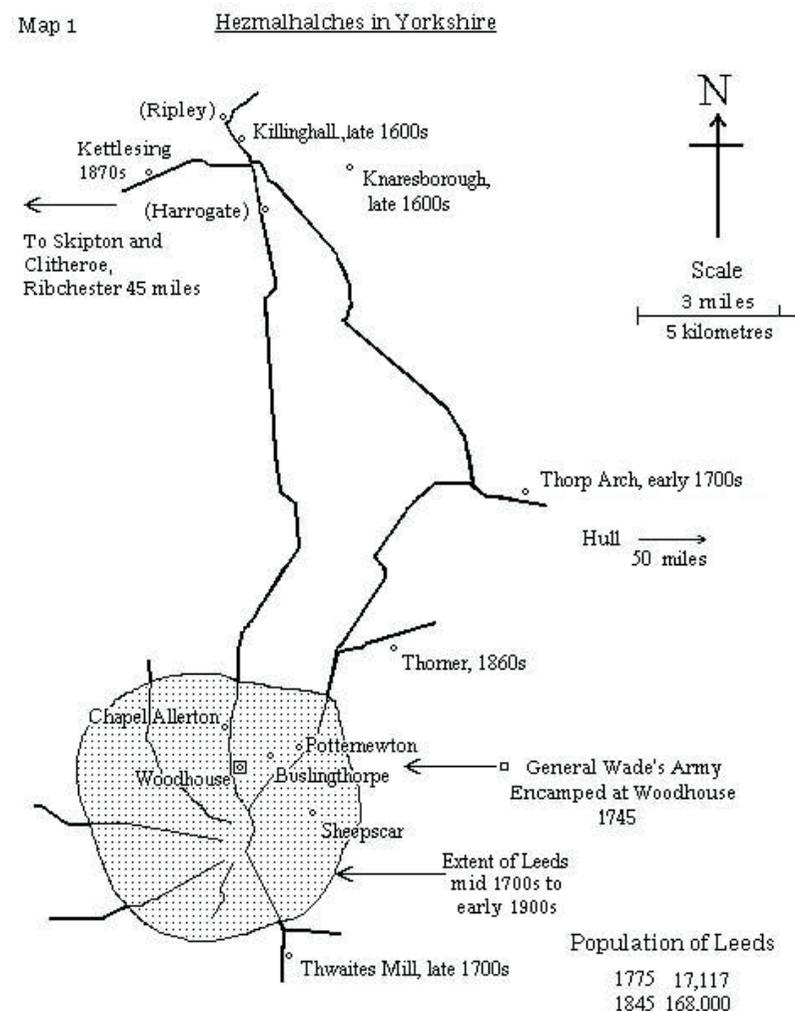
The name Hezmalhalch is something of a mystery. The first definite record in Yorkshire is of Ann Hezmalhalch, baptised in 1696, the daughter of Richard Hesmonhalsh of Killinghall near Ripley. At the same time, in nearby Knaresborough, was a Thomas Hesmahanch or Hesmondash, but it is from Richard that all the Hezmalhalches I have been able to find are descended.

Perhaps Richard and Thomas were brothers who had come to Yorkshire together as young men, for it seems most probable that, despite various fanciful suggestions that it may be German or Norwegian or even Jewish, Hezmalhalch is a variation of the Lancashire name Hesmondhalgh, and that a distinct Yorkshire line was established in the late seventeenth century. A few years ago, Dr George Redmond, a well known authority on Yorkshire surnames, suggested that 'halch' was a corruption of 'halgh', meaning hollow, and that the name probably originated in east Lancashire, thus giving independent support to my theory.

Centred on the village of Ribchester near Blackburn in Lancashire were a number of families bearing the name Hesmondhalgh, the earliest in the parish registers dating back to 1601. There are several spellings, the closest to Hesmonhalsh being Hesminhalgh, which appears just once in the 1680s. Hesmondhalgh had become the established form by the early 1700s and remained centred round Preston and Ribchester throughout the 18th and 19th centuries. It is still a predominantly Lancashire name. Despite numerous variations for both Hezmalhalch and Hesmondhalgh it is always clear to which form they refer and the Yorkshire and Lancashire branches remained quite distinct from the beginning. To date I have found over 70 different spellings of Hezmalhalch. However, apart from one or two exceptions, I have stuck to the standardised form..

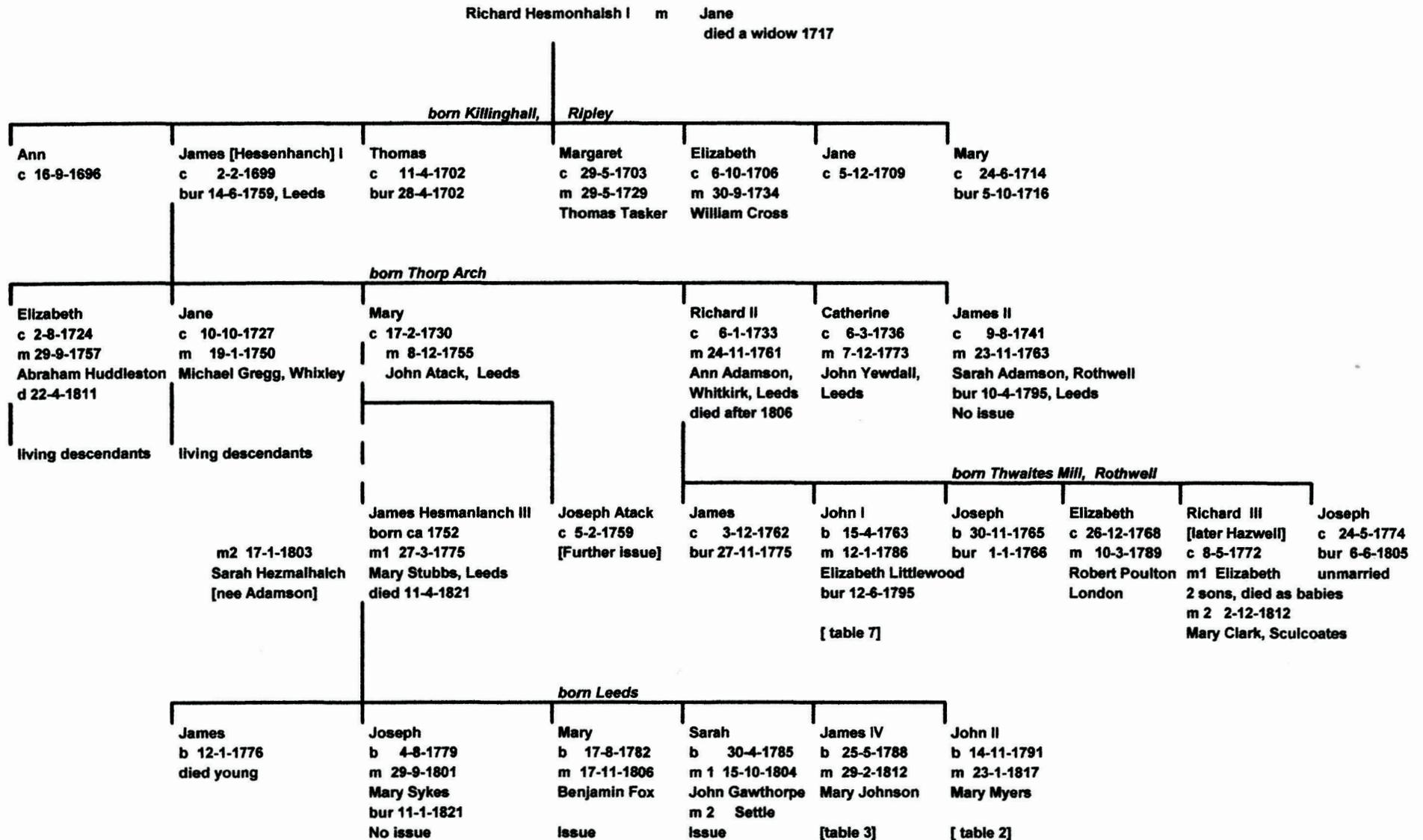
Today, so far as I know, there are only three families in Britain (father and two sons) that still retain the name of Hezmalhalch and seven in the United States, five with sons or grandsons. In addition, three American families shortened the name to Hezmall in the 1940s and 50s, one of which looks set to continue the name. A hundred years earlier, in Hull, the name was shortened to Haswell. There is also a solitary Hezmalhalch in Canada.

Until the 1920s there was a Hezmalhalch Yard in Leeds and the 1851 census shows John Hezmalhalch and his son James living there, working as cabinet makers. A few years ago I was told of a girl who lived there in the early 1900s but neither she nor her teacher could spell Hezmalhalch so in order to be entered on the register she was sent out to copy it from the name plate!



Tree 1

The first known Hezmalhalches



The Earliest Known Hezmalhalches

Not least of the difficulties in sorting out the different families has been the custom of almost always using family names for the children; James, Richard, John, Joseph and Thomas being the only boys' names to be used for a hundred years. In an attempt to avoid confusion, I have given numbers to the various James and Richards, apart from those who died as children. Charles and Edward appear in the 1790s but Edward died as a baby and the name was never used again. In the early 1800s James and Mary had to find some new names as they had eight sons but even then, William Stubbs Hezmalhalch was named after his maternal grandfather. The girls were little better, Mary, Ann and Elizabeth, with the occasional Jane, appearing with monotonous regularity.

The earliest records of a family with a name that is recognisably Hezmalhalch are in the Ripley Parish registers where the baptisms of seven children of Richard Hesmonhalsh/Hesmonhalgh (I) appear. Ann was the eldest and she was baptised on 16th September 1696, daughter of Richard Hesmonhalsh of Killinghall. Killinghall is a village three miles north of Harrogate and a mile south of the slightly larger village of Ripley. If, as I suspect, Richard was born in Ribchester or thereabouts, he would have had a journey of about forty-five miles. All we know about him is that his wife was called Jane. She died, a widow, in 1717 so Richard must have died no more than three years earlier as their youngest child was born in 1714. There were four more daughters after Ann and two sons, James who was born in 1699 and Thomas two years later. Thomas lived less than a month and so it is from James (I) that all known Hezmalhalches are descended.

Meanwhile, in Knaresborough, Thomas Hesmahanch/Hesmondash and his wife, Ann, had thirteen children, seven boys and six girls. Of these, at least seven died in infancy, three within six weeks of each other, leaving three boys and three girls. We know that the son Stephen married and had a daughter and it would seem that two of the brothers each had a son Thomas, as two of that name were married in Knaresborough, one in 1767 and one in 1772. Nothing more is known of this branch of the family.

To return to Richard (I) and his family. Again, we have no knowledge of his son James's occupation or of who he married but he had six children who were baptised in Thorp Arch. This is some twelve miles southeast of Killinghall and about fifteen miles from Leeds, which is where we next find them. Of the six children, two were sons, Richard (II) and James (II). Both married and Richard had two sons who in turn kept the name alive. There is no record of James having any children. He married a Sarah Adamson and died in Leeds in 1795 at the age of fifty-two, having suffered from scrofula (TB). In a move guaranteed to confuse future generations, his widow then married her former husband's nephew, another James Hezmalhalch (III) and himself a widower. We shall meet him later.

All four of James's daughters married, and the two eldest, Jane and Elizabeth, are known to have descendants still living in Yorkshire, but it is with the next daughter, Mary, that our main interest lies and it is at this point that we have to consider the stories about the 1745 rebellion and the followers of Bonnie Prince Charlie.



All Saints' Church, Ripley, Yorkshire

The Family Legend

Writing in 1950, Charles Laurence Pounder, youngest child of Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder, recorded what he knew of the story. "The legend is – I put it that way though there were facts to support the legend – the Hezmalhalch line goes back to the Prince Charles rebellion when the Scottish clans invaded England. The tale, as told to me [by his cousin Arthur Hezmalhalch], is that the Scottish army or a portion of their army were camped round about Scott Hall (Sugarwell Hill today) and the English under General Wade round about Wade Lane and Camp Road, Leeds. The tale is, one of the Scottish Chiefs got one of the daughters of the Hezmalhalches who lived at Buslingthorpe, since known as Scott Hall, in the family way. The boy was apprenticed to a millwright and got on. After many years he received a communication from a firm of attorneys in York acting for the chieftain. Presumably the father dare not present himself in Leeds, he being a rebel and possibly with a price on his head. The independent spirit of my ancestor refused to go. He said he had got on without his father and what else I don't know."

The story as told by Norah, Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder's daughter, to her son Denis, introduces the name of the Scottish Chieftain as Lord Mackintosh, "a follower of Bonnie Prince Charlie who was advised by the latter, when he had to go into hiding, to change his name. Hence the Hezmalhalch." The American branch of the family has a slightly different version, according to which Mackintosh sent his twin sons to a friend in Belgium for safety and they returned when the danger was over. One son took back the name of Mackintosh but the other kept Hezmalhalch, which they had presumably adopted in Belgium.

These stories have at least two drawbacks. One is that the Prince's retreat from Derby was through Lancashire and not Leeds; the other that in 1745 the Mackintosh chief was in the Government army and so was not in the march either to or from Derby, nor did he have twin sons. However, his wife, Anne Farquharson of Invercauld, did support the Prince and, unhindered by her husband, raised a Mackintosh clan. (In February 1746 the Chief of Mackintosh was taken prisoner by Prince Charles and sent home to his wife at Moy Hall, the Prince saying that he could not be in better security or more honourably treated!)

At the Battle of Culloden in April 1746 at which the Prince's army was completely routed, the Mackintosh regiment had led a charge against the English and suffered very heavy losses, there being more Mackintoshes killed than any other clan. Following the battle, Prince Charles eventually escaped to exile in France and it seems likely that some of his followers went with him. Perhaps these included some of the Mackintoshes, one of whom may subsequently have returned to England.

The idea that the name of Hezmalhalch had been adopted as an alias is most improbable, nor can it be a Belgian name. But perhaps we are approaching the truth with the claim that a Mackintosh fathered an illegitimate son. On the other hand, it is a fact that General Wade was in Leeds with the English army in October 1745 en route to Newcastle and that in December, after the defeat of Prince Charles, he set up an encampment on Woodhouse Moor. Perhaps, after all, it was one of his soldiers who fathered an illegitimate son?

James Hezmalhalch (III) ca 1752—1821

Apart from the descendants of Richard Hezmalhalch (II) all other Hezmalhalches are descended in a direct line from James Hezmalhalch (III). I have been unable to find any record of his baptism but there is strong circumstantial evidence pointing to his having been the illegitimate son of the first James's daughter Mary. He died in 1821 and fortunately left a will, for it is here that we get a possible clue as to his origins.

In his will he mentions a number of his dwelling houses and names their tenants. One of these was called Joseph Attack and in 1755 Mary Hezmalhalch had married John Attack in Leeds. They had a son, Joseph, four years later when they were living at Woodhouse and they were still there when their youngest daughter, Ann, was born in 1775, the year that James married; he also lived at Woodhouse. It would seem that Mary had had an illegitimate son, James, before her marriage and that James's tenant Joseph was his half brother. According to the burial register James was sixty-nine when he died which would give his year of birth as 1752, when Mary was twenty-two. This is only five or six years after his putative father is said to have gone into hiding after Prince Charlie's failed rebellion. Soldiers returning from exile in France may well have waited so long.

Further evidence in support of this theory is the fact that in 1759 'James Hessenhanch of Great Woodhouse' was buried. This must be Mary's father. It seems likely that he had moved to Leeds from Thorp Arch in search of work. We shall probably never know for certain if Mary was James's mother and it is even less likely that we shall know who his

father was. However, as David Hey says in his *Oxford Guide to Family History*, "It is common to find a belief that the family has had a romantic past, that they are descended from someone important (perhaps an illegitimate line)." He goes on to say that "amidst all the dross are usually a few nuggets of priceless information about where a family came from" and it seems more than likely that the story of James's illegitimacy, at least, is true.

We can now look at the life of James. As Charles Pounder said, he became a millwright and he did indeed "get on". James married Mary Stubbs in Leeds Parish Church in 1775 when they signed the register as James Hezmanlanch and Marey Stubbs. Mary was born at Woodhouse Carr, Leeds, in 1751, the daughter of William Stubbs. All we know of her mother is that she died of a fever in 1769. (The parish register describes her as the wife of William Stubbs but does not give her name!) Mary herself died of a decline in 1802 and the following year James married Sarah Hezmalhalch, the widow of his uncle James (II). Another of James's uncles, Richard (II), was married to Sarah's sister. Within nine months James had again been widowed, Sarah having died at the age of sixty in October 1803. Apparently James did not sign the marriage register the second time around although he subsequently signed his will.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "James Hezmalhalch". The ink is dark and the handwriting is fluid and somewhat slanted to the right.

At the time of his first marriage, James was a carpenter but with the increasing use of iron as the Industrial Revolution gathered momentum, he evidently turned to millwrighting. The first mention of this is in 1803 on his second marriage. Engineering was rapidly becoming one of the most important industries in Leeds. The first mills using powered machinery were built for the woollen industry in the 1790s and almost at once steam began to replace water power. In 1816 Baines Trade Directory lists Matthew and Hezmalhatch, Millwrights at Burmantofts, and by the following year James had evidently set up his own foundry. From 1817-20 the directories give J. J & J. Hezmalhalch, Millwrights at Mabgate. It is not clear whether the three Js are the three sons, Joseph, James and John, or the brothers James (IV) and John (II) and their father, as James (III) and Joseph both died in 1821. By 1824, 129 steam engines had been installed in Leeds.

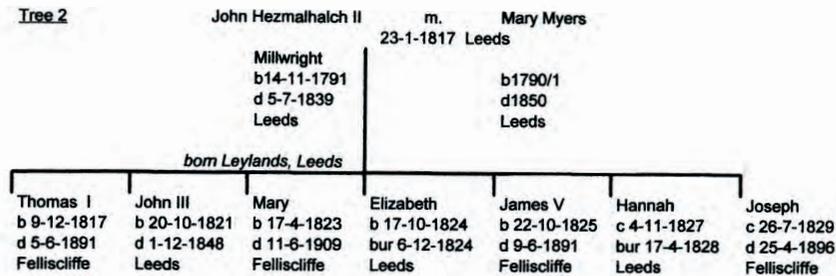
James and Mary had had six children. James 'Hesmolash' was the first in 1776 and in 1788 there was a second James (IV). He had two brothers and two sisters. By the time of his death, James had clearly prospered and in his will he left property to each of his four surviving children, including his millwright's workshop to his two sons, James and John. Individual bequests to his granddaughters also indicate how he had "got on in the world". These included a feather bed, a silver pint pot and some pewter to Ann Hezmalhalch and a Bible and prayer book, a twenty-four hour clock and the rest of his pewter to another Ann, while his third granddaughter, Mary Fox, was left four tables and two corner cupboards.

In 1819 James had bought some “Nine hundred and fifty two Square Yards Superficial Measure or thereabouts, plus all that Dwelling House or Tenement and workshop (formerly used as drying house) Stable and other erections situated in Low Leylands in Leeds”. This is where he established his millwright’s shop.

He also had a number of cottages at Lorry Bank that his son James (IV) inherited. Lorry Bank is described in a survey of the Manor of Leeds carried out in 1612 as “a great hill called Lorry Bank” and it was situated between Woodhouse Carr and the village of Buslingthorpe. When James bought his four cottages there I do not know but the first definite mention is in 1779 when his son Joseph was baptised. The last of his grandchildren, Mary, was still living there at her death in 1907. Part of the property had been sold to a Glue and Flock Manufacturer in 1892 and not until 1918 was the rest sold, to the same company, by Mary’s nephew Arthur.

James would have paid about £50 for a typical worker’s cottage and one with a living room and a sleeping chamber above, 14 x 14 feet, would let for 6d a week. Rooms of 20 feet square might be 9d a week. This is perhaps what Joseph Atack would have paid at Lorry Bank where the cottages had some garden attached. James’s will describes the house “wherein he formerly lived . . . at Far Leylands near Mabgate” as consisting of “a Low Room and two small chambers”. Any sanitary facilities would be very primitive and access to a decent water supply was a common problem but the property in Millwright Street had a well and this was used by the whole street.

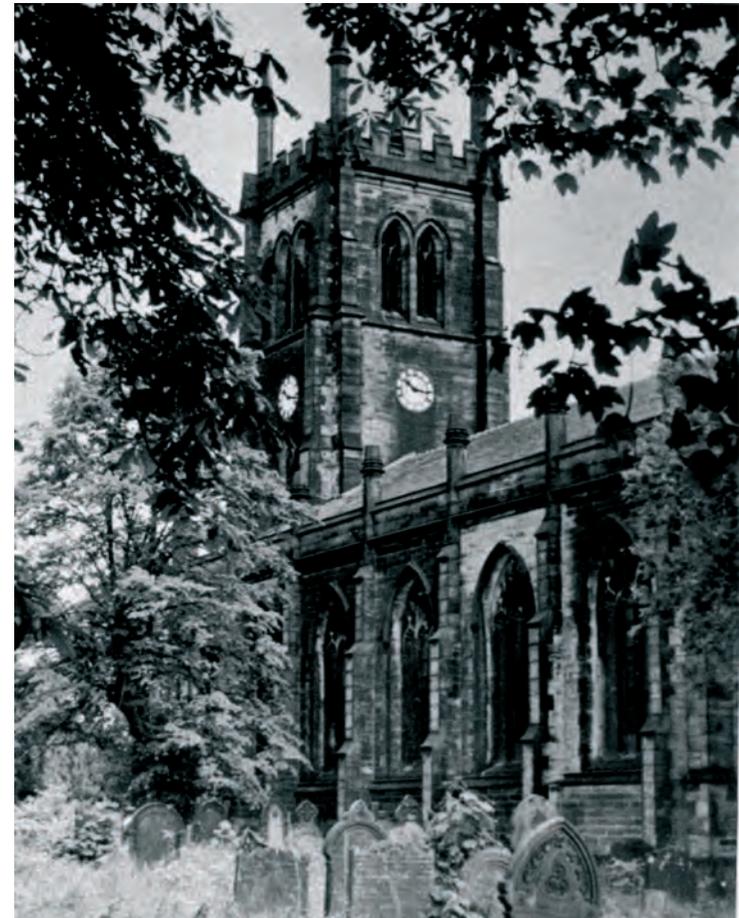
A Victorian Success Story



As we have seen, by the time of his death in 1821, James (III) was well established as a successful millwright and for the next few years his surviving sons, James (IV) and John (II), continued in partnership before apparently setting up their own foundries. One result of their success was that, following the Reform Act of 1832 when, for the first time, Leeds gained parliamentary representation, James and John both became eligible to vote. Leeds had two MPs, (for a population of 100,000) and the franchise had been extended to householders with property worth £10 a year. In 1837, there were 5595 names on the register, of whom 4465 actually voted. Leeds is fortunate in that many of its poll books still survive, recording who voted and how, so that we know that in 1834 John voted but

not James; in 1835 James voted and in 1837 John voted again. James was a conservative while John supported the Whigs. Following John’s death, his eldest son Thomas (I) would become eligible to vote but there is only one record of his doing so and that was in 1865.

John (II) had married Mary Myers in 1817 and they had seven children, three daughters and four sons, two of the girls dying in infancy. Once he had set up on his own, some time between 1830 and 1834, he must very quickly have prospered for when he died in 1839 at the age of forty-seven, not only did he leave a considerable amount of property, but his estate was valued at “under £2000”. This compares with “under £100” left by his father, though he too, of course, left several cottages and workshops. John was buried at the new church of St Mark’s at Woodhouse, eventually being joined in the family vault by each of his children.



St. Mark’s Church, Leeds

When the last, Mary, died in 1909 she left £1000 in trust to the Incumbent and Churchwardens of St Mark's. The income from this was "for the augmentation of the stipend of the Incumbent . . . as long as my family vault in St Mark's Churchyard and the inscription thereon is kept in proper repair and condition." This, alas, is no longer the case, neither the church nor the churchyard are any longer in use and, despite various proposals, nothing has yet been decided about their future. One possibility is that the churchyard might become a nature reserve but meanwhile it has become so overgrown as to become almost impenetrable in parts. However, four headstones have been located as well as one unmarked grave, recording in all the interment of twenty-three Hezmalhalches, all descendants of James (III), together with their wives.

John (II)'s success had laid the foundations for his sons, all of whom followed their father into the world of millwrighting, operating under the name of John & Sons. Even though the eldest, Thomas (I), was only twenty-one at the time of his father's death, the sons went on to earn considerable wealth and were able to retire at an early age. We get the impression of typical Victorian success.

The second son, John (III), died in 1849 when he was only twenty-seven. He left no will but on his death, his mother, brother James (V) and sister Mary all renounced any claim on his estate (Joseph was still a minor) which was valued at £272 6s 1d. This meant that everything went to the eldest brother, Thomas, and it can be assumed he put it straight into the family business.

None of the family ever married but they continued to live together for the rest of their lives, the brothers Thomas, James and Joseph working as millwrights and iron moulders while their sister Mary acted as their housekeeper. Unfortunately, there do not seem to be any surviving records of their foundry at Sheepscar but the 1847 trade directory does tell us that it made steam engines. By 1851 Thomas was employing twelve men. For some reason, ten years later he was employing only two.

On 15th April 1866 *The Leeds Mercury* carried a report of the inquest into a fatal accident at a well at Beeston, near Leeds. Two men had been killed and two others seriously injured while working in an old well which they were deepening for Mr Thomas Hezmalhalch, of the firm of Hezmalhalch Brothers, millwrights, etc., Sheepscar, in order to supply 'the houses of Messrs Hezmalhalch'. One of the victims, Joshua Goodall, had asked for a match, believed to be to light his pipe, despite having been warned of the dangers, and an explosion followed. The Coroner was satisfied that the match had been the cause of the accident and the jury returned a verdict of Accidental Death. There was no suggestion that Thomas Hezmalhalch, who appeared as a witness, had been in any way to blame. (Taken from *Viewing the Breathless Corpse - Coroners and Inquests in Victorian Leeds* by Sylvia M. Barnard, 2001)

It seems to have been about this time that the brothers retired together although Thomas was not yet fifty and Joseph was still in his thirties. From living 'on the job' in Sheepscar they had gradually moved further out into more salubrious parts, first to Potternewton

and then to Thorner, a village on the outskirts of Leeds where they were living at the time of the 1871 census. From 1864-79 they had been involved in numerous property transactions in and around Leeds, the houses at Beeston being one. In August 1878 they had moved to the village of Kettleasing in the parish of Felliscliffe just outside Harrogate where they bought "several closes or parcels of ground with buildings amounting to 14 acres 24 perches" and built an imposing Victorian residence, complete with turret and a billiard room. The three brothers and their sister lived there with an adopted son, Joseph Hezmalhalch Hollings, who in 1881 was twenty-one and working as a general agent. They had called their new home Hollybank. Less than three miles away, just outside Ripley, is Hollybank Wood.

Ten years later Thomas and James died within four days of each other. Joseph and Mary then built a chapel, together with five adjoining almshouses, in their memory. Following Joseph's death in 1896, Mary dedicated the east window in the chapel, the only colour in a simple building, to the memory of all four of her brothers.

**In loving memory of my brothers
John Thomas James and Joseph Hezmalhalch
Dedicated by Mary Hezmalhalch A.D. 1900**

Mary continued living at Hollybank until her death in 1909 at the age of eighty-six. All four had left considerable fortunes, Thomas almost £32,000, James £14,000, Joseph £18,000 and Mary £34,706 17s 3d. Their grandfather, the illegitimate James, would have been proud of them.



These Almshouses were erected by Joseph and Mary Hezmalhalch of Hollybank, Felliscliffe, in loving memory of their two brothers Thomas and James Hezmalhalch who died in the month of June 1891 and are interred in St Mark's Churchyard, Woodhouse, Leeds. 1893

In his will, Thomas singled out his sister for specific bequests, leaving her all his household effects, including china, glass, silver and silver plate, books and pictures, as well as the property in Millwright St that had first been bought by his father. His brother Joseph received his gold watch but there was nothing special for James. His servant Hannah Hardcastle, who had been working for the family for over thirty years, was rewarded with £500 in addition to a further £20 “for the purpose of buying decent mourning”. Apart from much smaller sums to two other servants, everything else, including a considerable amount of property which he had bought over the years, was divided equally between his brothers and Mary.

Eventually of course, Mary inherited all the family fortune and at her death she left almost £35,000 despite having already spent large sums on the chapel and almshouses. She had also contributed handsomely to the Restoration Fund for the mother church at Hampsthwaite. The final list of subscribers, published in 1905, is headed by His Majesty the King, who gave £5, followed by Miss Hezmalhalch, £500. After that there were two gifts of £200, one of £100 and then many smaller sums to give a total of just over £1500. Clearly, Mary and her brothers were among the wealthiest in the parish, if not the wealthiest.

The Hampsthwaite Church Wardens' Accounts record a number of donations, often twice a year, between 1882 and 1894, of amounts varying from ten shillings [50p] to two pounds, given by J. Hezmalhalch. There is no mention of Thomas as a donor and as James had died in 1891 the assumption must be that the J. always refers to Joseph. In 1904 the sum of two guineas [£2.20p] was received from Miss Hezmalhalch.

In her will she left several thousand pounds for the upkeep of the church and almshouses and for the local school. There was an annuity of £52 for the adopted son, Joseph Hezmalhalch Hollings, who by then was living in York. After providing very handsomely for her servants (including her wearing apparel and £1500 together with furniture to the value of £60 to her maidservant Alice Todd who had been with her for upwards of twenty years. Her name first appears in the 1891 census when she was seventeen), Mary left bequests of £1000 to each of six different hospitals and benevolent institutions in Leeds and Harrogate; four of £500 and a further seven of £250 to similar charities, including Unmarried Women, Leeds Friendless Girls' Society, Leeds Boys' Refuge, the Railway Servants' Orphanage and Leeds Victoria Home for Invalid Ladies. The residue of her estate was divided between Leeds General Infirmary and the Leeds Dispensary.



There can be no doubting Mary's own generosity but it is notable that, in giving an extensive resumé of her will, *The Yorkshire Post*, began by saying that “By the death of Miss Mary Hezmalhalch of Hollybank, Felliscliffe, Yorkshire, an estate valued at about £40,000 falls to her distribution under the will of her brother Joseph Hezmalhalch [my italics] who died thirteen years ago and personally was worth £18,000 besides which there was a valuable real estate from which surplus income has been accruing”. With only a few fairly minor alterations, Mary's will is in fact almost verbatim that of Joseph.

The adopted son Joseph Hezmalhalch Hollings is something of an enigma and I know nothing of his circumstances prior to his appearance in the 1871 census as an eleven year old scholar, adopted son of Thomas. Ten years later he was still living with the family and was working as an Agent (General), whatever that was. In 1891 a Joseph Hezmalhalch, aged 31 and living on his own means with his wife Annie, pops up in London and one must assume that this is our Joseph. We can only speculate that, with none of the family married, Thomas and the others had adopted Joseph, who was probably illegitimate, as a baby, with the intention of making him their heir. If so, this didn't happen and the wording, identical in Joseph's and Mary's wills, makes one wonder if perhaps he had not turned out so well as they had hoped. Going off to London and marrying perhaps? Their executors were charged “upon trust to set apart ... an adequate sum of money as will produce a clear yearly income of fifty-two pounds and to pay such an income to Joseph Hezmalhalch Hollings (note the full name) of the City of York for his benefit during the term of his natural life and in case the said Joseph Hezmalhalch Hollings shall do or suffer any act or thing whereby the said annuity or any part thereof shall be charged or encumbered the said annuity shall cease to be payable and the sum so invested ... shall sink into the residue of my estate”.

A tablet to the memory of Joseph and Mary is in the tower of the chapel and below it is another tablet erected “by friends in appreciation of the work done by Mr and Mrs George Wilson for this Church since its dedication on May 8th 1897”. George Wilson and his wife Ada had been in service to Joseph and Mary and were left £500 by them. Their daughter Edith Ann, who also worked at Hollybank and likewise received £500, later lived in one of the almshouses. She is reported as remembering Mary Hezmalhalch as an upright, somewhat severe lady, always dressed in black. Mary also left two hundred and fifty pounds to their son Joseph, born after the death of her brother. The 1901 census shows George living with his family at Holly Bank Lodge and working as Farm Manager. He died in 1943.

When the almshouses were built they were to be for the very poor of the district, including the parish of Hampsthwaite. However, in her will, Mary expressed the hope that the trustees would permit “our old and faithful manservant John Balmforth to occupy one of the said Almshouses during his life.” In addition to their housing, the residents received ten shillings (50 pence) a week each from the Hezmalhalch Trust. In 1931, the trust sold part of the land surrounding the chapel for the sum of £30 to provide an extension to Hampsthwaite church's burial ground. The trust still operates but by 1991 the fifty pence went towards the weekly rent of £4.50 and there were proposals for raising it to a more realistic level of £20 or so.

I am grateful for all the information about the chapel and almshouses to the late Mrs J. Houseman. Her husband served as a trustee for many years and, in 1991, she herself moved into one of the almshouses.

With the death of Mary comes the close of that particular chapter. The family had, as it were, come full circle, ending their lives no more than three miles from where the Hezmalhalch dynasty had begun two hundred years earlier at Killinghall with the birth of Richard and Jane's children. Was this, and their choice of Hollybank for the name of their home, (as noted earlier, there is a Hollybank Wood between Killinghall and Hampsthwaite) only coincidence?

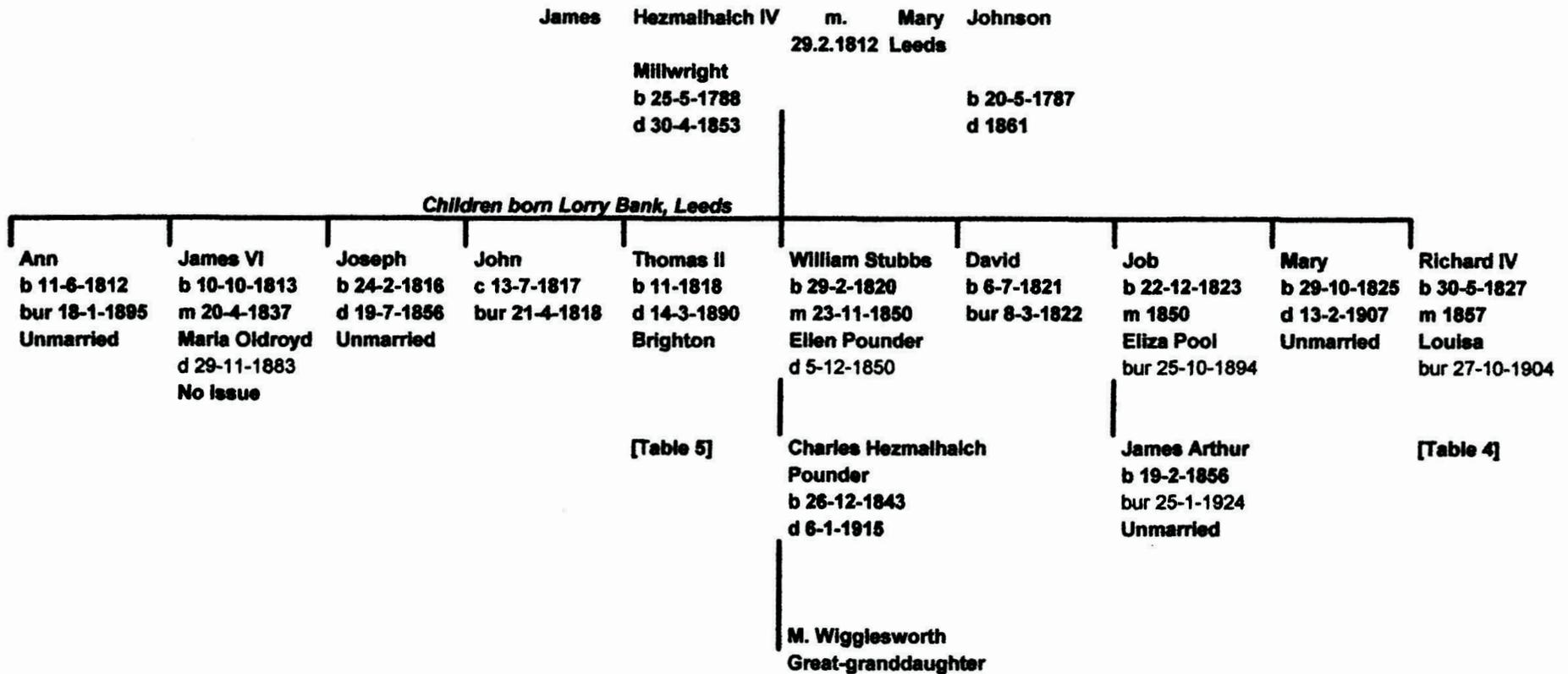
More Millwrights - James (IV) and Sons

Once the brothers John (II) and James (IV) began working independently, James also prospered and by 1851 he was employing five men. The fortunes of their two families, however, developed very differently.

Like John, James lived all his life in Leeds and never far from their foundries at Far Leylands. In 1812 he married Mary Johnson in Leeds Parish Church. Both signed the register. They had ten children, Ann and Mary being the only girls. Two of the boys, John and David, died in infancy.

Tree 3

Millwrights



James and Mary and all their children, with the exception of Thomas, spent their whole lives in Leeds or close by.

James died in 1853 at the age of sixty-four, just a week after making his will, which he had signed in a very shaky hand. His “goods, chattels and credits” were valued at under £450, considerably less than the £2000 left by John fourteen years earlier. But like John, he also left a lot of property, much of it inherited from their father. In and around Millwright Street he owned a millwright’s shop and a whitesmith’s, as well as a freehold dwellinghouse and “certain club houses”, while in Buslingthorpe at Lorry Bank he owned four cottages together with “Gardens Outbuildings and Appurtenances”. Each of his eight children was provided with a house which perhaps explains why his effects were so much less than John’s had been, but it was the three sons who were appointed as executors, Joseph, Job and Richard (IV), who seem to have been the most favoured. They inherited the businesses, together with the tools and implements, as well as the residue of the estate. James’s widow received the rents from the four cottages at Lorry Bank plus “a sufficient sum weekly” for the rest of her life. These four cottages went to the eldest son, James (VI), William and the two daughters. Thomas got the house in Millwright St.

At the time of James’s death three of his sons, James, Job and William were married. They spent all their lives as millwrights and the two younger brothers remained in Buslingthorpe. However, as well as continuing as a millwright, James was a licensed victualler and beerseller, at one time at the Skinner’s Arms in Buslingthorpe. In 1871 James and his wife turn up near Tadcaster east of Leeds, but then they disappear until James’s death in 1883 when they are back in ‘Laurie-bank’. There are two records of James voting; in 1847 when he was in his early thirties he voted for the (losing) Radical candidate and five years later for the two Liberals. He died in 1883 aged seventy, leaving Maria, a widow. They had no children. Job had two baby daughters, who died within a few days of each other, and a son, James Arthur. As he never married and Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder, William’s son, was illegitimate, none of them passed on the name of Hezmalhalch. Thomas meanwhile had emigrated to America.

The two remaining sons, Joseph and Richard, and their sisters continued to live at home. Joseph died, unmarried, in 1856, leaving his estate to his brothers Job and Richard. The following year Richard married and in 1859 William died, from ‘disease of the lungs’, presumably TB. Although his widow continued to live at Lorry Bank for several years before remarrying, neither she nor their son would be able to inherit. James IV’s widow, Mary, died in 1861 aged seventy-three, and it would be thought that by now Job and Richard should have been fairly prosperous. Job was employing three men and two boys and Richard described himself as a Master Engineer and Millwright. However, perhaps they became over ambitious for in 1864 we find them in debt to William Tetley, an Ironfounder, to whom they were obliged to surrender “all and every their Lands Tenements and Hereditaments and all and every of their Stock and Trade Goods Wares Merchandize Books of Accounts Debts Sum and Sums of Money . . . and all and each of their Personal Estate and Effects whatsoever”.

Richard then abandoned millwrighting and opened a grocer’s shop. It was probably at this time that Job, who had been widowed two years earlier, went with his young son to live with his sisters Ann and Mary. Their two cottages had been made into one. Arthur

never married and remained at Lorry Bank with his father and aunts. With the death of Mary in 1907 the cottage passed to him and as we have seen, he eventually sold this in 1918, thus ending the links with Lorry Bank which his great-grandfather had bought more than a hundred years earlier.

It is through Arthur that we have perhaps the most direct link back to the story of Bonnie Prince Charlie. His aunt Ann, who was the eldest of her generation, was nine when her grandfather died, old enough to have heard the story directly from him, and she doubtless told Arthur what she remembered. We know that it was Arthur who then told what he knew to Charles Laurence Pounder who in turn passed it on to his niece Marjorie in 1950. That is two hundred years after the birth of James, plenty of time for the story to become embellished and distorted, but nevertheless, the link is there. As to Arthur himself, he had been a clerk, later foreman, at a Tobacco Manufacturers.

Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder 1843—1915

Today, I believe, Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder would have been given the legal right to the surname of Hezmalhalch for, although he was illegitimate at birth, his parents subsequently married. Why they waited until Charles was almost seven is a mystery. He was born in 1843, the son of Ellen Pounder and William Stubbs Hezmalhalch. His mother had been in service at a windmill at Buslingthorpe off Potternewton Lane, where Charles is said to have been born. His grandson Denis remembered being told the story and shown the mill on walks with his mother as a little boy. There was another mill at Scott Hall which was very close. The corn millers there in the 1840s and 50s were John and George Smith. George Smith had been a witness to the will of James Hezmalhalch in 1821 and again to Joseph Hezmalhalch in 1856. However, that was a watermill.



The Old Windmill at Buslingthorpe

Charles's illegitimacy left him much embittered for, as his son Charles Laurence later wrote, "in those days it prejudiced an individual's career and many positions and posts were barred". He is reputed to have told his daughters that if one of them brought a baby into the world whilst unmarried he would kill them and face the death penalty rather than have anyone else suffer as he had done.

It seems doubly unfortunate that with this sad start in life, Charles's father should have died shortly before his son's sixteenth birthday and two years later, in the 1861 census, we see his mother having to work as a laundress, which presumably means that she took in washing. However, despite the stigma of his birth, it would seem that he was not rejected by his father's family and he and his mother continued to live in Lorry Bank next door to his grandmother and aunts.

By 1861, Charles was working as a warehouse boy but, again like his greatgrandfather, he "got on" in the world. He established a draper's shop in Meanwood Road and by the time of his death in 1915 he had acquired a considerable amount of property, together with effects valued at £5201 1s 11d. He had also become a much respected citizen and the *Yorkshire Evening Post* carried a handsome obituary, under the heading "Founder of 'Halfpenny Bank' in Leeds", together with a photo. He had started the bank with the aim of encouraging children to become thrifty. At one time he had also been a director of the Leeds Provincial Building Society. Charles had been a member of a group charmingly named The Peripatetic Toddlers, a group of men who used to meet for rambles during which they would hold discussions on such diverse topics as philosophy, nature, religion, politics and herbal cures. He didn't just talk about these things for he had been an active member of the Liberal party and his daughter Beatrice was later to recall that he had studied herbalism.



Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder

On his 70th birthday the Toddlers presented him with a birthday tribute that included the verses:

*One more to our class of '70 years old'
Of good old fellows both hearty and bold
Who comes every Thursday to Adel Moor
And sits round the stool now with a closed door.*

*We gladly admit Charles Pounder by name
In Meanwood Valley quite well known to fame:
Further than that for on Woodhouse Moor side
The herbalist doctor is known far and wide.*

*But bless him! His knowledge of this plant and that
Makes no difference to me, I bet you my hat
His heart's in the right, his head set on square,
With assets like these what else can compare?*

*In argument splendid ... disdainful of spite
He keeps his head single all through the fight
His bright grey eyes flash with silver tongued phrase
As notions and theories before us he lays.*

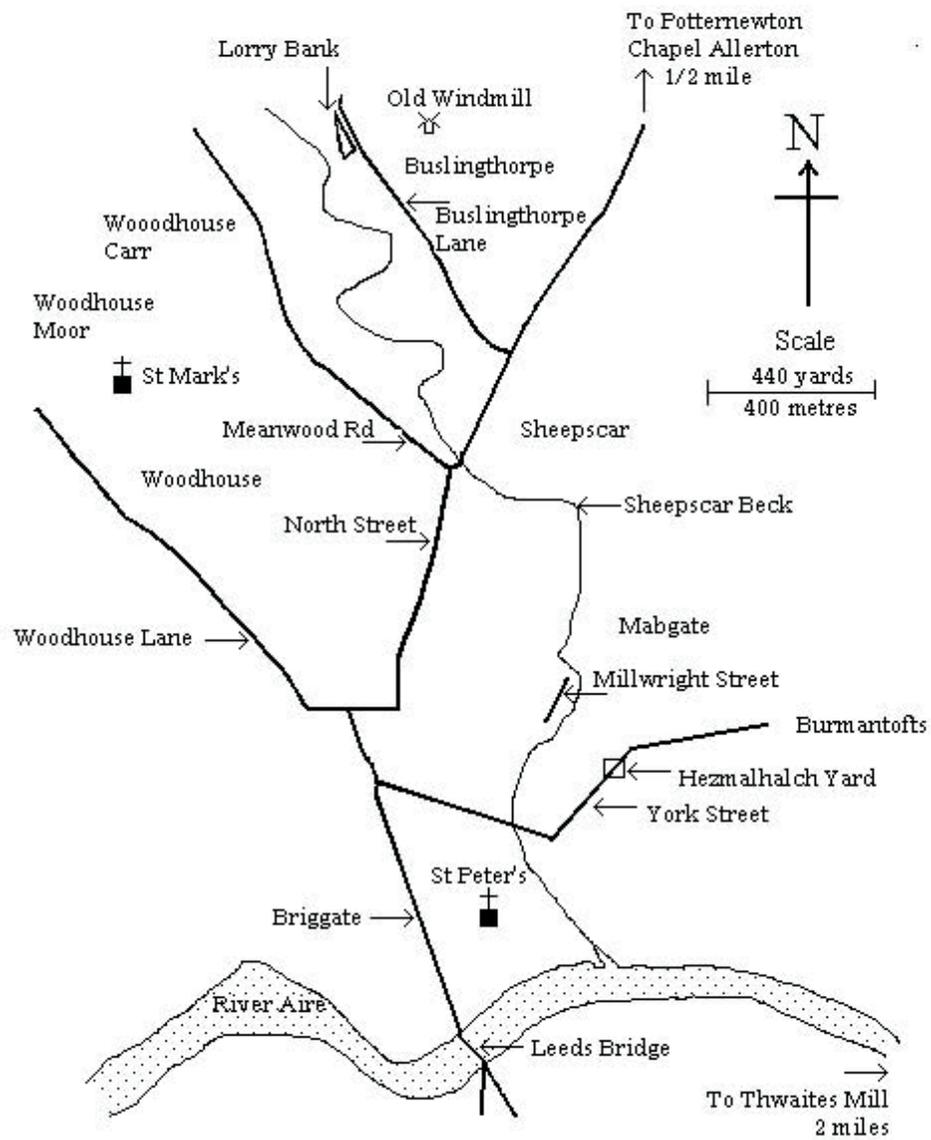
In 1865 Charles had married Mary Elizabeth Bramfitt, the daughter of a market gardener who lived close by, and they had seven children, two sons and five daughters, of whom the second, Norah, was my grandmother. His first wife died aged forty-three. Three years later, Charles remarried. His new wife, Fanny, known as the Mater, was evidently a somewhat formidable figure. Charles himself was summed up by his son as "ambitious, but a God-fearing man. Stern but tried to be just. You [his niece] can feel proud of being descended from the Hezmalhalch line".

The City of Leeds

Writing in her Journal in 1698, the traveller Celia Fiennes described her visit to Leeds: "Leeds is a large town, severall large streetes cleane and well pitch'd and good houses all built of stone, some have good gardens and steps up to their houses and walls before them; this is esteemed the wealthiest town of its bigness in the country, its manufacture is the woollen cloth the Yorkshire Cloth in which they are all employ'd and are esteemed very rich and very proud".

In 1775, the year that James Hezmalhalch (III) married Mary Stubbs, Leeds had a population of 17,117 and was about to witness a dramatic change as the impact of the Industrial Revolution made itself felt. By 1797 it had already almost doubled in size to 31,500 and by 1845 the population had reached 168,000. It was still famous for the manufacture of cloth but now this was done mainly in the growing number of factories, employing cheap labour and belching out smoke from their chimneys. As early as 1837

Map 2 Hezmalhalches in Leeds 1750-1943



a visitor thought that “amongst all others of its species [Leeds] is the vilest of the vile. At a mile distant from the town we came under a vast dingy canopy formed by the impure exhalation of a hundred furnaces. It sits on the town like an everlasting incubus, shutting out the light of heaven and the breath of summer”.

When James’s youngest son, John (II), married Mary Myers in 1817, they went to live in the area known as Leylands and this is where their children were born. It was a time of feverish speculative building and large numbers of cheap back-to-back houses were going up, including Millwright Street where James had a number of cottages and where his workshops were situated. In 1817 Leylands was still close to open country yet by 1819 the writer John Bigland was describing the filth and pollution of Sheeps-car Beck close by. On its banks “the houses are mean and the streets and lanes are dirty, crooked and irregular, emitting disagreeable smells from the dying houses and different manufacturers”. A ballad popular in 1820 opened with the line, “Oh! Smoked city! Dull and dirty Leeds.” It was at Sheeps-car that the Hezmalhalch foundries were situated.

Primitive sanitation and contaminated water added to the insalubrious conditions. Most Leeds citizens relied for their water on bore-holes, wells, the river Aire or water-carriers who might charge up to two shillings [10p] a week. This when the average rent for a cottage was 2/6d [12½p] a week. By 1830 the Aire was little more than an open sewer, fed by tributaries such as Sheeps-car Beck. In 1832 there was a severe outbreak of cholera. Despite common agreement that action was needed it was only after ten years of squabbling that a reservoir was built and that was only able to supply 3,000 houses; by the 1850s 22,700 houses had piped water.

The first Act for Lighting and Paving Leeds had been passed in 1755 but it was another hundred years before any major effort was made to improve the city’s appalling sanitation. In 1853 the Corporation reported, “[We] have now in rapid progress the formation of extensive Common Sewers for the efficient drainage of Leeds, Hunslet and Holbeck at an estimated cost of £800,000. The want of an efficient system of sewerage for draining the streets, cellars, etc. in the town and suburbs had long been felt before the Corporation took the subject into consideration about eleven years ago, and it is hoped that, when the extensive main sewers now constructing are completed, the sanitary conditions of Leeds will be as good as that of most other large manufacturing towns”.

No wonder that by the end of the century Leeds was being described as “a slum city”. But by then Leeds could also boast of many fine public buildings and public parks. Surrounding the city, before they became swallowed up by the spread of housing, were several hamlets, including “the large and handsome village of Woodhouse,” home of successive Hezmalhalches for 150 years. Near Woodhouse were Little Woodhouse and Woodhouse Carr with Woodhouse Moor to the west and Woodhouse Ridge to the east. Woodhouse Moor was opened to the public by Leeds City Council in 1857. It commanded extensive views and, from the purity of its air, was called “the lungs of Leeds”. Twenty years later Leeds also purchased Woodhouse Ridge. Here the upper-middle classes would promenade, joined on Sundays by workers from the city. There was a

bandstand and popular tea rooms. Woodhouse Moor also had its bandstand and crowds of as many as ten thousand would go there on Sundays and Feast Days.

*The joyful Sabbath comes! that blessed day,
When all seem happy, and when all seem gay!
Then toil has ceased, and then both rich and poor
Fly off to Harrogate or Woodhouse Moor.*

A popular Ballad of 1857

If the workers flocked out to Woodhouse on Sundays, the reverse seems to have happened on Saturday evenings when the town was crowded with working people from the neighbouring villages who came to the markets to buy provisions for the coming week.

Although little more than a mile from Leeds city centre, Woodhouse Moor is still an open space and still has its annual Feast or Fair.



Leeds Town Hall

Richard (IV) and His Scottish Descendants

A search in 1992 of the telephone directories for the whole of the United Kingdom revealed only two Hezmalhalches and they proved to be father and son. They are descended from Richard (IV), the youngest son of James (IV) and Mary (née Johnson).

Richard Hezmalhalch (IV) 1827—1904

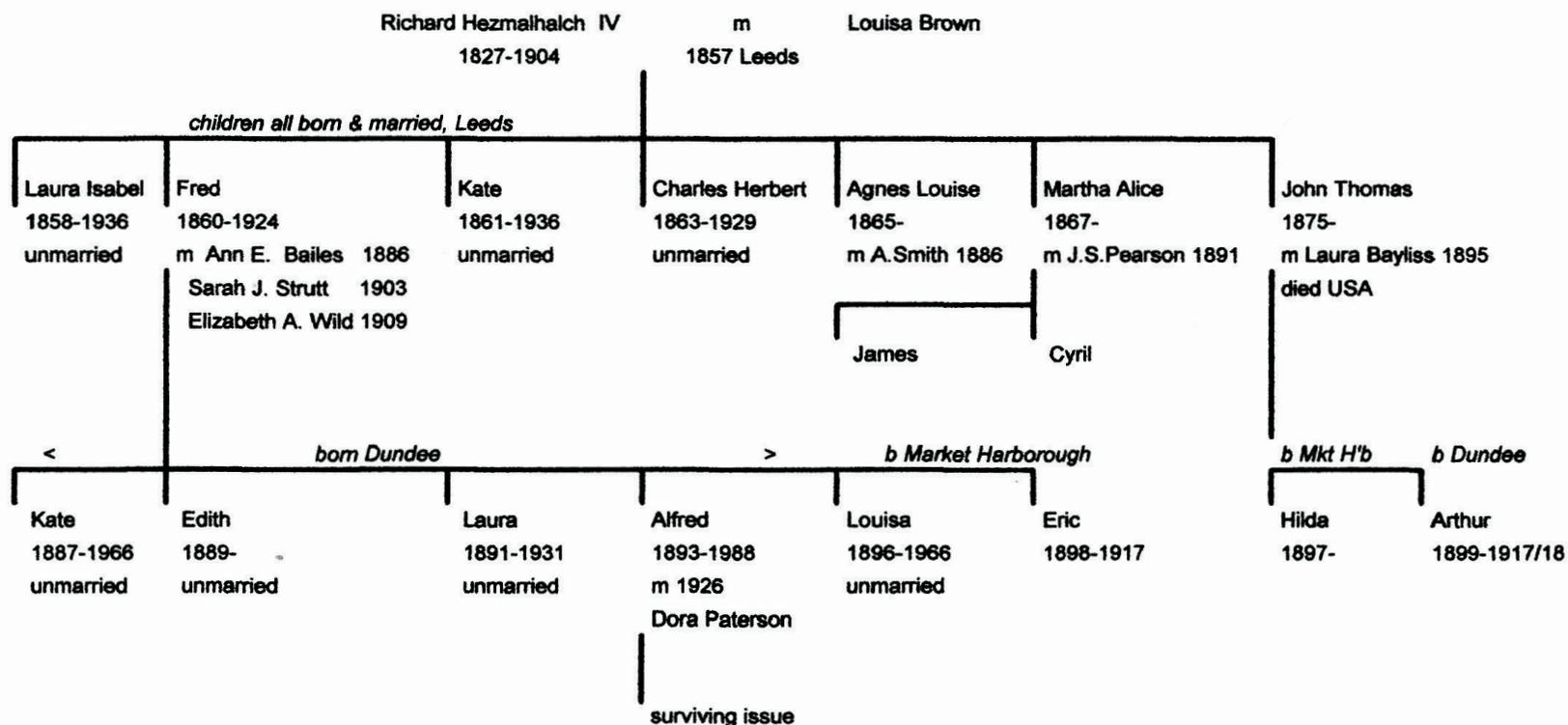
Like his father and brothers, Richard became a millwright. In the 1861 census he describes himself as “Master Engineer and Millwright”. According to family tradition, among the property that he left at his death was a foundry. However, as we have seen, he and his brother Job went bankrupt in the 1860s and after that he became a shopkeeper and, later, a butcher although he continued to describe himself as a millwright or engineer on various official documents. He was not at home for the 1871 census but his wife Louisa was then a shopkeeper in Meanwood Road with five small children. Ten years later Richard, at home this time, calls himself a general shopkeeper with his fourteen year old daughter, Martha, helping him. He seems to have added butchering a year later and by 1891 had obviously made sufficient money on which to retire, for under the heading Profession or Employment in the census for that year is boldly stated “None”. Louisa died six months later.

Richard had married Louisa Brown, a local girl, in 1857 and altogether they had seven children. Laura Isabel, the eldest, became governess to the children of the Earl of Harewood and she appears in the 1881 census as Laura Hozmathalch, age twenty-two, in charge of three young children, Francis, Eric and Mary. Harewood House is eight miles to the northeast of Leeds. Of the twenty-three servants, who came from all over the country, Laura is the last to be mentioned and, while by no means the lowliest, she may well have been the loneliest. As Charlotte Brontë had made clear in her novel *Jane Eyre*, published in 1847, governesses could feel very isolated, socially apart from both employers and domestic staff. By the time of the following census, there was a new governess at Harewood. Whether Laura had obtained similar employment elsewhere, I don’t know, but at her death at the age of seventy-six, she was living at the Charlotte Guest House in Howarth, northwest of Leeds, possibly in retirement. She had never married and was brought home to Leeds where she was buried at Woodhouse Cemetery alongside her cousin James Arthur.

The next daughter, Kate, became a milliner and dressmaker and later had a shop as a baby-linen dealer on Meanwood Road in Leeds. This was down the road from her cousin, Charles Hezmalhalch Pounder, and his grandson Denis recalled his mother going to buy hats from “Cousin Kate”. Like Laura, Kate never married and when she died, in 1936, she left her estate to her sisters Laura and Martha after making a number of bequests to her nephew James Pearson, Martha’s son. These included “grandfathers clock” [sic]. In fact, Laura was to die later the same year. The third daughter, Agnes Louise, was working as a dressmaker when she was fifteen and married at the age of twenty-one. Martha Alice was the youngest daughter and, from helping her father in the shop, she worked as a tailoress before marrying James Stanley Pearson, a joiner. Curiously, she was not baptised until 1885 when she was seventeen.

Tree 4

Richard and his Scottish descendants



All three of Richard's sons became leather finishers; perhaps there is a connection here with their father's butchering. Charles Herbert remained a bachelor. In 1901, like his two brothers, he was living in Dundee, but at some stage he must have returned to Leeds and it was here that he died in 1929 at the age of sixty-six.

Fred Hezmalhalch 1860—1924

Richard's eldest son was Fred, born in 1860. At the age of eleven he was working as a warehouse boy but by the time he was twenty-one he had become a leather finisher. Sometime in the eighties he moved to Dundee in Scotland but he never lost touch with Leeds. He married three times, always in Leeds, and at least four of his children were baptised there. His first marriage was to Ann Eliza Bailes in 1886; they had six children,

four daughters and two sons. Kate was the eldest, born in 1887 in Dundee and the next three children were also born there. However, for some unknown reason, perhaps connected with employment, by 1896 they had moved south to Market Harborough in Leicestershire where the last two children were born, Louisa and Eric. Eric was born in early 1898 and less than six months later his mother was dead, quite possibly as a result of the birth. She was only thirty-seven and was buried in the public cemetery in Market Harborough; sadly there is no headstone to mark the place.

The following February Eric was baptised in Leeds though Fred still gave his address as Market Harborough. It was probably soon after this that he returned to Dundee. With five other children to support, all under the age of twelve, he was evidently unable to cope with baby Eric who was brought up by his maternal aunt and never knew his siblings in Scotland. In 1901 his mother's father Samuel Bailes was a sixty-five year old widower living in Leeds with his two unmarried sons and his daughter Margaret. She was thirty, unmarried, and acting as her father's housekeeper. With them was three year old Eric. In the First World War Eric served with the Coldstream Guards. He died on 1st December 1917, one of 7048 Officers and men to fall at the Battle of Cambrai in northern France. There are no known graves but there is a Memorial in the small village of Louveral close by.

Within four years of his first wife's death, and by now certainly back in Scotland, Fred married Sarah Jane Strutt, a forty-seven year old spinster. She died in 1907 and less than two years later, Fred married Elizabeth Ann Wild, also a spinster aged forty-seven. He spent the rest of his life in Dundee and died there in 1924, followed by his wife two years later.



The Churchyard at St. Mark's

In Loving Memory
of Louise
The beloved wife of
Richard Hezmalhalch
Who died Nov. 24. 1891
Aged 55 years
Also of the above
Richard Hezmalhalch
Who died Oct. 24. 1904
Aged 77 years
"Thy will be done"
Also
Charles Herbert Hezmalhalch
Second son of the above
Who died November 8th 1929
Aged 66 years
Also Kate Hezmalhalch
Second daughter
Died Jan 13th 1936 aged 74 years

Fred's will makes interesting reading; everything was left to his wife for use during her life but then his property went to Alfred and his money to his daughters. Laura and Louisa received £100 each and the rest, amounting to £1322 19s 11d, was to be divided equally between all four daughters. None of the girls married so why the favouritism to Laura and Louisa? The property, which he must have inherited from his father, Richard (IV), was quite considerable as there were two houses with shops attached as well as a whole terrace of houses. These were in Woodhouse, the area of Leeds where Fred was born. His son has memories of going to Leeds with his father to visit this property.

John Thomas Hezmalhalch 1875 —

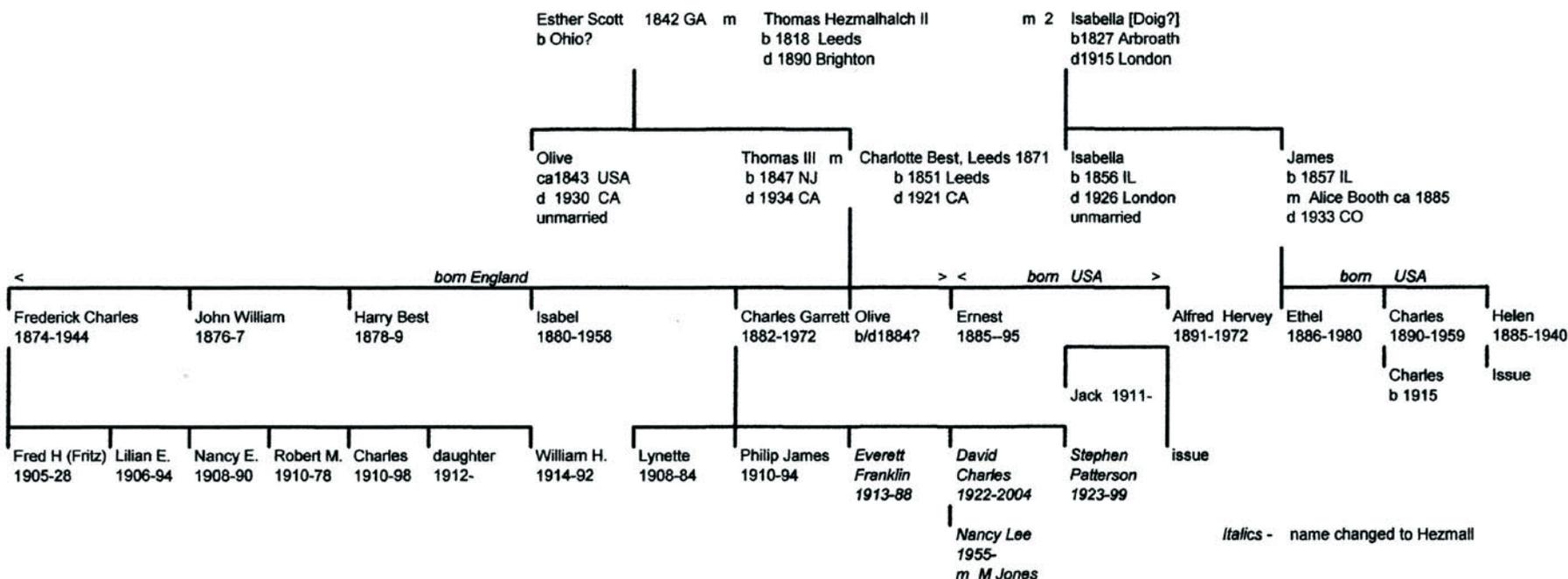
John Thomas was the youngest of Richard and Louisa's children and when he was fifteen he was apprenticed to a joiner. However, he evidently abandoned this and joined his brother Fred in the leather trade. In 1895 he married Laura Bayliss in Leeds and thirteen months later they were in Market Harborough where their daughter Hilda was born. Then when brother Fred returned to Dundee, John and Laura went too. However, in 1903 John went out to America where he was joined by Laura and their children the following year. Their son Arthur had been born in Dundee in 1899 and like his cousin Eric, Arthur served in the First World War. He too died in France, where he was buried in the war cemetery at Meuse-Argonne. By 1930 John and Laura had become American citizens and were living in Brooklyn where he was working as a leather tanner. Their daughter Hilda was a divorcee with a nine year old son, Richard Brandle, but while she was working as a store buyer in Philadelphia, Richard was with his grandparents in New York. Laura died in New Jersey in 1966. By then she was probably a widow.

Alfred Hezmalhalch, 1893—1988, and His Four Sisters

Alfred was a Marine Engineer working for the Bengal Assam SS Company Ltd, based in Calcutta. In 1926 he married Dora Paterson, a Dundee girl, and they had a son, who also became a Marine Engineer, and a daughter. However, it looks as though the name is destined to disappear entirely from the UK.

Of the sisters, Kate was the first to leave Dundee. In 1931 she was living in Ferryhill, just south of Durham. Later she moved to Embleton on the Northumberland coast and it was here that she died in 1966. Laura died in 1931, when she and her other two sisters were living together in Dundee. Louisa was a manager at Kiellers (marmalade manufacturers) while Kate and Edith were both school teachers. At some stage, Louisa and Edith moved to Harrogate and at Kate's death they were living at the Brunswick Hotel there, presumably in retirement. What is interesting about their move to Harrogate is that there is a family story of a chapel and a stained glass window in Harrogate. This must surely be the chapel at Felliscliffe, built by their grandfather Richard's cousins. Mary had died in 1909 when Edith was twenty. Perhaps they had met on a family visit to Leeds from Scotland and, when the sisters went to live in Harrogate visited the chapel, giving rise to the story. Louisa died within three months of Kate, after which, I believe, Edith returned to Dundee. The four sisters had all been mentioned in their Aunt Kate's will, further evidence of the close connections that were maintained well into the 1930s.

To America



To America Like so many families in the 19th century, James and Mary were to see one of their sons departing for a new life in America. We do not know what led Thomas (II) to leave home, but as the third of six brothers, all destined to become millwrights, perhaps he felt he would have more opportunities across the Atlantic. He is believed to have left Liverpool on the sailing ship *Sheridan* and arrived in New York on 20th April 1837. The voyage would have taken six or seven weeks and must have been very similar to that of William Cuttell, a Yorkshire weaver, whose diary of the same crossing six years later provides a tantalising glimpse of what it would have been like. Despite some rough weather and bouts of seasickness, William clearly enjoyed the voyage. He is full of wonder at the many strange-looking fish that he sees as well as birds and occasional whales and porpoises and more than once he comments on the beautiful sunsets. He does not say very much about conditions aboard ship though he does mention the birth of one baby and the death of another. However, one evening after the usual prayers, “we had a ball which consisted of comic and sentimental singing, hornpipe and country dancing.

The priest acted as musician”. Life on an emigrant ship was not quite so grim as one is sometimes led to believe. When they finally reached land all passengers had to be seen by a doctor and inspector before they could disembark. Next morning, “all was busy getting luggage on deck, and many was the beds, bottles, cans and tubs that was thrown overboard. Much labor had to be performed in getting the luggage into the boat which took us all to Staten Island customhouse where we had to have our goods inspected”. I wonder what were the feelings of the eighteen-year old Thomas on his arrival and what luggage he had with him? Probably not a bed.

By 1842 Thomas was in Savannah, Georgia, where he married Esther Scott, and six months later he took an oath of naturalisation, swearing “true allegiance to the State of Georgia”. (It is from the document recording the oath of citizenship that we are told he sailed on the ship *Sheridan* and arrived in New York in 1837. However, his name does not appear on the passenger list. So had he worked his passage and then jumped ship, was he a stowaway, or what?)

Despite his oath of allegiance to Georgia, four years later Thomas was in New Jersey and from there he may have gone to New York before moving to Chicago in Illinois. In none of these places, however, did he seem able to settle and at some time in the 1860s he returned home to Leeds.

Thomas and Esther had two children, Olive, born in 1843 or thereabouts, and Thomas (III), who was born in Paterson, New Jersey, in 1847. Eight years later it appears that Thomas had married again. His second wife, Isabella, was Scottish, and they had a daughter and son, both born in Chicago. Or did they? On 18th November 1856, an Isabella Doig married Stanton Link in Will County, adjacent to Chicago in Illinois. However, according to various records, Isabella Doig Hezmalhalch was born in Chicago in 1856 and her brother James two years later. It seems highly unlikely that there were two Isabella Doigs in Illinois in 1856 so were these the children of Isabella and Stanton Link, and did Isabella subsequently marry Thomas Hezmalhalch who then accepted the children as his own?

There are conflicting stories about what Thomas (II) did while in Chicago, one being that he established a brewery, the other that he worked in a foundry where shells were moulded for the Government during the Civil War. Coming as he did from a family of millwrights, the latter seems more likely, and indeed, once back in England he twice described himself as an Iron Moulder on official documents. Nevertheless, in Leeds he set up shop as a grocer, living with his wife and four children very close to his surviving brothers and sisters. By 1881 he had retired with Isabella to the fashionable town of Brighton on the south coast where he died in 1890 at the age of seventy-one.

Their daughter Isabella became a schoolmistress in Hastings, a few miles along the coast from her parents. She never married and by 1890 she was living in London where she was joined by her widowed mother who died in 1915. Isabella continued to live in London up to the time of her own death in 1926, sadly at the City of London Mental Hospital. Part of her estate included the shop and house in Leeds that she had inherited from her parents.

Meanwhile, Thomas's other three children had all returned to America. In 1928 James who, as the only surviving relative, had inherited his sister's estate, sold the Leeds property and this seems to have been his last connection with England. At this time he was a retired army officer living in Denver, Colorado.

Prior to this, his life must be conjecture but it would seem that he had gone to Denver from England some time before 1881 and subsequently married an English girl, Alice Booth, who had emigrated in 1885. They had three children, a son, Charles, born in 1889, and two daughters, Ethel and Helen. Charles and Helen both married twice. Charles and his first wife, Olive, had a son, Charles junior, born in 1915. He is believed to have married but whether he had children is not known. James and Alice are buried at Fairmount Cemetery in Denver, together with Charles and Helen, and possibly Ethel. Charles's second wife, Edith, is also buried there. At some time, unfortunately, this

branch of the family had quarrelled with the descendants of Tom in California and had refused all communication with them. However, I am happy to report that I have now established contact with Edith's daughter by a previous marriage.

A Missionary, Tom Hezmalhalch 1847 —1934

Today there are some half dozen families that still carry the name of either Hezmall or Hezmalhalch, living either in California or Oregon on the west coast of America, or in Texas, and all are descended from Tom [Thomas Hezmalhalch (III)]. He was educated in Chicago and then reportedly worked as a superintendent in his father's munitions factory during the Civil War. As he was only seventeen when the war ended this seems unlikely. In all probability father and son were both employed in moulding shells for some unknown factory owner. Young Tom did work as an iron moulder when he came to England, probably for one of his Hezmalhalch uncles.

In December 1871 Thomas married Charlotte Best at the Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in Headingley, Leeds. Ever since John Wesley had visited Leeds, preaching to crowds of 14,000 and more back in 1775, Leeds had been associated with Methodism. In 1837 the Leeds Town Mission had been established under the slogan "Not to Proselytize but to Evangelize" and thirty years later a Theological Institution had been opened in Headingley. The Methodist National Conference was held in Leeds every three years. Always much time was devoted to the question of missionary work, both at home and overseas. Clearly, Tom was strongly influenced by this and by 1880 he had become a Lay Missionary. It is possible that he had first become interested in the Methodists as a boy in Chicago since in 1858 it had been a major centre for the 'Third Great Awakening' and the evangelist Dwight L. Moody was working with boys at the YMCA there.

The Wesleyan Methodist Magazines of the time cast an interesting light upon the work of Lay Missionaries. They were to visit the inhabitants of their district "for the purpose of bringing them to an acquaintance with salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, and of doing them good by every means in [their] power . . . Specific attention [is to be] given to the neglected and careless portion of the population of our large towns. Their appalling moral and social condition demands a much larger share of the practical sympathy of our Connexion". Duties included "daily visits from house to house avoiding however the normal hours for meals when the poor naturally object to be intruded upon by strangers". Parents were to be instructed in their duties in bringing up their children; vice such as swearing, intemperance or profanation of the Sabbath was to be prudently reprov'd; tracts and Bibles were to be supplied where they were lacking. The Lay Missionaries, who were paid between £50 and £80 a year, should "be praying with the people and exhorting them to cleave to the Lord. Satan's agents are at work morning, noon and night, especially in the slums and alleys". Alas, by 1880, Leeds was notorious for its slums and alleys; there was no shortage of people for Tom to help. And help of a practical as well as spiritual kind was offered. Where there was great poverty, the missionaries were empowered to recommend suitable cases to the various charitable and medical institutions. As well as making house visits, they visited infirmaries and fever hospitals, workhouses, barracks and the gaol.



Wesleyan College, Leeds

But Tom had grown up in America and in 1884 he returned there, taking his wife and young family with him. They had two sons, Frederick Charles, and Charles Garrett and a daughter, Isabel. Two other sons had died as babies. The birth of an Olive Hezmalhalch had been registered in Leeds in the third quarter of 1884 but as no more is heard of her she may have died on the voyage. They went on to have two more sons, Ernest and Alfred. The travellers reached Glendale in California sometime in 1884 and Tom continued his missionary work there. His eldest son, Fred, used to recall how as a little boy he was obliged to get jobs in order to buy food because his father, “a religious fanatic”, was always preaching and neglected his family. He was a preacher in the American Holiness Church and he and Charlotte travelled a lot in the States.

Then, in 1908, at the age of sixty and having sold his land in California, he went out to South Africa. He went as the partner of another powerful evangelist, John G. Lake, and the two were reported as working together in perfect harmony. If Lake was preaching, Tom might intervene with, “Wait a bit, John, and let me explain a point,” or Lake might interrupt, “Now, hold on a while Brother Tom,” to offer his view. They had gone out with their wives, Lake’s young family, and two other missionaries. Nothing was organised; they had almost no money and in his diary John Lake described how he and Tom prayed together that God would provide the \$2,000 they needed to travel to Johannesburg. “Four days later Tom returned from the post office and threw upon the table four \$500 drafts ... The gift of money had been sent to Tom by a friend with a letter [which] read, ‘Something said to me, “Send Tom Hezmalhaltz [sic] two thousand dollars.” It is yours, Tom, for whatever purpose God has shown you’”. Arrived in Johannesburg, “from the very start it was as though a spiritual cyclone had struck. Before many weeks, scores were saved and filled with the Holy Spirit, and hundreds were healed”. The mission lasted four and a half years before they returned home to California following the death of Mrs Lake.

From 1918 to 1921, Tom and Charlotte, together with son Charles and his young family, led a very meagre existence in the Arizona desert, apparently in order to escape the great flu epidemic after the First World War. They subsequently moved to Los Angeles. In 1921, Charlotte died and Tom wrote a moving tribute in the form of an acrostic. If no poet, he had a certain facility and has left behind a number of rousing hymns for which he wrote both words and music. He outlived Charlotte by thirteen years, dying in 1934 at the age of eighty-six. Only the previous year he must surely have been proud to officiate at the wedding of his granddaughter Nancy.

Tom’s sister Olive, of whom he was very fond, also returned to the States. She never married and was a nurse. She lived in Los Angeles and for the last eleven years of her life was at County Farm, a hospital. Perhaps she worked there before becoming a patient two years before her death in 1930.



Tom
Hezmalhalch

I'll Praise My Lord.

Words and Music by
T. HEZMALHALCH.

Moderato. Con espress.

1. I'll praise my Lord, yes, ev-'ry day; He is so good, so true to me.
2. He keeps my soul in per-fect peace; He reigns and rules, with-in my heart.
3. Some day He'll come to take me home; How hap-py then, my soul will be.

I'll sing His praise, while on my way! Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah!
My song of praise, shall nev - er cease; Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah!
My jour-ney closed, no more I'll roam; Hal - le - lu - jah, Hal - le - lu - jah!

CHORUS.

O grace is free, yes free to all; I trust His word, Hal - le - lu - jah!

rall.
I know His voice, I know His call; Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

Descendants of Tom and Charlotte

Frederick, the eldest, who had been named after Charlotte's brother, was ten when they emigrated and his daughter-in-law Melba said that he never lost his English accent, no doubt a good Yorkshire one. During the Spanish-American war of 1898 he served in the US Army but otherwise spent the rest of his life in Orange County, California. He was a talented amateur musician, sang as a tenor soloist and was choir master and organist at his local Presbyterian Church. He had numerous jobs in the course of his life and from 1916 to 1924 was city clerk of Fullerton. In 1921 a history of Orange County was published that included 'Biographical Sketches of The Leading Men and Women,' of whom Fred was one. He was highly spoken of as a public-spirited citizen who had served his town with much credit and he was remembered fondly by Melba as "such a nice man".

Fred and his wife Lottie, whom he had married in 1903, had seven children, one of whom is still living. They all spent their lives in California. The eldest son, also Frederick but known as Fritz, is believed to have been a potential Olympic athlete but in 1928 he died of cancer, leaving a young widow. He was only twenty-three.

Of Tom and Charlotte's remaining children, Charles Garrett and Alfred Hervey both have living descendants, as does their daughter Isabel. Their son Ernest died at the age of ten as the result of a tragic accident.

Charles Garrett had left England as a toddler. As a young man he served with the US Navy on board USS Alabama and then worked as a carpenter, spending the rest of his long life in California. He died in Napa in 1972 at the age of eighty-nine. He had a daughter and four sons, all but Philip shortening their name to Hezmall. I am assured by his granddaughter Nancy, née Hezmall, that this in no way affects their pride in the name of Hezmalhalch.

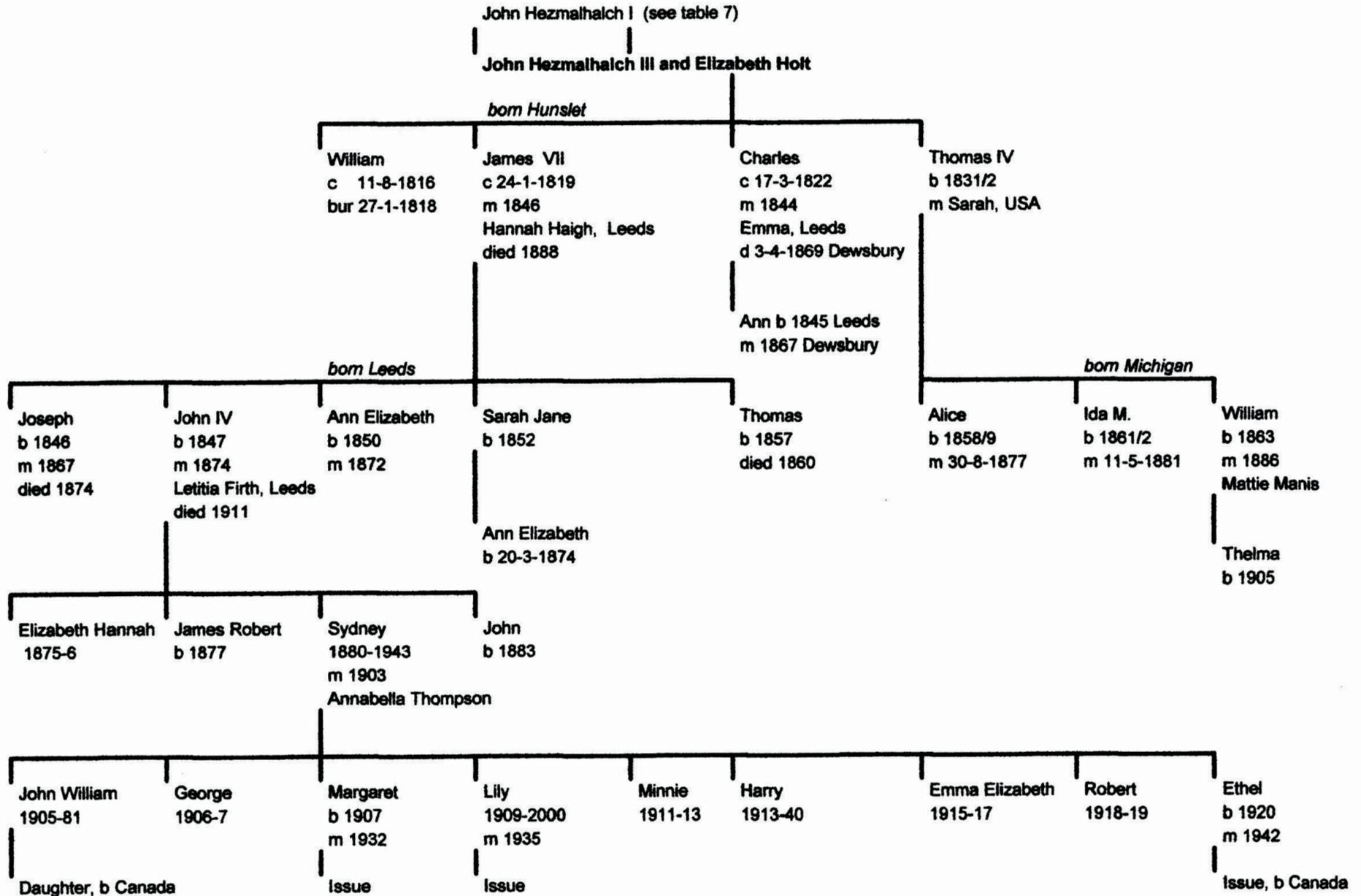
Charles's two eldest boys, Philip and Everett, both became ministers doing mission work, doubtless giving considerable satisfaction to their Grandpa Tom. After studying Business Administration and gaining a B.Sc., Everett went on to get a degree in Theology before becoming a Presbyterian Minister. In 1975 he published a book *God Speaks Through Nature*. Charles's third son, David Charles, worked as an advertising representative for a local newspaper. In 1942 he enlisted in the U.S. Navy. It is to his daughter Nancy that I am indebted for most of the research on the American side. She married Michael Jones. The youngest of Charles's sons was Stephen Patterson, Patterson being his mother's maiden name.

Alfred Hervey was the youngest of Tom and Charlotte's children. When still only twenty, he married and had a son Jack, though what became of him is unknown. This early marriage ended in divorce and in 1920 Alfred remarried and had two further two sons.

Today there are at least four great-great-grandsons of Tom and Charlotte to carry on the name of Hezmalhalch, and two Hezmalls.

Tree 6

Carpenters at Hezmalhalch Yard



Carpenters and Stone Masons

All the Hezmalhalches looked at so far have been directly descended from the illegitimate James (III) and his wife Mary Stubbs but there was one other branch of the family that still survives. As we have seen, the first James had six children, all born at Thorp Arch, but he appears to have been living in Leeds by the early 1750s. His daughter Mary was married there in 1755 as were her two brothers, Richard (II) and James (II), who married sisters, Ann and Sarah Adamson, in 1761 and 1763 respectively. James and Sarah had no children but Richard and Ann were to have six, all born at Thwaite Mill.

Thwaite Mill is sited between the Leeds Canal and the River Aire at Hunslet in south Leeds. We must assume that Richard worked at the mill and lived in one of the tenants' cottages. In 1774, the year his youngest son was born, mill tenants had to be paid one shilling for loss of water from the mill dam whenever the lock was operated. The mill that Richard would have known was demolished in 1823, at which time rape seed oil was being manufactured there. It was rebuilt over the next three years at a cost of £16,000. It ceased working in 1976 following flood damage and since 1978 it has been looked after by the Thwaite Mill Society.

We know that Richard's wife Ann was buried in Hunslet in 1804 and that Richard was still living there two years later but I have not yet found any record of his death. Of their six children, Elizabeth, the only girl, married a Londoner, and so far as I know she is the only Hezmalhalch to have moved out of Yorkshire until Thomas Hezmalhalch (II) went to America in 1837. The eldest son, James, died when he was only thirteen and the youngest, Joseph, at the age of thirty-six. He had been a bookkeeper, unmarried, and he died of consumption. Another Joseph had only lived a couple of months. The remaining sons, John (I) and Richard (II), both had families.

John Hezmalhalch (I) 1763—1795

The elder of the two remaining sons, John, was a mason. He had married and moved out to Potternewton, some three miles north of Hunslet and not far from his millwright cousins at Woodhouse. He went on to have five children before dying of a 'decline' when he was only thirty-two. He had managed to make his will just three weeks earlier and he made his father, his brother Joseph and his brother-in-law trustees to administer his property. He appears to have been comfortably off, being worth £40 and with his own house, which he left to his wife, Elizabeth, together with his furniture, beds and bedding, etc. However, she was to survive him by only seven months before she too died of a decline at the age of thirty-four. Each of his young sons had a personal bequest, John received his Silver Pint, Richard his silver watch and three month old Charles his large bible. Unfortunately before reaching his second birthday, Charles was also to die of a decline. John also had "several dwelling houses or cottages, stable and two gardens or orchard" in Chapel Allerton. These he had bought two years earlier and the rents were to be used for the support of his wife and the education of his children. The two eldest had both predeceased their father; nine month old Dinah died from whooping cough, followed a week later by James who had a fever.

John Hezmalhalch (III) and His Descendants

Despite their sad start in life, the two remaining little boys both reached adulthood and went on to marry and have their own families. John, the elder, remained in Leeds all his life and in 1811 he married Elizabeth Holt. He was a master cabinet maker living and working off York Street in what was to become known as Hezmalhalch Yard. In 1851, by then a widower, he was living there with his sons James (VII) and Thomas (IV), themselves both joiners and cabinet makers, together with James's wife Hannah and their two children. There was also a servant and four lodgers! John died two years later and that may have been when James and Hannah left Hezmalhalch Yard. Over the next few years they made a number of moves, though never more than a few streets away. The youngest son of John and Elizabeth, Charles, became an innkeeper in nearby Dewsbury. He and his wife Emma had a daughter, Ann, who married in 1867.

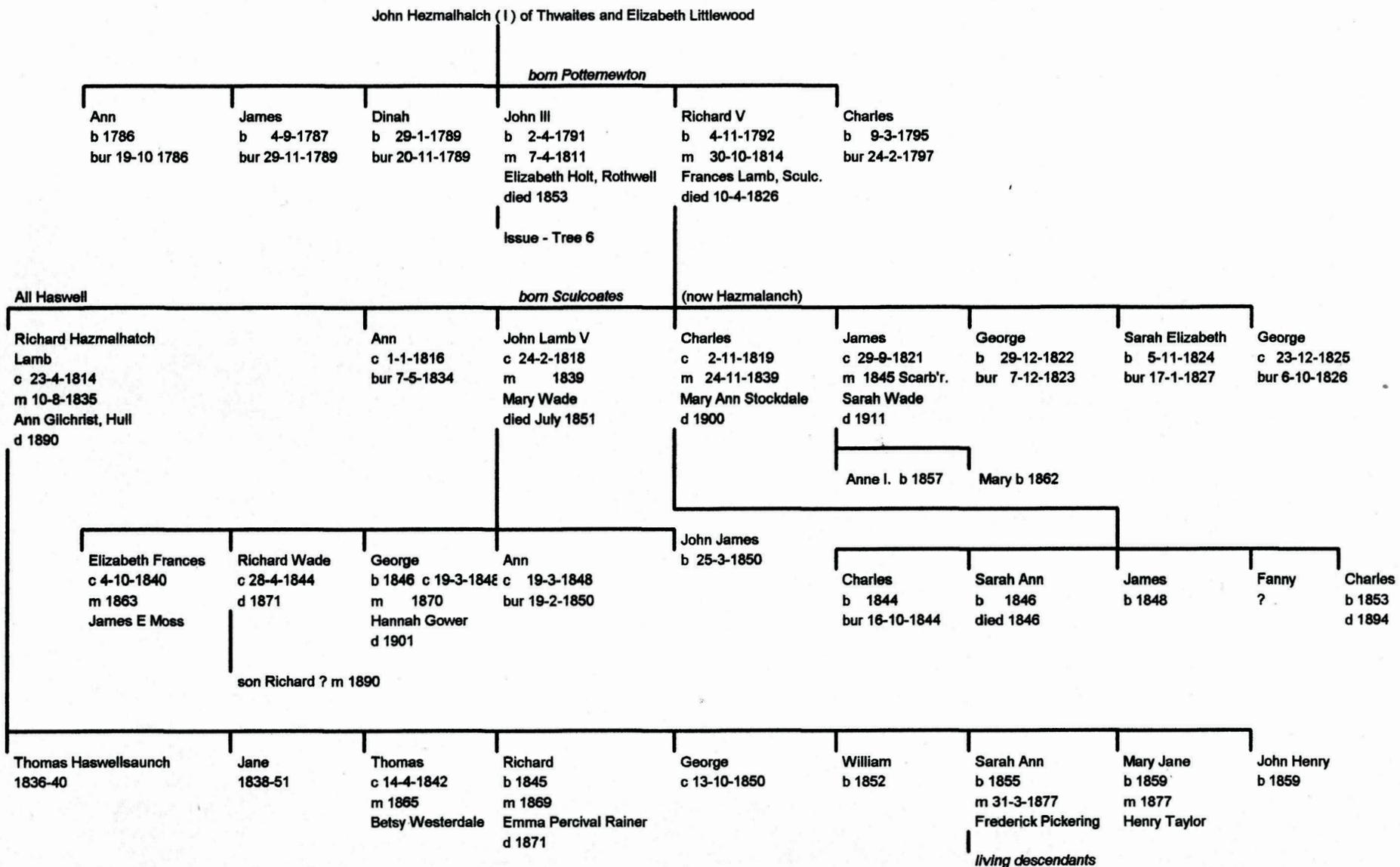
Meanwhile, the middle son, Thomas (IV), like his namesake, but some twenty years later, had emigrated to America. There he continued to work as a cabinet maker and he and his wife Sarah lived in the town of Litchfield in Michigan where they had three children, two daughters and a son. All three married and the son, William, had a daughter, Thelma, born in 1905, but seemingly no sons.

Altogether, James and Hannah had five children. The eldest, Joseph, was a pot maker who died in his mid-twenties while the youngest, Thomas, died in infancy. There were two daughters, Ann Elizabeth and Sarah Jane, and another son, John (IV). Ann Elizabeth married in 1872 but Sarah Jane was to have an illegitimate daughter, another Ann Elizabeth, before she herself married. Her daughter was baptised in the Roman Catholic Church of St Patrick's in Leeds. Later, she moved to Bradford where she married in 1905.

While James continued to work as a cabinet maker, his wife Hannah had, from about 1870 onwards, been a glass and china dealer in the covered market at Kirkgate where she was joined by their son, John (IV). He still appears in the trade directories as such in 1901 but throughout the 1880s he was also working as a fishmonger! John and his wife Letitia had a baby daughter who lived for only six months and they went on to have two, possibly three, sons. So far, it is only the second son, Sydney, whom I have been able to trace. He worked at a steel mill in Hunslet and he and his wife Annabella had four sons and five daughters. Four of the children died as babies while Harry, born in 1913, was to die at the young age of twenty-seven of a seizure. Sydney himself was widowed when he was still only forty-four; he died in 1943. Sydney's eldest son, John William (Bill), was already working down a coalmine at the age of thirteen, but in 1930, at the time of the Depression, he was unemployed and decided to emigrate. The first convenient ship took him to Canada where he began working as a farmhand in Saskatchewan. He enlisted during the Second World War and was posted to England where he found an English bride. At the same time, his youngest sister, Ethel, married his friend and so she too emigrated to Canada where she still lives, as does Bill's only child. Although she married she kept her maiden name, much to her father's disgust. So far as we know, she is the last of this branch to bear the name Hezmalhalch. Margaret and Lily, Sydney and Annabella's other two daughters, both married and had families who still live in Leeds.

Tree 7

To Hull



Hull

We now leave Leeds and go to Sculcoates, a suburb of Hull, by way of Thwaite Mill and the children of Ann and Richard (II). As we have seen, Richard became one of the trustees responsible for their son John's young family. Their other surviving son, Richard (III), married when he was very young and still at Thwaite. He and his wife Elizabeth had two sons but within little more than two years both sons and his wife were dead. The second son, Edward was baptised and buried on the same day, followed by his mother three days later. She was still only twenty. The older little boy, Thomas, died the following year. However, what is most intriguing is the fact that he left a will! \in 1794 "admon. of the goods of Thomas Hezmalhalch late of Hunslet in the parish of Leeds a Miner [sic] was granted to Richard Hezmalhalch the younger his father he having first been sworn" etc. Numerous questions arise. How could a child of his age possibly leave a will? Had he perhaps been named as a beneficiary by his maternal grandfather?

How soon after that Richard left and moved to Sculcoates we don't know but he was certainly there in 1807. An indenture concerning property in Leeds refers to him as being "late of Thwaite". Five years later, now Richard Hazwell and working as a millwright, he married a young widow, Mary Clark. We know that Richard Hazwell is our man because in 1813, in another property transaction, he appears as "Richard Haswell otherwise Hezmalhalch of Hull, yeoman, . . . otherwise Hasmalhalch otherwise Richard Hazwell, formerly of Knostrop"! [Knostrop is just across the river from Thwaite.] I can find no further mention of Richard but Mary died in Hull in 1870 aged seventy-nine.

At some point, Richard (III) was evidently joined by his young nephew, Richard (V). In 1814 this Richard married Frances Lamb in Sculcoates but by then they already had a baby son who had been christened Richard Hazmalhatch Lamb. This was in New George Street, the home of Richard and Frances for the rest of their tragically short lives. It is the same sad story, for like his father Richard had become a mason and died leaving a young family when he was only thirty-three. Like his father, he had managed to make a will and appoint trustees to care for his surviving children. One baby was already dead and within fifteen months of Richard's death, two more had died and so had his widow. However, fittingly for a stone and marble mason, a headstone was erected.

Sacred to the memory of
RICHARD HAZMALHANCH
Stone Mason
who departed this life April 16th
1826 aged [] years
[4 line verse now eroded]
Also of FRANCES, relict of the above
RICHARD HAZMALHANCH
who died July the [9] aged [] years
Also JOHN HAZMALANCH
who died July [] 1851
aged [] years
His end was peace

This left four sons and a daughter, Ann. The eldest, the illegitimate Richard, was still only thirteen so who looked after them I don't know but they remained at New George Street for it was here that Ann died in 1834 at the age of eighteen.

In 1835 Richard Hazmalanch Lamb, Bricklayer, and Ann Gilchrist were married by banns in Hull. According to the IGI [International Genealogical Index], Thomas Haswellsaunch, son of Richard Haswellsaunch and Ann Gilchrist, was baptised in 1836 at the Independent Chapel in Hull. No mention of Lamb. Thomas died four years later. Richard and Ann went on to have eight more children, five sons and three daughters and by now they appear to have adopted the surname Haswell. The eldest daughter, Jane, died at the age of twelve. The second son was another Thomas and like his father he became a bricklayer. However, living as they did in a major seaport, it is not surprising that the occupations of the other sons included a merchant's clerk, a ship's steward and a merchant seaman. All the surviving children married and went on to have children, including Sarah Ann who in 1877 married Frederick Pickering, another bricklayer, and they too had a large family with eight sons and just one daughter. As the only girl and the eldest she must have been much in demand in helping to care for her many brothers. It is Frederick Pickering's granddaughter that I must thank for most of the data once the name was shortened to Haswell. The three legitimate sons also married, the youngest, James, in Scarborough. The other two, John (V) and Charles, both remained in Sculcoates, John as a gardener and Charles as a bricklayer, and both had several children at least three of whom died in their infancy. Two of the daughters married in the 1860s and in 1870 George was married in Hull. By now, the name for all those in Sculcoates had become Hazmalanch, later to be shortened by most of them to Haswell.

Whether there are any living descendants who still bear the name of Haswell or Hazmalanch I do not know. There is some very slight evidence to suggest that at least one of the family emigrated to Australia, possibly in the 1850s, but if so the name had now become Hasman!

Conclusion

There can never be a real conclusion because there are always new lines of research waiting to be followed up and as the amount of information now available on the internet continues to grow at an enormous rate, so do the possibilities. In my desire to glean as much information as possible, I broadcast the name Hezmalhalch at every opportunity. I have been amazed and delighted by the responses I have had, often from people with no direct family connections. A few years ago a lady sent me a photocopy of Letitia Hezmalhalch's Memorial Card, found among her mother's papers. From what I already knew about Letitia, my correspondent was then able to establish that she had been a cousin of her great-grandmother.



I began by saying that there has never been more than a handful and in fact I have found no more than two hundred who were born with the name Hezmalhalch (plus, latterly, Hezmall in America and Haswell in Hull!). Of those, at least thirty-eight died under the age of twenty, most as babies, and of the rest more than sixty were born in the United States. In fact, without the departure from Leeds of Missionary Tom to America in the 1880s, the name could be on the verge of extinction. For the majority we shall never know more than the barest details; birth, marriage perhaps, and death, but occasionally we get a brief glimpse into their lives and as far as possible I have tried to put them into context, for instance with the brief account of nineteenth century Leeds.

There must be some whom I have failed to find. Who, for example, was Mary Hezmalhalch, born in New York in 1852 and living in California in the year 1900?

Yet questions are still being answered. A few years ago, I was told that some time in the 1970s, Bill Hezmalhalch (one of Missionary Tom's grandsons) had had a phone call from another Bill Hezmalhalch, a Canadian on holiday in California. Unfortunately, he did not give his home address and when Californian Bill tried phoning the hotel it was too late. Now we know that the mysterious visitor was John William, eldest son of Sydney, who had emigrated to Canada in 1930. Meanwhile the search goes on and if anyone reading this can help with any fresh information or correct any mistakes I may have made, I should be most grateful.

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