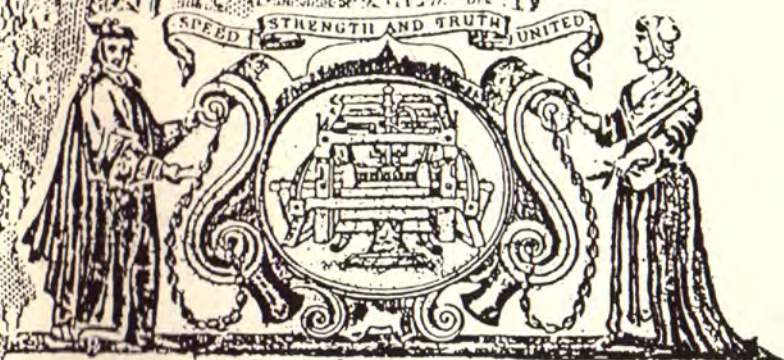
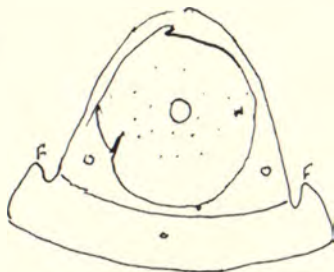


ISSUE No. 29.



THE

A.S.L.C.



*The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais
meets in St Francis Xavier Hall, McKenzie Street,
Lavender Bay [behind North Sydney Station].*

*The Executive meets from 12 noon to 1 pm (all
interested members welcome), and the main meeting
commences at 1 pm.*

Afternoon tea from 3 pm.

MEETING DATES FOR 1990:

Saturday, 3rd February: Annual General Meeting

Saturday, 5th May

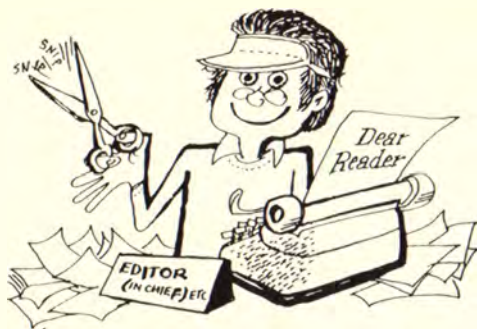
Saturday, 4th August

Saturday, 3rd November

Saturday, 2nd February, 1991

COVER: Framework Knitters Arms set on Nottingham
Lace, from the Bransen Family.

ISSN No. 0815 - 3442



We have a book!

"At last!" I hear you all say, possibly with mixed feelings of pride, exasperation, or even a little disbelief.

If I tell you that it has been put together in surprisingly short time, many will not believe me, but the good news for us all is that we do have a book, and can now look forward to a very special meeting and book launch on May 5th at St Francis Xavier Hall, North Sydney.

Our pride should be heartfelt on this occasion when you consider that we are a relatively young society, gathered together from many parts of our land with membership that spans many miles and many seas, and our subject was totally unknown until recently. For a society so young we have come a long way. Sceptics may say "fools rush in where angels fear to tread", but look what we "fools" have accomplished! Our accomplishment is a total joint effort. A mixture of enthusiasm and discipline that with encouragement has overcome setbacks and difficulties has resulted in a publication that we will all treasure and will impress many of our colleagues and historians.

There will be many people to thank on the occasion

of the launch, for their special contribution, but I would like here to make special mention and give due credit to Terence Higgins, our inaugural treasurer, who for many years kept a firm grasp on our purse strings, and was a true and loyal steward. To him we owe the fact that we can afford to publish this our?? first book. His task was not always easy, but always carried out with concern and courtesy.

I look forward to seeing many members along with invited guests to join us for our book launch and to enjoy champagne and refreshments after.

CLAIRE



being financial.

Subs for 1990 were due at the A.G.M. in February.

If you have not paid your \$15

this will be your last

TULLE !

THE LACEMAKERS OF CALAIS

Gillian Kelly



Finally, the book!

This has been one of the most illuminating experiences I have had through all the excitement of my years of research into family history, and the delights I have found from within the people I have met with the Lacemakers.

Probably, my first true love is social history - and by that I mean, not the world shattering events that have shaped our lives, but the day to day living of the generations before us that has made us what we are. I have read this book probably fifty times, and the families live for me! The formal history will still take unravelling and interpreting, but the families live!

The book is not definitive. I hope that we can add and discover more and more. It is a start. It is divided into three fairly clear sections: the formal history, the families, and an appendix.

The formal history is three peoples' interpretation of the times: Richard Lander's, Lindsay Watts', and mine. It is well researched, and factually correct,

and we hope, fascinating. However, all history is only a matter of interpretation, and as new facts are found, perhaps people will feel we saw it too much from the English side, or too much from the French side, or too blandly, or whatever. Perhaps they will then feel confident in adding their ideas. History is just that, and providing the research is there, then all peoples' ideas are valid for their experiences and points of view.


The family section is a delight. Some are longer and more involved. Others are short pieces that will get the mind working. All pieces are a reflection of that family's settlement into this land of ours. As I have read and edited in patches I have been intrigued by the links our families must have had then, and how 142 years later we are purposefully re forging those links.

The final section includes a small piece on lacemaking in Australia that I think will make you all smile at the irony of it. With this are the shipping lists for the three ships, as completely as I can do it, with the correct references. I know there are several names missing, but from the lists I have, I can't include them. The Harpley's list is in the handwriting of Bonham, as he sent it to England from Calais. It is the only list available. We had hoped to show the memorial from Calais in the original handwriting, but it wouldn't print satisfactory.

The index probably caused more headaches than imaginable. The first section is indexed by the usual criteria. The family section is indexed by the family names in bold type, all other names in common type, places, counties, Bathurst or Maitland, occupations and the like. No attempt was made to include every reference to Nottingham and Calais from the family section.

This is the first effort of recording our Lacemakers. I have been delighted, amused, saddened, and overwhelmed by the family stories, but I would truly agree with Pam Harvey, in reference to the Wand family, when she said "I, for one, am glad they [the lacemakers] made that epic journey."

I, for two Pam, am glad, also!



*You are cordially invited
to attend the Launch of our first
publication of*

"The Lacemakers of Calais"

to be held on Saturday, 5th May

at 2 p.m.

at St Francis Xavier Hall,

McKenzie Street

Lavender Bay

[behind North Sydney Station]

and after

Celebratory Champagne



THE SECRETARY'S

REPORT

The Annual Meeting, due to the inclement weather, was poorly attended.

The members accepted an offer made by David Lowe (Health Correspondent for the Nottingham Evening Post) to review 'The Lacemakers of Calais' in this paper if we sent him a copy. A stipulation was made that we request that he send us a copy of the issue in which his review appears. David Lowe is also co-author with Jack Richards of three books pertaining to lace.

A letter was received from Terence resigning as Treasurer, and was accepted by the meeting. The members present requested that a letter of appreciation and thanks for his work as foundation treasurer be sent to Terence; and proposed that when available a copy of 'The Lacemakers of Calais' (suitably inscribed) also be given to him.

A copy of the Balance Sheet appears elsewhere in this issue. The painting by Doreen Nicholson raised \$145 for our funds, and was won by Shirley Hale with ticket D4. Thank you, Doreen.

At present we have 138 book orders prepaid, which include 14 from non-members.

Due to the torrential rains, Lindsay was unable to get to Sydney, so there was no Publicity Report.

Tom Halls took the chair for the Election of Office Bearers. The only new-comer to the committee is Pat Stewart, who very kindly volunteered for the position of Treasurer. Thank you, Pat.

Narelle Richardson has been photocopying some of the material received from Elizabeth Simpson and putting it into display books for easier handling and at no cost to the Society. A vote of thanks to her was carried by acclamation.

Once again we express our gratitude to Jean for handling the raffles, and Annette for looking after our afternoon tea.

I would like to welcome new members I think I missed before---due to the trauma of the "Book". These are Mrs Joyce Rawson and Mrs Joy Ryan, of the Kemshall family; Mrs Madeline Forgie, of the Archer family; Mrs Evelyn Davies, of the Holmes family (Harpley); Mrs B. Venn, of the Ward family (Agin-court). If any member would like to contact new members, please get in touch with me, and I will give you the required address.

Meetings for the time being will be held at North Sydney. Maps of the hall have been published in previous issues of "Tulle". If you are unsure, please enquire.

Let's hope 5th May is a nice fine day. I think we have had more than our share of wet week-ends. Look forward to seeing you.

ENID



FINANCIAL STATEMENT January - December, 1989

Balance forward from 1988:	\$1,628.53	Printing/Stationery	\$ 854.70
Membership/"Book"	\$1,315.00	Rent	\$ 90.00
Comp/Raffle	\$ 39.90	Bank Charges	\$ 2.14
Sales	\$ 340.47		
Donations	\$ 51.20		
Postage	\$ 2.00		
Bank Interest	\$ 55.55		

Balance:	\$3,432.65	\$ 947.84
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To Balance: \$2485.81

Total Balance:	\$3,432.65	\$3432.65
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Balance as per Bank statement 31.12.89 \$2,485.81

Term Deposit: \$1,880.00

Inflation Account: \$1,198.69

\$5,564.50

Signed:

President.....*B. Hadwin*.....

Secretary.....*E. Bastick*.....

Treasurer.....*Deana Riggins*.....

FROM:

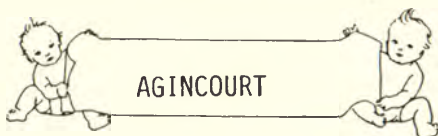


Nottingham Journal.

ENGLISH MECHANICS FROM FRANCE, --- A private letter from Calais states, that since the revolution the greatest distress has prevailed amongst the lace-makers in that town and the Basse Ville, all the machines having stopped working. Formerly there were upwards of 3,000 English lace-makers constantly in employ and at high wages; but since the French have become acquainted with the method of working the *tulle*, or bobbin-net, they have established numerous manufactories themselves, which have actually caused a great falling-off for the demand of English-wove lace, as they are able to sell it at a lower price. The result has been, that a very large portion of the Nottingham weavers, who had established themselves in Calais, have been obliged either to return to England or emigrate to America, as they could obtain no work; but since the revolution things have become much worse, and those remaining with their families are in the most destitute state. Subscriptions have been got up among the more wealthy portion of the English for their temporary relief; and through the kindness of the British Consol and the directors of the General Steam Navigation Company, who have kindly granted a free passage and hundreds of them have been enabled to return to their native country. English mechanics and labourers throughout France are obliged to leave in haste, in consequence of the combination among the French workmen to drive them from not only the railways but iron-foundries, and other large establishments, and that in a state of the greatest destitution, as many are unable even to get the money which is due to them, while their

tools and implements are either seized or destroyed by these Republican anarchists, so that no English workman is safe in the new land of liberty!--*Times*.

More Births etc. for "Agincourt" Passengers from Calais.



- BROWN,** Charles. Born in Loughborough, Leics. A lacemaker. Father (Edward) in Calais.
- BROWNE,** Sarah, 5, dau. of Andrew & Mary. Born in Calais--but no record in our accounts.
- BROWNE,** Lydia, born 23.10.1843, dau. of William, 29, laceworker & Lydia ELNOR, 31, wife. Resident route de Boulogne, Section F, No. 352. Witnesses: William DEWEY, 53, & Frederick HALL, 52, laceworkers. Emma, born 1.11.1846, dau. of William, 32, laceworker, & Lydia Elnor, 34, wife. Resident rue du Temple, Section G, No. 254. Witnesses: John Rotherham, 42, & Benjamin Kemball, 39, laceworkers. Family went to Bathurst, where William became a Brewer and Maltster.
- BROWNLOW,** Mary Ann, born 8.12.1843, dau. of William 25, laceworker & Emma Sophie COURQUIN, 23, wife (born in Calais). Resident route de Boulogne, Section F, No. 358. Witnesses: William WALKER, 40, mechanician & John Knowles, 33, laceworker. John, born 15.1.1846, son of William, 27, laceworker & Emma Sophie Courquin, 25, wife,

DAVIS,

Henriett, born 5.6.1844, dau. of Joseph, 40, laceworker, & of Ann INGRAM, 41, wife. Resident rue de la Redoute, Section B, No.18. Witnesses Henry Butler, 36, grocer, & Matthew Randall, 28, joiner.

DUCK,

Walter, 9, and Walter, 7, born in Calais, but not recorded.

Mary Ann, b. 6.7.1843, dau. of Thomas, 33, laceworker & Elizabeth LETCHFIELD, 28, wife, resident rue Verte, Section G, No. 422. Witnesses: Joseph Wagstaff, 34, & William Bestwick, 35, laceworkers Charles, b. 10.8.1845, son of Thomas, 35, laceworker & Elizabeth Letchfield, 30, wife. Resident rue Bertrand, Section G, No. 82. Witnesses: Thomas Newton, 42, & Samuel Frost, 22, laceworkers Henry, 16.7.1847, son of Thomas, 37, & Elizabeth Letchfield, 33, wife. Resident rue des Prairies, Section D, No. 257. Witnesses: John Bown, 47, & John Cartwright, 32, laceworkers.

FOSTER,

Harriet, 7, born in Calais but not recorded.

Henry, b. 2.11.1843, son of James, 33, lacemaker, & Mary Ann PASS, 34, wife, Resident rue du Pont Neuf, Section G, No. 581. Witnesses: Robert William Pechell, 52, 'de'videur, & John William Watson, 36, pork butcher.

Francis, b. 26.5.1846, son of James, 36, lacemaker & Mary Ann PASS, 37, wife. Resident rue de 'Hospice', Section F, No. 2. Witnesses: Henry Butler, 38, grocer, & Edward Brown, 55, laceworker.

GASCOIGNE,

Maria, b. 6.10.1846, dau. William, 31, laceworker, & Helena KENDRICK, 29, wife. Resident rue de Vic, Section G, No. 156. Witnesses: George Glover, 34, mechanician; Charles Augustin Hecquet, 39, secretary Town Hall.

- GASCOIGNE, Thomas, b. 24.1.1843, son William, 27, laceworker, & Ellen KENDRICK, 26, wife. Resident rue du Vauxhall, Section F, No. 132. Witnesses: Thomas Barsby, 33, & George Elliott, 27, laceworkers.
- HUTCHINSON, Samuel, 19 on arrival, son of John & Mary (mother in Nottingham). Born in Calais, but not recorded.
- KEMSHALL, Helen, b. 7.7.1841 at St Pierre-Les-Calais. Dau. of Benjamin, tulliste, & wife Mary ELENOR. Baptised 3.7.1842 (Methodist Register)
Mathilda, b. 25.9.1843, dau. Benjamin, 38, laceworker, & Mary Wllenor, 38, wife. Resident rue de la Tannerie, Section G, No. 208. Witnesses: William Tyler, 30, & Thomas Hall, 41, laceworkers.
- LOWE, Alfred, 9, Anne, 4, & Emily, 2, all born in Calais, but no recording. Father: Oliver LOWE, signed both Petition & Letters of Thanks to British Govt. & to Consul in Calais.
- MOON, Lucy, 11, & Thomas, 1 $\frac{1}{2}$, both born in Calais, but no recording.
(MOON is a common name in Kent)
- PEDDAR, Mary, b. 31.3.1848, dau. of James, 22, laceworker, & Brigitte JOHNSON, 23, wife. Resident rue de l'Esperance, Section D, No. 116, 4th. Witnesses: Patrick Molony, 30, foreman linen Spinning Mill, & Thomas Peet, 23, linen comber.
- PEDDAR, Mary, 22, was born in Dunkerque, France. A sister of James, father or above Mary. She married Thomas BALL, 21.3.1849.
- PENT, William, b. 12.11.1846, son of Thomas, 22, linen comber, & Jane KNOWLES, 21, wife. Resident rue de l'Esperance, Section D, No. 115, 5th. WITNESSES: George Peet, 51, & William Newbold, 44.

POTTER, Maria, 5 on arrival NSW, born in Calais, but not recorded.
 Thomas, b. 14.4.1848, son of Charles, 22, laceworker, & Anne JAKLIN, 22, laceworker. Resident route de Boulogne, Section F, No. 337a. Witnesses: Thomas Ball, 22, & William Harris, 24, laceworkers. Mother's surname JACKLIN on Shipping List. Babe listed in Birth Records as 'natural'.

POWELL, James, b. 2.5.1846, son of John, 21, laceworker, & Maria PRATT, 20, wife. Resident rue Verte, Section G, No.437. Witnesses: Nathaniel Powell, 32, & Andrew Brown, 30, laceworkers. Elizabeth, dau. (infant on arrival) born in Boulogne. Mother's mother (Sarah) living in Boulogne.

ROBINSON, Mary Anne, 3 on arrival NSW, born in Calais--but not on Births List.

SAYWELL, George, b. 24.5.1842, son of George, 33, laceworker, & Isabella KISCADEN, 32, wife. Resident 257, Section G, rue du Temple. Witnesses: Robert William Pechell, 50, roller maker, & Eugene Desmoulins, 23, lacemaker. Isabella, b. 18.7.1844, da. George, 34, & Isabella KITS-CADAM, 34, wife, Resident 584, Section G, rue Estache, St Pierre. Witnesses: John Saywell, 30, & William Towlson, 23, laceworkers. Died 2.8.1844 (aged 14 days) in her parents' home. Declared: Charles Picquet, 21, shop assistant, & Philip Hiskey, 21, laceworker, neighbours. Baptised 29.7.1844 (Methodist Register)

William, b. 12.7.1845, son of George, 35, mechanician & Isabella KITSCADEN, 35, wife. Resident 584, Section G, Rue Eustache, St.Pierre. Witnesses: George Brown, 32, locksmith, & Philipe Hiskey, 21, laceworker. Baptised 4.1.1846, (Methodist Register)

- SAYWELL, Isabella, b. 14.4.1848, dau. George, 38, mechanician, & Isabella KISCADEN, 38, wife. Resident 271, Section G, rue du Temple. Witnesses: Jasper Saywell, 27, & Thomas Duck, 37, lace-makers.
- SAYWELL, Fanny, b. 15.10.1845, dau. of Jasper, 24, laceworker, & Jeanne COLVIN, 25, wife. Resident 169, Section G, rue de Vic. Witnesses: Thomas Dunk, 34, & Edward Towlson, 24, lacemakers.
- SERGEANT, William, b. 15.1.1848, son of John, & Harriet BUDWELL-GRAFTON. Baptised 26.4.1848 (Methodist Register, St. Pierre-les-Calais).
- SHAW, James, aged 8 on arrival NSW, not listed on Birth Records, but born in Calais. Mary, dau. of James, 38, laceworker & Sarah OLDHAM, 38, wife. Resident route de Guines, Section C, No. 35. Witnesses: William Watts, 39, lacewkr, & Abraham Mee, 40, laceworker. Sarah, b. 26.3.1846, dau. James, 40, & Sarah HOLDAM (?) 40, wife. Resident rue des Praidies, Section D, No. 250. Witnesses: Powdrill Wightman, 36, & Frederick Kaeyton, 32, laceworkers.
- SHORE, Henry Herbert, son of John, 27 lacewkr., & Marie Francoise Adelaide BOUCLET, 30, wife. Resident rue du Vauxhall, Section F, No. 188. Witnesses: Richard Wheeler, 60, publican, & Henry Aulsebrook, 21, laceworker. Born 8.8.1846, died 10.10.1846. Marie Coelina, b. 7.10.1847, dau. John 28, laceworker & Marie Francoise Adelaide BOUCLET, 32, wife. B. 13.9.1845, stillborn female child. (Resident: rue du Moulin Brule, St. Pierre-les-Calais) Selina, born in Calais, infant on arrival in NSW. Not on Lists.

- SMITH, Thomas, 15, Fanny, 10, Edmund, 13, & William, 8, all born in Calais, but not listed on Birth Records. Lucy, b. 6.7.1844, dau. William, 40, laceworker & Anna DELLE, 34, 34, wife, Resident rue de Vic, Section G, No. 169 Witnesses: Antoine Baudet, 52, of independent means, & Florentin Demaret, 34, policeman. (Mother is listed as Hannah (nee DEAN) on Shipping List)
- STEVENS, Charles, 7 on arrival, not on Listing. Louise, b. 16.8.1846, dau. Samuel, 40, lacemaker & Elisa PLACE, 33, wife. Resident rue du Temple, Section G, No. 307. Witnesses: Thomas Harrison, 46, & John Holmes, 32, laceworkers. (Mother's maiden name ? BLISS?)
- TAYLOR, Elisabeth, b. 3.1.1831, dau. John, 22, lacemaker & Elisabeth WRIGHT, wife. Witnesses: John Wright, 23, & John Hutchison, 23, lacemakers. Mary Ann, b. 13.5.1833, dau. John, 25, l'mkr, & Elisabeth WRIGHT, wife, of rue de la Vendia. Witnesses: Francis Tyler, 31 & John Winthmaite, 35, laceworkers. Harriett, b. 10.4.1840, dau. of John, & Elisabeth WRIGHT. Baptised 29.4.1840 (Methodist Register, St Pierre-les-Calais) Suzannah, b. 7.4.1842, dau. John & Elisabeth WRIGHT, wife. Baptised 25.4.1847 (Methodist Register, St. Pierre-les-Calais). Emma, b. 24.7.1845, dau. John, 37, Laceworker & Elisabeth WRIGHT, 36, wife. Resident route de Boulogne, Section F, No. 361. Witnesses: Samuel Taylor, 31, laceworker, John Smith, 27 mechanician. Baptised 24.5.1847 (Methodist Register, St Pierre-les-Calais)

- TAYLOR, Fanny, b. 19.8.1830, dau. Thomas & Mary Ann (HANSON). Baptised 23.2.1848 (Methodist Register, St Pierre-les-Calais)
- VICKERS, James, b. 20.3.1843, son William, 30, lacemaker & Sarah Ann HISKEY, 22, wife Rue Neuve, Section G, No.278. Witnesses: Henry Stubbs, 31 & Thomas Smith, 38 lacemakers.
Sarah Ann, b. 2.10.1844, dau. William 31 (absent at time) & Sarah Ann HISKEY, 24, wife. Rue Lafayette, Section D, No.32a. Witnesses: Jean Marie TOURNEUR, 50, policeman, Louis Cosson, baker. Declared by Fe'licite' Rault, 27 midwife.
Edgar, b. 12.5.1846, son William, 33, lacemaker & Sarah Ann HISKEY, 26, wife. Rue Lafayette, Section D, No.32a. Witnesses: Thomas Needham, 56, l'mkr, Charles Lebeurre, 47, publican. Sarah's brother Philip HISKEY, & family on 'Harpley' to Adelaide.
- WALKER, Henry, b. 11.6.1843, son William, 39, mechanician & Therese? PETEL? 28 (natural) of rue de la Vendee, Section D, No. 234. Witnesses: Joseph Venelle, 45, daily labourer & Alfred Nutt, 21, locksmith.
(Mother's name on Shipping List given as Mary. Born in Calais--parents ?French?) William, 13, Mary 8, both born Calais--not listed on Records.
- WAND, Eliza, 13, John, 11, Sarah, 9, Fanny, 1, all given as born Calais-not on records.
Henry, b. 9.2.1845, son John 40, l'wkr, & Elisa SPINKS, 38 l'wkr (natural). Rue des Soupiranes, Section F, No.122b. Witnesses: William Sansom, 38, l'wkr, & Pierre Demare, locksmith.
Child on Shipping list as James, age 3.

- WARD, Ann, b. 27.8.1845, of William, 25, 1'wkr, & Elisabeth KENDRICK, 23, wife, Rue de Vic, Section G, No.165. Witnesses: Thomas Jacklin, 50, & William Judson, 46, laceworkers. Emma, an infant on arrival in NSW, also born in Calais, not on records.
- WEST, Valantin Friend, b. 3.10.1843, son of Robert MacMurray WEST, 29, 1'wkr, & Ann SHEPERD, 22, wife, of rue Lafayette Section D, No.25. Witnesses: Ambroise Vache, 27, merchant tailor, & Henry Clement, 22, 1'wkr. Robert, b. 14.1.1845, son of Robert MacMurray, 30, 1'wkr, & Ann SHEPPERD, 22, wife, Rue Lafayette, Section G, No.45. Witnesses: John Bown, 44, & Elisha Webb, 28, laceworkers.
- WHEWELL, Thomas, 20, on arrival, born in Calais.
- WHEWELL, Joseph William, b. 4.11.1845, of William, 24, 1'wkr, & Caroline DIXON, 21, wife. du Commerce, Section G, No. 523. Witnesses: Benjamin Holmes, 36, & Israel Johnson, 24, laceworkers. Caroline's parents & siblings on 'Harpley' to Adelaide.
- WOODFORTH, John, 8, listed as born Calais--not on Birth Records. James, b. 16.7.1843, son James, 27, 1'wkr, & Elisabeth CRAMP, 28, wife. Rue Lafayette, Section G, No.455. Witnesses: Samuel Stevens, 36, & Robert Barnett, 32, laceworkers. Elisabeth, b. 13.11.1844, dau. of James, 29, 1'wkr, & Elisabeth CRAMP, wife. Rue Neuve, Section G, No.317. Witnesses: William Harrold, 39 & James Sneath, 30, laceworkers.



Information

animal, vegetable and mineral....

When the First Fleet arrived in 1788, its passengers were nearly all naval and army officers and the scum of the English cities. Had Captain Arthur Phillip's fleet contained a group of experienced farmers, the early years in the new land would have been much easier.

Or, if the new settlers had been friendlier to the locals, and more observant and adventurous in their eating, they, like the aborigines, would have been much better fed. Phillip did not have many professional, or even good amateur, fishermen.

So for several years the colony had to rely mostly on the infrequent arrival of ships, until gradually among the new colonists some developed unexpected latent talents, and became the first "treasures" of the land.

Not only were our early settlers unwilling to experiment with the unknown food, with which the land abounded, the equipment with which to cook food was not in great supply. The natives scraped a hole, filled it with rocks and wood, lit a fire, and when the rocks were truly hot, scraped the ashes aside, put in the food on the rocks (a 'roo, a snake, fish, oysters, mussels, etc) covered it with paper bark and the hot ashes, until the food was delightfully cooked.

"Bake our food in a hole in the ground? Not likely!"

Our first clergyman, Richard Johnson, in his 12 years in N.S.W. grew some very fine fruit trees (he purchased some seeds in Rio on his way out). John and Elizabeth Macarthur, arriving in 1790, became leading farmers; indeed, within 4 years of arriving they had 2,000 bushels of wheat in store, plenty of poultry,

an orchard started, a vegetable garden, and a flourishing vineyard developing. While her husband was back in England for many years, Elizabeth Macarthur continued to farm and prosper, improve and increase her property. If only the Colony had had more settlers like Elizabeth!

Gradually the harvest of the sea came to be appreciated -- at least by those who learned to fish, and thus to augment their diet. All meat had to be salted in order to preserve it; and cooks learned to preserve other foods whilst it was in season. Thus fruit and vegetables were pickled - made into jams and pickles - dried, etc. The ships gradually became more frequent and dependable, so the variety of fruit and vegetables available to be grown became wider. As land settlement spread over the mountains and onto the fertile plains, so the food shortages lessened.

Later convicts had brought experienced farmers -- men and women who, when their sentences were over, preferred to settle on the land, developing into valued members of the young country. Bounty or Assisted or Bonded migrants bringing their families with them, were especially chosen for their trade or professions, came, with the attraction that one day they might be allocated land - land which they would probably never get back in their native country. Certainly they had a chance here of raising their families to better circumstances than would have been their lot in England. It was a long hard grind, to achieve that status, but it was possible.

In the 1820's a Mrs Rankin, of Bathurst, made an excellent cheese, which she sold both in Bathurst and Sydney. In other now settled areas other products were also made and sold. With the increase in the variety of foods: meat - sugar cane - poultry - (turkeys, ducks, geese, fowls, etc) - and natural sea foods - the colonists were now able to indulge in the type of foods they knew and loved so well back "home". We find their recipes from these times [the 1820's] include Irish stew - leak & potato soup [Welsh] - chicken pie or apple pie [English] - seed cake [Welsh] - hot scones and luscious sponges.

The vineyard of George Wyndham, at Dalwood near Branxton, in the Hunter Valley, had been established before 1835, for it was here that Richard Howard took his wife, Elisabeth and their 2 small boys, on their arrival by the 'Canton' on 6th October, 1835. Elizabeth was Jeremiah Bush's daughter: he is my great-great-great-grandfather.

The cattle, sheep and pigs, long protected so that the breeding stock was kept, was now prolific enough to supply the colony adequately. Butter, cheese, eggs, flour etc. were now in abundance and produced in the colony, so that by the time our Lacemaker families arrived in 1848, many of the early teething problems of the east coast settlement had eased. Local industry now produced household articles such as furniture, kitchen pottery, etc., widening the housewife's ability to store foods more easily. The advent of the camp oven gave the country woman a much improved cooking implement, and it proved a boon to the lonely man droving, travelling through the bush, or fossicking for gold.

Gold, discovered in Victoria, gave the South Australian farmer an unexpected windfall. Many people left the fledgling colony to try their luck on the Victorian goldfields. Overnight the price of wheat sky-rocketed, and the South Australian wheat growers were not slow to take advantage.

Those from the 'Fairlie' and the 'Agin-court', bitten by the gold fever bug, probably made first for the area between Sofala/Hill End in the south, and Mudgegulgong in the north, with the hope of "striking it rich". In this area, at Campbell Creek, Meroo, on 6th September, 1861, Frances Saywell, daughter of Jasper, married George Eastlake, and commenced her married life at his store at Spring Creek, Lambing Flat (now Young). Here her cousin Isabella Saywell, daughter of George, married George Summerhayes when she was 17 years old.

Life in the new land in the first 75 years was progressively improving. The great oxen waggons still took many weeks on the road to go from Young to Sydney and back. But it was a wonderful, rewarding country--if you would but work hard - and if 'droughts & flooding rains' kept their distance!

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY OF THE LACEMAKERS
OF CALAIS -- OFFICE BEARERS 1990

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