

# *TULLE*

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*The Journal of the Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.*

### **Meeting Times & Place:**

ASLC meets at Don Bank Cottage, 6 Napier Street, North Sydney, NSW, on the third Saturday in February (AGM), May, August and November each year. Our annual general meeting is held each February. Meetings commence at 1.00pm. Please bring a plate to share for afternoon tea.

### **Future Meetings:**

Saturday, 15 August 2009

Saturday, 21 November 2009

**AGM** Saturday, 20 February 2010

Saturday, 15 May 2010

### **Find Us the Internet:**

[www.angelfire.com/al/aslc](http://www.angelfire.com/al/aslc)

### **Want to Join?**

### **Membership Subscription Due?**

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### **Cover Illustration**

A section of lace made for the French Royal family, c. 1670

### **This Coming Meeting:**

Saturday, 15 August 2009 1.00pm

The Guest Speaker at our August 2009 meeting will be Emeritus Professor Ken Dutton. Professor Dutton shares with us a fascination for history and especially those things relating to and helping to unite France with Australia. He has been a long-time supporter of our Society.

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***The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.***



# TULLE

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello to all our Lacemaker families. Warm greetings to all, from beautiful Belmont NSW on this cold July morning. I am delighted to see in this issue of Tulle, the story of the DORMER family, researched & contributed by Mrs. Tamara MARTIN, a new member to ALSA, who is a direct descendant of George DORMER, passenger on the *Harpley*. Welcome, Tamara. It is lovely to have you join our Lacemaker families. Thank you for your Dormer story which adds another piece of valued history to our rich Lacemaker collection.

The BROMHEAD family, from the *Agincourt* will be featured in the November issue of Tulle, many thanks to the ever productive, entertaining & informative pen of inaugural member, Lindsay WATTS. Our ever diligent Editor, Richard, has suggested that I will tell, in the February issue, a little of my STEVENS family, also from the *Agincourt*, who, like Lindsay's Bromhead family, also settled in Maitland.

It is important to have our members tell their stories through the pages of Tulle – we all enjoy hearing & reading about other Lacemaker families, in England, in France and of their lives here in Australia. I, along with Richard, encourage all to write some of their family stories for all of us to enjoy. Our magazine is the main means of binding together all our members and keeping alive our history.

Our guest speaker for the August meeting is our much loved & admired Emeritus Professor Ken Dutton, recently retired Head of Faculty, Professor of Modern Languages at the University of Newcastle. Professor Dutton's knowledge of most "things historical" is abundant... about French History & all things French he is almost undisputedly, without equal. Ken will speak to us about "An Unusual Volume with a French Connection - the Search & Detective work for it's author(s)"... Cryptic? ...Indeed. I can't wait to hear his address.

Do please come & join us at Don Bank for our August meeting. I look forward to seeing you there.

**ROBBIE GORDON**  
**PRESIDENT**

## SECRETARY'S REPORT

I cannot describe the experience of being in Calais with so many others who are passionate about the preservation of the history of lace! I was honoured to be a guest at the formal opening of the *La Cité internationale de la dentelle et de la mode de Calais* on June 11<sup>th</sup> and it was a sensational day!

The day was shared with those I know best in Calais - all of whom have been faithful friends to ASLC for a long time and all of whom ensured me a magic experience: Mme Eliane Legrand, Anne Fauquet & Christian Borde, all of Calais; and John & Rosie Wileman of Leicestershire.

The entire day disappeared in a blur of speeches, an amazing building, machinery, incredible exhibitions, a truly French cat-



**The museum from the canal**

walked fashion parade held in a chandeliered room behind those spectacular jacquard walls and a champagne lunch. The excitement and pride for the whole day was palpable. At 4pm, the doors opened to the public and as a gift to the people of Calais, there was no entry fee for the next three days. There was never a time when there was not a queue!

The opening was not a time to absorb the place, so much of the following day was spent exploring it in all its glory. There are so many facets to it - you can study the building alone, you can study the design of the exhibitions (scenography), you can study the laces and their development, you can study

the people and you can study the superb Leavers machines in all their glory. It is a museum to dip back into like a beautiful book!

Eliane Legrand held a magnificent afternoon tea inviting Anne Fauquet, Rosie and John Wileman and me and, despite our hectic schedules, we were honoured by the presence of Olivier Noyon<sup>1</sup>, Martine Fosse<sup>2</sup> and Antoine Deguines<sup>3</sup> - all of whom are charming and delightful people, and with very good reason to be over the moon with their achievements.

On the Saturday Rosie Wileman and Sheila Mason (who frequently and generously shares her knowledge with us) presented, in French, papers on the English in Calais. Sheila is an expert on the machinery and its development and Rosie's expertise is the people.



**From left: an Austin descendant, Rosie Wileman and two Farrands descendants,**

They spoke to a crowded auditorium of French folk, plainly proving Calaisiennes are interested in their English history.

At the end, excited descendants of the Farrands and Austin families made themselves known to us.

It is thirteen years since I was last in Calais and in that time the beautiful but bomb ravaged Notre Dame has had a great deal of restoration completed. Anne Fauquet arranged a guide to show us what has been achieved.

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<sup>1</sup> President of TRAME, the organisation behind the development of the museum and president of Noyon Dentelle

<sup>2</sup> Head Curator of the Museum

<sup>3</sup> Assistant to the Mayor, Cultural Delegate



**St Benoit Labre,  
17th Century, wood. Notre Dame**

Christian Borde walked me through of the little streets that are St Pierre and shared with me some more of their secrets and some of his insights into that very early time when the machines first reached Calais. Watch *Tulle* for his story!

When your opportunity arises, go and see this museum and explore this town. Our heritage is now preserved and can only get better. Already another old factory has been converted into a High School fittingly named la Dentelle, and another is being converted into elegant apartments. Calais has taken its lace history to heart!

**GILLIAN KELLY, HON. SECRETARY**



## **E**DITOR'S COMMENT

As Editor of Tulle, I spend many hours of my own time every week trying to ensure that Tulle is accurate, informative, enlightening and entertaining for a generally very appreciative readership. Thankfully, I also receive contributions from several members who make what could be a very onerous responsibility just that little bit easier.

The greatest resources "owned" by the ASLC are those members who share their research or search material they have commissioned freely and willingly with other members. At the very top of these, I list Gillian Kelly who has tirelessly worked to expand the knowledge base of our Society. Without, I hope, sounding too immodest, I am pleased to number myself amongst those who also contribute. Our research may not be perfect. It may not be to everyone's liking or taste but it remains the best we can give.

The Society's Charter makes one thing very clear. The ASLC does not itself employ researchers and if you have asked questions of us which have not been answered, it is simply because those you have directed your queries to do not know the answers. Tulle is merely a wonderful collection of the knowledge and research of its individual members, or of researchers employed by these members. They have generously contributed the information they have unearthed, or paid for, for the benefit of all. Therefore, if there has been very little information on your family in Tulle it is probably because your family members have not contributed much to its pages.

Tell your family's story to me and, if it has not been told before, I will happily reproduce it in Tulle and I am sure you will begin to see the true worth of being an active, constructive, contributing member. I am very appreciative of those members who are now doing so. This and future issues are testament to their willingness to share their research.

**RICHARD LANDER**  
**EDITOR**

# SOUTH AUSTRALIA AS IT WAS<sup>4</sup> (CONTINUED FROM MAY 2009 TULLE)

## THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NATIVES

The Natives of the portion of this colony, that are pretty well known to the occupants, are for the most part an inoffensive, indolent race, intent only on the satisfaction of the merely animal desires and wants, and seemingly to make it a point to use as little exertion as possible in the attainment of this object, although they often undergo great toils and perils in the chase, or the ascent of lofty trees which they accomplish in a manner truly surprising.

In their natural state they appear without clothing of any kind during the hot part of the year, and are but scantily clad with skins during the cold weather. Their food consists of the flesh of various animals taken in hunting of birds, reptiles, insects, fish, and roots. They neither understand nor care about cultivating land. They have no permanent dwelling, although there are locations peculiar to the different tribes; a few branches stuck on end, with a little bark or a few smaller twigs laid over them, constitute for the most part a shelter for their wants, and with a fire in front of the opening, they will bask away the hours, until the calls of hunger rouse them to fresh exertion; when the women are sent away to get a portion of the food, and the men proceed to hunt or fish, if their wants are very urgent, or they are not altogether too lazy. Polygamy prevails among them, and some of the distant tribes are guilty of infanticide, and even of cannibalism.

They have occasionally differences and, wars with other tribes, but their battles do not appear to bear a very sanguinary character, perhaps it would be quite correct to say that their principal excitements consists of the incidents of the chase, and the corroboree, dances which are imitations of various known actions, in which they engage in from time to time, such as Kangaroo and Emu hunting, the war, corroboree &c.

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<sup>4</sup> The publication of this article, written in June 1848, was commenced in Tulle, May 2009.

The heads and countenances of the men in particular, frequently indicate much intellect, and accordingly, it is found, that they may be made very useful assistants in many kinds of labour, if once we can succeed in overcoming their almost invincible ignorance. To this general character there are some exceptions.

The natives about the Murray River, on the side of the eastern settlements, and those in the neighbourhood of Port Lincoln, on the western, have on many occasions proved themselves to be possessed of turbulent violent, and sanguinary propensities; but latterly those seem to be quite subdued; and as far as it is possible to judge from past events, there is little probability of their ever becoming any hindrance in the way of the colonists. Whilst, if rational measures are pursued, I think they may be converted into very useful and valuable auxiliaries.

The principal quadrupeds are the kangaroo, and opossum, the dingo or wild dog is numerous in some places, but gives way to the advance of civilization. Of birds, the colony can boast of a good number, as the emu, pelican, black swan, wild goose, turkey, &c, and an incredible number of Cockatoos, parrots, and paraquets (sic).

The Murray, as well as all the waters which communicate with the sea, abound in a great variety of fine fish; and the insects and reptiles of the colony are quite sufficiently numerous for an amateur and some of them rather more plentiful than agreeable to the quiet inhabitant of his country dwelling.

Some of the snakes are very venomous, and it is really surprising that some of the bush-men or Natives are not bitten more frequently. The stings of scorpions or centipedes, although not dangerous, yet they produce a painful wound, the bites of the mosquitoes, flies, fleas &c. are anything but agreeable, the most effectual preventatives being cultivation, with cleanly domestic arrangements and ample ventilation.

The experience of successive seasons, has established the fact, that in every month of the year, the colony produces in one or other of its cultivated districts, some kinds of fruits in high perfection.

Grapes (Royal Muscadine (sic), and Constantia) come into season in January, February, March and April – Mulberries in December and January. -- Peaches, Nectarines, apricots, or plums, ripen successionaly in January, February, March and April, as well as late plums and peaches in May and June. ---- Blackberries ripen in January – Raspberries in October, November and December. -- Strawberries in September, October, November and December. Gooseberries, currants and cherries, in November and December. –Melons, in all their varieties and abundance, gladden the months of January, February, March and April and the Mediterranean winter melon in May, June, July and August. The Guana, and the Granadilla, in January and February. The Loquet ripens well in December. – Oranges, lemons, limes and citrons, come to perfection in February. – Pomegranates in March – and apples, pears, and quinces, in February, March, April, May, June, July and August.

The cultivation of the olive progresses very favourably, and the olive planter will not be long without his deserved reward.

During the fruit season, every person from the highest to the humblest, has the opportunity of enjoying sweet and water-melons, peaches, apricots, and grapes in great abundance and perfection as well as a very reasonable rate, the luxury of the South Australian water-melon, must be enjoyed to be thoroughly appreciated, no description can do justice to it. All fruits are grown in the open air, and the melon is now grown in the fields : you see drays drawn by two and four bullocks, coming to town in the morning, with the melons piled up like the loads of cabbages sent to Covent Garden Market, they are grown of immense size, 15 and 18 lb. being quite common.

## **POPULATION, RELIGIOUS STATISTICS AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS**

The population of the colony is now (June 1848) about 36,000.

In February 1846, when the population was only 22,000 they were classed as follows:-

Church of England, 4,945 – Church of Scotland 1,958 – Wesleyan Methodists, 2,246, - Germans Lutherans, 1524 – Protestant, Dissenters, 2,888 – Roman Catholics 1,649 – Jewish Persuasion 58 – Mahommedan or Pagan, 52. Of course the recent influx of Emigrants, each society has received a great addition to their numbers.

Ministers of the Church of England, Rev. James Farrell, Colonial Chaplain, and the Rev Messrs. Woodcock, Pollit, Lloyd, Newanham, and lately the Bishop of South Australia, and several clergymen have sailed for the colony.

Congregationalists – Rev. Messrs. Stow, Gill, Evans, Barclay and Newland.

Wesleyan Methodists – Rev. Messrs. Draper, Harcourt, Longbottom and 28 Local Preachers

Primitive Methodists -- Rev. Messrs. Long, and Storr, assisted by several Local preachers.

New Connection – No minister, they intend to unite with another body, or revive it on an independent basis.

The Baptists—have done very little to concentrate their numbers and are mostly scattered among other societies. Rev. Messrs. G. Stonehouse, (Principal of Angaston College), J. Titherington, Gill Wickes, Randall, Barnes, and Prior.

Scotch Baptists – Rev. Messrs. Scott, Neill, and others

General Baptists – Messrs. F. Playford, Foster, and Abbott.

The Friends, have a commodious meeting house in North Adelaide, but the attendance is very small.

Presbyterians – Rev. Mr. Haining

Scotch Secession Church -- Rev. R. Drummond.

Free Church of Scotland. – Have a nice chapel building

Catholics – Right Rev. Dr. Murphy, Bishop, Rev. Mr. Ryan, Watkin, and several others now on their voyage out

German Lutherans – Rev. A. Kavel and G.D. Fritzhie

Jews – Meet at Mr. Burnet Nathan's Hindley Street

There are also to be found in the colony some Swedenborgians, a few Plymouth Brethren, Mormonites, Mahomedans (sic), Hindoos (sic), Chinese Polytheists, and infidels of all shades and descriptions.

#### **CLUBS, BENEFIT AND OTHER SOCIETIES**

Freemasons – The South Australian Friendship Lodge No. 613, and the Adelaide Lodge (Scotch)

Odd Fellows – There are 10 Lodges namely, the Prince of Wales, Manchester Unity, Adelaide, Hope, Victoria, Albion, Sturt, Albert, Gawler and Flinder's Lodges. The number of members in all 691.

Foresters – 1 Lodge just formed

A Mutual Benefit Society; a Subscription Library; a Total Abstinence Society; a Church building Society; an Auxiliary Bible Society; a Building Society; and a Savings Bank.

PORT PHILIP, Australian papers to the close of February 1848 have been received, but on general subjects they do not contain much. They furnish a table of the rates of wages for all kinds of mechanics and labourers, which will be read with much interest. The following is taken from the *Port Philip Herald*, compiled expressly for home readers: --

“Mechanics: Compositors, £2 per week; watchmakers £2.10s per week : curriers, £2 10s; beammen £2 10s: tailors, 6s and 7s per day; carpenters and joiners, 6s and 7s; bricklayers 7s and 8s ; stonemasons, 7s and 8s; stonecutters 7s and 8s; plasterers, 6s and 7s; bricklayers’ labourers, 5s; blacksmiths, 7s and 8s; painters and glaziers, 6s and 7s: cabinet makers, 6s and 7s; and bookbinders, 5s and 6s each per day.

Butchers and bakers, 20s per week with board and lodging; shoemakers £2.2s; boot closers £3; wheelwrights, £2 5s: sawyers £2 2; body makers (coach) £2 2s: carriage-makers £2.10s; wheelers £2.5s; coach-smiths £2.10s; ditto painters, £2 5s; trimmers £2 .10s; trimmers £2.10s: saddlers £2.2s each per week: shipwrights, 6s and 7s per day; millwrights, 7s 6d per day.

Agricultural Labourers: For married couples without family from £45 to £55 per annum, with rations on the following scale – 12 lbs meat, 10 lbs of flour, ¼ lb tea, 2lbs sugar for each per week; when double rations are allowed, the above scale is doubled, but married couples are, it is said, invariably allowed double rations.

For a married couple with family, £35 to £45 a year. The amount of wages depends upon the distance, whether in town or far in country. Single men finding themselves £1 to £1.5.0 per week, ditto with board and lodging, 12s to 17s per week; shepherds, £26 to £32 per annum, hutkeepers £24 to £28; general useful servants, £28 to £35 yearly; farm servants £32 to £40 ; bullock drivers, £30 to £36; gardeners £35 to £45 ; cooks, £30 to £50 per annum each. --- Female Servants; Thorough servants £26 to £35; housemaids £20 to £25; cooks £28 to £35; nursemaids, £12 to £20 per annum.

It is observed that it is almost impossible to find sufficient hands for some branches. Coach-makers, curriers and cabinet makers were especially in very great request, and all other trades were very much required, and would find immediate employment. With regard to the expense of the necessaries, which it might be supposed were proportionally high with the high range of wages, the same authority states that such is not the case, as the mechanic or labourer could support his family as cheaply as in England. Bread, the 4lbs.

loaf, 7d ; beef, 2d per lb ; mutton, 2d. per lb; tea 1s.8d per lb.; and sugar 3d. per lb. Single men could obtain board and lodgings at 10s. per week.

Those persons who are not eligible for free passage, can get out for £20 each, and have their provisions found them. The voyage is now performed in, from 13 to 16 weeks. Agricultural labourers and male and female servants, and country mechanics can always go out free. Mr. Wilcocks will give every information, on receipt of a letter enclosing two postage stamps.

I would advise all persons who emigrate to Australia, to go out under the care of Mr. Wilcocks, Emigration Agent, Cornwall Street, Plymouth. No matter whether they pay their own passage – or go free by the Government Commission, for the following reasons. *First*, --Mr. Wilcocks has sent out many thousands, and among the many hundred letters which have been brought to me to read, in every instance the partiers expressed the greatest thankfulness to him for his kind and considerate attention to their wants and comforts, --*Secondly*. I went, unknown to him, into the Depot, in Plymouth, where the free Emigrants wait until the ship arrives, and the classification, cleanliness, and comfort of those assembled spoke highly as to the qualifications for the office he holds; had I fifty unmarried daughters, I should not feel the slightest uneasiness at their going out alone in any ship of his dispatching; and I am sure that it must be a great satisfaction to him to know, that his name is mentioned with gratitude and respect by those who have gone out under his auspices.

And again, in regard to people who 'pay' their own passage his great experience, dispatching as he does, from two to four ships per month, either to Australia or America, (all first class vessels;) persons under this advice and guidance go cheaper, more comfortable, and do not run those risks of land sharks, &c. &c. who abound, (as many a poor Emigrant can tell to his cost,) in Liverpool and London, men who live by defrauding the Emigrants; as I only say Mr. Wilcocks but once, and then only for fifteen minutes, my readers will see that I can have no other motive than their interest, in mentioning his name. A letter to him requiring information, and enclosing two postage stamps, will always be promptly answered.

New South Wales and Port Philip too are crying out for labourers and tradesmen, as well as South Australia. New South Wales has 180,000 inhabitants, who have among them 8,000,000 sheep and 2,000,000 cattle; being at the rate of 50 sheep and 13 head of cattle to each person, the extra food is wasted for the want of mouths to eat it; the corn is lost for the want of reapers; the wool is injured for the want of shearers; and consequently all descriptions of colonial produce, either perish or become greatly depreciated in value.

Heads of cattle, and flocks of sheep are *daily* boiled down for their tallow; human skeletons in England pine for what the fattened dogs reject here. In England labour is too plentiful, there it is much too scarce; as we cannot bring food to the starving man, why then let us try sending the starving man to the food.

At the present time agricultural labourers, shepherds, farm servants, male and female servants, carpenters, wheelwrights, blacksmiths, &c., may obtain a free passage. If you intend emigrating, and wish to go out free, direct a letter, stating your name, age, residence, trade or calling, whether you are single or married, and the names and ages of your children, if any, as follows: STEPHEN WALCOTT, ESQ. Colonial Land and Emigration Office, 9, Park Street, Westminster, London, and in one week's time you will receive an answer.

oooOooo

**It is not how old you are, but how you are old. - Jules Renard, writer (1864-1910)**

**And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years – Abraham Lincoln**

**The first half of our lives is ruined by our parents, and the second half by our children – Clarence Darrow**

## WINDOW ON THE DORMER FAMILY<sup>5</sup>



Amongst the emigrants aboard the “Harpley” were eight members of the Dormer Family – George Dormer<sup>6</sup>, his wife Judith (nee Gray) who was sometimes called Julia, and their children, Thomas (aged about 16); Ellen a.k.a Helene (about 14); Julienne (about 12) also called Julia Ann and Juliane in some documentation; George Michael (about 10); Esther (about 8); and James (about 7). Their eldest son, John, was born in 1829 but he died in Calais on 20 April 1832 and his death certificate was witnessed by Archibald Mather, one of the few lacemakers who later came to Australia aboard the “Baboo”.

Early family lore held that the Dormers were a titled Irish family who emigrated to France where they became owners of a lace factory at Lille. There they prospered until 1848 when, so they story goes, pressure was being put on George to join the French army. South Australia obviously seemed to offer greater prospects. Despite the lore, George spent at least some time in Nottingham because it was here that he married Judith on 25 July 1825. The family were certainly amongst the very earliest to try their luck in Calais because it was in Calais that George witnessed the birth of Thomas Parker’s son in January 1832, and his own first son, John, died here on 20 April the same year, as mentioned above.

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<sup>5</sup> Information on the Dormer Family has been kindly provided to me by Mrs Tamara Martin, a descendant of George Dormer as well as being extracted from Anthony Laube’s book, *Settlers Around The Bay, The Pioneering Families of Encounter Bay and Victor Harbor*, Hindmarsh Valley, South Australia, and previous editions of Tulle.

<sup>6</sup> George appeared in the 1831 Census in St-Pierre-les-Calais as Georges Dormall, fabricant (lace manufacturer), father, 32. His wife, Judith also appeared in the 1831 Census but as July Grey, his wife, 30. Their children are listed as Mary (6), Helene (4) and John (2). In the 1841 Census, George, Judy, Mary & Helene are mentioned and by 1841, new children had been born into the family: Thomas (9), Julianne & George (twins aged 3), Esther (2) and James (5 months) & they appear in this census.

After their arrival in South Australia, George senior obtained work at the Alberton Smelting Works. These works produced about 1500kg of copper per day from Burra ore at the time but had closed by mid-1849. His 10-year old son, also George, worked as a shepherd for Lachlan McBean, a tough and astute Scottish born pastoralist who, together with his brother, Alexander, owned significant tracts of grazing land in both South Australia and Victoria. At night, young George would camp McBean's sheep at the head of a quarry near where the imposing South Australian Parliament House and the Adelaide Railway Station now stand.

George Dormer senior took his entire family to the Victorian goldfields to try their luck which appears to have been fortunate. On their return to South Australia, they took up land of their own. This was at Bald Hills near Yankalilla on the Fleurieu Peninsula, to the south of Adelaide. However, on 3 November 1867 aged 69, George senior died.

His Will left his entire real and personal estate to Judith, his wife, for the term of her natural life. He directed that on her death all expenses connected with her illness and death be paid by the estate and that the remainder be divided equally between his five children alive at the time of his death, viz., Mary, Helene, Julianne, George and Esther. His Will is unusual in only two respects. It begins: "I, George Dormer the elder of Bald Hills, Yankalilla being very sick and weak in body but sound in mind and memory...". There would be no doubting his condition because the Will was mad on 1 November 1867. Two days later he was dead.

His widow moved back to Adelaide with one of her daughters and young George began a wheelwright & blacksmiths business in nearby Victor Harbor, which he continued to run for the next forty-five years. He manufactured cartwheels, plumbing fittings and wrought iron surrounds for gravesites as well as shoeing horses. George's sister Helene, and her husband Joshua Gibson, had been operating a butchers shop in the town for a few years prior to George moving to the town. Joshua's parents, James and Prudence Gibson, had brought their two children, Ann and Joshua to Adelaide in 1841 – when the colony was a mere four years old. They came from Staffordshire where

the Gibson family had worked in the potteries. James took up land at Inman Hills, with the Dormer family as neighbours. On 9 December 1850, Joshua Gibson married Helene Dormer in Adelaide. They returned to become farmers at Inman Hills. Helene produced eleven children, two of whom died relatively young.

Helene is described as a small woman with dark, curly hair. She made much of her French heritage, drinking wine and enjoying a full social life. She had insisted on her home being two storeyed. She was a midwife and at least one child, Helene Dormer Gibson Whitbread, was named in recognition of Helene's services as a nurse and midwife.

Despite her small stature, Helene was a strong willed woman and there is a story told of the marriage of her daughter Sarah to Joseph Ellis in 1878. The couple planned to elope because Helene disapproved of the match. On hearing of their plans to catch the coach to Adelaide, Helene boarded it first to wait for them. The young couple had been forewarned so while Helene was on her way to Adelaide, they were married at home! Her son Matthew died in 1880, and she never recovered from this.

After settling his affairs, Helene died in 1881 after a fall down the stairs of her two-storey house. After her death, an old friend, James Jolly, wrote that Helene had considerable mental endowments and easily acquired knowledge. A frequent, willing, skilful and observant nurse at the bed of sick ones, she knew a great deal about disease and its treatment. Like most strong minded women she was inclined to be imperious and like most of her sex too she had



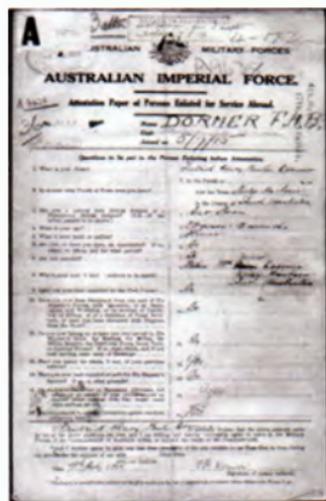
Hannah & George Dormer

intuitive insight of character, and therefore she was apt to treat the genus *humbugorous* with scant courtesy or respect.

On 21 March 1876, aged 38, George Michael Dormer (George junior) married Hannah, the widow of Charles Chambers. This was her third marriage, his first. She had previously married Robert Palmer at Mount Pleasant on 1 December 1862 and they had two children – William James Palmer at Kadina on 19 May 1864 and Susannah Tryphena Palmer at Adelaide on 30 April 1866. On 29 May 1869, Hannah married widower Charles Chambers. He already had three children, Eva, Harriet and Charles. On 29 December 1872, Charles died (cause unknown) and Hannah's brood now numbered five. On 21 March 1876,

however, she married George Dormer, the wheelwright and blacksmith, and seven months later they started their own family of five children and raised them all in their small home in McKinlay Street, Victor Harbor. With ten children to support, it is no wonder that George continued to operate his business until 1913, when he was 75 years of age. Their youngest son, Frederick Henry Bowles Dormer, signed on for service with the Australian Military Forces, 17<sup>th</sup> Battalion Reinforcements on 5 July 1915, aged 29 years and 4 months. His trade was listed as "miner". By the 10 January 1917 he had been returned to Australia from France where he suffered shell shock and gas poisoning. He was evacuated to England on the Hospital Ship Brighton through the port of Calais on 6 August 1916.

The following descendant report is included for those researching the Dormer Family. Dormer researcher Mrs Tamara Martin kindly supplied the "skeleton" of the Dormer family tree and this has been fleshed out by your Editor using information from the South Australian Births, Deaths and Marriages, AIF war service records and previous articles on the Dormer family from Tulle.



## Descendants of George Dormer

Page 1

- 1-George Dormer b. Cir 1798, Ossory Diocese, IRL. d. 3 Nov 1867, Bald Hills, Yankalilla, SA, AUS
  - +Judith (Julia) Gray m. 25 Jul 1825, Nottingham, NTT, ENG, d. 4 Mar 1872, Adelaide, SA, AUS
    - 1.1-Maria (Mary) Dormer b. 1825
    - 1.2-Helene Dormer b. 1827
    - 1.3-John Dormer b. 1829
    - 1.4-Thomas Dormer b. 1832, Calais, FRA
    - 1.5-Helene (Ellen) Dormer b. 17 Feb 1834, Calais, FRA, d. 14 Feb 1881, Port Victor, SA, AUS
      - +Joshua Gibson b. Cir 1825, m. 9 Dec 1850, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 12 Oct 1874, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, bur. Victor Harbor, SA, AUS
        - 1.5.1-George James Gibson b. 21 Oct 1851, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 4 May 1884, Port Victor, SA, AUS
          - +Catherine Mary Davies m. 6 Jun 1878, All Saints Church, Hindmarsh, SA, AUS, par. Henry Davies and Unknown
        - 1.5.2-Matthew Jagger Gibson b. 2 Feb 1854, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 29 Sep 1880, Middleton, SA, AUS
          - +Christina McBeath b. 14 Dec 1847, m. 18 Jun 1878, All Saints Church, Hindmarsh, SA, AUS, d. 4 Jun 1908, Goolwa, SA, AUS, bur. Currency Creek, SA, AUS, par. David McBeath and Catherine Hogan
            - 1.5.2.1-Joshua Henry Gibson
            - 1.5.2.2-Katy Helene Gibson
        - 1.5.3-Mary Gibson b. 20 Jun 1855, Bald Hills, Yankalilla, SA, AUS, d. 10 Jun 1860, Inman Valley, SA, AUS, bur. Victor Harbor, SA, AUS
        - 1.5.4-Sarah Gibson b. 19 May 1857, Myponga, SA, AUS
          - +Joseph Ellis b. Cir 1855, m. 17 Jul 1878, Newland Memorial Church, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, par. George Ellis and Unknown
        - 1.5.5-James Gibson b. 31 Dec 1858, Inman Valley, SA, AUS
          - +Jane McGregor
        - 1.5.6-Julienne Gibson b. 7 Sep 1860, Waitpinga, SA, AUS, d. 1932
          - +John Shannon m. 14 Sep 1881, Residence Of Joseph Ellis, Nr Port Victor, SA, AUS
        - 1.5.7-Joshua Gibson b. 17 Mar 1862, Waitpinga, SA, AUS
        - 1.5.8-Thomas Dormer Gibson b. Cir 1864, d. 1911
          - +Amelia Mealy b. 2 Jul 1866, Port Augusta, SA, AUS, m. 10 Jun 1885, All Saints Church, Hindmarsh, SA, AUS, par. Peter Mealy and Margaret McNaughton
            - 1.5.8.1-Emily Helene Gibson b. Cir 1887, d. 28 Aug 1888, Port Augusta, SA, AUS
          - 1.5.9-Helen Dormer Gibson b. 9 Sep 1866, Port Victor, SA, AUS, d. 4 Oct 1870, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, bur. Victor Harbor, SA, AUS
          - 1.5.10-Frederick Gavelle Gibson b. 5 Mar 1870, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, d. 1939
            - +Sarah Barrett
          - 1.5.11-Richard Victor Gibson b. 1872
    - 1.6-Julienne (Julia Ann) Dormer b. 1836, Calais, FRA, d. 4 May 1906, Brompton, SA, AUS
      - +George Thomas Nixon b. Cir 1827, m. 7 Aug 1854, Trinity Church, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 22 Jul 1886, Southwark, SA, AUS, bur. 1886, West Terrace Cemetery, Adelaide, SA, AUS
        - 1.6.1-Richard Rowell Nixon b. 11 Jun 1855, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 1920
          - +Mary Thomson b. Cir 1857, m. 18 Jan 1879, Registry Office, Adelaide, SA, AUS, par. William Thomson and Unknown
            - 1.6.1.1-Mary Elizabeth Nixon b. 10 Apr 1879, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 12 Apr 1879, Adelaide, SA, AUS
          - 1.6.2-Elizabeth Mary Nixon b. 15 Sep 1856, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 1860
          - 1.6.3-Helena Nixon b. Cir 1859, d. 9 Jan 1864, Adelaide, SA, AUS
          - 1.6.4-Hatty Torrid Nixon b. 1860
          - 1.6.5-Julia Ann Nixon b. 4 Jun 1861, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 1863

Produced by Richard Linnell, 7 Oak Killewin Street, St Ives NSW AUSTRALIA 2075 02 8440 3334 nonanonemg@oz.au

## Descendants of George Dormer

Page 2

- 1.6.6-Adelaide Alice Nixon b. 3 Feb 1863, Adelaide, SA, AUS
  - +Richard Francis Brownsett b. Cir 1863, m. 16 Feb 1888, St Paul Church, Adelaide, SA, AUS, par. Richard Jesse Brownsett and Unknown
- 1.6.7-Thomas Nixon b. 12 Aug 1865, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 1865
- 1.7-George Michael Dormer b. 9 Nov 1837, Calais, FRA, d. 3 Jan 1924, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS
  - +Hannah Bowles b. 1849, SRY, ENG, m. 21 Mar 1876, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, d. 13 Jul 1921, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, par. James Bowles and Unknown
  - 1.7.1-George Victor Dormer b. 29 Sep 1876, Port Victor, SA, AUS, d. 1963
    - +Margaret Giffney
  - 1.7.2-Helene Mary Dormer b. 24 Sep 1878, Port Victor, SA, AUS
    - +Percival Cain Joliff Rumbelow Watson b. Cir 1878, m. 29 Oct 1902, Congregational Church, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, par. Thomas George Watson and Unknown
  - 1.7.3-Lilian Ethel Maud Dormer b. 19 Jun 1881, Port Victor, SA, AUS
    - +Ernest James Ellis b. Cir 1879, m. 2 Jul 1906, St Augustine Church, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, par. Joseph Ellis and Unknown
  - 1.7.4-Olive Hannah Kate Dormer b. 29 Jul 1883, Port Victor, SA, AUS
    - +William John King m. 30 Mar 1905, Congregational Church, Victor Harbor, SA, AUS, par. William John King and Unknown
  - 1.7.5-Frederick Henry Bowles Dormer b. 17 Mar 1886, Port Victor, SA, AUS, d. 27 Mar 1960
    - +Lydia Hillam
- 1.8-Esther Dormer b. Cir 1840
  - +George Barrett b. Cir 1837, m. 18 Jul 1861, St Stephen Church, Willunga, SA, AUS, par. John Barrett and Unknown
  - 1.8.1-Esther Barrett b. 1862
    - +Maxwell Allan
  - 1.8.2-James Barrett b. 27 Sep 1863, Inman Valley, SA, AUS
    - +Jane Forman
  - 1.8.3-Jully Barrett b. 1865
  - 1.8.4-George Thomas Barrett b. 5 Sep 1868, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
  - 1.8.5-Jane Barrett b. 10 Oct 1870, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
    - +John Henry Afford b. Cir 1842, m. 12 Dec 1893, Residence Of George Barrett Blyth, Cl, SA, AUS, d. 4 Apr 1911, Mile End, Adelaide, SA, AUS
  - 1.8.6-John Barrett b. 27 Feb 1873, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
  - 1.8.7-Sarah Ettie Barrett b. 2 May 1875, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
    - +Frederick Gibson
  - 1.8.8-Ellen Alice Barrett b. 23 May 1877, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
  - 1.8.9-Harry Barrett b. 9 Sep 1879, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
  - 1.8.10-Ada May Barrett b. 1 May 1881, Blyth Plains, SA, AUS
    - +James Brown
- 1.9-James Dormer b. 1841, Calais, FRA, c. 25 Jan 1850, Adelaide, SA, AUS, d. 2 Apr 1850, Adelaide, SA, AUS

Produced by Richard Linton: 73A Killaloe St, Adelaide, SA, AUS. NSW AUSTRALIA 2015, 02 9440 3334, rcharlinton@ozemail.com.au

# THE ESSENTIAL HANDBOOK OF VICTORIAN ETIQUETTE

The above was a collection of works published by Professor Thomas E. Hill between 1873 and 1890 which provided advice on "the rules of conduct that govern good society".

The Wife's Duty in Marriage: "Never should a wife display her best conduct, her accomplishments, her smiles, and her best nature, exclusively away from her home".

"Be careful in your purchases. Let your husband know what you buy, and that you have wisely expended your money".

"Let no wife devote a large portion of her time to society-work which shall keep her away from home daytime and evenings, without the full concurrence of her husband".

"Beware of entrusting the confidence of your household to outside parties. The moment you discuss the faults of your husband with another, that moment an element of discord has been admitted which will one day rend your family circle".

"If in moderate circumstances, do not be over ambitious to make an expensive display in your rooms. With your own work you can embellish at a cheap price, and yet very handsomely, if you have taste. Let the adornings of your private rooms be largely the work of your own hands".

"Beware of bickering about little things. Your husband returns from his labours with his mind absorbed in business. In his dealings with his employees, he is in the habit of giving commands and of being obeyed. In his absentmindedness, he does not realize, possibly, the change from his business to his home, and the same dictatorial spirit may possess him in the domestic circle. Should such be the case, avoid all disputes".

"What matters it where a picture hangs, or a flower vase may sit? Make the home so charming and so wisely ordered that your husband will gladly be

relieved of its care, and will willingly yield up its entire management to yourself. . . .”

“Whatever may have been the cares of the day, greet your husband with a smile when he returns. Make your personal appearance just as beautiful as possible. Your dress may be made of calico, but it should be neat. Let him enter rooms so attractive and sunny that all the recollections of his home, when away from the same, shall attract him back”.

“Be careful that you do not estimate your husband solely by his ability to make display. The nature of his employment, in comparison with others, may not be favourable for fine show, but that should matter not. The superior qualities of mind and heart alone will bring permanent happiness.”

The Husband’s Duty: “Every grave responsibility has the man assumed in his marriage. Doting parents have confided to his care the welfare of a loved daughter, and a trusting woman has risked all her future happiness in his keeping. Largely, it will depend upon him whether her pathway shall be strewn with thorns or roses”.

“Let your wife understand fully your business. In nearly every case she will be found a most valuable adviser when she understands all your circumstances”.

“Do not be dictatorial in the family circle. The home is the wife’s province. It is her natural field of labour. It is her right to govern and direct its interior management. You would not expect her to come to your shop, your office, your store, or your farm, to give orders on how your work should be conducted. Neither should you interfere with the duties that legitimately belong to her”.

“If a dispute arises, dismiss the subject with a kind word, and do not seek to carry your point by discussion. It is a glorious achievement to master one’s own temper. You may discover that you are in error, and if your wife is wrong, she will gladly, in her cooler moments, acknowledge the fault”.

“Having confided to the wife all your business affairs, determine with her what your income will be in the coming year. Afterwards ascertain what your household expenses will necessarily be, and then set aside a weekly sum, which should regularly and invariably be paid the wife at a stated time. Let this sum be even more than enough, so that the wife can pay all bills, and

have the satisfaction besides of accumulating a fund of her own, with which she can exercise a spirit of independence in the bestowal of charity, the purchase of a gift, or any article she may desire. You may be sure that the wife will very seldom use the money unwisely, if the husband gives her his entire confidence”.

“Your wife, possibly, is inexperienced; perhaps she is delicate in health, also, and matters that would be of little concern to you may weigh heavily upon her. She needs, therefore, your tenderest approval, your sympathy, and gentle advice”.

“When her efforts are crowned with success, be sure that you give her praise. Few husbands realize how happy the wife is made by the knowledge that her efforts and her merits are appreciated. There are times, also, when the wife’s variable condition of health will be likely to make her cross and petulant. The husband must overlook all this, even if the wife is at times unreasonable.”

Obviously then, as now, a little consideration and appreciation for each other can go a long way toward keeping a marriage healthy!

VALE

**Laurie Howarth, O.A.M.**

10 Feb. 1911—1 July 2009

The members of ASLC extend their sincere condolences to June Howarth, O.A.M and her family. Laurie, June’s late husband was, like her, a tireless worker for both Red Cross and their community.

## **M**AITLAND<sup>7</sup> AND MORPETH IN 1848

**MAITLAND:** A Police district of N.S.W., embracing the northern portion of the county of Northumberland, and a southern portion of the county of Durham; bounded on the N.E. by the Hunter to Morpeth, thence across the river and by the right bank of the Paterson river to the northern boundary of T. Nowland's land; on the N. by the northern boundary of Nowland's land; and across the reserve to Lamb's valley, and to the Hunter at the eastern boundary of Gaggin's land, and thence by the right bank of the Hunter to the entrance of Black creek; on the W. by Black creek to the Maitland road, thence by a line bearing south westerly to Brokenback Mountain to the Sugar-Loaf range, at the source of Wallis creek; on the east by the Sugar-loaf range and a line bearing north-easterly to William Spark's grant, thence crossing the Hunter by the right bank of this river to the confluence of William's river, being the commencement of the north-eastern boundary aforesaid. It contains 8681 inhabitants and 2000 houses.

**MAITLAND EAST:** A town of N.S.W., also one of the Northumberland boroughs; it is seated on the Hunter at its junction with Wallis creek, in the county of Northumberland, 127 miles from Sydney, about 20 miles from the sea-coast in a direct line from Newcastle, and 3 miles from Morpeth, at the head of navigation of the river Hunter. It was laid out by the government - the site is a pleasant one, but the scarcity of good water in the immediate vicinity of the town is a serious drawback to its prosperity. It has 2 neat churches - the Episcopalian (St. Peter's), and the Roman Catholic. East Maitland is the seat of the county Executive. In a spacious and convenient Court-house the Maitland assizes are held twice a week - Courts of quarter sessions 4 times a year - Courts of petty sessions, and for the recovery of small debts, presided over by the Police Magistrate of the district, are held twice a week, and as often as required, and in a portion of the same building the District Council drags on its dreary and useless existence. A branch of the

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<sup>7</sup> All the information on the various Maitland towns is quoted directly from Wells W H, *A Geographical Dictionary or Gazetteer of the Australian Colonies 1848*, Facsimile Edition, The Council of the Library of NSW, Sydney, 1970. This book was originally published in Sydney by W. & F. Ford in 1848.

Bank of Australasia is profitably established in East Maitland, the building is perhaps one of the best in the town. Looking towards the back of the Borough may be observed the unsightly looking walls of a huge gaol in the course of erection, intended for the reception of the criminals of the northern districts; but from the progress hitherto made it would be a bold guess to prophecy to within a few years the time of its completion. The boundaries of the borough of East Maitland are as follows:- commencing at the north-west corner of Goldenham's 500 acres, and bounded on the south by his northern boundary line bearing east; then by its continuation as the northern boundary of a portion of 320 acres reserved for the extension of the town; and further easterly at the northern boundary line of Davis's 209 acres to the north-east corner thereof; on part of the east by a line bearing north about 100 chains; on part of the north by a line bearing west to a southerly continuation of Eckford's eastern boundary line; on the remainder of the east by that continuation and by the said boundary line bearing north to his north-east corner; again on the north by Eckford's northern boundary line to the river; and on the residue of the north by Hunter's river to its confluence with Wallis creek: and on the west by Wallis creek south-easterly to the north-west corner of Goldenham's 500 acres as aforesaid. According to the last census of 1846, it contained a population of 910, viz.: - 489 males and 421 females, and comprises 227 houses, of which 131 are built of stone or brick. East Maitland, West Maitland, and Newcastle, conjointly, under the denomination of the Northumberland boroughs, return one member to the Legislative senate.

**MAITLAND WEST**<sup>8</sup>: A town of N.S.W., also one of the Northumberland boroughs; which, together with East Maitland, and Newcastle, returns one member to the Legislative Assembly; it is situated on the banks of the river Hunter at its junction with Wallis creek, by which stream it is separated from East Maitland. It contains a population of 2400, viz. 1350 males and 1059 females, and has within its boundaries 558 houses, of which 246 are built of stone or brick. Its boundaries are as follows:- Commencing at the river Hunter at the confluence with a river of a creek (sic) dividing the allotments of Hall and Balcot, and bounded on part of the north by that creek so far as it bears westerly; thence by a continued west line to the south-west corner of Hall's allotment; on the west by Balcot's western boundary and its southerly continuation to P. L. Campbell's northern boundary

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<sup>8</sup> *ibid.*, p.247

line; again on the north by that boundary line bearing west to its north-west corner; again on the west by the western boundary line of Campbell and Luke Ralfe's lands to the north-west corner of J. Hughes's 4 acres; on part of the south by the northern boundary line of that land bearing east to Swamp creek; on the remainder of the south and part of the east by that creek to its confluence with Wallis creek; and thence by Wallis creek to its own confluence with the river Hunter; and on the residue to the east and north by that river to its confluence with the creek, dividing the allotments of Hall and Balcot as aforesaid. Much cannot be said of the beauty of the town, consisting as it does, of one long, irregular, main street, with a few minor ones branching from it at unequal distances. This town has risen on the lands of private individuals, but having the advantage of a liberal supply of fresh water, it rapidly took the lead of its eastern neighbours, and may now, from the extent of its trade, and the number of its inhabitants, be called the capital of the northern districts. It contains an Episcopalian, a Presbyterian, and a Roman Catholic, place of worship; the latter is a very handsome edifice, and an ornament to the town; but the two former certainly are not distinguished by any architectural beauty; the Wesleyan chapel is also a commodious and substantial building, - there are schools in connection with the above denominations. A manufactory of tobacco, on an extensive scale, is established here, under the direction of Messrs. Walthall and Clarke, two American gentlemen, who were formerly engaged in the manufactory of this important colonial tobacco within the last two or three years, leaves no reason to doubt that, with proper attention paid to the cultivation of the leaf, the article may be produced in this colony in as great perfection as it can be obtained from any part of the world. Coal mines are worked in the neighbourhood of Maitland, both East and West; the coal obtained here is of very superior quality, and abundant in quantity; it is delivered at the premises of the consumer, in quantities, at the rate of six shillings per ton. Surrounded by an extensive agricultural country, and commanding the traffic to and from the squatting districts of Liverpool plains, New England, &c., West Maitland is necessarily a thriving and important town, as the numerous large stores amply furnished with goods, and commodious hotels, with well filled travellers, sufficiently prove. The "Maitland Mercury", the first provincial newspaper published in the colony, has been established about four years, it was commenced as a weekly paper, but now appears every Wednesday and Saturday; it has a considerable circulation,

and whether as regards the style of “getting up”, or the ability displayed in its columns, is second to none of its metropolitan co-temporaries.

**MORPETH**<sup>9</sup> – A town of N.S.W., in the county of Northumberland, and parish of Maitland, originally called the Green hills; it is situated at the head of the navigable part of the Hunter river, 29 miles by water from Newcastle; it at present contains about 635 inhabitants, viz.: 334 males and 301 females, an Episcopalian church and parsonage, a Wesleyan chapel, a ladies’ school, and two day schools; five inns, one steam flour mill, a soap and candle manufactory, five large stores, some excellent shops, 37 stone and brick buildings, and about 117 wooden dwellings; steamers constantly ply between this place and Sydney; coal promises to be abundant at a very short distance from this river. The land is the property of E. C. Close, Esq., who has from time to time disposed of portions of it on building leases. The extensive wharf of the Hunter River Steam Navigation Company is here, and throughout the greater part of the year there is a daily communication to and from the metropolis by the steam vessels of the Company; a considerable number of sailing vessels also trade between this place and Sydney. There is a pretty church erected dedicated to St James; the land was given by Mr. Close, who also bore one-half of the expense of the building, the Government bearing the other half; the clergyman from East Maitland officiates every Sunday afternoon. A coal mine is in actual operation under the direction of Mr. Close, jun., also the extensive steam flour mill of Mr John Portus. About two acres on the bank of the river are used as a Government wharf; an officer of the Custom house from Newcastle is stationed here.

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Charlotte Parsons, the only child to die on the 1848 voyage to Adelaide of the “Harpley” died as a result of “atrophy”.

(From Appendix 17, 9<sup>th</sup> General Report of the CLEC, BPP, IUP series “Emigration”, Vol. 11, p.51 Register of births and deaths on emigrant ships, CO 386/170-172, Kew (AJCP microfilm reels 6887-6888)). Readers with a specific interest in **Causes of Death of British Emigrants on Voyages to South Australia, 1848-1885** are directed to an article bearing this title by Robin Haines and Ralph Shlomowitz (see <http://shm.oxfordjournals.org/cgi/content/abstract/16/2/193>).

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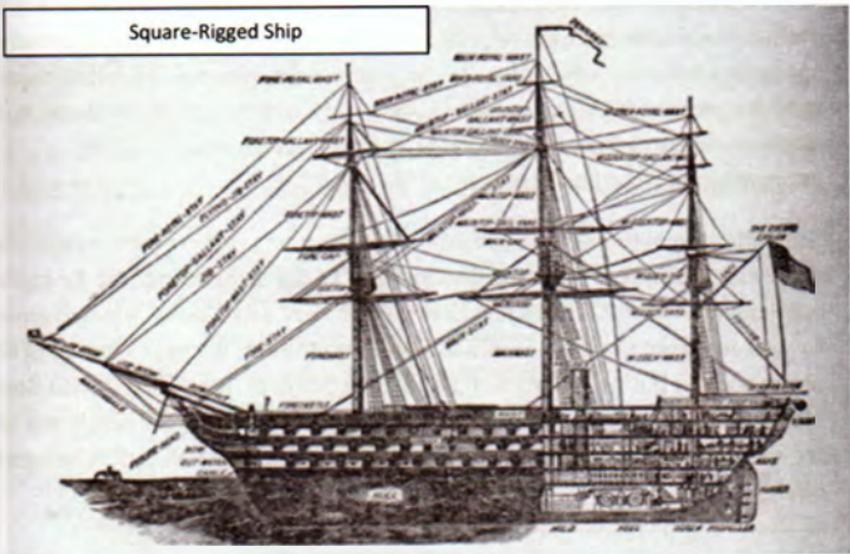
<sup>9</sup> *ibid.*, p.269

# SHIP TYPES AND DESCRIPTIONS

	Ship or Square Rigged Vessel	A vessel with more than two masts all with square sails normally rigged across the width of the hull.
	Barque	Like a ship except the aftermast (hindmost mast), which is fore-and-aft rigged – i.e. sail(s) running along the centreline of the vessel.
	Barquentine	A vessel with three or more masts with square sails only on the foremast.
	Brig	A vessel with two masts, square rigged on both with the mainsail on the hindmost rigged fore and aft.
	Brigantine	A vessel with two masts, square rigged on the fore mast, and fore-and-aft on the after mast.
	Ketch	A sailing vessel with two masts, with the hindmast shorter than the mainmast.
	Schooner	A vessel with more than one mast, all with fore-and-aft rig.
	Sloop	A sailing vessel with one mast and a fore-and aft rig, depending for stability on breadth of beam.
	Cutter	A fast sailing vessel with one mast, rigged fore and aft like a sloop, but built deeper and narrower than a sloop and depending for stability on a deep keel.
	Snow	A sailing vessel with two masts, square-rigged on both (like a brig), but with a square mainsail on the after mast and a fore-and-aft mainsail on a try, or auxiliary mast fitted behind the after mast.
	Yawl	A sailing vessel with two masts and fore-and-aft rigged sails, but with the after mast very small and stepped as far aft as possible.

# SHIP RIGGING

The rigging of a sailing ship is complex. I have scanned the following illustration from a 1910 Websters Collegiate Dictionary. The captions may be difficult to read but are similar for each mast. The three masts are (L-R) the foremast, mainmast and mizzen-mast; the three sections of the mast, bottom to top, are the mast, top-mast and royal-mast; the square-sails were similarly named, viz., bottom to top on the front mast were the foresail, fore topsail, and fore royalsail; triangular sails in front of the foremast included (front to rear) flying jib, jib and fore topmost staysail. Other sails or sail accessories included studding sails (a light sail set at the side of a square sail in free winds), skysails (set next above the royal), the mizzen course or crossjack sail (the lowest square sail), spanker (the after sail of a ship or barque (bark) being a fore-and-aft sail with a boom and gaff (the spar on which the upper edge of a fore-and-aft sail is extended)), clew garnets, brails (ropes passing through pulleys used to haul sails in or up, preparatory to furling) and throat brails. There will be questions!!



## **G**EOERGE FOSTER AND SONS (BETH WILLIAMS)

George Foster, the ten-year-old son of lacemakers James and Mary Ann Foster, arrived in Sydney aboard the 1848 voyage to Australia of the "Agincourt". George was one of their nine children. Our thanks go to Beth Williams<sup>10</sup> for researching some of the accomplishments of this interesting man.

In 1898, he set up his own engineering firm in King Street, St Peters, directly opposite Gentle's brickyard, one of several in the area at the time. George had gained his proficiency in engineering while working at the iron founders and engineering company, Hodgkinson's, a Sydney manufacturer of dry-press brick making machinery and mining equipment.

George Foster's company was quick to see opportunity and, with local conditions in mind, it began manufacturing pressure tanks, pit trucks, crushers, grinding pans and a local version of the Platt press – a hydraulic stamp manufactured at Oldham in Lancashire, which could produce 20,000 bricks each day. Platt Brothers may have appointed Foster as the licensed repairer of its equipment because compliance plates salvaged from discarded machinery suggests that the production of brick presses and a range of brick making machinery had already commenced at Fosters by 1911. The main difference between the British made Platt dry press and Foster's version related to the pressure or lifting plates. Both shafts on Foster presses had a working life of up to nine years – a great improvement on the English machines.

Soon after the outbreak of World War I, Platt Brothers withdrew from supplying dry press machines to the Australian market. Foster stepped in to fill the gap and subsequently diversified into tile making machinery. In 1920 the firm had grown to such an extent that it relocated to larger premises on the opposite side of King Street and the business continued under the control of George's son (also George) after his father's death. In 1978, William Wallbank & Sons Pty Ltd purchased all the old plant and equipment of the company which had shortly before ceased to operate.

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<sup>10</sup> Beth drew on information from Ron Ringer's book, *The Brickmasters: 1788-2008* (Dry Press), Wetherill Park, 2008.

## THE LATE HARRY BOYLE (Lindsay Watts)

One of the great pleasures in life is remembering old friends and their many kindnesses. As you would agree, our lacemaker family has many of those and one who came to mind recently was Harry Boyle of Hinton. ASLC members with Maitland connections will be aware of the assistance he gave us all in the very early days when we were piecing our story together. Harry drew our attention to the graphic article regarding the arrival in Maitland of the *Agincourt* immigrants, which was published in the *Maitland Mercury* in October 1848. There will be others who can remember him taking us on a guided tour of Morpeth and Maitland. He showed us the Trades Arm Inn, now a private residence, and he took us to the very place where the original immigrant's barracks once stood. It was Harry who advised me that Newcastle Library had a photograph of the barracks and I was subsequently able to obtain a copy of that photograph.

Harry worked for many years indexing issues of the *Maitland Mercury* and his work, "Boyle's Lower Hunter Subject Index, 1801-1883" is housed in the Newcastle Library. Recently, I checked out his name on the Internet, and amongst the information on him, I found the following beautiful poem which meant so much to Harry and which formed part of his obituary. I felt it was worth sharing with you. The former journalist and author, the late David McNicoll, wrote the poem, called *Epitaph for a Soldier in Syria* in 1941.

Build me no monument should my turn come;  
Please do not weep for me and waste your tears.  
Write not my name on honour rolls of fame  
To crumble with man's memory through the years.  
Wear no dark clothes, speak in no saddened voice  
Seeking rare virtues which did not exist;  
Just let me lie under the cool sweet earth  
And sleep in peace, where I will not be missed.

I ask one thing, that in still far-off days  
Someone who knew me should in their daily round  
Suddenly pause, caught by some sight or sound,  
Some glance, some phrase, some trick of memory's ways  
Which brings me to his mind. Then I shall wait  
Eager with hope: perhaps to hear 'How great  
If he were with us still.' Then, at the end,  
All that I wish for – just: 'He was my friend.'

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## **STOP PRESS**

**MAITLAND MERCURY DECEMBER 1881**

**LOST – BETWEEN PATERSON AND MAITLAND**

**A BAND BOX CONTAINING H.VIS PATTERNS AND PART OF A  
CRUET STAND.**

**ANYONE WHO FINDS IT PLEASE DELIVER TO**

**E. HOMAN, 24<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 1881**

## **HISTORY OF HP SAUCE (Judy Gifford)**

The original recipe for HP sauce was invented in 1896 by Frederick Gibson Garter, a grocer from Nottingham. He registered the name of the sauce as 'HP Sauce' because he heard that a restaurant in the Houses of Parliament had begun serving it, and this is why even today the bottle still carries an illustration of Westminster.

# FROM SUGAR TO LACE (GILLIAN KELLY)

The story of Caroline Luard of the *Harpley*

The Edict of Nantes was issued in 1598 by Henry IV of France to grant the Calvinist Protestants of France, known as Huguenots, substantial rights in a nation still considered essentially Catholic. The Edict was aimed primarily at ending the French Wars of Religion. In October 1685, Louis XIV, the grandson of Henry IV, renounced the Edict and declared Protestantism illegal with the Edict of Fontainebleau. While the wars of religion did not reignite, many Protestants chose to leave France.



**The Huguenot Church, Threadneedle St, London**

In 1685, Abraham Luard, Huguenot of Caen, France, moved to London with his second wife, Jeanne Bonnefoy. By the middle of the eighteenth century, the Luard family were well-established and wealthy merchants in Threadneedle Street where they continued

their faith as Huguenots. Abraham's son, Peter Luard had formed a partnership with fellow Huguenots Robert Myre and Thomas Vigne and his grandson, Peter Abraham Luard, married Robert Myre's daughter, Ann.

Peter and Ann had a son, Peter Robert Luard, born Christmas Day, 1727, and he followed his family's footsteps as London merchants but his trade was very different from that of his forebears.

Far away on the island of St Kitts, Jamaica, was a wealthy sugar merchant called Zachariah Bourryau. Zachariah was born on St Kitts to French parents.

Zachariah grew sugar and he did this with the aid of the slave trade. It should be noted that slave trading was not considered a dishonourable profession in the middle eighteenth century. And Zachariah Bourryau, as well as trading sugar, traded slaves.



Slave labour on a sugar plantation in the West Indies.

He established himself as a merchant in London and formed a partnership with Peter Robert Luard of London and Robert Turner of St Kitts. As well as a home in Southampton Row in London, he bought Blyborough Manor in Lincolnshire. When he died in 1752, he left an estate valued at £40,000, and he had a daughter Jane.

Jane Bourryau of Blyborough married Peter Robert Luard at St Georges Mayfair on 19 February 1754. There followed three children but the marriage was not a happy one. Jane's brother, John, had inherited the bulk of the family fortunes and he was unmarried. In 1794, Jane wrote a will which she justified by stating that, as she was separated from her husband, Peter Robert Luard, she was entitled to write a will as a single woman. Her fear was that as she stood to gain both real and personal property from her brother's will that her children might lose their entitlements.

By 1794, Peter Luard was operating as Luard, Son & Norton, Merchants at 10 Kings Arms Yd, Coleman Street and New Lloyd's Coffee Shop. This son was Francis.

As it happened, Peter Robert Luard also benefited from John Bourryau's will and the children of Peter and Jane inherited from both parents. Francis was indebted to his father to the tune of £2,000 at the time of his father's death

in 1800. This debt was written off under the terms of the will but the family fortunes had seemingly disappeared.

Francis married a Caroline Shaw. They lived in Throgmorton St, London and, according to his mother, Francis was a gentleman. Their first-born was a son, Francis Bourryau Luard, born in London in 1793.

Francis Bourryau Luard's life is a mystery for the next thirty years but on 11 December 1826<sup>11</sup>, he married Mary Mortley of Brookland, Kent. By 1831, Francis had crossed the Channel with his wife and was living in St Pierre in apparent comfort as a lace worker. His domicile consisted of himself; his wife Mary; his daughter Caroline Louisa aged 1; Mary's cousin William Mortley, lace worker; Nathan Knight; and a domestic servant, Sarah Hinkley aged 29.

Francis' father wrote a will in 1834 with a curious statement in it. His estate was "to be divided amongst all and every of my children and child of the marriage of me and my late wife Mary Caroline... equally share and share alike ..... if my son or son's daughter or daughters shall have departed this life in my lifetime then I direct that the child or children of such son or sons, daughter or daughters born in lawful wedlock whether before or after my decease shall stand in place of his, or her or their respective parent so dying..."

By 1841 the household arrangement in Calais had changed somewhat. Mary, Francis' legitimate wife had disappeared and Francis was living with Sarah Hinkley as his wife and Caroline Louisa, now aged 11. Francis was still working in the lace trade.

So what of Mary? There is no trace of her until 1851 when she appears as a widow, a servant to Thomas Wilson at New Romney in Kent, and then again in 1861 when she is back in Dover. Given there were no other children from her marriage to Francis Luard, it is reasonable to assume that Caroline Louisa Luard was the child of Francis Luard and Sarah Hinkley and that sharing a house with her husband's child and lover was just too much to bear. It would

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<sup>11</sup> <http://www.shauntaylor.co.uk/genealogy/>

also seem that Francis' father did not approve either and dealt with it by ensuring that this child could not benefit from his will.

In 1848, Caroline Louisa Luard was amongst the first to apply to come to Australia. The consul's original manifest for applicants lists Caroline with John Hibbert, a 49-year-old bachelor lace worker from Tideswell, Derbyshire, with a note saying they were to be married.

On 2 May 1848, ten days before the *Harpley* sailed, John and Caroline married in Kensington. The marriage certificate states that John was the son of Joshua Hibbert, lacemaker, and Caroline was the daughter of Francis Bourryau Luard, innkeeper. The witnesses to the marriage were F B Luard and Sarah Luard.

The Hibberts moved from Adelaide to Maldon, Victoria in the early 1850s. There were nine children from the marriage. John died in 1864 but Caroline lived until 1911, running a grocery store to keep body and soul together. The final link to the incredible Luard link occurred when Francis Bourryau Luard arrived in Maldon to live his last years with his daughter, Caroline Louisa - he died there in 1869.

The stories of the successful Hibberts are legion which is only to be expected of a family with such an incredibly rich tapestry of life.

**GILLIAN KELLY**

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To the family that dear octopus from whose tentacles we never quite escape,  
nor, in our inmost hearts, ever quite wish to.

- Dodie Smith

He that loves not his wife and children, feeds a lioness at home and broods a  
nest of sorrows.

- Jeremy Taylor

**The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc.**  
***Office Bearers 2009-2010***

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## **The Australian Society of the Lacemakers of Calais Inc. (ASLC)**

The ASLC formed in 1982 when a small group of people came to the realisation that they shared a common interest in a special group of English machine lacemakers. The Lacemakers in whom they shared an interest were principally those who were originally from Nottingham and who were involved in two mass migrations in the space of little more than a decade.

The Lacemakers' first migration was to escape the poverty, unemployment, misery, disease and discomfort of overcrowded industrial Nottingham. Their migration was to the shores of France - especially to Calais - where their skills as lace artisans were initially treasured and where their employment and well-being seemed assured. During the 1848 Revolution in France, the political and social upheaval left most of them jobless again. Their future in France seemed uncertain. Most decided that making a fresh life in a new land was preferable to returning to England where it was likely they would remain destitute and a burden on their Parishes. Their second migration was to various parts of Australia.

The Lacemaker emigrants of particular interest to members of ASLC sailed to Australian ports in one of three sailing vessels, viz. the "Fairlie" (destination Sydney), the "Harpley" (destination Adelaide) and the "Agincourt" (destination also Sydney). These three vessels carried the bulk of the Lacemaker emigrants. Other Lacemaker emigrants came in smaller groups on other vessels including the Canton, Castle Eden, Emperor, General Hewitt, Bermondsy, Walmer Castle, Charlotte Jane, Steadfast, Andromachie, Baboo, Harbinger, Navarino and Nelson. Descendants of these lacemakers are also valued members of ASLC.