



THE MOXON MAGAZINE

The Magazine for the Moxons, Established by James Moxon in 1988

Founding Editor and First President of the Society

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Editorial:

HAVEN'T YOU ALL DONE WELL!

Many thanks to those members who have contributed to this issue - and all in good time, too! However, there are many members who have not yet made a contribution. Please put "your thinking caps" on, and make a contribution to next October's issue.

This is important! It will be the 21st Anniversary of the Moxon Magazine. Let us make it a worthy issue!

It is 21 years since James (Jimmy) Moxon published the first Moxon Magazine in April 1988. Since then the magazine has become well established, and The Society, founded January 1990, has flourished - thanks to our Members' continued support. Let's make sure both are still going strongly for at least the next 21 years!

It is up to you!

We look forward to welcoming many members at our Gathering in Wells - why don't you come too? An Application form is enclosed with this magazine to members.

Wells, the smallest city in England, and the surrounding area, has much to offer.

As this year's Gathering is later than usual, due to accommodation availability, the October Magazine will be a little late. It is hoped that you will receive it by mid-October.

The Society's membership is currently 145 plus spouses, spread out across the UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand. We continue to grow slowly and steadily. Our website continues to be the main source for attracting new members. Have you visited it recently?

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome the following New Members to the Society:

Jacqueline Griffin and son, Stephen of Romford, Essex.

David Ellison of Ilkeston, Derby.

Janet Start, née Moxon, of Midhurst, West Sussex.

Peter W Moxon of Williamsburg, Virginia, USA.

Kelly Selcher of Middleton, Pennsylvania, USA.

Nicole Moxon of West Bridgford, Nottingham.

Betty Moxon of Harden, Bingley, Yorks.

WELCOME TO WELLS

John Eardley Moxon, Member, lives in Wells, and is helping Ed Moxon make arrangements for The Moxon Gathering, in Wells, in 2008.

In order to whet your appetites, he has written this résumé.

See page 8 for colour photograph of Wells Cathedral and the Swan Hotel.

I WAS DELIGHTED to read in this magazine last year that you were planning a gathering in Wells in 2008 and, while I'm not aware of other family associations with the city, I can at least offer my services as a genuine Moxon guide (from tree MX01, no less!) Wells is the smallest city in England; with a delightful Mediaeval heart around what Alec Clifton-Taylor calls "a queen among Cathedrals".

I was fortunate enough to end my career as Deputy Director of Music at Wells Cathedral School (one of four government-supported specialist music schools in England), and when deteriorating hearing (an unwanted Moxon gene!) caused me to take early retirement, I saw no reason to move away and trained instead as a Cathedral guide.

Let me whet your appetite! The West Front contains the finest collection of statues from the mid 1200's in Europe with over 300 surviving figures; the Cathedral, started in 1175 and replacing an earlier Saxon one, is the first English Cathedral in the Gothic style; an extension in the early 1300's gave us one of the most beautiful quires in the country, with a splendid Jesse window from 1340; there is a lovely first-floor chapter house reached by a picturesque flight of steps; and among many interesting artefacts is the second oldest working clock in the country (c.1390) with an ingenious astronomical dial and jousting knights. The neighbouring Vicars' Close was completed by 1363 to house the men of the choir and still does so today; and beyond the ancient market place is the romantic 13th century moated Bishop's Palace.

I have booked to give you a thorough guided tour of the Cathedral at 10.30 a.m. on the Saturday morning, and I have also booked a "high parts" tour at 9.00 for those who would like it. This is a special treat as there is much of interest in the roof spaces - the secret singing gallery, the trumpet holes in the vault, the original master mason's drawing floor (the only other one to survive is at York Minster), the workings of the clock, the magnificent oak beams donated by Henry III in 1220, and a fabulous view of Wells from the central tower.

I will need to know numbers in advance for the "high parts" tour, as there is a small charge for this, and the group size is limited to 12 (I have pencilled in a possible two groups). We are not allowed to take up people suffering from heart disease or asthma, as there are some 200 spiral steps - but they are not all in one go and are not particularly arduous if you are in reasonable health! There is one place where you must be able to squeeze through a 14 inch gap.

In the afternoon there are various options: Glastonbury (5 miles) is a distinctly "new age" town these days, but with the ruins of what was once a fine abbey containing (so the monks claimed) the grave of King Arthur. There are caves in nearby Wookey Hole, and also in Cheddar Gorge (8 miles), worth seeing but rather commercialised and crowded. For shopaholics, there is Clarks Village in Street (7 miles) with factory outlet shops (good for shoes).

Or you can explore the rest of Wells - the

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

THOSE OF YOU who are regular readers of Family Tree Magazine (and if you aren't then try to persuade someone to treat you to an annual subscription for your birthday, or as a Christmas present) will have come across the Trials and Tribulations of a Family Historian column. I expect that many of you will have had such experiences. Here are some of mine.

As I write this, at 1:12 a.m. on Wednesday 27 February, having within the last 20 minutes been roughly tossed from my bed by a magnitude 5.2 earthquake, I recall previous adverse happenings which have overtaken me while pursuing family history. There was the occasion on which I was translating from the original Latin the late fifteenth century will of chantry priest the Reverend William Mokeson of Bolton upon Dearne. In the midst of my labours there was a power failure and I finished my work much under the circumstances in which the will was probably written – by candlelight. You have probably heard of unfortunate people who have ended up being locked in a lavatory. This, too, has happened to me! While doing some research at the British Library I had to answer the call of nature. As I sat there, perhaps mulling over some recent discovery, the fire alarm went off. By the time I had – as the polite notices in Victorian gentlemen's lavatories enjoin – 'adjusted my clothing', the door had been locked. It turned out that there had been a bomb scare and it was two hours before I was released from my confinement by members of the Bomb Squad searching the building. It was a good job that there wasn't really a fire (or an explosion, come to that); otherwise someone else might have been writing this letter...

My Moxon researches have been proceeding apace, some of the fruits of which appear in these pages. I am currently looking more closely at the life and work of Dr Walter Moxon (1836-1886), details of which, with the Editor's kind permission, will appear in future editions of The Moxon Magazine. Have you got a story to tell? The Editor is always eager to receive material and there must be many accounts which are just waiting to be written up. So how about it?

This year's Gathering is to be held in Wells, Somerset, on the weekend of 19-21 September. Wells is a lovely place and I will always remember the superb week a couple of years ago which my choir spent singing the services in the Cathedral. Of course, it didn't take long for the men of the choir to explore Wells' many hostels and to discover the excellent local brew – Butcombe. So whether you are into old cathedrals, family history, or even beer, Wells is the place to visit and I look forward to seeing you all there.

Back to bed now, I think.

Graham Jagger, President
April 2008

continued from page 1

Saturday market, a fine parish church, a small local museum.

I look forward to meeting you in September!

John Eardley Moxon

We have decided to include a donation of £4 per person in the overall price for the weekend to cover the Ground Tour of the Cathedral. Those also taking the High Parts Tour will be charged an additional £4. The donations will be given to the Cathedral as 'Gift Aid' so that they can claim 28p in the pound back from the Tax Man

INFORMATION FROM THE CATHEDRAL WEBSITE

Photography is encouraged subject to purchase of a permit from the Information Desk or Shop and the specified conditions being observed. Permits cost £3 for cameras and for videos. Flash photography is not permitted in the Quire at anytime to prevent damage to the delicate needlework.

The famous Wells clock was probably in place by 1390. Bishop Ralph Erghum, who had previously been Bishop of Salisbury and had installed a clock there in 1386, seems to have brought his clockmaker with him to Wells. The Wells clock is unique because it still has its original medieval face, depicting a pre Copernican universe with the earth at its centre.

When the clock strikes every quarter, jousting knights rush round above the clock and the Quarter Jack bangs the quarter hours with his heels. An outside clock opposite Vicars' Hall, placed there just over seventy years later is connected with the inside mechanism. *See photograph on page 9 and* www.wellscathedral.org.uk

APPLICATION FORM FOR GATHERING

An application form is enclosed with this magazine to members and their relatives or friends. If you are unable to attend the whole weekend, then please feel free to attend for just part of the weekend. Fill in the form as appropriate.

The Swan Hotel will have other 'party bookings' as well as ours.

We have made provisional reservations, **but please let us have your form back as soon as possible, so that we can confirm requirements. We will not be able to hold the provisional bookings for very long!**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

We know, unfortunately, that not all members are able to attend the Gatherings. Also enclosed with this magazine is an advance copy of the AGM Agenda. If you have any comments about the agenda, or have suggestions for other items which should be discussed, please contact the Secretary, Sue Earnshaw. *Her contact details are on the back page.*

OBITUARY OWEN KENNETH MOXON



25 August 1930 - 30 December 2007

ADRIAN WALTERS writes: "Ken was my father-in-law. Jacqueline, my wife, and Eileen, Ken's wife, have asked me to notify you that Ken passed away unexpectedly. He ultimately suffered a heart attack.

Whilst going through his papers etc, we became aware of how dedicated he was to investigating his genealogy. His documentation was meticulous and he always spoke fondly of his investigations. Jacqueline will keep his records etc. She has told me that some time in the future, in his honour, she would like to carry on her father's investigations.

Eileen, Jacqueline and Ken's friends, relatives and grandchildren are all starting to come to terms with the loss of him. He was a lovely man and will be sorely missed."

Ken lived in Tal-Bont, Conwy.

? WHO ARE YOU RELATED TO?

THERE ARE STILL a number of members who have not yet sent details of their Moxon ancestry to the Society. Without this information we are unable to determine if they are related to any other members.

The Society has enabled many members to find "long lost relatives". The best example is that over 26 members have been shown to be descended from Charles Mokeson of Cawthorne, near Barnsley in Yorkshire, who made his will and died in 1592.

It does not require a "posh" family tree being prepared! If details of a member's earliest known Moxons (Moxhams, Moxans etc.) are sent, including some dates and places of baptisms and/or marriages, then we will search the records. We cannot guarantee a result, but will do our best.

Send details to John Moxon Hill (*see back page for contact details.*)

?

NEWS OF CANADIAN MEMBERS

LEN MOXON and Penny, his wife, from Halifax, intend to join us at the Gathering in Wells. Most of those attending the Scarborough Gathering last year just missed meeting Len and Penny. They had a family commitment during the Gathering weekend, but travelled up to Scarborough on the Sunday to visit friends. They stayed at "our" hotel and met Dr. John and Ann Moxon at breakfast on the Monday morning.

EDWARD MOXON ROBERTS retired from his position as Lieutenant Governor of Newfoundland and Labrador on 31st January, and tells me that he and Eve, his wife, are looking forward to the joys of private life. It will allow him time to follow his own desires - one of which is to do more research on his Moxon and Roberts ancestry. They hope to join us at a future Gathering. So, Edward, why not Wells this year. We would welcome "an invasion" by Canadians!

See "Knowing our Moxons" in MM No. 34, October 2004, page 11.

WILLIAM MOXON "FOUND"

Rev. Don Moxon, Member of Beccles, defines the origins of William Moxon of Pontefract, born c1649, Builder and Master Mason.



IN THE OCTOBER 2007 issue, we carried an article, "Looking for William Moxon", where a number of "William Moxons" were listed. Don has identified the origins of one of those Moxons.

Don writes:

"In my book "Samuel and Lydia Moxon of Ferry Fryston", in Chapter 2, you will find a complete record of Moxon entries in the Pontefract registers and other relevant records through the 17th Century, put together as a tree on page 72 of the book (Table 1). See pedigree chart below. I have no doubt that the William born c. 1649 was the son of William born 1618 who married Margaret Walker in 1640/1; that that William was the son of John who married Anne Petty in 1612; that John was the son of Ralph Moxsonne who died at Ferry Fryston and was buried at Pontefract in 1598. The various Moxon references in the records pertaining to Pontefract in the 17th Century provide a pretty incontrovertible line of descent/ascent as I have argued in the chapter and as indicated on the tree. The tree on page 48 of "The Moxons of Yorkshire" was clearly defective - not only in presuming falsely in the existence of Sir Samuel - but also in not having

found all the details to be found in the registers and other relevant records prior to the Civil War and during the Commonwealth."

Don had researched these Moxons in an attempt to find the origins of his earliest known ancestor, Samuel Moxon of Ferry Fryston. He has not been able to find any record of Samuel's baptism.

The final paragraph in Chapter 2 of the book reads:

"All this is of particular interest to us because Samuel Moxon and Lydia Walton who married at Ferry Fryston in 1728 named their first two children Elizabeth and John. Given the names of Lydia's four children by her first marriage to James Walton in 1716, it is highly probable that Samuel's parents were named John and Elizabeth. But sadly and against nearly all the odds and expectations, there is no baptismal entry for a son Samuel being born to John and Elizabeth (Pool); nor has extensive and detailed research produced any evidence of a Samuel being born or baptised in the area, or available to marry Lydia in 1728". See pedigree chart below.

If any member wants more detailed information, please contact the Editor.

TABLE 1

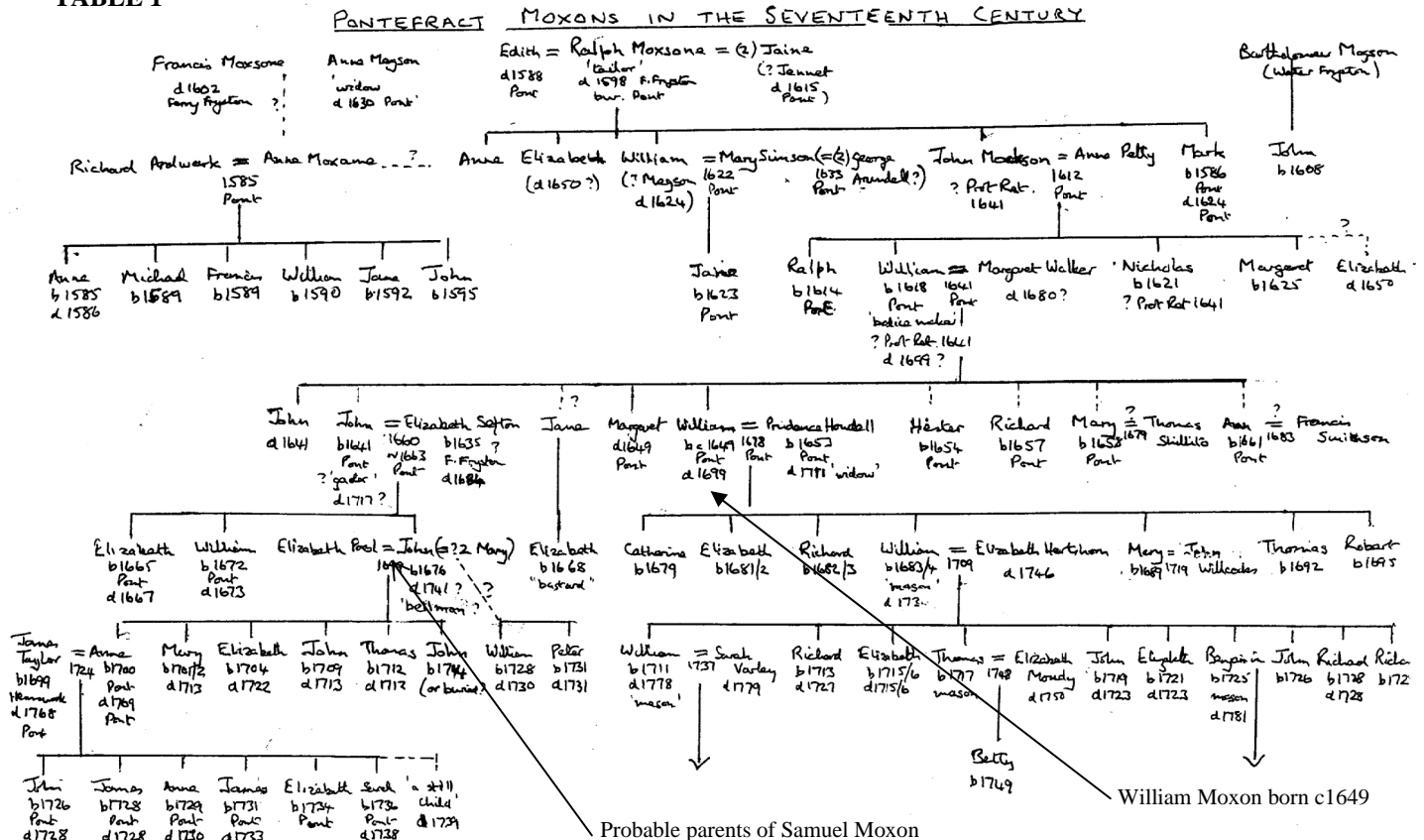


TABLE 1 Taken from the book *Samuel and Lydia Moxon of Ferry Fryston and their descendants*, Researched, compiled and written by Don Moxon, John Edward Moxon and John and Anne Davies, published by The Moxon Family Research Trust in 2003. (Page 72)

THOMAS MOXON OF TWICKENHAM AND THE NELSON TOUCH

*Moxon Society Member Bob Moxon Browne takes a look
at Thomas Moxon's connections with the Naval hero.*

ALTHOUGH USUALLY called "Thomas Moxon of Twickenham", to distinguish him from his son Thomas Moxon of Leyton, Thomas Moxon senior was of course born in Yarmouth, coming from a family of ship owners whose vessels had originally sailed out of Hull. His place in the family tree – and his kinship with many members of the Moxon Society now living in Australia and America – was the subject of an article by John Moxon Hill in April 1999 (see MM 23, 4-5).



*Thomas Moxon of Twickenham
1760-1843*

*From a silhouette produced courtesy of
Member Susan Lowther-Pinkerton*

Despite his nautical background, it seems Thomas Moxon only went to sea once, on a trip to the Mediterranean for the sake of his health. His grandson, Charles St. Denys Moxon, observed that "he does not seem to have been very well pleased with (the trip) because he took no other". (Note 1) But despite this assumed aversion, Thomas Moxon was to form a long and close friendship with the greatest seaman of his day, his near contemporary, and fellow Norfolkman, Horatio Lord Nelson. (See photo on page 8)

Charles St Denys Moxon says the two men met at school, in Yarmouth. This may be so, although it is known that Nelson's education was in fact first at the Royal Grammar School in Norwich, and then at the highly regarded school in the nearby village of North Walsham. It may be that Thomas Moxon met Nelson at one or other of these schools, rather than in Yarmouth.

What is not in doubt is that in later years, after Thomas Moxon had moved to London, he and Lord Nelson were friends and near neighbours in the village of Morden in Surrey (now a South London suburb), where Thomas Moxon's then business partner, Abraham Goldsmid also had a house, and with whom Nelson was also very friendly.

Nelson's house was called Merton Place,

which he had bought for £9,000 in 1801 as a shore base, and a home for himself and his paramour, Lady Hamilton. Nelson gave her the job of decorating, which she seems to have undertaken with more enthusiasm than discretion.

Nelson spent the last summer of his life with Lady Hamilton at Merton Place. On 2nd September 1805 he was summoned to the Admiralty and invited to take command of a fleet to sail to meet the French and Spanish navies off the coast of Cadiz. In a fascinating passage in Charles St Denys Moxon's notes on his grandfather's life, he relates that after this meeting, Nelson called on his old friend to tell him what had happened at the Admiralty. These are Charles Moxon's actual words:

"(On) the occasion of their meeting Lord Nelson told (Thomas Moxon) that he had been offered the chief Command – "then you accepted of course" was my grandfather's reply. "No I did not" "Then why not?". "Because the Admiralty wanted to fix arbitrarily both as to the ships to be under me, and the Captains who were to command them – and I said as I should have the responsibility it was right that I should have those whom I well knew"."



Merton Place, the house Nelson bought for Lady Hamilton

Charles Moxon continues his account:

"A few evenings later he came in again saying the Government had given way and that he could make his own selection. Soon after he sailed, never to return alive."

Charles Moxon says he got this account from Thomas Moxon's son, Thomas Moxon of Leyton, who of course was Charles' father. So it is hearsay. But if it is true, it may be of some historical significance, because the account directly contradicts the official story which has been endlessly repeated in innumerable

biographies of Nelson. The official account goes like this:

"The First Lord of the Admiralty, Lord Barham handed Nelson a Royal Navy List and asked him to make a choice of his own officers. "Choose yourself My Lord" Nelson replied, "the same spirit actuates the whole profession. You cannot choose wrong". But the First Lord insisted that he pick out the names himself. "This is my secretary", Barham said, "Give your orders to him". (Note 2)

Where does the truth lie? I think Moxon's version has the ring of truth. For all he was a hero, loved by his men, and blessed with the "Nelson touch" Lord Nelson certainly had weaknesses. He was vain, given to favouritism, and constantly fretting that his achievements were insufficiently recognised by the Naval establishment. While it seems inconceivable that he would have refused a command, I think it is quite likely that he made a big fuss about who his officers were to be,

and in relating the story to Thomas Moxon (possibly over a glass of gin) boasted about how he was able to manipulate the First Sea Lord. There is no doubt that in fact Nelson did select his own Captains for the Trafalgar expedition, but it seems to me probable that it was Nelson's idea rather than the Admiralty's that he should do so, and that the official account, published after Nelson's heroic death, simply seeks to smooth

over what may have been rather an awkward discussion.

So far as I know, Charles Moxon's account of this episode has never been drawn to the attention of Naval historians. If this article should receive the *imprimatur* of publication in the Moxon Magazine, it may be time to make amends for that.

There are a number of post-scripts to the life of Nelson and Lady Hamilton at Morden with their neighbours the Moxons and the Goldsmids. When Nelson died, the house at



Merton Place was his only real asset, which he left to Lady Hamilton. Despite his dying entreaties that his Emma (and his daughter by her, Horatia) should be taken care of by a grateful country, the Government of the day ignored the request, and Lady Hamilton was left virtually penniless. Merton Place proved hard to sell, possibly partly because Lady Hamilton's choice of decorations was not to everybody's taste. It was left to what she described "her friends in the City" (who would certainly have included Thomas Moxon and Abraham Goldsmid) to bale her out as best they could. A committee was formed, and money advanced against the sale of Merton Place, which was eventually bought by Abraham Goldsmid's brother Asher, almost certainly from motives of charity. (See photo of Abraham Goldsmid on page 8)

Despite their prominence in banking circles, and their gallantry towards Lady Hamilton, the Goldsmid brothers came to a sad end. Abraham Goldsmid continued with Thomas Moxon in the profitable but highly risky business of issuing government bonds to finance the ongoing war against France. After the catastrophic failure of one such issue, Abraham committed suicide; thoughtful to the last, the spot he chose to blow his brains out with a pistol was a privy at the bottom of his garden at Morden. The financial press were rather unkind, suggesting that if Thomas Moxon rather than his partner had had control of the crisis "Goldsmid would assuredly have recovered all the aid necessary to bring himself successfully through his engagements". (Note3)

At about the same time, Abraham's brother Benjamin also committed suicide, by hanging himself from a silk rope attached to his bed, the proper purpose of which was to heave himself



Twickenham Lodge

Home of Thomas Moxon

Copy of a drawing by Thomas Moxon's grandson, James, brother of Charles St. Denys Moxon in the collection of Pru Craig-Waller, photo by Paul Davies

into a comfortable position when suffering from gout.

Thomas Moxon continued in partnership with Abraham's son Aaron, before moving into business with his own son John (Moxon of Hanover Terrace) who later was to become a founder of the London and Westminster Bank (now the NatWest). By 1820, Thomas Moxon had made enough money to retire to the Lodge at Twickenham, where he lived out his days.

Notes:

- 1 See "Moxons of Yorkshire" p. 60.
- 2 First published by Clark and McAndrew "The Life of Admiral Lord Nelson from his Lordship's Manuscripts" 1809 Vol. 2 422.
- 3 For a more detailed account of this business, see "Thomas Moxon and the Goldsmid Affair", MM 31, page 3.

IT'S GOT OUR NAME ON IT!

Judith Ayre, Member of Beverley, tells us that Hull is remembering Margaret Moxon, missionary and the only Hull-born person of her generation to work with freed slaves in Sierra Leone.

LONG STANDING READERS of the Moxon Magazine may recall a Moxon family in Hull in the late 18th century who founded, and then lost a substantial mercantile and banking business. So well were they known locally, that when the Town Corporation bought land from the family during their bankruptcy, the development on the area was called Moxon Street in recognition of the area's original owners. Moxon Street existed for over 100 years until the Second World War, when Hull (simply referred to by the media as 'a North East Coastal Town') suffered some of the worst bombing in Britain. In the process, Moxon Street disappeared from the map and we Hull Moxons 'lost' our street.

The final bomb sites in Hull are gradually disappearing under new developments - one of the latest is a new transport interchange and the St Stephen's Shopping Centre. One of our ex-neighbours in Hull told me that she believed Moxon Street was to be reinstated within this scheme, but she was adamant that it was to be named after a female Moxon - possibly a Mary Moxon. Bewilderment set in because after 20 years of researching the Hull Moxons I could not think of any Mary Moxon of serious

importance - not even my Grandma Mary Moxon deserved that honour! However Hull City Council were very helpful and sent me the following information which appeared in the August issue of the Hull in Print magazine.

The magazine ran a competition to find names for two streets forming part of the new St Stephen's development and many entries featured names of 'local heros'. The main winner was Mrs Judith Preston Anderson - a church warden from the City - who put forward the name 'Margaret Moxon Way'. The magazine goes on to say:-

"Margaret Moxon (1808 - 1891). A mother of six, she was the only Hull-born person of her generation to work with freed slaves in Sierra Leone, and also carried out missionary work with Maori families in New Zealand. Born in North Street, in the parish of Southcoates, she was the daughter of businessman and banker John Moxon, whose family lived in High Street, next door but one to Wilberforce House. She began her missionary work after travelling to London to work as a governess where she met her husband the German missionary George Adam Kissling.

Mrs Anderson put forward the name

because of the link with Hull's Wilberforce 2007

programme, but also because the Moxon family

originally owned the land on which St Stephen's is built, and because there used to be a Moxon Street and a Moxon Square on the site many years ago. Also fitting is the fact that the missionary school Margaret Moxon helped set up in New Zealand was also called St Stephen's. "Margaret's descendants still live in New Zealand and they'll be delighted to think that she is still being remembered like this," says Mrs Anderson. "And next year will be Margaret Moxon's bi-centenary!"

Margaret Moxon Way will be one of Hull's busiest city centre streets with about 360 buses passing through every hour.

Acknowledgements: Hull In Print August 2007

Judith had hoped to take a photograph, but unfortunately Hull City Council have not yet put up the road name signs!



PRESERVATION FOR POSTERITY

John Moxon, Member of Southampton, and Gt.gt.grandson of Edward Moxon, 'The Publisher', saves two significant oil paintings for the nation. This is his account.

See colour photos of the portraits of Edward Moxon and Alfred Tennyson on page 7



INHERITANCE COMES IN many forms and most demand some sort of responsible action from the beneficiary.

On the passing of my Mother and Father in the 1990s I became the custodian of books, furniture and portraits from my Victorian ancestors. Those Moxon ancestors include the Victorian London publisher of poets, Edward Moxon.

Believe it or not there was not a lot of monetary value in the inheritance, but the paradox is that there were a few items of great importance to future generations. These items were the large portraits in oils that I first remember hanging on the walls of my grandparents' house in the 1950s.

If you've ever seen a picture of Edward Moxon, it will be an image of the portrait I had inherited; it's the only known picture of him and reproduced on this page. Edward is regarded as an important figure in the Victorian world of *The Romantic Poets* and so the picture is worthy of preservation.

A second large portrait was of the Victorian Poet Laureate, Alfred Tennyson. This portrait had been commissioned by Edward Moxon to hang in his publishing house and bookshop in Dover Street, off Piccadilly in the centre of London, and it was here that I lived for 30 years. Edward and Alfred were personal friends as well as being author and publisher.

The portrait of Tennyson is notable as it's one of just two known of the poet as a young

man; the other belongs to the nation and is housed in *The National Portrait Gallery*, London. Although our Tennyson portrait had suffered from spending years in a smoky bookshop and living room, it too was certainly worthy of preservation.

Ah yes, preservation a simple solution for two deteriorating portraits in oils but sadly a very expensive, labour intensive solution.

I'm sure many of you will know oil paintings and central heating don't sit, (or hang) comfortably together. Oil paintings ideally should be hung in a stable, temperature and humidity regulated environment, something found in very few homes.

After spending ten years on the walls of our dining room both portraits were showing further signs of deterioration and in 2005, I decided if they were to survive, immediate remedial action would have to be taken...so who was going to dig deep for the thousands needed to restore both paintings?

As fitting as it would have been to pass the portraits on to the next generation of Moxon's in our line, it would not have arrested the decline in the condition of the portraits so a suitable literary beneficiary was needed, preferably one that could afford to restore the pictures.

My first thoughts were to *The Tennyson Society* and although I found an address in Lincoln I surprisingly got little in the way of encouragement from my contacts with them.

In 1992 I had loaned both portraits to *The*

Wordsworth Trust for an exhibition at Dove Cottage in Cumbria, to commemorate the centenary of Tennyson's death. The loan had been an extremely pleasant experience and when viewing the exhibition, Jacqui and I were given a guided tour by the Director of *The Wordsworth Trust*, the late Dr. Robert Woof.

It has always been a happy memory for us so I visited *The Wordsworth Trust* website and posted off an email to the museum curator Jeff Cowton, pleased to renew an old acquaintance.

Jeff's swift reply made me feel foolish I had ever considered offering it to anyone else. He said they would be thrilled to be trusted with the care of the two portraits and that he'd phoned Robert Woof and he had immediately agreed. Jeff went to great pains to tell me of the suitability of their newly extended museum, art gallery and archive. It was clear to see we had found the portraits new home.

Jeff made all the arrangements for collection and careful shipping of the pictures and they were in the hands of *The Wordsworth Trust* in a matter of a couple of months.

A program of restoration is now in place and I sit back, secure in the knowledge that we made the right decision. The portraits will live on for future generations and the literary world will have a face to put to the name Edward Moxon and of course another to Alfred Tennyson.



GO! AND NEVER DARKEN MY DOOR AGAIN!

Diana Trotter, Member of Hartshorne, near Derby, and recently retired Gathering Organiser of our Moxon Gatherings, recalls some family reminiscences.

(now a widow) and asked for the fare to get her older son home. She said, "No! He's had enough money already." My mother was so furious that she flounced out, vowing never to return - she never did.

My father never came home again, and I grew up never knowing him. He kept in touch with my sister - at Christmas and birthdays - until she was ten, when he wrote to my mother saying, "he had found someone else!". My mother, in her pique showed the letter to my sister, who was so upset that she wrote to her father saying that, "She never wanted to see or hear from him again". And she never did - something that to this day, she bitterly regrets, as she loved him. In fact he never remarried, and died in Australia in 1975.

I only met my aunts after I married. Only Dr. John's father and his wife lent a helping hand by giving me holidays at the seaside and maintaining contact, and his eldest sister (who was my Godmother and became a nun). She left her money for my education, providing I attended a convent.

My youngest son was 17 when he discovered that I had aunts living in Cheltenham that I did not know. He decided

that it was "ridiculous" and made contact and we all went to meet them. Only two were left, but the youngest, Peggy, and I had an instant rapport - with the same interests and skills.

Sadly she died after a heart attack before we got much further with our acquaintance. Only Dr. John and my sister (92) left now!

The late Jimmy Moxon told me about another relative, Violet Moxon, who lived on the Lichfield road out of Burton-on-Trent - I did not know she existed! We met twice and she showed me photographs of my "uncles" and told me of her own father's heroism (*see later*). Shortly afterwards, Violet died. Violet's estate went to a cousin on her mother's side. Not knowing of Violet's connection with the 'Moxons', she burnt all Violet's Moxon photographs and memorabilia.

It was when there was a national outbreak of typhoid (remember it killed Prince Albert for the same reason). Violet's mother was pregnant at the time, so her husband insisted that he nurse one of their young children who caught the disease, and spare his wife and their unborn child. Both he and the child died, but his wife and her new child survived.

continued at foot of next page

SOME, NOT ALL, USEFUL DATES FOR FAMILY HISTORY RESEARCHERS

John C Moxon, Hon. Vice President, sent this item for publication. Many thanks, John.

- 1538 Henry VIII - Parochial registers introduced by Thomas Cromwell
- 1557 Godparents added (but not for long) See note 1
- 1563 Bishops Transcripts commenced and parchment to be used
- 1590 The law regarding Parochial Registers has to be enforced by fines.
- 1641 Protestation Act. Every male has to sign his name or make a mark
- 1653 The start of the Commonwealth and disruption of the parish registers
- 1660 Parish registration re-commenced by Charles II
- 1662 Settlement Act places the poor back into the parish of their birth.
- 1663 Use of Latin banned
- 1738 Methodist registers accepted.
- 1752 Start of the New Year was re-adjusted from 25th March back to 1st January. See note 2
- 1754 Lord Hardwick. The use of separate register for marriages commenced
- 1755 First Parish Count/census, numbers of M & F & children plus occupation. Few names, mainly numbers of people in the parish
- 1811 Ditto
- 1821 Ditto but ages added (five year grouping)
- 1831 Ditto plus tally counting and occupation of males over 20 years
- 1836 First Registrar General was appointed
- 1837 Births, Deaths and Marriages registered nationally
- 1841 Civil Census:- Names, ages, profession, where born (HO107)
- 1851 As Above and marital status added Also (HO107)
- 1855 Registration in Scotland starts
- 1861 Civil Census in England, Scotland and Wales RG9/
- 1864 Registration began in Ireland
- 1866 Death Indexes include age at death
- 1871 Civil Census RG10/
- 1875 Father had to be present at registration of a birth.
- 1881 Civil Census RG11/
- 1891 Ditto RG12/
- 1901 Ditto RG13/
- 1911 Ditto plus fertility questions asked
- 1911 Birth Indexes include the mother's name
- 1912 Marriage Indexes include both partners names
- 1921 Civil Census plus dependant children and orphans
- 1927 Stillbirths registered.
- 1929 Age of marriage raised from 12 to 16 for girls and 14 to 16 for boys
- 1931 Civil Registration "Usual" address included
- 1939 Identity cards issued
- 1946 Family Census
- 1951 Civil Census includes info on baths and toilets
- 1961 Civil Census
- 1971 Ditto
- 1981 Ditto
- 1991 Ditto includes education details
- 2001 Civil Registration



NOTES ON THE TABLE:

Note 1

In 1557 the clergy were asked to record the name of Godfather and Godmother. This was an attempt to stop a divorce rate that was out of control. At that time all you had to do to obtain a divorce was to state you had mistakenly married your Godparent's son or daughter. In the eyes of the church this person was your spiritual brother or sister and the marriage was spiritual incest and as a result invalid leaving you free to find a new spouse!!

Note 2

Up to the year 1751 the length of the year was only considered to be 365 days and no adjustment was made for the quarter of the day that makes a full year. This discrepancy was allowed to build up steadily away until the error had accumulated to 11 days. The government of the day decided upon an adjustment, and this was carried out in September 1752 when the 3rd September became the 14th!!! Thereafter the introduction of the 29 days in February every 4 or "leap" years corrected the slippage.

Prior to 1752 the year ended on the 24th March (Lady's Day) so that that New Years Day was the 25th March. Thus there was this strange (to us) situation where the 31st of December 1751 was followed by 1st January 1751 and the first day of the New Year was to have been on the 25th March 1752. However, it was decided to correct the matter and the adjustment was made to bring the commencement of the New Year to the 1st January 1752. Hence from 1752 and onwards the 1st January has always been New Years Day.

JCM

When the new dating system was introduced, the banking and financial industry would not consider having a financial year of less than 365 days. So in 1752 they 'accounted' for the 'loss' of 11 days in the previous September, by moving the end of the financial year from 24th March to 5th April. No Chancellor of the Exchequer has ever dared to challenge this new date!

Ed

continued from previous page

I was sorry Violet died so soon after I met her as she could have filled in a lot of 'gaps'. I once tried to 'pump' Dr. John's father, but he just said he was "not interested" – and that was that. Violet had photos of all my grandfather's brothers – all burnt. Where are all my cousins now? In fact who are they?

I have studio photos of Grandpa and Grandma and my mother and father.

Dr. John (my cousin) has some photos, but doesn't know who they are, as they were just left to him by Aunt Peggy. He has a portrait of Ann Holt, who married James Moxon in 1828 in Rugeley. Aunt Peggy thought it looked like me! – Cannot see it myself and neither can John.

Diana Trotter

PHOTOGRAPHS FROM THE PAST



Margaret Louisa (Rita) Moxon (1863-1920) the daughter of James Edward Moxon, was well known for her paintings of alpine plants. Her extensive collection is now held in the Royal Botanic Gardens at Kew. Photos by Paul Davies, formerly of the Bentham Moxon Trust at Kew.

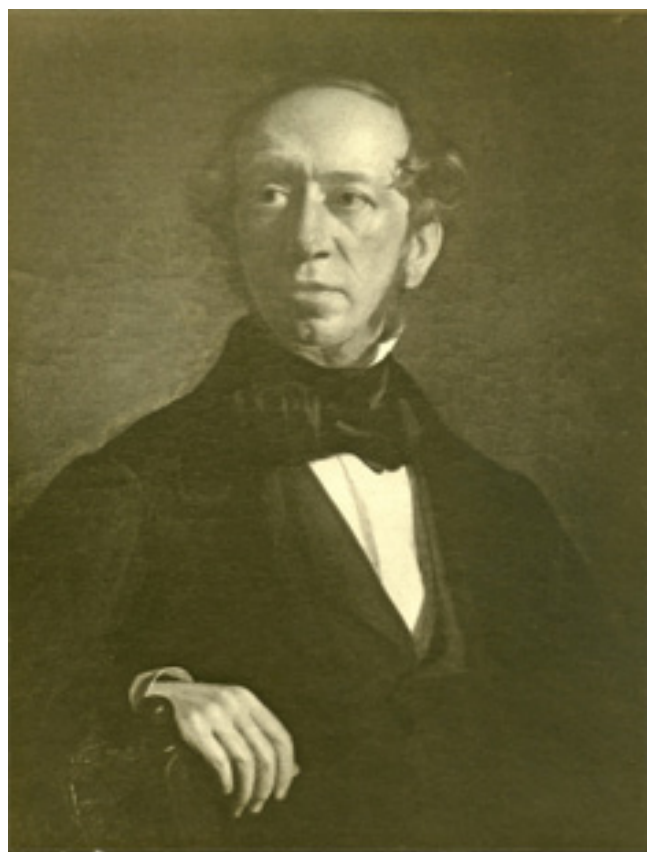




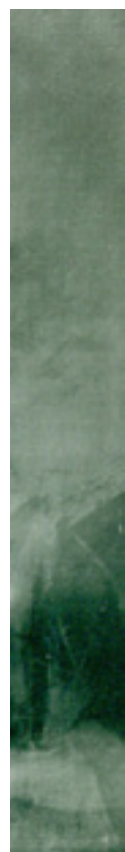
*Abraham Goldsmid
1750-1810
Photograph of an oil painting,
By courtesy of the National Portrait Gallery , London
See article on page 5*



*Horatio Nelson
1758-1805
See article on page 5*



*Edward Moxon - The Publisher
1801 - 1858
See article on page 7*



*Swan Hotel
Venue for Wells Gathering 19th to 21st September 2008
See article on front page*

COLOUR PAGE

Colour printing for small print runs, such as for The Moxon Magazine, printing. Hence the Editor has the option of printing photographs with together in colour.



*Jenner Moxon's water colour painting
Courtesy of Patrick Collins
See article on page 10*



*Wells Cathedral
See front page*



*Alfred Lord Tennyson - Poet Laureate
1809 - 1892
See article on page 7*



*ABOVE
Professor Richard Moxon FRS with Graham
Jagger, President of The Moxon Society,
outside The Royal Society
see article on page 11*



*LEFT
The Famous Wells Clock c 1390
See article on page 2*

ES
is many more times the cost of black and white
within the articles - but in b/w - or all grouped

THE MOXON JENNER CONNECTION

President Graham Jagger presents the results of his further research into the connection.

THE POSSIBLE CONNECTION between the Moxon family and the family of Dr Edward Jenner, the originator of vaccination for smallpox, has already been noted in the pages of past issues of *The Moxon Magazine*. Research into the nature of this connection has been ongoing for a number of years but hitherto has borne little fruit. Recent research, given impetus by the discovery of a painting by a previously unknown artist, Jenner Moxon, has at last shed some light on this question and the results are described in this article. (See a photo of one of Jenner Moxon's paintings on page 9)

In the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (ODNB) the entry concerning Dr Walter Moxon begins:

"Moxon, Walter (1836–1886), physician, was one of the nine children of William Milson Moxon, an Inland Revenue officer who was distantly related to Edward Jenner (1749–1823); he was born on 27 June 1836, at Midleton, co. Cork, Ireland." (Note 1)

An examination of the 1851 census returns, shown in Table 1, for 18 Belitha Terrace, Finsbury, shows the family of William Milson Moxon which includes the first seven of his children. (For the sake of completeness the census returns for the same address in the 1861 census, shown in Table 2, have also been included because they show the last two of William's children, who were born in the inter-censal period.) Of particular interest in the 1851 census is the presence of William's fourth child and third son, Jenner Moxon, then aged 12. This is the first concrete evidence we have which supports the assertion in the ODNB that William was related to the Jenner family. In view of the rare combination of first and family names it seems likely that Jenner Moxon and the unknown artist were one and the same. He might even have been the originator of a major series of nineteen engravings, now in the

collection the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library in Atlanta, Georgia, which are accompanied by anecdotes and which satirize African-Americans. (Note 2) Jenner Moxon who, like his father, was an excise officer married Jane Sarah Winsom King, both aged 22, at Saint Mary's, Portsea, Hampshire, on 5 Jun 1861. He died at Blean, Kent, in 1905.

William Milson Moxon, the father of Jenner Moxon and the son of Thomas and Maria Moxon, was baptised at St Mary's church, Scarborough, on 24 October 1809. Two interesting questions immediately arise: whence Milson, and why Scarborough? The answers to these questions are, perhaps, connected.

Milson may be a family name, perhaps William's mother's maiden name. In Baine's 1823 *History, Directory & Gazetteer of the County of York* a Richard Millson is listed as a bookbinder living in Cross Street, Scarborough. (Note 3) It may be that Maria Moxon returned to her father's home for the birth of her child. It seems clear that there was no long-lasting Moxon presence in Scarborough during the first three decades of the nineteenth century. Apart from the baptism of William there are no other Moxon vital events recorded in the Scarborough parish registers between 1800 and 1830.

Here things might have rested had it not been for the serendipitous discovery of an enlightening will in the records of the Prerogative Court of Canterbury. This was the will of Richard Jenner, a Collector of Excise in Glasgow. The will was made on 2 August 1832 when Richard described himself as 'formerly of Broad Street London, now Collector of Excise at Glasgow residing at Maxwellton Place there'. Probate was granted on 25 May 1837. (Note 4). Richard left an estate of several thousand pounds bequeathing large sums to his brothers William Jenner, a



merchant in Manchester, Thomas Jenner, a merchant in Liverpool, and his sister Lucy Cattley née Jenner of York. But more significantly he provided for his wife Elizabeth Jenner née Milson and his wife's sister Maria Moxon, née Milson, of Kent. Perhaps when the will was made Maria was living with her son William who at that time was serving with the Excise.

Richard Jenner's will solves a number of questions. We now know the origin of William Moxon's middle name and the conjecture that Milson was his mother's maiden name is proved to be correct. Moreover we have a clue as to why William pursued a career in the Excise; he was following in the footsteps of his uncle. Indeed Thomas Jenner, the brother of his uncle Richard, may have been the same Thomas Jenner, coal merchant of St Ives, who supported William's application for an excise post in March 1827. (Note 5)

More significantly, we now have evidence to support the claim, quoted in the ODNB, that William Milson Moxon '... was distantly related to Edward Jenner'. However, this is perhaps to overstate the case. All that has been established is that William was related *by marriage* to someone called Jenner. The ancestors and descendants of Edward Jenner of smallpox fame are well documented and a number of extensive proven family trees are available on-line from the Jenner Museum.

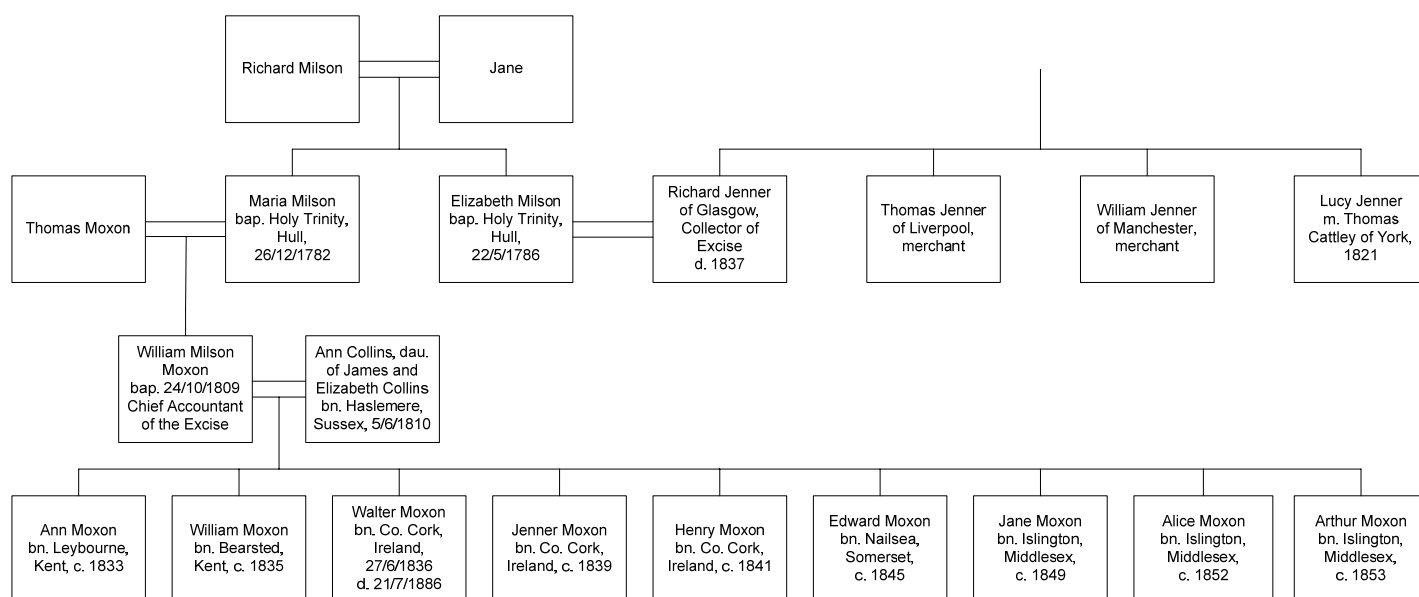


Figure 1. Outline family tree showing the Moxon-Jenner connection.

Note 6). There is no trace in these trees of Richard Jenner, the Collector of Excise. Since the beginning of parish registers in the middle of the sixteenth century there seems to have been two distinct Jenner 'tribes', one in Gloucestershire and one in the south east – mainly Sussex and Kent. There is no known connection between these two family groups.

Edward Jenner is a member of the Gloucestershire branch of the family and the weight of evidence suggests that Richard Jenner's family hails from Sussex or Kent. It is not difficult to imagine that William Milson Moxon, his mother, or even his Uncle Richard, may have assumed that the surname Jenner automatically implied some relationship, however remote, with the discoverer of smallpox vaccination. In any case, Edward and Richard Jenner were almost contemporaries; the former died in 1823, the

latter in 1837. It is just possible that Edward and Richard had a common ancestor in the distant past, but it is unlikely that this conjecture is now capable of proof.

There are still some loose ends to be resolved. Thomas Moxon, the father of William Milson Moxon, has still not been identified; neither do we know the place and date of his marriage to Maria Milson.

This information has not been found on-line so some documentary research in the appropriate archives is necessary.

It might also be useful, but perhaps not now of Moxon interest, to establish the parentage of Richard Jenner to finally lay the ghost of the Edward Jenner relationship. A family tree summarising the results of what is now known is given Figure 1.

Graham Jagger

Name	Relationship	Condition	Age	Profession	Where Born
William M Moxon	Head	Married	43	Surveyor General and Examiner of Excise	Scarborough, Yorkshire
Ann Moxon	Wife	Married	40		Haslemere, Surrey
Ann Moxon	Daughter	Unmarried	18		Leybourne, Kent
William Moxon	Son	Unmarried	16	Clerk to cotton merchant	Bearsted, Kent
Walter Moxon	Son	Unmarried	14	Clerk to broker	Co. Cork, Ireland
Jenner Moxon	Son	Unmarried	12	Scholar	Co. Cork, Ireland
Henry Moxon	Son	-	10	Scholar	Co. Cork, Ireland
Edward Moxon	Son	-	6	Scholar	Nailsea, Somerset
Jane Moxon	Daughter	-	2		Islington, Middlesex
Emma Davis	Servant	Unmarried	18		Hoxton, Middlesex

Table 1. 1851 census returns for 18 Belitha Terrace, Finsbury (Note 7)

Name	Relationship	Condition	Age	Profession	Where Born
William M Moxon	Head	Married	53	Chief accountant for the Excise Revenue	Scarborough, Yorkshire
Ann Moxon	Wife	Married	50		Haslemere, Surrey
Henry Moxon	Son	Unmarried	20	Clerk to a hide broker	Midleton, Ireland
Edward Moxon	Son	-	16	Clerk to a ship broker	Nailsea, Somerset
Jane Moxon	Daughter	-	12	Scholar	Islington, Middlesex
Alice Moxon	Daughter	-	9	Scholar	Islington, Middlesex
Arthur Moxon	Son	-	8	Scholar	Islington, Middlesex
Lucy Underwood	Servant	Unmarried	20	General servant	Thursley, Surrey

Table 2. 1861 census returns for 18 Belitha Terrace, Finsbury (Note 8)

NOTES:

- 1 Norman Moore, 'Moxon, Walter (1836–1886)', rev. Michael Bevan, *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography*, Oxford University Press, 2004 [http://www.oxforddnb.com/view/article/19467, accessed 16 Oct 2007]
- 2 Atlanta-Fulton Public Library System, Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American Culture and History, 101 Auburn Avenue, N.E., Atlanta, Georgia 30303, USA [http://dlg.galileo.usg.edu/aafa/print/aafa_aarprints.html, accessed 16 Oct 2007]
- 3 Baines, E, *History, Directory & Gazetteer of the County of York*, Leeds, 1823, Vol. II, p. 530. [http://www.historicaldirectories.org/hd/pageviewer.asp?fn=0000c4u3.tif&dn=LUL19004.tif&zoom=s, accessed 17 October 2007]
- 4 The National Archives Prob/11/1878
- 5 See *The Moxon Magazine* No. 25, April 2000, p. 2.
- 6 http://www.jennermuseum.com/tree/index.shtml [accessed 17 October 2007]
- 7 The National Archives HO 107/1499 f. 287, pp. 5-6
- 8 The National Archives RG 9/127, f. 117, p. 12

PROFESSOR RICHARD MOXON ELECTED TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY



RICHARD IS FOLLOWING in the footsteps of his well known forbear, Joseph Moxon FRS (Astronomer and Hydrographer to Charles II) having been appointed a Fellow of The Royal Society - only the second 'Moxon' to have the honour.

Richard is a first cousin, eight times removed, to Joseph.

Unfortunately, Joseph 'blotted his copy book' by not paying his fees! (*memo to Richard - organise payment by Direct Debit!*)

The colour photograph of Richard and Graham Jagger on the steps of The Royal Society premises in Connaught Street, London, is shown on colour page 9.



Joseph Moxon FRS
1627 - 1700

MOXONS IN YORKSHIRE TAX RETURNS

Graham Jagger has researched the Tax Returns.



Introduction

There are two historic taxes which, because the returns contain lists of names, are of particular interest to the family historian. These are the Poll Tax of Richard II and the Hearth Tax of Charles II. These taxes are described below and a table is given showing the occurrence of Moxons in the returns.

The Poll Tax

The Subsidy Roll, usually known as the poll tax, instituted by Richard II, an always revenue hungry monarch, was levied on individuals rather than property or wealth, with everyone over a certain age, and not otherwise exempt, being liable to pay a given amount. As a result, the surviving records of such taxes generally include a rather higher proportion of the population, and surviving documents record

the names of many individuals – at a time when the process of the adoption of family names was almost complete. The poll tax was first levied in 1377, and again in 1379 and once

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Wapentake	Township	Parish	Tax	Christian Name	Surname	Hearths	Poll Tax	Notes
Agbrigg	Kirkburton	Kirkburton	Hearth	John	Moxon <i>sen</i>	2		1
	Middleton	Rothwell		Thomas	Moxon	4		
	Ossett	Dewsbury		Robert	Moxon	1		
	Rothwell	Rothwell		Widow	Moxon	1		
	Stanley	Wakefield		Peter	Moxon	2		
				William	Moxon	2		
Claro	Ripley	Ripley	Poll	Roger & wife	Mokson		4 d	2
Morley	Middleton	Rothwell	Poll	John & wife	Mokesson		4 d	3
	Stansfield	Halifax	Poll	William & wife	Mokocson		4 d	
	Beeston	Leeds	Hearth	Richard	Moxon	3		
				Thomas	Moxon	2		
Staincross	Cawthorne	Cawthorne	Poll	Robert & Margaret	Mokeson		4 d	
			Hearth	Richard	Moakson	1		
				John	Moxon	3		
	Darton	Darton	Hearth	Widow	Moxon	2		
	Hoylandswaine	Silkstone	Hearth	Emor	Moxon	1		
				Francis	Moxon	2		
				Francis	Moxon <i>jnr</i>	1		
				Jacob	Moxon	1		
				John	Moxon	1		
				John	Moxon <i>mason</i>	1		
				Daniel	Moxon			5
	Stainborough		Hearth	George	Moxon	1		
				John	Moxon	1		
	Thurgoland		Poll	Robert & Cecilia	Mokeson, <i>mower</i>		6 d	6
			Hearth	George	Moxon	2		
Widow				Moxon	1			
Wortley	Tankersley	Hearth	Samuel	Moxon	2			
Strafforth	Bradfield	Ecclesfield	Poll	John & Agnes	Mokeson		4 d	7
				Thomas & Margaret	Mokeson		4 d	
	Doncaster	Doncaster	Hearth	Valentine	Moxon	2		
	Ecclesall	Sheffield	Hearth	William	Mockson	1		8
	Rawmarsh	Rawmarsh	Hearth	John	Moxon	1		

Table 1. Poll and hearth tax for the Moxons of Yorkshire
See next page for explanation of terms, and page 15 for Notes on this table.

more two years later, with a basis that was a little different in each case. Initially everyone of 14 years of age and over had to pay 4d. By 1379 that had become graded according to social class over the age of 16, and by 1381, it was everyone over 15 (the poor were exempt). The tax returns for 1379 are the most well-preserved and it is from these that the extracts given in Table 1 have been taken.

It has been estimated that prior to the first poll tax of 1377 the Black Death killed 1.5 million people out of a total population of 4 million between 1348 and 1350. The Black Death had a huge impact on society. Fields went unploughed and animals went untended as farm workers were often victims of the disease. Harvests were not brought in as the manpower did not exist. Whole villages faced starvation. There were food shortages in towns and cities as the villages that surrounded them could not provide enough food. Landowners, who lost their manpower to the disease, turned to sheep farming as this required less people to work on the land. Agriculture became less popular and this resulted in the shortage of such basics as bread. One consequence of this was inflation – the price of food went up creating more hardship for the poor. In some parts of England, food prices went up by four times. The major impact of the Black Death on England's social structure was to lead to the Peasants Revolt of 1381.

Surviving returns from the poll taxes for virtually the whole of Yorkshire were printed in the late nineteenth century in *The Yorkshire Archaeological and Topographical Journal*. In the last decade all known surviving receipts and assessments from these fourteenth-century taxes were newly transcribed or calendared by Carolyn Fenwick in *The Poll Taxes of 1377, 1379 and 1381* (3 vols, British Academy Records of Social and Economic History, new series, 1998-2004). It is from the former publication that the information given in the table has been extracted.

The Hearth Tax

By the 1660s the population had just about recovered to its pre Black Death level. The Hearth Tax was introduced in England and Wales by the government of Charles II in 1662 at a time of serious fiscal emergency. Householders were required to pay two shillings for each fire-hearth or chimney (which is why the tax is sometimes called the 'chimney tax'), one shilling at Michaelmas (29 September) and one at Ladyday (25 March). Only those whose house was worth more than 20 shillings a year and who paid church and poor rates, were liable for the Hearth Tax. The occupier of every house in the parish had to submit a written statement of the number of hearths in his house to the parish constable. The constable made out a parish assessment and collected in the tax half-yearly. He then

drew up a return of the money collected, or made notes on the assessment that the money had been paid. This tax was very unpopular and was repealed in 1688 after the Glorious Revolution, to be replaced by an even more unpopular device, the Window Tax.

The Ladyday 1672 Hearth Tax returns for Yorkshire have been published and form a valuable resource for the family historian. In addition to the poll tax, Table 1 lists the payers of the tax for all the wapentakes for which Moxons were present in the poll tax. This information is taken from David Hey's book, *The Hearth Tax Returns for South Yorkshire – Ladyday 1672*, published by The Division of Continuing Education, The University of Sheffield, in 1991, and publications of the Ripon Historical Society.

The Tables

The first column of Table 1 gives the wapentake (a subdivision of certain English shires, particularly Yorkshire, Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, and Leicestershire, corresponding to the 'hundred' of other counties). The second column gives the Township, the third the parish and the third the tax – the poll tax of 1379, or the hearth tax of 1672. The fifth column gives the Christian name (and sometimes, in the case of the poll tax, that of his wife) of the

continued on next page

Wapentake	Township	Parish	Location of Township
Agbrigg	Kirkburton	Kirkburton	A parish; 6 miles SE of Huddersfield, 8 from Penistone, 11 from Wakefield, 39 from York.
	Ossett	Dewsbury	In the parish of Dewsbury; 2½ miles W of Wakefield, 3 from Dewsbury.
	Stanley	Wakefield	In the parish of Wakefield, 1½ miles NNE of Wakefield, 8 from Leeds, 14 from Huddersfield.
	Rothwell	Rothwell	A parish; 4½ miles SW of Leeds, 5½ from Wakefield.
Claro	Ripley	Ripley	A market town and parish; ¾ miles from Harrogate, 5 from Knaresborough, 7¼ from Ripon 9 from Pateley Bridge, 12 from Otley.
Morley	Beeston	Leeds	In the borough and parish of Leeds; 2 miles SW of Leeds, 10½ from Wakefield, 12 from Bradford, 11 from Huddersfield.
	Middleton	Rothwell	In the parish of Rothwell; 4½ miles S of Leeds, 5 from Wakefield.
	Stansfield	Halifax	A township, in the parish of Halifax; 4½ miles SW of Halifax, 8 miles from Rochdale.
Staincross	Cawthorne	Cawthorne	A parish; 4 miles WNW of Barnsley, 4½ from Penistone, 9½ from Wakefield, 38 from York.
	Darton	Darton	A parish; 3½ miles NW of Barnsley, 6 from Penistone, 8½ from Wakefield, 36½ from York.
	Hoyland Swaine	Silkstone	In the parish of Silkstone; 2 miles NE of Penistone, 6½ from Barnsley, 14 from Huddersfield.
	Stainborough	Silkstone	In the parish of Silkstone; 2½ miles SW of Barnsley, 5½ from Penistone.
	Thurgoland	Silkstone	In the parish of Silkstone; 4 miles ESE of Penistone, 4½ from Barnsley, 9½ from Sheffield.
	Wortley	Tankersley	In the parish of Tankersley; 5 miles from Barnsley, 5 miles SE of Penistone, 8 from Sheffield, 10 from Rotherham.
Strafforth	Bradfield	Ecclesfield	In the parish of Ecclesfield; 6 miles NW of Sheffield, 9 from Penistone.
	Doncaster	Doncaster	A market town and parish; 7 miles from Tickhill, 9 from Bawtry, 11 from Thorne, 12 from Rotherham and Blythe, 15 from Ferrybridge and Pontefract, 16 from Worksop, 20 from Wakefield.
	Ecclesall	Sheffield	A township, in the parish of Sheffield; 3 miles SW of Sheffield, 11 from Chesterfield.
	Rawmarsh	Rawmarsh	A parish; 2 miles N of Rotherham, 8 from Sheffield, 10 from Barnsley.

Table 2. Locations of Moxons in the poll and hearth taxes

continued from previous page.

householder. These have been rendered into modern form; for example, Robertus is given as Robert.

The sixth column gives the surname; the original spellings in the returns have been retained except in the case of the Agbrigg wapentake where the transcribers seem to have rendered all surnames in their modern form. The seventh column shows the number of hearths on which the hearth tax was levied, and the eighth the amount of poll tax levied. The ninth column refers to the notes which follow the table.

For ease of geographically locating the townships shown in Table 1, details of their location and other proximate settlements are given in Table 2.

Conclusion

The information given in this article provides a valuable insight into the geographical stability of some branches of the family, and the ephemeral nature of others. What does emerge is that centre of gravity of the Moxon inheritance is in the parish of Silkstone and the adjacent parish of Cawthorne. It is not surprising that so many Moxons whose trees are in the Moxon Society can trace their descent from forebears who lived in this small region of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

The contents of the tables are only as good as the original data. There are undoubtedly omissions and the names of some of the poor are omitted. But it is hoped, at least, that the information given here may provide useful clues as to the direction of future research.

Graham Jagger

Notes to Table 1

- 1 The Agbrigg wapentake contains the parishes around Wakefield which, since at least the beginning of the parish register era in the sixteenth century, have harboured many Moxon families. The absence of any such families paying the 1379 poll tax suggests that Moxons were late arrivals in this area.
- 2 There were no Moxon families paying the hearth tax in the Claro wapentake. The family of Roger Mokson of Ripley listed as paying the poll tax may have died out or moved to another area. In any case Ripley is well to the north of the usual Moxon heartlands (see Table 2).
- 3 The parishes around Leeds show Moxons paying both the poll and hearth taxes and their presence in this area is clearly of long standing. It is tempting to speculate that the Moxons of Wakefield originate from the country in and around Leeds.
- 4 The entries for the Staincross wapentake show that Moxons have inhabited this area for many centuries, particularly in the parishes of Cawthorne and Silkstone. It is known from the recent DNA study that the descendants of the Moxons from these two places do not share a recent common

ancestor and it is probable that the Cawthorne and Silkstone families have been genetically quite separate for many centuries.

- 5 Daniel Moxon was the constable for Hoyland Swaine whose job it was to collect the hearth taxes from the residents of the township.
- 6 Robert and Cecilia Moxon of Thurgoland were apparently of a somewhat higher social status than their neighbours in nearby Cawthorne since they paid 6 d. instead of the usual 4 d. It is possible that Robert was the direct ancestor of George of Thurgoland was taxed on two hearths in 1672. Perhaps George was living in the ancestral home.
- 7 What is particularly striking about the table is that the Moxon population in the

townships of the Staincross wapentake ramified from two households in 1379 to 15 in 1672. It may also be significant that although there were two Moxon families in Bradfield in 1379 there were none in 1672.

- 8 'poore Ced' is the entry against William Mockson of Ecclesall, Sheffield. Those who were exempt on the grounds of their poverty were expected to produce a printed certificate to this effect. 'Ced' was then noted against their names in the return. However, other householders were recorded as 'poore', perhaps after they had made a late case for exemption. This convention is not universally employed; in the Claro wapentake, for example, the number of poor in a township was given without giving their names.

CHURCHES BELIEVED TO HAVE BEEN DESIGNED BY GEORGE MOXON



Wesleyan Church, South Hindly



*Staincross Chapel
Is that George Moxon in the photograph?*



Christopher Albert Moxon
Member of Witney

GEORGE MOXON OF BARNSELEY - ARCHITECT

Christopher Albert Moxon, member of Witney, Oxfordshire, bought a book on E-Bay, featuring photographs of buildings designed by George Moxon. Chris's interest in picture postcards was demonstrated in MM31 (April 2003) when we featured The "Picture Postcard" village of Cawthorne.

Kelly Selcher, a new member who joined the Society in January, wrote asking if we knew of a George Moxon, Architect of Barnsley.

What a coincidence!



Kelly Selcher
Member of USA

Chris Writes:

MEMBERS MAY RECALL that my main collecting interest is postcards and some of my acquisitions in the last few years have been bought on the internet auction site E-bay. Those familiar with E-bay will know that you can enter your 'Favourite Search' so that any lot containing the name of your choice will be flagged up and a message sent to you. 'Moxon' is one of my favourites and in December 2005 an interesting item came up for auction and I was the successful bidder at £10.00, the opening price.

The item duly arrived and was as described – an 8" x 6" maroon covered book titled 'Views' containing 24 board type pages, similar to an old fashioned autograph book. The first page was effectively a frontispiece and is illustrated below. Attached to many of the remaining pages are 17 photographs, 3 illustrated cuttings/prints, and 2 postcards, mostly of exterior and interior views of Wesleyan Churches in the Barnsley area. Some were identified including Staincross Chapel; New Wesleyan Church Dodworth; and Wesleyan Church, South Hiendley. Other illustrations include Beckett Hospital, Barnsley (a printed sketch with some statistics); a Friends Adult School; a Mechanics Institute (subsequently identified as Dodworth – now demolished); and a school nearing completion.

Evidence from the items includes dates ranging from 1865 (Beckett Hospital), 1876 and 1886 photos of Wesleyan Chapels, and 1906 on a postcard showing the laying of a foundation stone. In addition, there is reference to Geo. Moxon & Son in respect of more than one item. Subsequently, I have been able to identify three of the buildings through my postcard connections. Particularly, I made contact with a Joanne Archer, who was a

minister at Thurgoland Chapel, which was due to close in July, 2007. I was able to supply her with three postcard illustrations for a commemorative book published by the congregation, a copy of which she sent me. Through this connection, I recognised that three of the illustrations in the book were of Thurgoland Chapel and in the meantime, Joanne had informed me that Mr George Moxon had been the architect for the building. The new Thurgoland Chapel was opened on Sunday, April 22nd 1894. *The Church Record* said 'A more perfect suite of premises for the purpose of village Methodism it would be difficult to find. The building reflects great credit upon the architect (Mr. Moxon of Barnsley) and builders alike.'

Living as I now do in Witney, Oxfordshire, I have been unable to conduct research in Barnsley about George Moxon. However, internet research has revealed that George Moxon (Architect & Surveyor) was born in Barnsley in 1851 and George Moxon (Architect's pupil, presumably his son) was born in Barnsley in 1882. The inclusion of the print of Beckett Hospital with the 1865 date may be because he was perhaps responsible for building an annexe or extension to the Hospital. One other building identified is Royston Chapel. I hope that this information may perhaps be of interest to a particular Society member, and I would be pleased to share further knowledge and copies of illustrations, etc.

Christopher A Moxon

e-mail: cmoxon@tiscali.co.uk

See photograph on page 14.

KELLY IS RELATED to the "Kidd" family, and had determined that Sarah Kidd had married George Moxon in Cawthorne on 6 October 1857. The marriage entry recorded George's father was George Moxon, Builder.

George Moxon's father, George, had married Sarah Walker in Silkstone on 11th March 1824, and they baptised their children in Barnsley, Mary 1825, John 1826, Sarah 1828, and Helen 1830. There is no record of George's birth c 1834 (as indicated on the 1881 Census). The 1841 and 1861 Censuses show George (born c 1800), his wife Sarah and their family.

The 1871 Census shows the family of George born c 1834, and also his mother, named Mary. Since George's natural mother was Sarah Walker, it appears that Sarah had died and George had remarried.

Kelly then found a matching baptism for George on 17 November 1799 in Silkstone, the illegitimate son of Elizabeth Moakson.

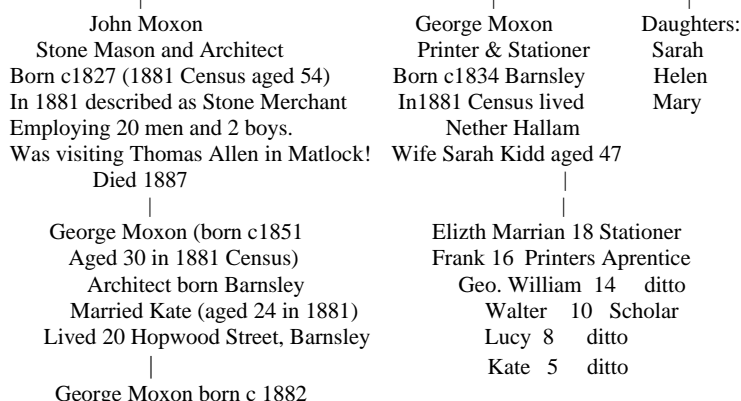
The Society were able to show that Elizabeth was on the Silkstone tree (MX26), so that takes Kelly's Moxon ancestors back to the 1500's.

Subsequently the will of George Moxon (baptised 1799) dated 3 March 1855, with a codicil dated 22 November 1864, died 30 November 1864, Proved 16 June 1865 was obtained from Barnsley. The will mentions his wife, Mary, and the children shown below. The codicil (a last minute thought!) awards his daughter, Helen, an annuity, until such time as she married.

So, the coincidental information from Chris had helped Kelly trace her Moxon ancestors.

PEDIGREE OF GEORGE MOXON FAMILY

George Moxon
Married (i) Sarah Walker (ii) Mary
Stone Mason
Died 1864



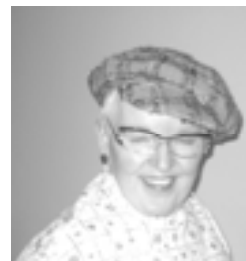
Frontispiece to the Book

EDUCATION, EDUCATION, EDUCATION!

No! We are not getting political!

(When Tony Blair became Prime Minister in 1997, his first slogan was, "Education, education, education!". It seemed an apt heading for this article!)

Betty Trembley, member of Longview, USA, sent us this piece about her ancestor's schooling in Barnburgh. Many thanks, Betty.



I HAVE JUST FINISHED looking at a book "The Parish of Barnburgh and Harlington" it's Society History from 1750, by the Barnburgh and Harlington Local History and Heritage Group, first published in 2003. This book was sent to me by Fred Moxon (member) of Barnburgh, Nr Doncaster, Yorkshire, England (2007)

There are wonderful old reprints of pictures of the area, the school kids etc. in the back of the book. I have a second book that I have not gone through yet. (Part 2)

The following are notes I picked out for Luke Moxon b 20 Jan 1874.

Log Book of Barnburgh School 1876-1888 by Peter Dawson.

The log book begins with the following entry on Page 57:

"I George Crumpler commenced my duties as master of this school this 6th day of November 1876. There is no log book, nor Admission, Summary, or Class register of any kind to be found in the school and I am told that a Class Register has not been kept to record even the weekly payments or Daily Attendance of the scholars. I therefore began a new Class Register this morning and it is impossible for me to insert the exact Date of Admission of any child who attended this school prior to my charge of it.

I must consider each child as being new admitted. No child seems to know his or her own age, or the class standard to which he or she belongs. After recording the attendance and payment of each child that came I obtained the ages of all in the best way I could, classed them, and a little work was done.

This afternoon I have been trying to ascertain the acquirements of the children and

gave some Arithmetic to those who are old enough to be in the 3rd Standard, but the sums were worked erroneously. Few of the children can read or write fairly well, others are very weak in those subjects. Those children who I have at present placed in the second standard can hardly read or spell words of one syllable, can do simple additions, but have no knowledge whatever of notations. Others put as first standard scholars cannot tell their letters and make their letters backwards. ..44 attended this morning...45 this afternoon".

He then commences his log-book proper and begins to records daily events.

Page 73 1881 - 18th January - "Yesterday (Monday) Tom, Timothy and Samuel Bullock. LUKE AND WALTER MOXON were sent home for their school fees. By order of the School Board. The boys did not return".

p 74 - 6th May, "Weekly average attendance still very low indeed. Some children are suffering from Whooping Cough".

Page 75 - 13 March, "This morning the Medical officer of Health for the district of Doncaster visited the school at 1040 am and made enquiries about children who were absent on account of illness. I gave several names. The officer went round the village and visited the parents, returned to school and told me that Mary Rhodes and her sister Agnes and LUKE MOXON were in a fit state to come to school on Monday next.

The same officer also asked about the water, which is used in the lavatories, as to whether it was fit for drinking. I told him that it was not, and that the children had never drunk

one drop of it. He ordered me to tell the Board that a pail of water from Mr Ellsworth's pump, should be kept in the school, so that the children might drink, when they were thirsty during the summer months. This evening, therefore, I will inform the members of the Board of the Medical Officers visit and of his request respecting water fit for drinking".

Betty Trembley

VOLUNTEERS WANTED

THE SOCIETY HAS a record of over 350 Moxon Wills. We hold copies of over 180, and of these 80 have been transcribed into word processed format.

The list was partially updated on 9th October 2006, but is now in dire need of a complete update. (see 'WILLS' in the *Members' section of our website.*)

We are looking for one volunteer, who has MS EXCEL to update the list, working from a "marked up" list, plus other lists.

We are also looking for any number of volunteers who are prepared to transcribe wills from the original documents into MS WORD.

NOTE: Copies of the original wills are the copyright of the holders, so The Society cannot put copies on the website. However, the **content** of the wills is not copyright, so we are able to include transcripts on the website.

Please e-mail the Editor if you can help.

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THE MOXON FAMILY RESEARCH TRUST

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