

The

BASS

families of

**Raunds, Northampton
and surrounding areas,
Northamptonshire**

The BASS families

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The BASS families

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Place names mentioned in the text

Towns and villages

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

Census records – Northampton and Raunds

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

The BROMWELL families - G12 to G10

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

Introduction

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

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

Earliest records

Although my gt-grandfather's name on this branch is BASS, the earliest records found so far refer to the BROMWELL family which, with the assistance of the IGI, can be traced back to the mid-16th century.

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

The earliest record found so far (September 2009) on this branch of the family is of a male BASS (no forename given) who was born about 1536 at Raunds. He (presumably) married, and three sons were born; Gilbert, Thomas and George. Each of these sons married, although the records do not give their wives' forenames, referring to them simply as 'Mrs Gilbert', 'Mrs Thomas', 'Mrs George'! Each of these three families produced children.

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

G12 - G10 – BROMWELL family

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

An outline tree of the early generations of this branch is shown.

G12 – BROMWELL family

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

G11 – BROMWELL family

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Mary was baptised on 19 SEP 1624;

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

Ann was baptised on 27 MAR 1631;

John, one of my 8xgt-grandparents, was baptised on 23 NOV 1634. He married Katherine SPERRY on 07 JUL 1667 and their line is followed on page 11;

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

Katherine died and was buried on 03 SEP 1656.

¹ both these dates are from the IGI

G10 – BROMWELL family

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

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

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

William, baptised about 1668, married Frances PETTY on 06 FEB 1689 at Oakley; they were two of my 7xgt-grandparents and the line continues on page 14.

¹ the NBI shows two burials of a John BROMWELL at Riseley: 13 JAN 1702 and 05 MAY 1705. Without further evidence it is not possible to say which of these applies to John, husband of Katherine

G9 – BROWN family

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

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

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

Without further information it is impossible to tell which of these three is my 6 x gt-grandfather William. However, he married in 1721 (see page 15) and the only other marriage of a William BROWN at Raunds was in 1749. Thus it is likely that my ancestor was one of the two Williams born towards the end of the 17th century.

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

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

G9 – GEARY family

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

William was baptised at Raunds on 13 JUN 1700.

Their second child and first daughter, **Lucy**, was one of my 6xgt-grandmothers. She was baptised on 25 DEC 1701, at Raunds⁴. She married William BROWN in 1721 and her line continues on page 15.

Henry was baptised on 26 OCT 1703.

Thomas was baptised on 23 DEC 1705.

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

¹ information from Tony GEARY

² marriage register for Higham Ferrers

³ IGI (both burials)

⁴ IGI

G9 – BROMWELL family

William BROMWELL married Frances PETTY on 06 FEB 1689 at Oakley; they were two of my 7xgt-grandparents. Frances had been born in Riseley in about 1670: her mother was Dorothy, but her father's name is not recorded¹.

Three of their children were baptised at Riseley.

Thomas, the eldest child, was baptised on 24 SEP 1693²;

William, my direct ancestor, was baptised on 08 MAR 1696 and married Elizabeth COWLEY on 02 SEP 1720. The line continues on page 16.

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

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

¹ IGI

² see Appendix Thomas

G8 – BROWN family

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

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

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

Robert (1741 – ?)

William and Lucy's youngest child, Robert, was baptised on 22 NOV 1741⁶; he was my 5xgt-grandfather. The line continues on page 17.

Other children

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

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

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

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

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

Alice was baptised *26 MAY 1734* and buried *14 JUN 1735*

John was baptised *16 MAY 1736*

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

¹ Raunds marriage register

² IGI listing

³ Raunds baptism register

⁴ Raunds burial register

⁵ *op cit*

⁶ Raunds baptism register

G8 – BROMWELL family

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

William was baptised 12 JUL 1730.

John, baptised about 1733, was my direct ancestor. His story is continued on page 18.

It is likely that Elizabeth died in 1761; the NBI records a burial at Riseley on 30 APR 1761. However, it is possible that this referred to another Elizabeth, the daughter of John BROMWELL, born only the previous year (although an infant death was often noted as such in the register); John was William's nephew, the son of his brother Thomas.

G7 – BROWN family

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

He married Mary, although the marriage appears not to have taken place at Raunds. However, four children from the marriage were baptised there.

Elizabeth (1771 – ?)

The eldest, Elizabeth, was baptised on 25 *AUG 1771*¹. She was one of my 4xgt-grandmothers and married William BASS; her story is continued on page 19.

Other children

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

¹ Raunds baptism register

G7 – BROMWELL family

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

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

James, baptised about 1765, was my direct ancestor. He married Elizabeth MARSHALL in 1796 and died in 1822. Their story continues on page 22.

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

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

G6 – BASS family

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

I have discovered nine children from this marriage².

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

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

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

William (1797 - 1874)

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

Elizabeth (1798 - ?)⁴

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

Robert (1800 - 1884)⁵

Robert was baptised on *23 JUN 1805*⁶, together with Hannah and John, although census records show that he had been born about five years earlier. He married twice, and was buried at Raunds on *14 NOV 1884*⁷.

Hannah (1803 – 1812)

Hannah was baptised along with two of her brothers on *23 JUN 1805*⁸. She was buried, at the age of 12, on *19 MAY 1815*⁹.

John (1805 - 1882)¹⁰

John BASS was baptised on *23 JUN 1805*¹¹, and married Emma PENN on 21 MAY 1832.

¹ marriage register for Raunds, p136

² the baptism dates in this section are taken from the IGI. The baptism register for Raunds has not yet been searched for these dates

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

⁴ see Appendix 056N

⁵ see Appendix 056O

⁶ IGI

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

⁸ IGI

⁹ burial register for Raunds, p8

¹⁰ see Appendix 056Q

¹¹ IGI

Samuel (1808 - 1879)¹

Samuel was baptised on *03 NOV 1811*², the same day as George, but was born probably three years earlier³.

George (1810 - 1878)

After the baptisms of John, Robert and Hannah there seems to have been a gap of some years before George was baptised on *03 NOV 1811*⁴, having been born a year or so earlier⁵. George is another of my 3xgt-grandfathers and his story continues below.

Thomas (1813 - 1882)⁶

Thomas was baptised on *31 JAN 1813*⁷. He never married and died in 1882 aged 69.

Joseph (1815 - 1849)⁸

The last child born to William and Elizabeth was Joseph, baptised on *19 NOV 1815*⁹.

¹ see Appendix 056R

² IGI

³ from information in census returns

⁴ IGI

⁵ from other sources, mainly census returns

⁶ see Appendix 058N

⁷ IGI

⁸ see Appendix 058O

⁹ IGI

G6 – TRASLER family

G6 – BROMWELL family

James BROMWELL and Elizabeth MARSHALL were married on 18 JAN 1796 in Melchbourne¹; this is the neighbouring village to the north, about three miles from Riseley, and is where Elizabeth had been born in about 1775. Her parents were Richard and Elizabeth; their marriage is not recorded in the IGI.

Betsy, one of my 4xgt-grandmothers, was baptised at Riseley on 21 NOV 1811². The ancestral line continues on page 25.

The IGI shows three other children, siblings to Betsy:

John was baptised on 09 OCT 1796.

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

James was baptised on 16 FEB 1800.

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

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

¹ IGI

² IGI

G5 – BASS family (1)

William, the eldest son of William and Elizabeth, was born in about 1797; he doesn't appear to have been baptised at Raunds. He married Anne TRASLER (born about 1796 in Harpole, about four miles west of Northampton). A marriage between William BASS and Ann TRESSLER took place at Harpole on 05 JUN 1825¹: with the agreement of the two names, the name of the bride's village and the date (their first child, Hannah, was baptised in July 1826) it is very likely that this is the correct marriage. At the time their last child, George, was born (1838) the family lived in Bath Street in Northampton and William's occupation was shown as 'shoemaker'.

The 1841 census shows the family still living in Bath Street². The three eldest daughters were 'shoe closers' while William was described as a 'cordwainer'. In the following census William and Anne are shown still living at the same address³ with four children – Elizabeth appears to have left home already though she would have been only about 16. All four, together with their father, were employed in the shoe trade; both Williams, father and son, were 'shoe makers' while the girls were all 'shoe closers'.

By 1861 they had moved to St George Street⁴. Elizabeth had reappeared, still unmarried, so perhaps ten years before had been 'living in' elsewhere as a servant; and only she (aged 26, and a shoe machine fitter) and George (23, a shoe checker) remained at home. Ten years later on still and William and Anne had moved along the same road to number 26⁵ where they were sharing the house with Thomas and Hannah Robinson. William died on 22 FEB 1874⁶ of old age aged 78 and in 1881 Anne was living alone at the same address⁷. She died in the first few months of 1889⁸ aged 92.

Hannah (1826 - ?)⁹

Hannah, the first child and eldest daughter, was baptised on 07 JUL 1826¹⁰ at Raunds.

William (1828 - 1888)¹¹

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

Mary (1830 - ?)¹²

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

¹ Northamptonshire Marriages CD

² 1841 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/814/11 f35 p23

³ 1851 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/1739

⁴ 1861 census return for 20 St George Street, Northampton, HO108/935

⁵ 1871 census return for 26 St George's Street, Northampton, RG10/1481

⁶ death certificate

⁷ 1881 census return, RG11/1545

⁸ ONS death reference for Anne TRASLER aged 92, Q1/1889, Northampton, 3b 36

⁹ see Appendix 028J

¹⁰ IGI

¹¹ see Appendix 028K

¹² see Appendix 4B3

Elizabeth (1835 - ?)¹

The remaining daughter of William and Anne, Elizabeth, was baptised about 1835. In 1862² she married Thomas Lovell MAJOR.

George (1838 - ?)

Finally, the second son George, baptised in 1838, was one of my eight great-great-grandfathers. At the age of 12 he was described as a 'shoe-closer'; ten years later he was a 'shoe checker' and still living with his parents, but in 1867 married his cousin Betsy BASS³ (the daughter of George and Betsy née Bromwell).

¹ See Appendix 028M

² ONS marriage reference for Thomas Lovell MAJOR and Elizabeth BASS, 3/1862, Northampton, 3b 109

³ marriage certificate

G5 – BASS family (2)

George BASS was the seventh child and fifth son of William and Elizabeth.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹ marriage certificate

² birth certificate for Betsy BASS

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

The BASS families – G5

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

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

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

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

George (1838 – 1917)³

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

Betsy (1842 – 1886)

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

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

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

³ see Appendix 029M

A plethora of Georges

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

G4 – BASS family

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹ marriage certificate

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

³ birth certificate for George Henry BASS

⁴ birth certificate for Lilian BASS

⁵ *op cit*

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

⁷ death certificate

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

⁹ see page 39

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

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

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

George Henry (1869 – 1945)

014

George Henry Bass was my great-grandfather. On 07 JUN 1892 he married Caroline Ann STEVENS in the same Castle Hill Chapel¹ where his parents had been married 24 years earlier.

Lilian (1871 – 1895)

014N

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

Frank Edward (1874 – ?)⁴

014O

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

Further generations

The story is continued in a separate booklet.

¹ marriage certificate for George Henry BASS and Caroline Ann STEVENS

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

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

⁴ see Appendix 014O, page 31

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

Appendix 0140 – Frank Edward BASS (1874 – ?)

Frank Edward (the mysterious ‘F. E.’ of the census return) was born towards the end of 1873¹. He married a Selina GREEN in 1897², and they lived in Northampton³ not far from his brother and sister-in-law, George and Caroline. However, after only a few years Selina died at the age of 29⁴ and less than two years later Frank married again⁵, this time to Mary DUMAYNE.

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

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

² ONS marriage reference for Frank Edward BASS and Selina GREEN, Q4/1897, Northampton, 3b 220

³ 1901 census for 2 Birchfield Road, Kingsthorpe Road, Northampton, RG13/1428 f172 p25

⁴ ONS death reference for Selina BASS aged 29, Q1/1902, Northampton, 3b 49

⁵ ONS marriage reference for Frank Edward BASS and Mary DUMAYNE, Q4/1903, Northampton, 3b 131

Appendix 028J – Hannah BASS (1826 – ?)

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

In the will of Hannah’s brother William, dated 1888, she is one of the beneficiaries, and is named as Hannah REEVE. There is no record of a Hannah REEVE, of roughly the correct age and born in Northamptonshire, shown in the 1881 or 1891 census return. The only death of a Hannah REEVE of roughly the correct age was registered in Suffolk in 1881 and as the BASS family had no connection with Suffolk, so far as is known, this is unlikely to be the right one.

The ONS does not record the marriage of a Hannah BASS to anyone named REEVE between 1840 and 1890, which raises the possibility that Hannah’s marriage to her Mr REEVE was a second marriage.

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

Appendix 028K – William BASS (1828 – 1888)

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

The 1881 census records a William BASS and his wife Sarrath (presumably Sarah) living at High Street, Northampton Priory St Andrew⁴. There were no children. He was then aged 54, and a ‘marker (shoe)’. A few years later, on 17 MAR 1888, he made a will in which he mentions his wife Sarah and several of his siblings. The ONS records only one marriage of a William BASS between 1845 and 1881 in Northamptonshire; this was registered in Market Harborough district⁵ in 1880 and was of a ‘William Needham BASS’. No other occurrence of ‘Needham’ has been found. If this is not the right one then it is possible that William and Sarah were never married.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Appendix 028L – Mary BASS (1830 – ?)

Mary, the second daughter of William and Ann, was born about 1830. Although neither the IGI nor the ONS records a marriage of a Mary BASS to a FOX between 1845 and 1861 she is another of the siblings mentioned in William's will (see previous section) and it is very likely that she married William Henry FOX, probably the son of William FOX; William senior had been born in Bedford in 1803 and was shown in the 1851 census return at Bath Street¹ earning a living as a shoemaker. The marriage took place after 1851 as in the census of that year Mary is shown as unmarried and living with her parents in Bath Street. The 1861 census return shows William and Mary, with daughter Mary, at 32 Lower Mounts², but in both the 1871³ and 1881⁴ censuses William Henry and Mary were living at 36 Lower Mounts, with William a 'solicitor's managing clerk'. They had at least four children: Mary M, Jane A, Elizabeth E and Gertrude (in the 1871 census return 'Elizabeth' appears as 'Esther').

They were still at the same address in 1891⁵; with them was a 'boarder', Henry FOX, who was 91. This was perhaps an uncle, although it may have been his father; no relationship is given.

Ten years further on, in 1901⁶, they had changed address, but only by about a quarter of a mile. On census night their youngest daughter Gertrude, still unmarried at the age of 32, was with them, as was their second daughter Jane and her three daughters Dorothy, Eleanor and Florence.

The death of a Mary Ann FOX in 1904⁷ is recorded, at the age of 73, and this is a possibility, although she must have moved for her death to have been registered in Brackley.

Mary Morton (1858 – ?)

[028LA]

Mary was born in 1858⁸. In 1889⁹ she married George SIMMONS, a coach builder.

Jane Ann (1863 – ?)

[028LB]

Jane's birth was registered in Northampton in 1863¹⁰. She married Edward EVERITT in 1885¹¹; they had at least three children.

Elizabeth Esther (1866 – ?)

[028LC]

Elizabeth (shown as Esther in the 1871 census return) was registered as 'Eliza' on her birth in 1866¹². She married Franklin Hyde CARTER in 1889¹³. He was a commercial traveller, from Bristol.

¹ 1851 census return for Bath Street, Northampton, HO107/1739 f500

² 1861 census return for 32 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG9/937 f14 p28

³ 1871 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG10/1484 f52-54

⁴ 1881 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG11/1548 f22

⁵ 1891 census return for 36 Lower Mounts, Northampton, RG12/1197 f38 p30

⁶ 1901 census reference for 8 Pytchley Street, Northampton St Giles, RG13/1424 f45 p41

⁷ ONS death reference for Mary Ann FOX aged 73, Q4/1904, Brackley, 3b 3

⁸ ONS birth reference for Mary Morton FOX, Q2/1858, Northampton, 3b 62

⁹ ONS marriage reference for George SIMMONS and Mary Morton FOX, Q2/1889, Northampton, 3b 103

¹⁰ ONS birth reference for Jane Ann FOX, Q2/1863, Northampton, 3b 62

¹¹ ONS marriage reference for Edward EVERITT and Jane Ann FOX, Q3/1885, Northampton, 3b 157

¹² ONS birth reference for Eliza FOX, Q1/1866, Northampton, 3b 90

¹³ ONS marriage reference for Franklin Hyde CARTER and Elizabeth Esther FOX, Q1/1889, Northampton, 3b 110

Gertrude (1868 – ?)

[028LD]

Gertrude was born in 1868¹. No positive marriage or death has been found.

¹ ONS birth reference for Gertrude FOX, Q3/1868, Northampton, 3b 72

Appendix 029M – George (1838 – 1917)

George was born on 22 SEP 1838, the first child of George BASS and Betsy (nee BROMWELL). In 1871 he was a ‘watchmaker and optician’, and living with his parents at 12 Market Square¹. Five years later, at the age of 38², he married Annie DARLOW. She had been born in London, about 1844; there are two possibilities for her birth³.

In the 1881 census return⁴ they, together with their two children Thomas (born about 1879) and Annie (born 1881), were living in the house at 59 Sheep Street formerly occupied by his father George who had died three years earlier. George was by now described as a ‘watch and clock maker’. The family remained at this address until at least 1901⁵; the census of this year shows son George as a ‘plumber’s apprentice’ (he also appears, as a scholar, in the 1891 census return⁶).

The census return for 1911⁷ shows that they had moved to Langham Place; just George and Annie, together with son George, were living there although they were now employing a servant.

Langham Place was the address at which George died on 06 SEP 1917, aged 78⁸. The death certificate shows his profession as ‘retired watchmaker and jeweller (master)’, and the cause of death as ‘senile decay’; the death was registered by son Thomas, of 26 Colwyn Road.

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

George BASS, 11 Langham Place, Gentleman...
... my wife Annie BASS ... my sons Thomas BASS and George BASS. . .
... my three houses in Kingsley Road, my five houses in Kingsley Gardens, my house in Langham Place . . .
... my five houses in Lower Thrift Street, my house in Upper Thrift Street, my house in Hester Street . . .
... my six houses in Letts Road Far Catton, my two houses in St George's Place, my two houses in Sheep Street with the shops and warehouses adjoining or near thereto and my houses in Semilong Road . . .
... my daughter Annie Tompkins . . .

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

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

Probate was granted on 21 DEC 1917

The will indicates that their daughter Annie later became Mrs Tompkins: in fact she married Edgar TOMPKINS⁹ in 1900, when she was only 19.

¹ 1871 census return for 12 Market Square, Northampton, RG10/1487 f126 p5

² ONS marriage reference for George BASS and Annie DARLOW. Q4/1876, Northampton, 3b 198

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

⁴ 1881 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG11/1545 ED11 f14

⁵ 1901 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG13/1425 f54

⁶ 1891 census return for 59 Sheep Street, Northampton, RG12/1195 f65

⁷ 1911 census return for 11 Langham Place, Northampton, RG14/8389 ED1 SN74

⁸ death certificate

⁹ ONS marriage reference for Edgar Oscar TOMPKINS and Annie BASS, Q4/1900, Northampton, 3b 172

Appendix 056N – Elizabeth BASS (1798 – c1864)

Elizabeth was baptised on *01 JUL 1798*. On 08 NOV 1824 she married George MOORE, a shepherd, at Raunds¹; he was from Elton, in Huntingdonshire. This village is only just across the Northamptonshire border and is about 16 miles north-east of Raunds.

They appear to have lived there following their marriage and had, in all, just three children. George died in 1847²; the 1851 census return shows Elizabeth as a widow³ and the 'occupation' column records her as a 'shepherd's widow'. In the 1861 census Elizabeth was a schoolmistress⁴; with her were the two younger children, George (aged 26 and a shepherd) and Mary (23, a teacher). She died in either 1863 or 1865⁵.

¹ Raunds marriage register, p48

² ONS death reference for George MOORE, Q4/1847, Oundle, 15 206

³ 1851 census for Elton, Huntingdonshire, HO107/1746 f568

⁴ 1861 census, RG9/963 f177 p28, Beulah Place

⁵ ONS death reference for Elizabeth MOORE, Oundle, either Q4/1863 3b 131 or Q3/1865 3b 134

Appendix 056O – Robert BASS (1800 – 1884)

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

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

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

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

In 1861 they were living in Raunds⁴ (the census return gives no further address) with children George (25), Sarah (17) and Joseph (13). The whole family, apart from Mary, worked in the shoe trade. Thomas BASS, aged 48, was still lodging with them. Their immediate neighbours were Jane, the widow of Robert's younger brother Joseph, and five of her six children.

The 1871 census shows Robert still living in Raunds⁵, in Brook Street, with wife Mary and brother Thomas. Jane was still living next door.

In 1881 Robert and Mary were living at the same address⁶ as ten years earlier, still with Thomas, and perhaps not far from Robert's son George by his first marriage. Thomas was still a watchmaker, although he is described as 'lodger' and not 'brother'. Mary was here shown as having been born in Raunds, although the 1851 and 1861 censuses showed her birthplace as Rushden.

Robert died in 1884 at the age of 84⁷, confirming his year of birth as 1800. The churchyard at Raunds contains a gravestone bearing the inscription 'In Affectionate Remembrance of ROBERT BASS died 12 NOV 1884 aged 84'.

His widow Mary lived a further 14 years and moved in with her daughter Sarah to live at Bythorn, Huntingdonshire⁸, where Harris was now a 'grocer and newsagent'; Mary died in 1898⁹. Bythorn, now in Cambridgeshire, is about six miles north-east of Raunds.

George (1834 – 1896)

056OA

George, baptised on 06 JUL 1834, later became a grocer and draper, and on 06 SEP 1870¹⁰ married Margaret SMITH, herself a draper and daughter of John Smith, a lace dealer. She had

¹ IGI

² Raunds marriage register, p46

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

⁴ 1861 census return for Raunds (no further address given), RG9/960 f164 p38

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

⁶ 1881 census return for Brook Street, Raunds, RG11/1583 f78 p15

⁷ ONS death reference for Robert BASS aged 84, Q4/1884, Thrapston, 3b 122

⁸ 1891 census return for Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG12/1221 f131 p10

⁹ FreeBMD for Mary BASS aged 92, 3/1898, Thrapston, 3b 126

¹⁰ Raunds marriage register, p1

been born on 21 APR 1835¹. In 1871 they were living in Brook Street, Raunds². They appear to have had no children. George died on 02 OCT 1896 and was buried in Raunds churchyard³; in 1903 Margaret married a first cousin of her late husband (another George, my 2xgt-grandfather – see page 28). She survived her first husband by some 25 years, dying on 07 OCT 1921, and was also buried in Raunds Methodist churchyard⁴.

Sarah (1843 – 1900)

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

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

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

Sarah and Harris had at least six children. Although they appear to have escaped entry in the 1871 census return, in 1881⁸ they were still living in Raunds with the five eldest children. Ten years later, in 1891⁹, the family had moved to Huntingdon, to the village of Bythorn. Annie and Mary, the two youngest children, were still with their parents who were also providing a home for Comfort GROSS, shown as an aunt of Harris’s, and Mary BASS, Sarah’s widowed mother.

Sarah died in 1900 at the age of 56¹⁰; Harris remained in Bythorn and the 1901 census shows him living with daughter Annie next door to Sarah’s brother Joseph and his second wife (see next page). He later moved to Wiltshire and survived Sarah by 16 years, dying at the age of 75 in 1916¹¹. His death was registered in Chippenham.

Robert Stevens (1845 – 1852)

Robert and Mary’s first son, Robert, was born in 1845¹² and died in 1852¹³.

¹ IGI

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

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

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

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

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

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

⁸ 1881 census return for Arnsby’s Hill, Raunds, RG11/1583 f46 p13

⁹ 1891 census return for Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG12/1221 f131 p2

¹⁰ ONS death reference for Sarah NUNLEY aged 56, Q3/1900, Thrapston, 3b 109

¹¹ ONS death reference for Harris NUNLEY aged 75, Q2/1916, Chippenham, 5a 72

¹² ONS birth reference for Robert Stephens BASS, Q4/1845, Thrapstone, 15 349

¹³ ONS death reference for Robert Stevens BASS, Q4/1852, Thrapston, 3b 112

Joseph (1848 – 1912)

056OD

Joseph was the third child of Robert and Mary. From the various census returns, he was born in about 1848 although it seems that his birth was never registered. Towards the end of 1868¹ he married Tryphena CURTIS. She was about six years older than Joseph – her birth was registered in Northampton in 1842², although the census returns in which she appears show her age based on a year of birth of about 1846 – and had been born in Chelveston, another small village just a couple of miles from Raunds.

For many years they lived in Blind Street, Stanwick³, the next village to Raunds and only about a mile away. In 1871 Joseph was a shoemaker, as he had been while living with his parents, but ten years later he was shown as a draper and grocer.

The 1891 census return shows, surprisingly, that Joseph and Tryphena had moved to Layton with Warbreck. This is a township in Bispham parish, Lancashire, and contains the town of Blackpool; it is some 170 miles from Stanwick. Joseph was a salesman.

None of the census entries show any children. Tryphena died in 1895⁴ at the age of 49, still in the Blackpool area. Somehow Joseph moved to Derby, where he met and married Alice HOLDING in 1899; for some reason – perhaps to be near his widowed brother-in-law Harris NUNLEY – Joseph and Alice moved to Bythorn, in Huntingdonshire, where they are recorded in the 1901⁵ census; once again Joseph was a shoemaker. This may have been only a temporary move, as Joseph died aged 64⁶ in 1912. Strangely, perhaps, his death was registered in Derby.

¹ ONS marriage reference for Joseph BASS and Tryphena Elizabeth CURTIS, Q4/1868, Thrapston, 3b 431

² ONS birth reference for Tryphena CURTIS, Q2/1842, Northampton, 15 294

³ 1871 and 1881 census returns for Blind Street, Stanwick; RG10/1509 056OD and RG11/1582 f46 p13

⁴ ONS death reference for Tryphena Elizabeth BASS aged 49, Q2/1895, Fylde, 8e 512

⁵ 1901 census return for White Hart, Bythorn, Huntingdonshire, RG13/1453 p1

⁶ ONS death reference for Joseph BASS aged 64, Q1/1912, Derby, 7b 720

Appendix 056Q – John BASS (1805 – 1882)

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

He married Emma PENN at Northampton St Sepulchre on 21 MAY 1832. By 1841 they were living in Scarletwell Street, Northampton¹ and they were at the same address for the next three census dates^{2,3,4}. They had three children, all boys, although Samuel appears only in the 1841 census and died early in 1842⁵.

In each census the men were all shown as ‘shoemakers’ while Emma was a ‘shoe binder’.

Emma died towards the beginning of 1880⁶ and the 1881 census shows John, a widower, in the Northampton workhouse⁷. He died early in the following year⁸.

John (1834 – 1911)

056QA

John was born in about 1834 (as shown in the various census returns). Towards the beginning of 1860⁹ he married Mary Ann Walter HILL, who was also from Northampton; she was about eight years younger than he. They started their married life in Harding Terrace¹⁰ but had moved to Laurence Street by 1871¹¹, where they were living with three children and a servant. Their eldest child, Emma, had died in 1864¹². They had seven children in all.

Some time after that they moved to Bailiff Street, where they remained for many years – they are recorded there in the 1881¹³ and 1891¹⁴ census returns. This is less than half a mile from Harding Terrace. Throughout all this time the male members of the family were all employed in the shoe trade, while Ellen and Amy were schoolteachers. At the time of the 1901 census¹⁵ they had moved again, to Adams Avenue, further to the east.

John died in 1911¹⁶ at the age of 77; Mary survived him for a further 11 years and died aged 80 in 1922.

A march was organised from Raunds to London in 1905, following much strike action because of dissatisfaction with wage levels. It started on Monday 8th May with 115 marchers, an eleven-strong band and a cycle corps of three. Among the marchers was Frank BASS, the youngest of John and Mary’s children, and second cousin to my great-grandfather, George

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

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

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

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

⁵ ONS death reference for Samuel BASS, Q1/1842, Northampton, 15 237

⁶ ONS death reference for Emma BASS aged 73, Q1/1880, Northampton 3b 40

⁷ 1881 census for Northampton Union workhouse, RG11/1550 f137 p14

⁸ John BASS aged 76, Q1/1882, Northampton, 3b 34

⁹ ONS marriage reference for John BASS and Mary Ann Walter HILL, Q1/1860, Northampton, 3b 136

¹⁰ 1861 census return for 42 Harding Terrace, Northampton, RG9/937 f104 p14

¹¹ 1871 census return for 54 Laurence Street, Northampton, RG10/1482 f74 p43

¹² ONS death reference for Emma BASS, Q3/1864, Northampton, 3b 48

¹³ 1881 census return for 52 Bailiff Street, Northampton, RG11/1546 f54 p52

¹⁴ 1891 census return for 52 Bailiff Street, Northampton, RG12/1196 f5 p3

¹⁵ 1901 census return for 76 Adams Avenue, Northampton, RG13/1423 f11 p13

¹⁶ ONS death reference for John BASS aged 77, Q3/1911, Northampton, 3b 68

Henry. One of the cycle corps was a J. BASS, but no age is given; this could easily have been John, Frank's elder brother, but there are several other possibilities.

William (1838 – 1891)

056QB

William, the second child of John and Emma, was born in about 1838, although it seems that his birth was never officially registered. He was still living with his parents in 1871, by which time he was 33, but the following year he married Mary Emma KNIGHTON on 29 AUG 1872¹; she had been born towards the end of 1848².

Mary died less than four years later on 13 JUN 1876³ and is buried in Raunds churchyard.

William has not been found in the 1881 census; in 1891⁴ he was a resident in the 'Rising Sun Lodging House', where he was shown as a 'newsagent'. He died later the same year⁵ aged 53.

¹ Raunds marriage register, p19

² ONS birth reference for Mary Emma KNIGHTON, 4/1848, Thrapston, 15 347

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

⁴ 1891 census reference for 52 Broad Street, Northampton, RG12/1195 f82 p17

⁵ ONS death reference for William BASS aged 53, Q2/1891, Northampton, 3b 54

Appendix 056R – Samuel BASS (1808 – 1879)

Samuel was baptised (at Raunds) on the same day, *03 NOV 1811*¹, as George, his younger brother, but he had been born three years earlier.

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

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

The 1851 census⁵ shows them at the same address. Mary and Susannah, the eldest child, were shown as lace makers, while George was a labourer. Sarah was staying with her aunt and uncle at Riseley⁶, five miles to the north. These were Edward MILLARD and Sarah (nee ODELL) who had been married in 1847 in Bedford⁷.

Ten years later, in 1861⁸, the address was ‘Fleuton End’. With Samuel and Mary were Susannah (aged 27 and listed as an invalid) and Sarah (22, a lace maker).

A further ten years on the family were still in the same place⁹: Samuel, still a blacksmith, was described as ‘1 year paralytic’ [sic], and Susannah was described as ‘18 years invalid’. A nine-year-old niece Caroline is listed. Her surname is hard to read and appears to be STENNOR, but as she was born in Milton Ernest she was probably from Mary’s side of the family.

Samuel died towards the end of 1879¹⁰. Two years later Mary, by now living in No. 4 Almshouse in the village¹¹, was still living with Susan(nah) who is shown as having a ‘diseased spine – 27 years’. Also with them is Jesse BAY, described as ‘grand-daughter’ and aged 9. She had been born in Limehouse. Mary died very soon after the census had been taken in 1881 at the age of 74¹².

¹ Raunds baptism register

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

³ IGI reference to baptism of Mary ODELL, of James and Margaret, 20 or 27 MAY 1807, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire

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

⁵ 1851 census for High Street, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, HO1071751 f11

⁶ 1851 census return for Princes Street, Riseley, Bedfordshire, HO107/1751 f553 p26

⁷ IGI reference to marriage of Edward MILLARD and Sarah ODELL, 28 MAR 1847, St Peter, Bedford

⁸ 1861 census for Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, RG9/986, f50 p2

⁹ 1871 census for Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, RG10/1588 (or 1533) f54 p3

¹⁰ Samuel BASS aged 72, 4/1879, Bedford, 3b 214

¹¹ 1881 census for No. 4 Almshouse, Milton Ernest, RG11/1615 f48 p3

¹² ONS death reference for Mary BASS aged 74, Q2/1881, Bedford, 3b 185

Susannah (1834 – 1902)

056RA

Susannah was the first child of Samuel and Mary. By the age of 17, in 1851¹, she was a lacemaker living at home in Milton Ernest with her parents and siblings George and Hannah. She appears never to have moved away as each census return (for references see her parents, above) shows her living with them: by 1861 she was shown as an invalid and ten years later the census in 1871² records her as having been an invalid for 18 years – that is, since 1853, when she was 19. Whether this was caused by an accident or ill-health I am not likely to discover.

In 1881, by which time she was living with her widowed mother Mary in one of the village almshouses, she is recorded as having a ‘diseased spine 27 years’. She was 47 by this time. Mary died shortly after the census was taken; perhaps Susannah was no longer entitled to live there, perhaps she chose to move – whatever the reason, by the time the census was taken ten years later³ she was living with her younger sister Sarah and her husband. Only a year later, in 1902, she died at the age of 69⁴.

George (1835 – 1911)

056RB

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

In 1856⁵ he married Emma LAMB, who was a couple of years older than he and from Souldrop, a delightfully-named village halfway between Milton Ernest and Rushden. They had only one child, George Thomas, born in 1860⁶. The census of the following year⁷ shows the family living in Bedford, where George was a labourer.

Ten years later, in 1871⁸, he was employed as a ‘striker in iron works’; the family had moved, but was still in Bedford. Many of his neighbours were also employed in the iron works. Later he became a ‘blacksmith striker’, although the 1881 census⁹ does not state whether this was within the iron works. The family had moved less than a quarter of a mile, with George Thomas still at home; he was shown as a printer. By 1891¹⁰ father George was a ‘blacksmith’s hammerman’: their address had changed again, still within Bedford but a couple of miles to the southwest.

By 1901¹¹ both George and Emma were in their mid-60s. George had apparently retired as his occupation was shown as ‘living on own means’; they had once again moved house but this time just along the road, from number 29 to number 77.

The census return for 1911¹² shows George living alone, as a widower; he had moved house to Russell Street. He died later the same year aged 76¹. The only death of an Emma BASS

¹ 1851 census return for High Street, Milton Ernest, Bedfordshire, HO1071751 f11

² Fleuton End, Milton Ernest, RG10/1588 (or 1533) f54 p3

³ 1901 census return for 29 Bearwood Street, Northampton St Sepulchre, RG13/1425 f33 p7

⁴ ONS death reference for Susannah BASS, Q4/1902, Northampton, 3b 39

⁵ ONS marriage reference for George BASS and Emma LAMB, Q1/1856, Bedford, 3b 449

⁶ ONS birth reference for George Thomas BASS, Q2/1860, Bedford, 3b 326

⁷ 1861 census return for 15 Derby Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG9/989 f93 p18

⁸ 1871 census return for 24 Holme Street, Bedford & Cardington, RG10/1543 f10 p11

⁹ 1881 census return for 42 Pilcroft Street West, Bedford, RG11/1622 f39 p31

¹⁰ 1891 census return for 29 Stanley Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG12/1249, f66 p38

¹¹ 1901 census return for 77 Stanley Street, Bedford & Kempston, RG13/1489 f112 p5

¹² 1911 census return for 5 Russell Street, Bedford, RG14/8851 ED14 SN85

registered within Bedfordshire between 1900 and 1930 is one that was registered in 1904², but this gives Emma's age as 81, ten years too old. However, this is likely to be the correct one.

George Thomas became a printer. At the age of 20, in 1881³, he was still living with his parents but seven years later he married Mary HIBBERD in 1888⁴. They had at least two children. In 1891 he was a compositor and the family had moved to Stoke Newington⁵; ten years later⁶ he had become a printers' reader and they had moved just two doors along from their previous house. The 1911 census return⁷ shows George and Mary, with Harold and Elsie, still at the same address; Harold had become an apprentice compositor.

Sarah (1839 – 1904)

056RC

Sarah was the third child of Samuel and Mary; she had been born in 1839⁸. She is recorded in the 1851 census return⁹ as living in the household of Edward and Sarah MILLARD; she is shown as 'niece'. Ten years later, in 1861, she was back with her parents and elder sister Susannah in Milton Ernest. She was a lace-maker, as was her mother Sarah.

In 1863¹⁰ she married Joseph WOODS. They appear to have had no children, but entered into what seems to have been a successful business. In 1871¹¹ Sarah was a milliner, with Joseph a 'drill machinist'. Ten years later¹² they had moved to Northampton where he was a 'hatter and dyer'; Sarah was still a milliner but also part of the household was a servant, another milliner.

Perhaps the hat trade didn't work out as they intended, for by 1891 Joseph and Sarah were living in Blackpool¹³ – within a couple of miles of Joseph BASS, Sarah's cousin. Joseph (Sarah's husband) was now a confectioner, Sarah had no occupation – but two servants, both confectioners, were living in the house. Her cousin Joseph was a salesman, so perhaps he was selling the confectionery that his cousin's family was making.

Tryphena, the wife of Sarah's cousin Joseph, died in 1895 (see above), following which he married again, in Derby. This may have prompted a move by Sarah and Joseph WOODS, for by 1901 they had moved back to Northampton¹⁴, to the very same house in which they had been living 20 years earlier. They were also providing a home for Susannah, Sarah's elder sister.

Neither Joseph nor Sarah has been found in the 1911 census: a Sarah Ann WOOD died in 1904 aged 65, and this is a possibility although it has not been confirmed¹⁵.

¹ ONS death entry for George BASS aged 76, Q3/1911, Bedford, 3b 377

² ONS death reference for Emma BASS aged 81, Q4/1904, Ampthill, 3b 224

³ 1881 census return for 42 Pilcroft Street West, Bedford, RG11/1622 f39 p31

⁴ ONS marriage reference for George Thomas BASS and Mary HIBBERD, Q2/1888, Holborn, 1b 1050

⁵ 1891 census reference for 93 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG12/181 f16 p29

⁶ 1901 census return for 89 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG13/205 f126 p47

⁷ 1911 census return for 89 Hawkesley Road, Stoke Newington, RG14/1015 ED11 SN124

⁸ ONS birth reference for Sarah BASS, Q2/1839, Bedford, 6 47

⁹ 1851 census return for Princes Street, Riseley, HO107/1751 f553 p26

¹⁰ ONS marriage reference for Joseph WOODS and Sarah BASS, Q3/1863, Bedford, 3b 481

¹¹ 1871 census return for 9 St Loyes, Bedford & Cardington, RG10/1543 f93 p6

¹² 1881 census return for, RG11/1545 f29 p13

¹³ 1891 census return for 14 Abington Street, Layton with Warbreck, RG12/3452 f120 p12

¹⁴ 1901 census return for 29 Bearwood Street, Northampton St Sepulchre, RG13/1425 f33 p7

¹⁵ ONS death reference for Sarah WOOD aged 65, Q3/1904, Thrapston, 3b 106

Hannah (1841 – ?)

056RD

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

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

No further record of Hannah has been found.

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

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

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

Appendix 058N – Thomas BASS (1816 – 1882)

Thomas was baptised fifteen months after Samuel and George on *31 JAN 1813*¹.

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

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

The only other mention of him is on the tombstone of his parents, William and Elizabeth, (see page 19) following his death in 1882 at age 69.

¹ IGI

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

³ see appendix 056O for details

Appendix 058O – Joseph BASS (1815 – 1849)

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

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

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

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

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

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

Hannah (1839 – ?)

058OA

Hannah Elizabeth was born in 1838¹³ and married George BEEBY, a shoemaker, on 11 AUG 1862¹⁴. He had been born in about 1828, the son of William BEEBY and Elizabeth PENTELOW, although he had not been baptised until *17 APR 1840*. In 1851 he was living with his parents in Marchants Lane¹⁵; Hannah was living in the same road with her widowed

¹ Raunds baptism register

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

³ Raunds marriage register

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

⁵ ONS birth reference for Mary Bass, Thrapston, 3b 145

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

⁷ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

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

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

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

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

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

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

¹⁴ Raunds marriage register, p184

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

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

By 1871² George and Hannah were living in Marshals Lane and they were still there in 1881³. They had six children (shown opposite).

George was a deacon at the Baptist Church for 19 years⁴ and died⁵ soon after the census was taken on 14 JUN 1881⁶. Hannah's death has not been confirmed; two possibilities are 1914 at age 76, in either Alston (Cumberland) or Hickley (Leicestershire) although neither of these references⁷ is geographically close to Raunds. There is another possibility but this is equally unlikely⁸. She has not been found in either the 1901 or 1911 census returns.

Robert (1841 – 1892)

0580B

Robert, the eldest son of Joseph and Jane, was born in MAR 1841 and in 1851 was staying (or living) with his uncle Robert in Marchants Lane⁹, Raunds.

Ten years later, in 1861¹⁰, he was boarding in New Town Road, in Northampton, with William and Mary MOORE – these were probably his aunt Elizabeth's brother-in-law and his wife. He married Zillah CLARK (born about 1841¹¹ in Raunds) towards the end of 1862¹².

By the time of the next census, in 1871¹³, they were living in Vernon Street in Northampton where they remained for the rest of their lives. Their only child Joseph was born in 1875¹⁴.

Robert died in 1892¹⁵; at the time of the next census, 1901, Zillah was living alone, still at the same address in Vernon Street¹⁶. She died in 1910¹⁷.

William (1843 – 1907)

0580C

William, born about 1843¹⁸, lived with his parents in Raunds until at least 1861¹⁹; on the census return of that year he was a shoemaker. Ten years later, in 1871, he was described as a shoe finisher and lodging in Kettering²⁰ with Charles LILLEMAN, a shoe riveter, and his family.

¹ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

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

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

⁴ information from Tanya Harrington

⁵ ONS death reference for George BEEBY aged 49, Q2/1881, Thrapston, 3b 121

⁶ information from Tanya Harrington

⁷ ONS death references for Hannah BEEBY aged 76, Q1/1914: either Alston (Cumberland) 10b 647 or Hinckley 7a 78

⁸ ONS death reference for Hannah BEEBY aged 80, Q4/1919, Wigton, 10b 670

⁹ 1851 census return for Marchants Lane, Raunds, HO107/1745 f296b

¹⁰ 1861 census return for 22 New Town Road, Northampton St Andrew, RG9/937 f64 p36

¹¹ ONS birth reference for Zillah CLARK, Q2/1841, Thrapston, 15 363

¹² ONS marriage reference for Robert BASS and Zillah CLARK, Q4/1862, Northampton, 3b 214

¹³ 1871 census return for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG10/1484 f112 p44

¹⁴ ONS birth reference for Joseph BASS, 1/1875, Northampton, 3b 68

¹⁵ ONS death reference for Robert BASS aged 51, 3/1892, Northampton, 3b 32

¹⁶ 1901 census for 60 Vernon Street, Northampton, RG13/1423 f188

¹⁷ ONS death reference for Zillah BASS aged 68, 1/1910, Northampton, 3b 45

¹⁸ ONS birth reference for William BASS, Q3/1843, Thrapston, 15 33? or 35?

¹⁹ 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

²⁰ 1871 census return for North-hall Street, Kettering, RG10/1503 f121 p36

For some reason he then travelled to Newcastle, where in 1878¹ he married Martha WILSON. She had been born in the city on 24 MAY 1856^{2,3}. They had eight children⁴ between 1879 and 1890: the first two were born in Newcastle before the family returned to Rushden, where the remaining children were born at various addresses in Crabb Street.

No conclusive death has been found for Martha; the most likely one is in 1894, at the age of only 39⁵. William died in 1907⁶.

Frederick, their seventh child, was born in 1886⁷. He married Fanny UNDERWOOD in 1914⁸; the marriage was registered in Wellingborough, and they lived at 10 Pemberton Street, Rushden before he joined the 7388 7th Bn Northants Regiment. They had one daughter, Marjorie. Frederick died a sergeant on 25th March 1918 in the Somme: his death is commemorated on the Commonwealth War Graves Commission website.

Arthur married Celia Ethel HOOTON.

Sarah (1846 – ?)

0580D

Sarah, born towards the end of 1846⁹, married Thomas Ekins HALL on 30 NOV 1865¹⁰. Thomas had been born in 1840¹¹, the son of James, a brazier; at the time of the marriage he was a shoemaker, while Sarah was a shoecloser.

The 1871 census shows Thomas and Sarah living in Raunds¹² with son Joseph, 4, and daughter Flora, 2. George HALL, probably a brother, was living next door with his family. Ten years later, in 1881¹³, the address was still the same but the family now comprised six children.

Thomas died in 1888¹⁴ at the age of 47.

At the time of the next census, in 1891, Sarah and her youngest child, Annie, was visiting Joseph and Mary KNIGHTON and their family in Colchester – both Joseph and Mary had been born in Raunds. It is likely that Joseph was a relative – perhaps a nephew – of the Mary Emma KNIGHTON who married Sarah's cousin William. Whether this was a brief visit or a longer stay will probably never be known, but by 1901 Sarah was once again living in Raunds¹⁵ with her two youngest daughters, Sarah and Annie; on this occasion Sarah declared her age as 59, indicating a year of birth of 1842. A nine-year-old niece, Mary Jane BASS, was

¹ ONS marriage reference for William BASS and Martha WILSON, 3/1878, Newcastle T, 10b 165

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

³ precise date from an internet source

⁴ most of the information about William's family comes from Sue Hazell

⁵ ONS death reference for Martha BASS aged 39, 3/1894, Bedford, 3b 176

⁶ ONS death reference for William BASS aged 64, 3/1907, Wellingborough, 3b 67

⁷ ONS birth reference for Frederick BASS, Q3/1886, Wellingborough, 3b 141

⁸ ONS marriage reference for Frederick BASS and Fanny UNDERWOOD, Q2/1914, Wellingborough, 3b 342

⁹ ONS birth reference for Sarah BASS, 2/1846, Northampton, 15 339

¹⁰ Raunds marriage register, p220

¹¹ ONS birth reference for Thomas Ekins HALL, 3/1840, Thrapston, 15 359

¹² 1871 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f117 p49

¹³ 1881 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG11/1583 f117 p41

¹⁴ ONS death reference for Thomas HALL aged 47, 2/1888, Thrapston, 3b 116

¹⁵ 1901 census return for Midland Road, Raunds, RG13/1454 f21 p33

also living with them: she had been born in 1892¹ and was almost certainly the daughter of William and Martha. Her birth was registered in Wellingborough; her place of birth was given on the census return as Rushden, which is within the Wellingborough district.

The household was just the same ten years later, in 1911², but they had moved to

A likely death for Sarah is that registered in Wellingborough in 1911, when Sarah was 67³.

John (1849 – 1916)

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

In 1872⁴ he married Sarah Rhoda NUNLEY, probably a relative of the Harris Nunley who married John's cousin Sarah on 23 MAY 1872⁵. In 1851 Sarah (John's future wife) was living at Thorp End, Raunds⁶, with her parents Joseph and Alice, a barber and shoe binder respectively. Also in the house with Sarah, aged three, were Alfred (1839), Mary Emma (1842), Owen (1844) and Joseph, aged nine months. At the time of her marriage Sarah was employed as a machine minder, while John was a shoemaker; by this time Sarah's father Joseph was a coal merchant.

Until 1877 John had worked in the shoe trade, but after that date he kept a boot and shoe shop. By 1881 he and Sarah were living in Marshalls Lane, Raunds⁷; they had no children.

Ten years later, in 1891⁸, their address was 'Baker's Arms' in Raunds but no further clue is given. John was listed as a 'boot manufacturer', with Sarah shown as 'assistant'. Another assistant was John's niece, 19-year-old Kate BEEBY, one of the daughters of his sister Hannah.

By 1901⁹ they were providing a home for two nieces: Kate BEEBY and Bertha HALL, both 28 years old. These were the daughters of John's sisters Hannah and Sarah respectively. John kept in touch with his uncles in America and transcripts of some of his letters are on file.

He died on 22 JAN 1916; Sarah lived a further twenty years and died on 03 DEC 1937. Both are buried in the Methodist churchyard at Raunds¹⁰.

Mary (1853 – ?)

The youngest daughter was Mary. She was born on 15 SEP 1853¹¹; that is, five years after Joseph's death. No father is shown on her birth certificate. Both the 1861 census¹² and the following one¹³ show her living with Jane.

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

² 1911 census return for 12 North Street, Raunds, RG14/8619 ED5 SN27

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

⁴ ONS marriage reference for John BASS and Sarah Rhoda NUNLEY, 2/1872, Thrapston, 3b 364

⁵ Raunds marriage register, p14

⁶ 1851 census for Thorp End, Raunds, HO107/1745 f313

⁷ 1881 census return for Marshall Lane, Raunds, RG11/1583 f74 p7

⁸ 1891 census return for Baker's Arms, Raunds, RG12/1221 f74 p7

⁹ 1901 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG13/1454 f52

¹⁰ MIs at St Peter's and the Methodist church, Raunds

¹¹ information from Tanya HARRINGTON

¹² 1861 census return for Raunds, RG9/960 f164

¹³ 1871 census return for 4 Brook Street, Raunds, RG10/1509 f159 p7

On 04 MAY 1879¹ she married Walter KNIGHT and the certificate shows her father as 'Joseph'; her age is given as 25, which confirms her year of birth. It is likely that Mary was indeed Jane's daughter (born to her at the age of 39) or she could possibly have been Hannah's daughter, born when Hannah was about 15; in either case she was illegitimate. Walter, Mary's first husband, was two years younger than Mary and the son of Matthew, a shoemaker.

The 1881 census² shows Walter and Mary, together with Mary's mother (grandmother?) Jane living in Raunds. Only four years later Walter died, at the young age of 29³, and the 1891 census⁴ shows the widowed Mary as housekeeper to James HARRIS, a widower with two young daughters. A Joseph MANNING, probably some relation of Mary's mother Jane, lived close by.

Six years later Mary and her erstwhile employer James were married⁵, although this second marriage for each of them lasted only a little over a year, as James died early in 1899⁶. The 1901 census shows Mary (now HARRIS) living in Rotten Row with Amy and Kate – who are shown on the census return as 'daughters' but are step-daughters, being the daughters of James from his first marriage. Rotten Row was the road in which Mary's parents Joseph and Jane started their married life. Other families living in the same road were those of George EKINS, John EKINS and Alfred HALL (any or all of whom were possibly relatives of Thomas HALL, Mary's brother-in-law). In the neighbouring house was the family of Ralph PENTELOW – Mary's eldest sister Hannah, married to George BEEBY, had Elizabeth PENTELOW as a mother-in-law and there is undoubtedly some connection here.

Mary died in 1915⁷ aged 61.

¹ Raunds marriage register, p67

² 1881 census for Hill End, Raunds, RG11/1583 f71 p1

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

⁴ 1891 census return for High Street, Raunds, RG12/1221 f71 p31

⁵ ONS marriage reference for James HARRIS and Mary KNIGHT, 3/1897, Thrapston, 3b 453

⁶ ONS death reference for James HARRIS aged 48, 1/1899, Thrapston, 3b 135

⁷ ONS death reference for Mary HARRIS aged 61, Q1/1915, Thrapston, 3b 349

Appendix 432M – Thomas BROMWELL (1693 – ?)

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

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

Elizabeth was baptised on *12 MAR 1727*.

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

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

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

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

Other records

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

IGI

All the following instances are shown as occurring in Raunds.

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

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

A Zilla Clark BASS is recorded, born in 1841: Zillah, born about 1842, was the wife of Robert BASS shown in the 1881 census living at 60 Vernon Street. This is such an uncommon name that it is extremely likely that they are one and the same. However, her surname at baptism would not have been BASS; and this may be a reference to her as a married woman.

Geographical connections

Northampton

Most of the city streets referred to in this book are close together in the centre of Northampton. Bath Street and Scarletwell Street are adjacent, to the west of Horsemarket; St George's Street is just to the north, with Sheep Street running south from one end; Lower Mounts is a continuation of St George's Street, with Abington Street (now part of the Grosvenor shopping centre) and Market Square running off it. Princess Street was demolished in 1972 (see page 28).

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

Raunds

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

Other sources

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

It is also recorded in archives within Raunds Public Library that under a Bass charity dated 22 APR 1898 *'land was conveyed to the Urban District Council by Margaret BASS to be used as a public recreation ground'*. This therefore indicates that Margaret is the name of John's mother. However, the only occurrence of a Margaret so far discovered is the wife of George BASS living in Brook Street, Raunds, in the 1851 census; a flaw in this argument is that if John were indeed the son of this George the latter would have been only 15 at the date of his son's birth!

Other records

The most likely 'John Bass' is the youngest son of Jane and Joseph; he was born in 1849 and was a shoemaker, living in Marshalls Lane in 1881. However, it is clear that his mother was Jane; furthermore, since Jane's husband (Joseph BASS) died in 1849 she had been a pauper, later a charwoman, and from at least 1881 had lived with one or other of her daughters. In 1895, aged 80, she was living with Hannah and her family and it seems unlikely that she would have been in a position to give land for use as a recreation ground.

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